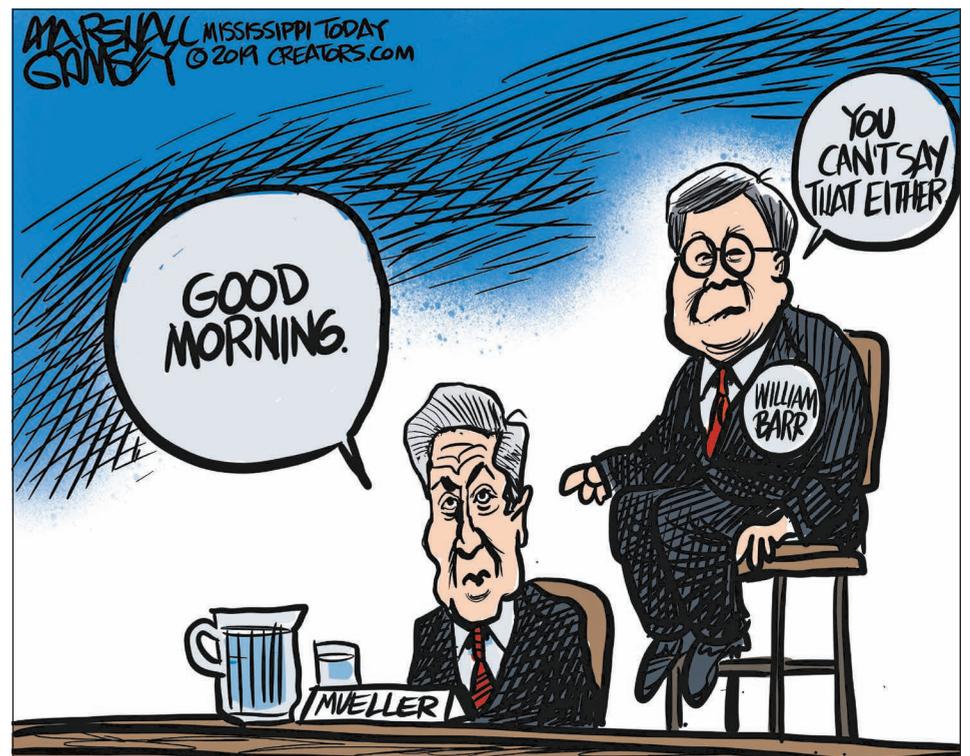


Opinion

Green Valley News

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18705 S. I-19 Frontage Road, Suite 125 • Green Valley, AZ 85614
(520) 625-5511 LOCAL**Dru Sanchez** PUBLISHER 547-9722 dsanchez@gvnews.com**Dan Shearer** EDITOR 547-9770 dshearer@gvnews.com**Sarah Keith** ADVERTISING MANAGER 547-9729 skeith@gvnews.com**Anne Maner** BUSINESS MANAGER 547-9734 amaner@gvnews.com**Bonnie Olsen** CIRCULATION DISTRICT MANAGER 547-9723 bolsen@gvnews.com**Graham Harrington** PRODUCTION MANAGER 547-9754 gsh@gvnews.com

Letters to the Editor

Grandma was right

At my age, I've had my share of hospitalizations in different states and countries and I've spent 15 years on a large suburban hospital board.

A recent week in Santa Cruz Valley Regional Hospital showed me that we have an excellent hospital here in Green Valley. The staff demonstrated superb professionalism from the moment I walked in the door until I was able to walk out. From the doctors to the cleaning staff, everyone was focused on my best interests.

My stay also reawakened me to the incredibly compassionate profession of nursing. Admitted for a bowel restriction, I was subjected to some of the most painful, personally embarrassing and humiliating experiences I can remember.

The wonderful nurses on the second floor of the hospital dealt with my situation with grace, aplomb and, above all, humor. Nurses are, in my experience, underpaid and under-appreciated but they remain committed to serving their fellow man when needed most. We can never thank them enough.

We should all be thankful we have a first-class facility with a great professional staff and corps of nurses as fine as I've seen anywhere. As Grandma used to say, "Thank your lucky stars!"

Don Cassidy
Green Valley

GVR investments

Thank you, Arthur Mournian, for your article "GVR investments need a closer look" in Sunday's Green Valley News. It's just another example of how the CEO and staff think they have the best answers for everything that affects us members. Transparency is just a word to them. For professionals, they sure don't show it when challenged. I want to thank members, committee members and board members who are no longer "yes members" for the CEO and staff.

Duane Huckleberry
Green Valley

The right people

Let us have a discussion of how we can better manage humanitarian aid for the folks now seeking asylum for many reasons.

I recognize that this is a complex issue mixed up with cartel drugs flowing north and guns flowing south. Certainly, we need border protection and aggressive actions to curb those problems. However,

let us not further traumatize those trying to escape from abuse and poverty by detaining them as if they were criminals.

