



The Lancaster County Democrat

March 2023



The Spring Elections are right around the corner, and we need you! We have amazing candidates on the ballot this year from Lincoln Mayor to Lincoln Airport Authority. Sign up for just TWO SHIFTS this month to help us talk to Lincoln voters about this crucial election!

Phone Banking Shifts:

<https://www.mobilize.us/nebdems/event/552026/>

Canvassing Shifts:

<https://www.mobilize.us/nebdems/event/552027/>

March 12th Yard Sign Drive Thru:

<https://www.mobilize.us/nebdems/event/552025/>

Meet Our Candidates

Mayor Leirion Gaylor Baird*

Councilor James Michael Bowers* (District 1)

Bailey Feit (District 2)

Justin Carlson (District 3)

Brodey Weber (District 4)

Kay Siebler (District 4)

Maggie Mae Squires (District 4)

Piyush Srivastav (LPS District 2)

Annie Mumgaard* (LPS District 4)

Nathan Janulewicz (Airport Authority)

Take action with the Lancaster Democrats today to ensure our city stays blue in 2023!

Hannah Wroblewski

Chair, Lancaster County Democrats

Hello Lancaster Democrats!

The Central Committee of the Lancaster Democrats passed the Field Plan for the 2023 Lincoln City elections. This plan includes the county party's intention to knock 2,000 doors each month of the cycle to turn out Democratic voters to vote for our Democratic candidates.

This will take 100 volunteer hours each of the two months of the cycle, a number we feel is fairly attainable if we all come together and pitch in.

In pairs, we will knock on the doors of Democrat-only households to spread election awareness and voter education about the city elections. Canvassing is an incredibly effective tool, so this is a great format for any first-time canvassers who want to do their part and have the biggest impact possible.

We plan to kick off our canvassing campaign season on March 11th. You can sign up for shifts on our [Mobilize event page](#). Once you sign up, you will be contacted directly to discuss your preferences and arrange any training you may want or need. While the sign-up page is for Saturdays and Sundays only, we can also work with you individually to accommodate your schedule outside those dates if need be. You can also contact Tommy at Campaigns@NeLancasterdems.org if you would like to discuss a different arrangement.

No contribution toward this effort is too small. Even if you have just one hour of canvassing to give, we'd happily receive your help. We look forward to getting out there and knocking on doors with you all!

Tommy Blanton

Chair, LCDP Campaigns Committee

Women's History

Celebrating Women Who Tell Our Stories

Books

- "The Power of Her Pen: The Story of Groundbreaking Journalist Ethel L. Payne" by Lesa Cline-Ransome
- "Jane Against the World: Roe v. Wade and the Fight for Reproductive Rights" by Karen Blumenthal
- "Abolition. Feminism. Now." by Angela Y. Davis, Gina Dent, Erica R. Meiners, and Beth Richie
- "Bad Feminist" by Roxane Gay
- "A Room of One's Own" by Virginia Woolf
- "Feminism is for Everybody: Passionate Politics" by bell hooks
- "Know My Name: A Memoir" by Chanel Miller
- "Untamed" by Glennon Doyle
- "Whipping Girl: A Transsexual Woman on Sexism and the Scapegoating of Femininity" by Julia Serano

Storytelling is magic

Women have played a crucial role in shaping stories throughout history, passing down knowledge and experiences. From pioneering journalists to performers, their stories connect us and expand our understanding.

Take time to immerse yourself in women's stories through books, music, theater, or personal conversations, and let their stories inspire us to make our own impact on history.

Women's Organizations

- Lincoln Women's March
 - Upcoming March: March 18th
 - Find more information on Facebook
- Women Who Run Nebraska
- Nebraska Democratic Women's Caucus
 - Helen Boosalis Scholarship
 - Applications are now open!
 - ndpwomenscaucus.org
- Emily's List
- She Should Run

Celebrating Women Who Lead

State Senator Anna Wishart · State Senator Jane Raybould · State Senator Danielle Conrad
County Commissioner Christa Yoakum · County Treasurer Rachel Garver · Public Defender Kristi Egger
Lincoln Mayor Leirion Gaylor Baird · Lincoln City Councilor Tammy Ward
Lincoln City Councilor Sandra Washington · Lincoln City Councilor Michelle Suarez
LPS Board Kathy Danek · LPS Board Barbara Baier · LPS Board Annie Mumgaard

Movies

- Pelosi in the House (HBO)
- RBG (Hulu)
- 9to5: The Story of a Movement (Netflix)
- Feminists: What Were They Thinking? (Netflix)
- Reversing Roe (Netflix)
- This Changes Everything (Netflix)
- Period. End of Sentence. (Netflix)
- The Janes (HBO)
- A Secret Love (Netflix)
- Audrie & Daisy (Netflix)
- She's Beautiful When She's Angry (Netflix)
- Miss Representation (Kanopy)
- End of the Line: The Women of Standing Rock (Peacock)
- He Named Me Malala (Amazon Prime)

Colors & Symbols

Colors and symbols have always played an important part in storytelling. Suffrage movements in the past have utilized the colors white, green, purple, and gold to show up in force, and suffragists used the daffodil, sunflower, and yellow rose to show support for the movement, while anti-suffragists wore red roses.

Take the time to think of modern colors and symbolism used to support women's rights and those used to oppress.

White represents equality, truth, and freedom.

Green represents growth and new beginnings

Purple represents women's fight for suffrage

Gold is a beacon of hope.

Podcasts

- Binchtopia
- Under the Sisterhood
- The Cut
- Our Body Politic
- Woman's Hour
- Hysteria
- Encyclopedia Womanica

Sunday School with President Carter

By Dan Nolte

Reprinted from *The Lancaster County Democrat*, August 2014

This past April, my wife, Jean, and I had the privilege to travel to Plains, Georgia, to tour various President Carter sites in the area. The population of Plains is about 700 and it is located “off the beaten path.” The nearest large town is Columbus, which is sixty miles north, and similar in size to Lincoln. We stayed in Americus, a town of 20,000 people located about ten miles from Plains.

Upon arrival in Plains, we stopped at a museum housed in the old high school. It contained displays of President Carter’s family experiences, as well as some information on his political life both before and after his presidency.

Downtown Plains, which consists of a main street and a handful of local businesses, is also the location of the old train depot. As some of us will recall, this small, older building served as Carter’s campaign headquarters in 1976 and is near the ball field where the Carter family, campaign staff and members of the media played softball during their “free time.” The building also contained displays covering the events of 1976. And of course, just down the street remains the gas station owned by Billy Carter, the site of dispersion of much wit and wisdom by the former president’s brother.

A couple miles out of town is the boyhood home of President Carter. While the family was somewhat affluent in comparison to their neighbors, the conditions and amenities of the 1930s appeared to me to be much more primitive and less developed than typical farmsteads of the Midwest. Needless to say, it was pretty amazing to be reminded of the living conditions and agricultural situations which existed during the times of our parents’ or grandparents’ childhoods.

The highlight of the trip was, of course, attending President Carter’s Sunday School Class. Upon arrival at the church, which is on the edge of town, automobiles are stopped upon entry onto the church property. A military person with a dog circles the car. The dog is seeking any traces of gunpowder or other explosives.

Before entering the church, visitors went through normal security procedures that you might find at various public events or facilities. Apparently, security for the church was increased after 9/11.

The church was constructed in the early 1980s. As you may recall, there was a split in one of the congregations over several issues and the Carter family and several others formed the Marantha Baptist Church. While the actual church will seat three hundred, the congregation is much smaller.

On the day we attended the class, there were about two hundred visitors present. This was a diverse group that came from all over the United States and several foreign nations, including India, and other Asian and African countries.

We visited with a couple from Indiana who have been attending annually. Another couple we met from Atlanta, which is over one hundred fifty miles away, said they visit several times a year.

Prior to the arrival of President Carter, a church member provided some information on the Carter family’s history in the community. I was interested to learn that their home is a modest, ranch-style house that was constructed in

the early 1960s. Since then, few changes or updates have occurred.

When the former president arrived, he asked everyone from where they had traveled. It was immediately evident that the foreign visitors had a great deal of respect for President Carter, due to both his humanitarian and foreign policy endeavors.

Carter spoke for just under one hour. For the first half, he talked about the projects he is involved in. Much of his time is spent on world affairs and he is in contact, as one would expect of a former president, with both world leaders and those no longer in public service. He maintains a rather extensive world travel schedule, which to me is pretty impressive for a person who is eighty-nine years old.

Carter spoke of several issues confronting the world today. He mentioned the Middle East as a challenge that is not easily resolved. One of the issues that he predicted would impact us all in the not-too-distant future is global climate change.

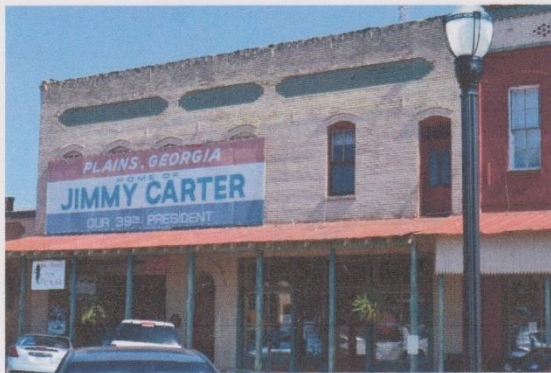
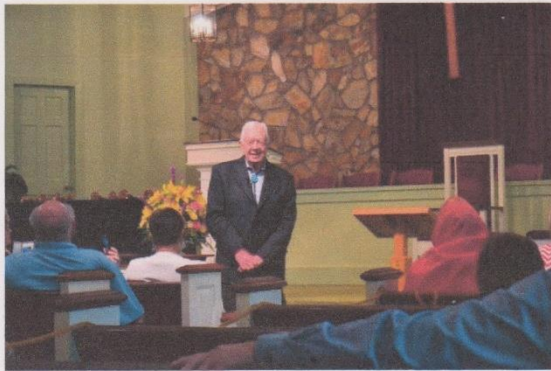
For the second half of the talk, he discussed the scripture he had chosen for the day. What stuck with me was his belief that everyone has doubts about his or her faith at times and that it was okay.

After the Sunday School class, we attended the church service. I must admit, I was somewhat awestruck to be sitting five rows directly behind President and Mrs. Carter!

Additionally, I was impressed by the number of organizations that he and other leaders work in outside of government. While it appears to many of us that government is somewhat dysfunctional and slow to solve problems, there are other people and organizations hard at work confronting challenges all around the globe.

Equally impressive is that President Carter resides in a small Georgia community and maintains a modest home not at all indicative of the status or influence he has as a world leader. While historians will debate the success of the Carter administration for many years, I do not think there can be any doubt about the huge impact his work has had on humanitarian causes throughout the world.

For those of you interested in politics or history, I would strongly encourage you to consider a trip to Plains, Georgia. It was truly a memorable experience!



Happy Presidents Day!

By Dennis Crawford



These three Democratic presidents have created 43 million jobs.

Happy Presidents Day! Let's take a moment to recognize the tremendous accomplishments of three great Democratic presidents.

During the Bill Clinton Presidency, 22 million new jobs were created, unemployment declined from 7% to 4%, median family income rose, and poverty declined to its lowest rate in 20 years. The Clinton budget also converted what was then the largest budget deficit in American history to a projected surplus of \$5.6 trillion over the next ten years.

A progressive reform of the Clinton Administration was the Children's Health Insurance Program. Hillary Clinton worked with Ted Kennedy and Orrin Hatch to provide insurance coverage to more than 8 million children.

Clinton is also hated by the radical right because he was the first president who has ever actually defeated the NRA. In 1994, a Democratic majority Congress passed a 10-year assault weapons ban.

George W. Bush passed onto President Obama probably the worst situation any incoming American president had faced since the dark days of the Great Depression in March 1933. When Obama took office, the world economy was in free fall due to the collapse of Wall Street in the fall of 2008. The economy was losing 800,000 jobs per month, GDP had shrunk 8.9% in the fourth quarter of 2008, the banking industry was on the verge of disintegration, and the U.S. auto industry hung by a thread.

Since the end of the Bush recession in 2010, the unemployment rate was reduced from 10% to 4.7%. In 2016 alone, the economy added 2.15 million jobs. Between 2009 and January 2017, the economy added 15.6 million jobs. That was the best record of

job creation since Bill Clinton's second term. In contrast, a net 3 million jobs were added during the eight years of the Bush Administration.

During the Obama Administration, 20 million formerly uninsured Americans obtained insurance. The uninsured rate was reduced from 18% to a record low of 8.6%. Lifetime limits in policies were abolished and insurance companies can no longer discriminate against the sick and the injured.

President Biden has already made amazing progress in cleaning up Trump's mess. Since Biden took office, a record 11.2 million jobs have been created. In contrast, in 2020, 9.4 million jobs were lost. Unemployment has dropped from 6.4% to 3.5%. In 2021, the U.S. experienced the strongest GDP growth since 1984.

President Biden and the Democrats had the most productive legislative session since Lyndon Johnson. In 2021, Biden passed the American Rescue Act and the Bi-Partisan Infrastructure bill.

New statistics show that 5 million more Americans have health insurance because of the American Rescue Act. The American Rescue Plan led to a record 14.5 million Americans signing up for healthcare coverage for this year through the Affordable Care Act. The U.S. currently has the lowest uninsured rate in its history now.

The year 2022 turned out to be an amazing year of progress for President Biden and the Congress. In 2022, Biden and the Congress passed:

- Biggest ever investment in clean energy.
- First major gun safety bill in 30 years.
- Restart the American microchip industry.
- Massive expansion of veterans' benefits.
- Cap seniors' drug costs at \$2000.
- President Biden and the Democrats in Congress have capped insulin costs at \$35 a month for Medicare recipients.
- The Inflation Reduction Act will now save 13 million Americans an average of \$800 annually on health insurance premiums.
- End corporate tax evasion.
- A ban on companies using mandatory arbitration to defeat sexual-harassment claims.
- A renewal of the Violence Against Women Act.
- Codify same sex marriage.

Many of these bills passed with bi-partisan support after the D.C. pundits said it could never be done. Biden's bi-partisan wins include the infrastructure bill, the CHIPS and Science Act, an expansion of veterans' benefits in the PACT Act, the first gun safety bill since 1994, the Postal Service Reform Act, and marriage equality.

Prominent presidential historian Michael Beschloss said it best: "Anyone still saying it doesn't really matter who is President of the United States?"

You're going to want to save this post for when Trump and his propaganda machine try to rewrite history.



Fighting Climate Change

By Tom Green

Director - Lower Platte South Natural Resources District, subdistrict 8

As a board member of the Lower Platte South NRD I had the opportunity to attend the National Association of Conservation Districts (NACD) annual meeting February 11-15 in New Orleans. While I ate some beignets and crawfish the most exciting thing was all that is being done in conservation and fighting climate change across the country.

Starting my second term on the LPSNRD I have much more awareness of what we are doing locally to help with conservation and respond to changes in climate. We offer cost share in cover crops to protect our soil, trees to protect our land and air, and of course are concerned about safe drinking water. One new program we just started is for backyard Prairie Pollinators

(<https://www.lpsnrd.org/backyard-prairie-pollinator>). I'm proud of our work here locally.

Attending the national conference showed how interconnected we all are. While Nebraska is the only state with Natural Resources Districts, there are various conservation districts in all the states. I met some folks who were the only employee in their district, and had a budget of only seven thousand dollars compared to the LPS budget of \$3.3 million! It was impressive to be in a full hotel ballroom of people from every state and territory in the United

States. The work we do in Nebraska on nitrates is important to help mitigate the dead zone in the Gulf of Mexico for example. We also saw a movie produced by Ducks Unlimited called "Wings over Water" that highlighted the importance of our natural habitats for birds including the Sandhills crane.

It was also inspiring to hear from several Biden Administration Officials including Secretary of Agriculture Tom Vilsack and the Director of the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service Martha Williams. There is unprecedented money coming for conservation in both the Bipartisan Infrastructure Law and the Inflation Reduction Act. President Biden and the Democrats in Congress see the importance of conservation and protecting our environment. I will be on the lookout for ways that the LPSNRD can apply for this new funding to help our environment locally; but it was good news to hear about how much money is coming for conservation.

One of the other themes at the conference was an increased focus on diversity. I attended a breakout session on how to include underserved groups in conservation efforts, and the opening keynote was General Honoré (ret.) who led the effort in New Orleans during hurricane Katrina. He was not afraid to "tell it like it is" and call out how white our spaces were and how we need to do better to include all of America in conservation. Talk of climate change was also front and center. We no longer have the luxury of debating climate change; we must act now to ameliorate the effects. The NADC also elected its first woman President, Kim LaFleur, at this meeting.

While we have a lot to do to protect our environment, I was inspired by the interconnectivity of local conservation districts across the country and the unprecedented funding coming from our federal partners. It always gives me hope when I see so many people are working at the local level in ways to protect our land, water, and natural resources. I'm thankful to be a part of that network.

"Believe in the power of your own voice. The more noise you make, the more accountability you demand from your leaders, the more our world will change for the better."

Al Gore

What If Robert F. Kennedy Had Lived?

By Dennis Crawford



After Robert Kennedy decisively defeated Eugene McCarthy in Nebraska, the campaign moved on to Oregon for a May 28 primary. McCarthy won the Oregon primary by a 44 percent to 38 percent margin. The Oregon electorate was more favorable to McCarthy since it largely consisted of middle-class white voters. It was the first loss for any of the Kennedy brothers after twenty-seven consecutive electoral victories.

Robert Kennedy rebounded from that loss to defeat McCarthy in California and South Dakota on June 4. The California win was especially significant because California had a unique winner take all rule for the delegates. Kennedy carried South Dakota with strong support from the Native-American vote.

Kennedy and his supporters were jubilant in his suite at the Ambassador Hotel in Los Angeles that night. Senior Advisor Larry O'Brien was upbeat and said, "The nomination is within our grasp. But it's not locked up." For the first time since he announced for president, Kennedy believed he could win. "Make room for the next leader of the free world," he quipped. Presumptive Republican nominee Richard Nixon told his family, "It sure looks like we'll be going against Bobby."

Despite Kennedy's impressive showing, he still trailed Vice President Hubert Humphrey in the

all-important delegate count. The delegate breakdown was as follows:

Humphrey 994
Kennedy 524.5
McCarthy 204
Undecided 872

The magic number needed to clinch the nomination was 1,312.

As we all know, Kennedy's life was tragically cut short by an assassin's bullet that night in Los Angeles. One of the great what ifs of American history is: What if Kennedy had lived?

In order to win the nomination, Kennedy would have had to win the bulk of the undecided delegates and peel away some delegates who were committed to Humphrey and McCarthy. The party leaders who controlled the vast majority of the remaining delegates would have had to be convinced to support Kennedy.

Perhaps the most important party leader was Chicago Mayor Richard Daley, who controlled the Illinois delegation. In addition, Daley had sufficient influence to convince party leaders outside of Illinois to back Kennedy. Early in the campaign, Kennedy had said, "Dick Daley is the ballgame."

Evidence has emerged in the last several years that Daley planned to endorse Kennedy if he won the California primary. On the evening of June 4, Kennedy called his long-time friend and advisor Kenny O'Donnell who was in Washington with Daley ally and Illinois U.S. House member Dan Rostenkowski. O'Donnell told Kennedy that was going to win the nomination. Kennedy said, "I think I may."

The New York Senator then asked Rostenkowski for an endorsement. Rostenkowski replied, "Daley is my guy. I do what Daley tells me . . . You win California, you get Daley, we all come along." Both O'Donnell and Rostenkowski assured Kennedy that the Illinois delegation would support him. O'Donnell wrapped up the conversation and said: "Bobby, you did it, you son of a bitch! See you tomorrow."

The Kennedy campaign was in a good position to take advantage of a Daley endorsement since they already had a detailed campaign plan ready to roll out after June 4. The first move was to encourage soft McCarthy supporters to defect to the Kennedy camp. Anti-war activist and McCarthy supporter Allard Lowenstein planned to switch his support to Kennedy if he won the California primary. Sam Brown, who had organized McCarthy's New Hampshire campaign, and several other senior McCarthy advisors told former Kennedy speechwriter Jeff Greenfield that they planned to support Kennedy if he won in California. It

is doubtful if McCarthy would have backed Kennedy after California since he was still bitter about Kennedy's entry into the race and did not endorse Humphrey until one week before the general election.

The next primary after California was in New York on June 18. It was also the last primary on the schedule in 1968. Kennedy planned a two-week blitz to nail down most of New York's rich delegate haul. Kennedy insiders believed that he was in a position to win as many as one hundred sixty out of New York's one hundred ninety delegates.

The Kennedy campaign planned a national television advertising campaign after the last primary and in the run up to the Democratic National Convention in Chicago. They planned on running two major documentaries on Kennedy as well as numerous short television advertisements.

At the same time, Kennedy planned to campaign in twenty-six states and all of the major urban areas. The New York Senator wanted to convert the pre-convention phase of the campaign into a sort of national primary aimed at convincing both undecided delegates and delegates already committed to the other candidates to support him.

Kennedy planned to wrap up this phase of the campaign with a trip to Poland, Italy, West Germany and West Berlin aimed at further burnishing his foreign policy credentials. He could have expected huge crowds and a very warm reception in Europe. This would have reminded the voters back home that he was essentially the deputy president during the Kennedy Administration.

The modern equivalent was Barack Obama's tour of the Middle East and Berlin during the summer of 2008. Obama was greeted like a conquering hero when he addressed two hundred thousand people in Berlin during his triumphant tour. Kennedy would have received a similar reception.

The Kennedy campaign was convinced that support for Humphrey was soft and that his delegate totals were inflated. They were convinced that support for Humphrey would decline during the summer months. In addition, support for McCarthy among younger voters was declining due to McCarthy's personal attacks on Kennedy — rather than Humphrey — in Oregon.

If Kennedy had lacked the requisite 1,312 delegates to win the nomination, his campaign planned a rules challenge to flip delegates from Humphrey to his campaign. The delegations from Mississippi, Alabama and Georgia were all white — in violation of the rules for the convention. Moreover, approximately six hundred delegates came from

southern states. They were required to send racially representative delegations.

The delegations from many of these states were also bound by the "unit rule" which bound all delegates to vote with a majority of the delegation. In other words, the unit rule bound the minority of delegates who supported Kennedy to vote for Humphrey. The unit rule was aimed at increasing southern clout in selecting a presidential nominee. This rule helped preserve segregation in the south for decades. Southern influence only began to decline in 1948.

Kennedy planned to file a challenge to the unit rule and the segregated delegations by moving to seat his own slate of delegates which were half white and half black. Humphrey was a champion of civil rights and he would have been under enormous pressure to agree to Kennedy's challenges. A successful rules challenge would have won the nomination for Kennedy.

A Kennedy nomination would have prevented the anti-war riots that wrecked the 1968 Democratic National Convention. Those riots fractured the Democratic Party and Humphrey left Chicago as a heavy underdog. The Democratic Party would have united around Kennedy. Due to their good personal relationship, Humphrey would have endorsed Kennedy.

A wounded Humphrey and a divided Democratic Party nearly won the 1968 election. Nixon won the popular vote by a narrow 43.4% percent to 42.7% margin over Humphrey. Segregationist Alabama Governor George Wallace finished third with 13.5 percent of the popular vote.

The electoral vote was almost as close. Nixon beat Humphrey 301 to 191 in the electoral college. Wallace finished with 46 electoral votes by carrying five states in the south.

Jeff Greenfield makes a convincing case that Kennedy would have defeated Nixon in both the popular vote and electoral vote. Nixon narrowly carried Illinois, New Jersey, Ohio, and California. A united Democratic Party and a presidential nominee free of Lyndon Johnson's baggage could have flipped those four states and won the election. Kennedy would have defeated Nixon 300 to 192 in the electoral college.

A Kennedy presidency would have been much different — and much better — than a Nixon presidency. A President Robert Kennedy would have made ending the American involvement in the Vietnam War a high priority. There is a good chance he could have wound down America's involvement during his first term.

Nixon wanted to end or significantly limit America's military intervention in Vietnam. However, Nixon did not want to do that during his first term because he knew that South Vietnam would collapse without American aide. Nixon did not want to be the first American president to lose a war during his first term because he believed that would jeopardize his re-election prospects. Nixon's refusal to quickly wind down the war cost thousands of unnecessary lives.

A Kennedy Administration would have most likely passed a universal health care bill. In 1974, Nixon introduced a plan similar to the Affordable Care Act that would have guaranteed health insurance for all Americans. The Nixon plan would have reached its goals with an employer mandate, subsidies for the purchase of private insurance and a public option. Senator Ted Kennedy supported the Nixon plan and tried to rally Democratic support.

Unfortunately, the AFL-CIO rejected the Nixon plan and held out for a single payer system. Ted Kennedy told the AFL-CIO's lobbyist, "This is the best deal we're going to get." The Massachusetts Senator later said that organized labor was "holding out for the perfect, rather than dealing with the good."

A President Robert Kennedy — like his younger brother — would have supported a plan similar to the Nixon plan. Jeff Greenfield said he wasn't a conventional liberal. Robert Kennedy supported using the private sector to achieve progressive goals. A President Robert Kennedy would have pushed an Affordable Care Act like bill across the finish line with a coalition of moderate Democrats and Republicans.

A Kennedy presidency had the potential to unite the country. In contrast, Nixon gained power and maintained power by polarization and pitting one group of Americans against each other. Kennedy's unique coalition of blue-collar whites, ethnic whites, young people, farmers, African-Americans and Hispanics demonstrated his ability to unite the country.

By 1968, a majority of the American people were fed up with big government, crime, and the Vietnam War. That opened the door for the likes of Nixon to win power by dividing the voters by using coded racial appeals. The election of Nixon in 1968 began the long conservative era that lasted until the financial crisis of 2008.

This recent conservative era gave us more division and levels of inequality that we have experienced since 1929. Since the Reagan Administration, all of the financial gains have gone to the wealthy and the rest of America has lost ground.

That has destabilized the country's economy and political system.

Robert Kennedy was the only politician who could have prevented the advent of this conservative era. Between his broad coalition and the use of a combination of the private sector and the government to achieve progressive ends, Kennedy could have maintained the Democratic coalition that dominated American politics between 1932 and 1968.

If Kennedy had lived, the Vietnam War would have ended a lot earlier and saved thousands of lives. There would have been no Watergate scandal. A Kennedy presidency could very well have staved off the era of cynicism toward the government and other institutions in American life.

The assassination of Robert F. Kennedy was truly one of the great tragedies of American history. Perhaps the only comparable tragedy was the assassination of Abraham Lincoln. The American people and the country would have been so much better off if Kennedy had lived.

"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 F. Kennedy



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jimjohnson_1958@yahoo.com.

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