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Issue 66

Anderson Clear Dispatch



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Community Notes & News

From Across My Window Sill:

By Jean Murray

Below is an article written by son, Bill, for the on-line magazine Real Clear Politics which I thought some of you might enjoy. Ordinarily, Bill edits Real Clear Energy (a part of RCP). I've been asking him to write this for a year! At last! However, I'm going to help some of you avoid a little of my confusion. In about the middle paragraph he mentions a 2010 American Spectator article by Angelo Codeville, calling it the ur-document for this subject. That slowed me down. What is that? Typo? - until I thought of the biblical "Ur," in Abraham's story. I commented, "Maybe if you had capitalized it I would have caught it sooner," to which Bill replied, "I did but the copy editor changed it." It's not exactly a daily reference but apt.

Federalism's Decline: A Preexisting Condition of Our Sick Politics

By Bill Murray

July 17, 2016

Our inventions are wont to be pretty toys, which distract our attention from serious things. They are but improved means to an unimproved end.... We are in great haste to construct a magnetic telegraph from Maine to Texas; but Maine and Texas, it may be, have nothing important to communicate. -- Henry David Thoreau, "Walden," 1854

That quotation from the great American philosopher and iconoclast manages to be both timeless and bad prophecy. Only seven years after his opus was published, men from Texas and Maine were communicating via lead bullets on Civil War battlefields. It turns out Americans did have something important to talk about – slavery in particular – using new media like the telegraph, as well as daguerreotype photography to record events for posterity.

The mood of the country in 2016 seems to be vibrating on a similar frequency to that of the 1850s, with "pretty toys" like social media and the Internet showing us very important things, things that are difficult to digest and accept, especially given that racial inequality lies at the root of Black Lives Matter protests a full century and a half after racial division in the United States was first decided militarily. It's impossible to argue the shooting death of Philando Castile in Minnesota, streamed live by his girlfriend via Facebook on July 6, wasn't "important to communicate."

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From Across My Window Sill, Continued:

Given America's political distemper, there is an obvious desire for a proper diagnosis. It's not an accident that Niccolo Machiavelli himself compared diseased political systems to "Aetolian fevers" – a malady easy to treat early when symptoms are difficult to notice, but almost untreatable when the sickness becomes easier to detect.

Jonathan Rauch, writing in the July/August edition of *The Atlantic*, gave as good an effort as anyone recently, using the same literary device as Machiavelli to put forward the theory that politics in the United States has a compromised immune system and is suffering from a type of "chaos syndrome." This syndrome is essentially a breakdown in a political system's capacity to properly self-organize.

Rauch reasons that previous political "treatments," carried out primarily in the 1970s to democratize the country's political parties and end the opaque political financing system, actually undermined "the immune system that defended the body politic for two centuries."

These past efforts by reformers looked good on paper. Ending the reign of unelected political middlemen -- the core of urban political organization since Martin Van Buren started modern machine politics in the early-1800s -- was simply good democratic practice, as was making public all political fundraising. Up until the 1970s, some committees in Congress even allowed anonymous voting, with congressmen able to hide their voting records from the public. Thanks to congressional reforms and C-SPAN, those undemocratic backroom behaviors are gone for good.

But sunlight hasn't been the best disinfectant, Rauch says. Instead, these changes to the way politics operated in the country undermined all the informal pathways that allowed for mediation and compromise, while introducing two types of pathogens against which the political immune system could not defend itself.

The first was the hyper-partisan, anti-establishment, rightward movement of the Republican Party since the 1990s. This toxin is so strong that by 2013, even with a Republican majority in the House of Representatives, Pew Research found that 70 percent of Republican voters are unhappy with their party leaders, compared to only a quarter of Democrats. This situation has undermined all attempts by Republicans to compromise for the fear of being "primaried," i.e. beaten in a primary by a more anti-establishment candidate, as happened to Virginia Republican Congressman Eric Cantor in 2014.

The second pathogen is more nebulous and difficult to define -- the rise of a population of American voters who either don't accept or don't really understand how American civics works. These "politiphobes" might, according to academic research, make up between 25 percent and 40 percent of the U.S. population and aren't ideological in orientation. Instead, they simply don't acknowledge that meaningful policy disagreements should exist among the citizenry, while viewing their own political preferences as above reproach. As a result, they believe political solutions should be as simple as electing an outsider who hasn't been sullied by Washington.

Rauch isn't the first to highlight this autoimmune disorder of American grassroots politics. A 2010 Pew Research study he cites to spotlight the Republican base's unhappiness was used in July of that year by Angelo Codevilla, writing in *The American Spectator*. The article by Codevilla, a former Foreign Service officer and retired Boston University professor of international relations, is considered by

From Across My Window Sill, Continued:

many to be the ur-document for explaining the Tea Party phenomenon as it unfolded during President Obama's first term.

Codevilla theorized that the country was splitting in two, but not along the sectional lines implied by Thoreau's comments. Instead, it would be along social class lines – the “ruling class” and the “country class” – with the ruling class representing areas and people who were economically tied, either directly or indirectly, to government largess. This group includes all publically unionized labor, as well as big business and Wall Street firms that recovered from the 2008 financial crisis thanks to taxpayer bailouts. The “country class” is everyone else outside the direct influence of federal power.

This means that Democratic politicians are the ruling class's prime legitimate representatives and that because Republican politicians are supported by only one quarter of their voters... most are aspirants for a junior role in the ruling class. In short, the ruling class has a party, the Democrats. But two-thirds of Americans – a few Democratic voters, most Republican voters, and all independents – lack a vehicle in electoral politics.” -- Angelo Codevilla, “America's Ruling Class – and the Perils of Revolution,” *The American Spectator*, July 2010

If this sounds familiar, it should, since it goes some ways toward explaining both the success of Donald Trump and Bernie Sanders and their rhetoric about the “fixed,” “crooked” political system. The fact that Trump won the Republican nomination and Sanders narrowly lost the Democratic nomination confirms the Pew Research findings about the disposition of both parties. Indeed, a separate survey in May found only a majority of Clinton supporters believing the U.S. was on the “right track.” Trump and Sanders supporters felt the opposite.

What Codevilla saw that Rauch misses (perhaps purposefully) is that the degradation of federalism (“states' rights” has become a pejorative term) over the course of the 20th century is the pre-existing condition underlying the country's 21st century political illness.

The federal system – the one that started with 13 states along the Atlantic seaboard in the 1700s – existed well before Rauch's “informal constitutional order” coalesced and acted as the foundation upon which the constitutional order rested well into the 20th century. Since state governments have general police powers, and because the founders wrote the Constitution to give the federal government only “enumerated powers,” it was only when the Supreme Court began reinterpreting the Constitution's commerce clause in the 1930s and 1940s to accommodate the New Deal that the regulatory power of the executive branch became too powerful for the constitutional antibodies to contain.

Codevilla is highly critical of the role President Woodrow Wilson played as the first major vector through which pathogens entered the political bloodstream. Wilson was the first statesman to argue “that the Founders had done badly by depriving the U.S. government of the power to reshape American society,” he wrote. Early progressive thought concerning the rule of technical “experts” rather than elected representatives was best articulated by Wilson well before his presidency, and the growth of executive power – often with good and noble motives – has led to a usurpation of decentralized authority and the ability of the political system to organically self-organize.

From Across My Window Sill, Continued:

Codevilla said progressives generally want a more straightforward, centralized political system closer to the British Parliament, which ratifies government actions by dint of its parliamentary structure; there are no regional provinces with general police powers in Great Britain.

Yet a parliamentary system wasn't the design of Congress by the Framers; quite the opposite. This is why James Madison said in Federalist No. 10 that the role of Congress would be to "refine and enlarge the public's view" of the national interest while leaving much of the protean lawmaking to the state legislatures.

It's these non-federal police powers that are the reason death penalty and abortion laws are different in each U.S. state. They were also the reason that gun control laws differed significantly from state to state until two recent Supreme Court cases largely ended state-level regulation of firearms.

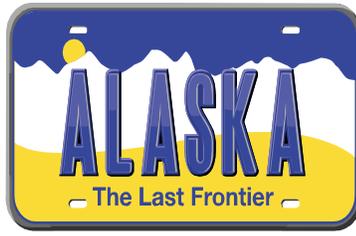
As a result, Rauch gets his diagnosis wrong by focusing on the vanishing middlemen of the late 20th century. The shifting of the venues of mediation – and the people doing the mediating – from state capitals to Washington, D.C., has undermined the political system's historic ability to self-organize peacefully.

Unless the political system – and the elites running it – is willing to accept the treatment options inherent in such a diagnosis, the U.S. political system will start to exhibit (if it hasn't already) a shift from the chronic condition that is manageable to the more acute version of political "chaos syndrome" that calls into question the survivability of the American experiment.

**CITY OF ANDERSON, ALASKA
REGULAR CITY COUNCIL MEETING
ANDERSON CITY HALL, COUNCIL CHAMBERS
Tuesday
August 9, 2016
7:00
Agenda**

1. Call to Order
2. Pledge of Allegiance
3. Roll Call/Establishment of Quorum
4. Approval of Agenda
5. Approval/Adoption of Minutes
 - (a) Regular Meeting, June, 2016
6. Bills to Be Paid
 - (a) July 2016
7. Receive Financial Reports
 - (a) July 2016
8. Correspondence
9. Reports
 - (a) Lt Col. Budnick Clear AFB
 - (b) Doug Poage or VSW Representative
 - (c) Denali Borough Mayor
 - (d) Anderson School Supervisor, Principal, Teachers, Library
 - (e) Departmental Reports
10. Old Business
11. New Business
12. Public Access: At this time any citizen may bring to the council any matter.
(During this section of the agenda the Council listens to oral communications from audience members. When speaking during this section of the agenda, please state your name, and limit your testimony to approximately three minutes per person.)
13. Council Comments
14. Adjournment

The City of Anderson Council reserves the right to enter into Executive Session to discuss matters as indicated under Alaska State Statute 44.63.310



ANDERSON DMV

Will be CLOSED

Wednesday and Thursday

August 31st & September 1st



NOTICE OF PRIMARY ELECTION

To the qualified voters in the State of Alaska in

06-005 ANDERSON

ANDERSON CITY BUILDING

Notice is hereby given that a Primary Election will be held on

**Tuesday, August 16, 2016
Between the hours of
7:00 A.M. and 8:00 P.M.**

For the purpose of nominating officials for the following seats

1. United States Senator
2. United States Representative
3. State Senators (10)
4. State Representatives (40)

If you are not already registered to vote, or if you need to update your exs
tration, please contact your election office listed below or visit our webs
www.elections.alaska.gov.

If you need Native Language Assistance, please call 1-866-954-8683.

E REGISTRATION DEADLINE FOR THIS ELECTION IS JULY 17, 20

Juneau
465-8021 or
1-866-948-8683

Anchorage
522-8683 or
1-866-958-8683

Mat-Su
373-8952

Fairbanks
451-2835 or
1-866-959-8683

Nome
443-5285
1-866-953

DATE 7/17

August Events

1 - Anderson Quilters & Crafters, Clear Sky Lodge, 10 AM-1 PM.

8 - Anderson Quilters & Crafters, Clear Sky Lodge, 10 AM-1 PM.

9 - Anderson City Council Meeting, City Hall Council Chambers, 7:00 P.M.

10 - Denali Borough Assembly Public Hearing and Regular Meeting, Tri-Valley Community Center, Healy. Everyone is invited to attend! 6 P.M.

10 – Deadline for Dispatch Submissions

12 - Anderson Community Church Cookout, 5 PM, Riverside Park Pavilion.

15 - Anderson Quilters & Crafters, Clear Sky Lodge, 10 AM-1 PM.

16 - Primary Election, Anderson City Bldg., 7 A.M. - 6 P.M.

16 - Denali Borough Planning Commission Work session, Public Hearing and Regular Meeting, 6:15 PM, Tri-Valley Community Center, Healy.

22 - Anderson Quilters & Crafters, Clear Sky Lodge, 10 AM-1 PM.

25 - Deadline for Dispatch Submissions

26 - Anderson Community Church Cookout, 5 PM, Riverside Park Pavilion.

29 - Anderson Quilters & Crafters, Clear Sky Lodge, 10 AM-1 PM.

Borough Services

Denali Borough

Tri-Valley Community Center, Healy AK
Mon-Thu, 9:00 A.M.-4:00 P.M.,
PO Box 480, Healy, AK 99743,
907-683-1330, Fax: 907-683-1340,
<http://www.denaliborough.govoffice.com>

Denali Borough School District

1 Suntrana Street, Healy, AK 99743,
907-683-2278, <http://www.dbsd.org>

Denali Borough Landfill

Tipping Fees: All MSW, C&D and Special
Waste - \$115.00 per ton. Dry automobiles
excluding commercial trucks and buses -
\$25.00 each. All other Special handling fees
are provided within the Denali Borough Solid
Waste Permit.

Hours of Operation: Tuesday-Saturday, 9
A.M. – 4 P.M. Closed on all Borough
Holidays ([click this link](#)). FREE 55 gallon
drums available.

Anderson Services

Anderson City Office

Mon-Thu 10:00 A.M.-4:00 P.M.
907-582-2500

Division of Motor Vehicles

Wednesdays & Thursdays
10:00 A.M. – 2:00 P.M.
907-582-2501

Anderson Post Office

Mon-Fri, 12-3:15 P.M. 907-582-2992

Anderson Volunteer Fire Dept.

907-582-2500

Anderson Public Library

Open Mon, Wed, Friday 4-6 P.M. &
Sun 12-4 P.M. 907-582-2628
andersonlibrary@dbsd.org

HOME FOR SALE IN ANDERSON

- 2400 Sq. Ft. