



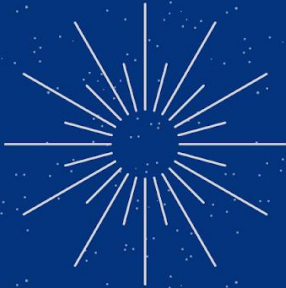
The Lancaster County Democrat

February 2023



THE LANCASTER
COUNTY DEMOCRATS
39TH

PATRIOTS DINNER



MARCH 18TH, 2023

LINCOLN STATION
GREAT HALL

DOORS OPEN 6:00 PM



The 39th Annual Patriots Dinner has been rescheduled to **March 18th**.

Join us at the Lincoln Station Great Hall to celebrate our incredible volunteers and show support for Mayor Leirion Gaylor Baird and our Democratic candidates in the 2023 Lincoln City Elections.

This year's event promises to be a night filled with fun, inspiration, and community. We have a lineup of guest speakers, a dessert auction, and a GOTV drag show that will entertain and engage you. Plus, there will be a silent auction where you can bid on amazing items and meet other supporters in our community.

Don't wait, get your tickets now:

<https://secure.actblue.com/donate/2023patriots>

Do you know someone who has given their all for the Party? Someone who deserves recognition for their hard work? Nominate them for a 2023 Patriots' Dinner Awards. Submit your nominations via the form on our website or email Chair@NELancasterDems.org. **The deadline is February 17th**, so don't delay!

We need volunteers to help make this event a success! Email Hannah at Chair@NELancasterDems.org to sign up today!

We can't wait to see you on March 18th!

Lincoln City Elections: Primary April 4, General May 2

The 2023 Lincoln City Elections are just around the corner, and we need your help to ensure a strong showing for our Democratic candidates. We're looking for volunteers to join us in our Get Out The Vote efforts, and make a difference in this election.

Your time and energy can help make a big impact. Whether you're making phone calls, knocking on doors, writing postcards or simply spreading the word, every volunteer counts. It's a great opportunity to meet like-minded individuals, engage with our community, and support the candidates who stand for our values.

If you're interested in volunteering, please email **Chair@NELancasterDems.org** to learn more about opportunities and how you can get involved.

In addition, we encourage you to visit our voting center on our website, https://www.nelancasterdems.org/2023_elections, to learn more about the elections, the candidates, and the issues at stake. Get to know who's running and what they stand for, and make an informed decision on **April 4** and **May 2**.

Our Democratic Candidates:

Mayor Leirion Gaylor Baird*

Lincoln City Council:
James Michael Bowers* (District 1)
Justin Carlson (District 3)
Maggie Mae Squires (District 4)
Brodey Weber (District 4)

Lincoln School Board:
Piyush Srivastav (District 2)
Annie Mumgaard* (District 4)

Lincoln Airport Authority:
Nathan Janulewicz

...more candidates to be announced! Stay up to date by signing up for our email list:

<https://www.nelancasterdems.org/>.

Every vote matters, and with your help, we can ensure that our Democratic candidates have the support they need to keep Lincoln a bright blue city!

In Solidarity,

Hannah Wroblewski (she/her)
Chair | Lancaster County Democratic Party

Letter to the Editor Local control imperative, opposition to LB 662

Local control and keeping our families together – essential aspects of The Good Life in Nebraska – are threatened by LB 662.

Imagine this waking nightmare: your water is contaminated, your rural road is overrun and torn up by heavy trucks and semi-trailers, your property has become nearly unlivable and so devalued that you may never be able to sell it, and your air is polluted by noise, odor, and particulates that sicken you, your family and your pets.

Sounds unimaginable, right? Now, add this: you have no legal recourse against the livestock operation that caused this nuisance unless you own a majority interest in land that's affected by it AND your property is no farther than a half-mile from the nuisance-creating operation AND you file a lawsuit no later than one year after the awful conditions reach the level of a legal nuisance.