We need to offer more coherent and available processes at the border by people well trained in asylum law. Access to asylum at the ports of entry is sadly inadequate. This forces desperate people to do desperate things. Many are looking for work to support their families. We need supervised, temporary work permits. These are separate issues from securing our border from criminal activity. Let security professionals deal with criminals. Let professionals who understand refugee crises and work programs manage those issues.

We need solutions, not more incarceration! We have a lot of work to do to make our tax dollars count for more than catching, detaining, prosecuting and deporting vulnerable people. Americans, we can do better.

Laurel Grindy
Green Valley

Voter referendum

Ever wonder why the current Democratic candidates want open borders and not register those who are here illegally? It is hinted they'd have a larger voting pool. What difference would it make since we use the Electoral College? The candidate with the most electoral votes tallying at least 270 is elected as our president, not whoever received the most popular votes. Could that somehow be circumvented?

According to an article in the Washington Times, May 21, 2019, there is an interstate compact already approved by 15 state governments and Washington, D.C., called the National Popular Vote (NPV) referendum. The referendum would not eliminate the Electoral College because that requires a constitutional amendment. It would rather render the college irrelevant by having state electors cast their electoral votes for the national popular vote winner instead of candidates winning the most votes in their perspective states.

Colorado, Delaware and New Mexico joined the compact in 2019. Nevada, Maine and Oregon are soon to follow. The compact takes effect after states totaling 270 electoral votes have joined. The compact currently has a total number of states equal to 195 Electoral Votes. By November 2020, there should be enough states in the NPV compact

to win the election by circumventing the intended purpose or the Electoral College. This interstate compact is brought to us by the Democrats. If only they could put in as much effort into fixing the health-care nightmares they forced upon Americans under President Obama.

Tom Chandler
Green Valley

School protection

She was given 30 seconds to locate the "shooter." She fired three shots, hitting the "target" in the head with one of them. And so goes weapons training in Utah schools.

OK, but where was the weapon before she began her search; in a shoulder holster, a hip holster, strapped to her leg, in her purse? Where in a classroom can a weapon be safely secured and yet available within seconds if needed? Not in a locked desk or file cabinet or storage closet. How about a wall safe? Maybe, but that would mean memorizing a combination or perhaps more than one if she did not always use the same room.

In the moment of panic when she hears shots is she going to recall the correct numbers or will her oft-used ATM password numbers pop into her head? And what if she accidentally shoots another teacher or, God forbid, a student?

What we must do is to prevent the shooter from entering the school in the first place. Bars across windows, no windows in new construction and impenetrable doors. Students would enter single file through a turnstyle and then pass through a metal detector before heading to their classrooms. At the appointed time there would be total lockdown with no one able to enter or exit until the end of the school day at which time the doors would automatically unlock. For obvious reasons, this plan would not work, but what would? I don't know but I hope someone does!

Nancy Allen
Green Valley

Impeachment vote

Congresswoman Ann Kirkpatrick recently voted with 94 other Congressional members to launch an impeachment inquiry against our sitting president and not all Democrats who agree with her decision reside in Tucson.

Fifty-eight percent of Cochise County

may have voted for President Trump in 2016, but that was then. Impeachment is a serious process not to be taken lightly. Ann Kirkpatrick's judgment, whether one agrees with it or not, has no comedy attached to it. It is tragic, however, that we are where we are.

I am confident that Congresswoman Kirkpatrick did not arrive at her decision based "purely" on political motives, but rather on the accumulation of facts (not alternative ones) and the dictates of her conscience.

It is highly unlikely that the U.S. Senate would convict based on the makeup of that body. Even if impeachment articles are sustained, the Senate will remain steadfast and that's where we now stand.

Whether our president merits removal from office is a matter for reasoned and abundant debate. In mid-1974, President Nixon recognized his fate based on the drawn articles of impeachment and chose to resign. The impeachment process and attendant hearings/investigation brought forth that result.

Article II, Section 4 resides in the U.S. Constitution for a purpose. Impeachment is a process, not an outcome and, in fact, is a vital protection against presidents who violate the rule of law. One can argue when it should be used, yet that is but one reason why some of us non-Tucson Democrats voted for Ann Kirkpatrick.

Without specificity, the claim is made (in an editorial in the *Sierra Vista Herald*) that Congresswoman Kirkpatrick remains silent on immigration and border issues.

That could be, but the piece also states: "we haven't heard anything" about her efforts working with Fort Huachuca.

In the very same Sunday edition, reporter Lyda Longa interviews the outgoing commander of the post, which was a piece of solid reporting and exceptionally well done.

In the interview, Maj. Gen. Walters mentions Congresswoman Kirkpatrick by name as one of those officials which the fort worked with "very closely." It may just be that some people are not fully aware of what Congresswoman Kirkpatrick is doing — at least not to the extent they would prefer others to believe.

Al Renteria
Sierra Vista