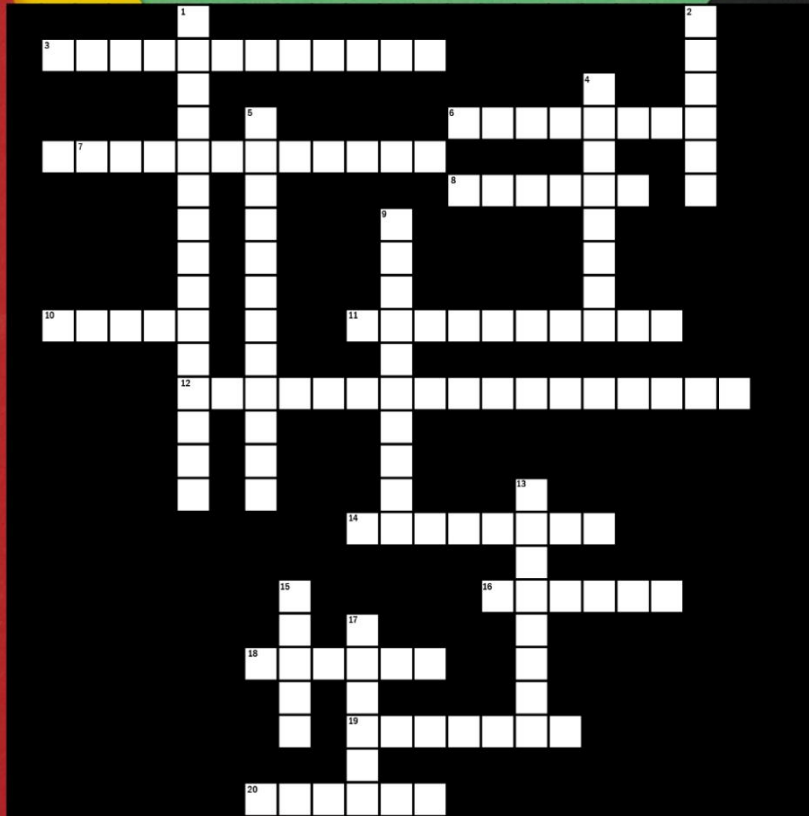
LB 662 will:

- Restrict the fundamental right of Nebraskans to the peaceful use and quiet enjoyment of their own homes.
- Discourage housing development, impeding economic growth and opportunity.
- Limit the traditional and inviolable authority of local governments to protect their residents and businesses to make their cities more livable and inviting to young families whose parents would like to see them stay in Nebraska.
- Make Nebraska an investment target to out-of-state and foreign interests to own and operate nuisance-creating agricultural operations that are protected from legal liability and located as far as possible from their own homes and shores.

Please email state senators urging opposition to LB 662.

Sincerely,
Nancy Meyer, Cedar Bluffs, Nebraska

BLACK HISTORY MONTH



DOWN

1. A term used for commonplace daily verbal, behavioral or environmental slights, whether intentional or unintentional, that communicate hostile, derogatory, or negative attitudes toward stigmatized or culturally marginalized groups.
2. In 2017 this long serving Congresswoman confronted Treasury Secretary Steve Mnuchin with a procedural interruption that has become a rallying cry of "Reclaiming my time."
4. The first woman to be inducted into the Rock and Roll Hall of Fame was also an integral part of the Civil Rights movement, using both her platform and her voice to advocate for racial equality.
5. Racial ____ is the systematic separation of people into racial or other ethnic groups in daily life.
9. This day marks the day when federal troops arrived in Galveston, Texas in 1865 to take control of the state and ensure that all enslaved people be freed. The troops' arrival came a full two and a half years after the signing of the Emancipation Proclamation.
13. The term '_____' was coined by author and activist, Alice Walker, within her 1982 publication *In Search of Our Mothers' Gardens*.
15. Current sitting At-Large City Council Member Bennie ____
17. In 1964, this American voting and women's rights activist, community organizer, and civil rights movement leader's reputation soared as she co-founded the Mississippi Freedom Democratic Party (MFDP), which challenged the local Democratic Party's efforts to block Black participation.

ACROSS

6. The term _____ means right to vote.
7. The degree of autonomy and self-determination in people and in communities.
8. This 1965 is a landmark piece of federal legislation in the United States that prohibits racial discrimination in _____.
10. Prominent writer, feminist, political activist, and educator. She is most well known for her involvement in the civil rights and Black liberation movements, as well as for being a leading advocate for prison abolition.
11. Theme form ASALH for Black History Month.
12. Term coined in 1989 by professor Kimberlé Crenshaw to describe how race, class, gender, and other individual characteristics "intersect" with one another and overlap.
14. In 1968 she the first black woman to be elected to the United States Congress and the first woman and African American to seek the nomination for president of the United States from one of the two major political parties.
16. The belief that groups of humans possess different behavioral traits corresponding to inherited attributes and can be divided based on the superiority of one race over another.
18. Ruth _____ is credited as the original creator of the Lowndes County Freedom Organization (LCFO) needed to find their new party's emblem. This emblem would go on to become the logo for the Black Panther Party.
19. Born in Omaha, in 1925 this American Muslim minister and human rights activist was a prominent figure during the civil rights movement.
20. The first woman and first woman of color to become vice president of the United States.

By Ruth Baranowski*

*Answers appear elsewhere in this newsletter.

Democrats Deliver While Republicans Melt Down

By Dennis Crawford

President Biden has the most bi-partisan accomplishments since Lyndon Johnson.

We received more good economic news last month that will make the MAGA Republicans very sad. The economy added a robust 223,000 jobs in December 2022. President Biden has created a record 11.2 million jobs in two years. Unemployment is currently 3.5% — the lowest rate since 1969.

The Republicans made the laughable claim in 2022 that we were in a recession. (They sure were hoping for one.) In 2022, 4.5 million jobs were created — the second largest gain in recorded U.S. history. The best year was 2021 when 6.7 million jobs were created.

“A HISTORIC jobs report this morning:

- LOWEST unemployment rate in 50 years
- 2nd best job creation year ever (2021 was #1)
- Black, Hispanic unemployment below pre-pandemic levels
- Labor force participation UP
- Two best years of manufacturing job growth since 1984
- Disabled unemployment rate lowest EVER.”

- Ronald Klain Tweet.

Thanks to the American Rescue Act, we're also enjoying the lowest uninsured and poverty rates in U.S. history.

We have even received some good news on the inflation front. Inflation in the second half of 2022 is almost back down to the Federal Reserve's 2% target. The “liberal” mainstream media has ignored this good news.

The Biden economic plan is working. It looks like we are heading for the much hoped for soft landing for the economy.

This good news was punctuated by an event that President Biden and Mitch McConnell held at a bridge in Kentucky that will be repaired with funds from the bi-partisan infrastructure bill. They appeared at the Brent Spence Bridge connecting Kentucky and Ohio to announce more than \$2 billion in investments from the bi-partisan infrastructure law to repair that bridge and other bridges across the country.

Back in 2011, President Barack Obama appeared at the same bridge and proposed that the GOP controlled U.S. House appropriate money to fund repairs. However, the D.C. Republicans blocked

Obama's infrastructure bill in an attempt to sabotage the economy before the 2012 elections.

Trump appeared at the same bridge in 2016 and promised to fix it. However, Trump never passed an infrastructure bill and “infrastructure week” became a running joke during his presidency.

While we were hearing good news about the economy and President Biden was working across the aisle with McConnell, the Republicans began their control of the U.S. House. Already, the House Republicans are mired in gridlock and infighting. “The American federal legislature is non-functional literally the minute Republicans take over.” Senator Brian Schatz (D-HI).

The entire first week of GOP control was marked by a chaotic election for speaker. It took the House Republicans an embarrassing 15 votes to elect Kevin McCarthy as speaker of the House. Things got so crazy that a fist fight nearly broke out between two GOP members. It was the longest balloting for speaker of the House since 1856. Nancy Pelosi always won on the first ballot. The Nebraska legislature chose its speaker on the first ballot last week.

McCarthy was congratulated on his victory by Donald Trump. Apparently, Trump had worked the phones hard to elect somebody he calls “My Kevin.” Obviously, Trump will have a major influence on the GOP House majority.

In order to satisfy his blind ambition, McCarthy made a series of concessions to the radical right. He agreed to support the so-called Freedom Caucus's threat to default on the national debt and throw the global economy into a deep recession. The likes of Marjorie Taylor Green and Lauren Boebert will now be in charge. McCarthy is the weakest speaker in U.S. history and is speaker in name only.

The Republicans promised to cut Social Security and Medicare during the 2022 campaign. They also promised to shut down the government and threaten a catastrophic debt default to bully the Democrats into cutting retirement programs. President Biden has promised to hold the line.

Biden also congratulated Kevin McCarthy on his election as House Speaker and said in part, “It is imperative that we protect Social Security and Medicare, not slash them. It is imperative that we defend our national security, not defund it. These are some of the choices before us.”

During this week of chaos and confusion in the U.S. House, Representative Don Bacon claimed he was in serious talks with the Democrats to pick a compromise speaker. However, he has just been posturing — he voted for McCarthy every time. McCarthy gave away the store to the radical right and

empowered them. Bacon enabled this capitulation. We're all going to pay the price.

Mike Flood was extreme as usual and didn't bother to pretend to be bi-partisan. Flood supported McCarthy all the way and said he wouldn't work with the Democrats. The First CD House member even said this embarrassing fight had "produced some good." You can't make this stuff up.

The House Republicans' extremism was further exposed when House members gathered at the Capitol to mark the second anniversary of the bloody coup attempt of January 6. Only one Republican member was present: Rep. Brian Fitzpatrick (R-PA). Where were "moderate" Don Bacon and Mike Flood? Anybody who boycotted this gathering doesn't back the blue.

McCarthy's corrupt bargain with the radical right could very well prevent the Congress from doing the essential tasks of keeping the government open, paying the country's bills, and avoiding default on America's financial obligations. "I have never before seen a political party come apart at the seams like this. To govern we are going to have to use discharge petitions and other maneuvers to circumvent these maniacs." Senator Brian Schatz (D-HI).

The Republican dysfunction in the House is also a national security threat that will embolden our enemies. Cutting off aide to Ukraine was part of the GOP platform in 2022. This Republican appeasement of Russia will encourage the Chinese to threaten Taiwan.

Trump's bizarre behavior made Biden's case for him in 2020. Now, House Republicans are doing the same for the House Democrats. The contrast between the Democrats and the House Republicans couldn't be more stark. The GOP can't govern, and their dysfunction threatens to wreck all of this progress. Vote Blue in 2024 if you want a functioning government!

Social Security

By John Markey

Speaker of the House Kevin McCarthy has promised that cuts to Social Security are off the table in negotiations on the debt limit. This is good news indeed. The program is an important part of retirement for working people, and important for the support of dependent survivors of working people who pass away.

There seems to be a lot of concern that Social Security will go bankrupt in the near future, but that just is not true.

Social Security ran a deficit in 2021, the first time since 1982. It is now starting to use the 2.9 trillion trust fund it has been building since 1983. If Congress does nothing, the trust fund will run out in 2033. At that point, Social Security will continue to pay about 76% of benefits with the money it continues to collect through payroll taxes. It will continue to pay out at that rate until 2095 when it may drop a few more points. These are estimates based on the best information we have now as no one knows just how things are going to shake out. Unemployment caused by the recent pandemic reduced the life of the trust fund.

In 1975, Social Security also began running a deficit, and did so until Congress finally acted with Social Security Amendments of 1983. Major changes made by this legislation include raising the payroll tax to the current 12.4% at 6.2% each for the employer and employee, gradually raising the full retirement age to 67 and started taxing a portion of Social Security benefits. This increase in payroll taxes led to the 2.9 trillion trust fund we have now.

Congress really needs to act on this, and the sooner the better. It should not kick the can down the road like it did in the '70s and '80s. Actions it could take include raising the retirement age, increasing the payroll tax, raising or lifting the \$160,000 cap on payroll taxes, increasing the amount of benefits subject to income taxes or using the chained CPI which would reduce cost-of-living increases.

As someone who works in the building trades, I don't like the option of raising the retirement age. I don't see people doing physical work continuing to be productive and safe to the age of 70. Working people who are younger probably won't like an increase in payroll taxes, especially if they see a reduction in benefits in their future. Lifting the cap would increase revenue as high earners would pay the taxes on their entire salary instead just the first \$160,000. Of course, this won't be popular with high earners.

Protecting Social Security is a difficult problem to deal with, but it must be done. No matter what Congress does, it will make people unhappy. It is too important to delay or ignore, many Americans rely on it.

NPPD Applies for Regional Clean Hydrogen Hub

By Mary Harding, Director, Nebraska Public Power District Subdivision 1

Subdivision 1 includes all of Lancaster County outside of the Lincoln and Waverly city limits.

NPPD is proud to be part of the Electric Power Research Institute's Low Carbon Resource Initiative to conduct research, development and demonstration activities surrounding low- and zero-carbon energy technologies that will help enable economy-wide decarbonization by 2050. The initiative will help identify the nation's current state of efforts, technology needs, and remaining gaps to drive action and investment in decarbonization forward alongside other pivotal members.

Organizationally, one of NPPD's strategic priorities is to ensure a smooth transition to lower carbon generating resources using existing, new, and alternative generation resources to meet its own net zero carbon goal by 2050.

Congress has implemented several bills which set the pace for carbon reductions alongside methods in which to accomplish them. For example, the Federal Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act includes \$8 billion for the development of at least four Regional Clean Hydrogen Hubs across America.

As noted on [energy.gov](https://www.energy.gov), the hubs will create networks of hydrogen producers, consumers and local connective infrastructure to accelerate the use of hydrogen as a clean energy carrier that can deliver or store tremendous amounts of energy. These hubs will actively demonstrate the production, processing, delivery, storage, and end-use of hydrogen.

Last March, former Gov. Pete Ricketts signed into law LB 1099, which enlisted the Nebraska Department of Economic Development to assist in creating the Nebraska Hydrogen Hub Industry Working Group.

NPPD immediately began to develop the Mid-Continent Clean Hydrogen Hub (MCH2), which will include Nebraska and other nearby states. NPPD created a concept paper on how the hub would function, as well as steps for initial development. The utility is joined alongside the Nebraska Farm Bureau, Monolith Materials, Tallgrass Energy, Union Pacific and Werner Enterprises. These entities are joined by many others in committees focused on agriculture, energy, transportation, and environment considerations, including social and economic impacts of the project. Should the MCH2 gain official hub designation, up to \$1.25 billion in federal funds would be available for projects within the regional hub.

Fortunately, Nebraska is well positioned to be designated as a primary location for a hub due to its existing, centralized distribution infrastructure and diverse generation mix. In addition to the project's primary goal of decarbonizing the economy, multiple other benefits abound for Nebraskans, from creating new products and markets for our ag industry to improving quality of life and providing high quality jobs, feedstock diversity and food security.

NPPD continues researching new generation strategies, from exploring use of corn stover and red cedar as potential fuel types at Gerald Gentleman Station, and the possibility of replacing Sheldon Station Unit 2 with a bubbling fluid bed biomass fuel source, which shows a lot of promise in adding non-carbon generation to the District's generation mix.

In addition, NPPD is considering electrolysis, or the process of using electricity to split water into hydrogen and oxygen, at Cooper Nuclear Station which would produce pink hydrogen through the nuclear fission process. Green hydrogen can also be produced through renewable resources, and blue through generation resources like natural gas and other fossil fuels.

Many synergistic opportunities for partnership may result from the hub. For example, Monolith Materials will produce large amounts of hydrogen during its manufacturing of carbon black, which can be converted to green ammonia and sold regionally for ag fertilizer.

All of the projects I mentioned could benefit from the federal dollars associated with a clean hydrogen hub designation, not only accelerating carbon capture technologies at existing fossil fuel facilities, but also through the investment in clean hydrogen power generation and energy storage.

The opinions expressed in this article are Mary Harding's and do not necessarily reflect the opinions or positions of the Nebraska Public Power District.

Robert Kennedy's Speech in Hartington, Nebraska on April 20, 1968

By Dennis Crawford



Kennedy campaigning in Nebraska in April 1968.

There aren't many transcripts of Robert Kennedy's speeches in Nebraska. Most of what we have are small excerpts of his addresses reported by the Nebraska newspapers.

One of the few transcripts that exist is the speech he gave in Hartington, Nebraska on April 20, 1968. This speech is fairly representative of his rhetoric in Nebraska. On this date, Kennedy spoke in Scottsbluff and three small towns in northeastern Nebraska, including Hartington. (A transcript of the Scottsbluff address has been preserved.)

The transcript of this remarkable speech is as follows:

"I am very very pleased to be in Hartington. I am grateful to see such a large crowd. Been very nice to me, and I'm very grateful to Mr. Rossiter for the kind introduction and his undertaking the efforts to direct my campaign in this county and area. I am very pleased to see all of you and, in a personal way, I feel very close to you.

Hartington was named after Lord Hartington, and my sister Kathleen married Lord Hartington. [loud cheer] And no other candidate can match that record. My daughter has been named Kathleen Hartington Kennedy. Some people think it is after my brother-in-law but it's really after Hartington, Nebraska. [loud cheer]

I said I heard about Hartington, Nebraska, and I wanted one of our children named after that

community. All those marvelous people out there. So, if anybody votes for anybody else other than me it shows real ingratitude. And I'll change her name to Kathleen Omaha Kennedy, or Lincoln or something.

And I also feel very close to you for another reason. Based on my family record I am doing more for the farmers than any other candidate running for president of the United States. Personally, I look at my breakfast table and I know I am doing more for the farmer. [loud cheer]

You have a great hog producing area. Great milk producing area. Nobody matches my family among those running for president. And they can all come and make a lot of promises about what they are going to do when they are president. But when they come here — and none of them have been here since before William Jennings Bryan (and you know what happened to him); if they come, ask what they are doing right now and ask if they can match my record by the time the primary comes along. How many bottles of milk will they consume in their household? I think I contribute a high percentage of the income of Hartington, Nebraska and the whole state of Nebraska just by what we eat and drink at my house. [loud cheers]

But I am very pleased to be here. I am very pleased to see all of you. It has been a great inspiration for us. We came from two large cities (from San Francisco and Los Angeles), and from the beginning of the week from New York and Washington.

And to come out here into the country and see all of you, to come out into the rural areas of the United States and have this opportunity as we have today to drive through Nebraska is a great inspiration and a great honor for all of us. I wouldn't have missed it for anything. [loud cheers]

Actually, I didn't tell you the truth. I wasn't driving. Just seeing your marvelous people and seeing your marvelous landscape. I had an ulterior motive which was to try to get your votes, but in any case, why we did it, it was truly a great inspiration to see the country and to see this land. I think we lose sight of that. You live in the east, and you live in these cities and some of them are distinguished from one another only by the poison content of the air. When you stay in the city of New York, you breathe 750 pounds of waste every year. So, to come out here takes a deep breath. Smells of hogs, but it's different.

But it's a great pleasure for them and a great pleasure to see all of you. I think we have problems, as Mr. Rossiter said, facing this country, and we have deep divisions within the United States. I don't think we can look back upon the period of the last weekend

and see and read in our papers and on television that violence, and the lawlessness, and the disorder that took place in some 60 communities across the rest of the United States, is a matter of concern for us as American citizens because we are bound together so closely. And the fact that we had to have 12,000 troops occupy our nation's capital that we had such death and destruction, and rioting, and arson must be a matter of concern, not only to those who live in Washington, but a matter of concern to all of us across the rest of the country.

I don't think we can tolerate the violence or the lawlessness or disorder or violence. I think we read about a high administration official who says we can expect this kind of action and this kind of activity summer after summer. I don't think we have to accept that in this country. I think we need a change. I think we have to make it absolutely clear that we are not going to tolerate this kind of lawlessness. That it is not going to be accepted here in this United States of America. And I run for President of the United States on that basis. [loud cheer]

And I run also on the basis that we are not going to have injustices. That we are not going to have the injustices that have existed for such a long period of time toward our black people. That they are going to have an opportunity to have decent educations. That they are going to have an opportunity for have a decent job. A decent job and decent wages, and not just rely on welfare and the dole, that they have been relying on over the period of the last 30 years.

I think we can get away from that. And we can find people with decent employment, decent jobs, and the kind of honorable employment so that they can raise their families with dignity and honor and give their children a satisfactory and adequate future. I stand for that also — equality for all of our people — and I think the people of the state of Nebraska stand for that also. [loud cheer]

And I stand for something more than that. I stand for decency and honorable income for those who are the backbone of the United States — the people who live in our rural areas of our country and our farmers. I think he is the forgotten and neglected man. I think there are other groups also that are neglected. But I don't think there is any question of our farmers, of the suffering that he has undertaken over the period of the last 30 years. When you consider his purchasing power now, the farmer in the United States is the same as it was during 1936. You know that we can't go on and continue like this or we are going to drive thousands and thousands more of our young farmers from their farms. I don't think this

is acceptable and it is again a reason why I run for President of the United States. [loud cheers]

When you consider that the net farm income is down almost 5% — down almost 5% from what it was in 1947. I know that we know that that is unacceptable. I know that we need more attention on these programs. When you consider that the prices that farmers pay for their tractors, for their plows and all of the things that they desperately need have gone up 16% and 17% of what they have returned to them only increased 6%, you know that it is unsatisfactory. It is unsatisfactory for the young man living in the city of New York who can't find a job. But it is unsatisfactory for a farmer living in Nebraska who is making only 60% of what an industrial worker makes, a non-farm worker makes. And I think that is unsatisfactory and I think he should receive a full return for his labor. And if I'm elected President of the United States, I am going to make that effort. [loud cheer]

I think farmers should have the right to join together and to bargain so that they can work together and make themselves more powerful. And I think the federal government can help and protect the right to bargain. [Cheer] I thought you were a little slow clapping that time. What do you think Mr. Rossiter? Don't you think they should clap here? Mr. Rossiter answers affirmatively. Mr. Rossiter knows.

And I also think the 1955 act, back again in 1959, should be passed in 1968. I don't think farmers should have to wait until 1969 to find out what is going to happen. I think we should take action in 1968 so the farmers can plan. And I think parity payments should be much higher than they are at the present time. I stand for that as well. [loud cheer]

I think one of the major problems is the fact that interest rates are so high — 7, 8, 9% at the present time. I don't know how a farmer can borrow the money and so much of what he has to do must be borrowed. How can he borrow under these kinds of circumstances?

I have introduced and cosponsored legislation in the Senate of the United States which would lower interest rates through the Farmers Home Loan Administration so that young farmers in particular and others as well would get interest rates at lower rates than they are at the present time. I think that is important because I think money and finance must be available to our farmers throughout the state of Nebraska and across the rest of the country. [loud cheer]

And I'm going to continue to eat a lot. And I think we should expand our program into the state of Mississippi and eastern Kentucky. I have seen young

children starving in eastern Kentucky. I've seen families that get by on 10 cents a meal, 30 cents a day — bread and gravy for breakfast, beans for lunch and bread and gravy for dinner. I've seen children in the state of Mississippi get by on two meals a day. Here we have this great harvest in the state of Nebraska. I think we should be able to arrange ourselves and organize ourselves so that we have enough food for our hungry people here in the United States to eat. It would be helpful here in the state of Nebraska and it would give our young people and elderly people here in the United States enough to eat. I think we should focus our attention on our problems here within our own country. And that is what I plan to do. [loud cheer]

I think we should expand our food for peace, and I think we should do all in our power to ensure that we have markets abroad for our farm products. There are some of the things that I think should be done.

And let me say, ladies and gentlemen, I think progress can be made. I don't think we have to accept the status quo. Though beginning in 1961, 1962, 1963 we acted, and I don't say all the problems disappeared, but you can remember back there on that day when we faced the problems that existed in our country and we did something about it. We were the slowest growing economic nation in the world in 1960. By 1963 we were the fastest growing economic nation in the world. And it was affecting our economy all across the United States. That's what I would like to do again. I think there is a lot we can do within our own country.

I think there is a lot we can do for peace around the globe. My reservations about the war in Vietnam have not been the fact that we unilaterally withdraw from South Vietnam, but rather the fact that I think we should appraise it. That this was the war of the South Vietnamese, that we could go in and help them, but we couldn't win it for them. And yet we have Americanized the war so that our fatalities go higher up than the South Vietnamese. I don't think that's right. I don't think that American men should be fighting and dying while South Vietnamese fail to get into the army. That's what I object to. [loud cheer]

I don't think Americans have looked at the figures. The number of young men who died in 1967 doubled over 1965. During the same period of time the South Vietnamese casualties and deaths were going down until they were less than ours. You look at the period since the Tet Offensive. Many weeks went by where our casualties and deaths were 3, 4 and 5 times as much at the South Vietnamese army. I think they should be the fighters. We can go in and help

them. I don't object to that. I think they should carry the major burden of the lifting. That's what I stand for. I think they should end the corruption and dishonesty. I think that while we are drafting our young men to go over and fight in Vietnam, they should draft their young men as well. [loud cheer]

I'm glad they started to take that step in the last month. I'm glad they took the step of drafting their 18- and 19-year-olds. But you can remember back two months ago; you can remember back at the beginning of the year, that they refused to draft their 18- and 19-year-olds because they were saying in the assembly, 'Why should young Vietnamese go out and fight and die for Americans in America's war?' I, therefore, don't think we have the right kind of policy. I don't think we have to accept that the commissioner of customs is the government of South Vietnam and is the greatest smuggler of gold and opium. I think for us to point that out is not unpatriotic. I think we should move on it. How are we ever going to get the support of the people in South Vietnam to fight and die on the behalf of that country if it is filled with corruption and dishonesty and cares nothing about the people? I think we should focus attention on that. And not just Americanize the struggle and minimize the struggle and cause us to say we can win it by ourselves. That is the mistake and we have seen the error in our ways, and I think that policy should change. That's what I'm in favor of. [loud cheer]

I've seen what can happen. I've seen how important it is to stand up to the communists, to stand up to our adversaries. I thought it at the time of the Test Ban Treaty in which I was intimately involved. And finally, after four weeks, we were able to force the Russians to remove their missiles from Cuba. We were able to accomplish that without the death of an American. We were able to accomplish that by the strength of the United States. So, I know how important it is for us to be strong and to stand up to those who do not wish us well.

But I also know how important it is to keep peace throughout the world. And the Test Ban Treaty of 1963 which prevented testing in the atmosphere which has affected this generation of Americans and the next generation after that that's important. That's what I want to see returned to the United States. I want to see peace and tranquility returned to our own country. I want to see jobs for men. I want to see decent incomes for our farmer, who is the backbone of this United States and the backbone of our country, and the rural areas of the United States. [loud cheer]

And I want this country to remember and live as its principle, those words of Thomas Jefferson that we're the last, best home of mankind. That's our

responsibility around the rest of the globe. Other people will follow up — by what we do here in the United States, by the fact that people can make decent incomes, that they can work on the land. I saw them in Soviet Central Asia working on the land and producing a fifth of what you do here in the state of Nebraska. I've seen this happen in other countries. Why we are strong and why we are powerful is really because of what the rural areas of the United States have done. China and the Soviet Union have both produced atomic weapons. But neither one of those countries — none of the other countries of the world have done what our farmers have done here in the United States of America.

I think we should recognize that, and it should be recognized right from the top, from the President of the United States, by everybody in the executive branch of the government and it will be recognized when I'm president. [loud cheer]

... We can turn this country around. We can start to focus some attention on your problems and on the problems that exist in the United States and the problem in Vietnam that can save us 85 million dollars a day, 600 million a week, 30 billion a year and start spending it on our own people here in the United States. That's what I would like to do." [loud cheer]

In closing, Senator Kennedy stated, "Some people see things as they are and ask why? I see things that have never been and ask why not?"
Source: "Over 4,000 Greet Senator R.F. Kennedy," *Cedar County News*, April 24, page 7.

Black History Month February 2023 Crossword Answers

Down

1. Microaggression
2. Waters
4. Franklin
5. Segregation
9. Juneteenth
13. Womanism
15. Shobe
17. Hammer

Across

6. Suffrage
7. Empowerment
8. Voting
10. Davis
11. Resistance
12. Intersectionality
14. Chisholm
16. Racism
18. Howard
19. MalcomX
20. Harris

I simply do not think that yelling, swearing, threatening, or belittling will get you to the place you want to be faster than kindness, understanding, patience and a little willingness to compromise.

Rachel Nichols



Every time we turn our heads the other way
when we see the law flouted, when we
tolerate what we know to be wrong, when
we close our eyes and ears to the corrupt
because we are too busy or too frightened,
when we fail to speak up and speak out, we
strike a blow against freedom and decency
and justice.

— Robert Kennedy —

AZ QUOTES



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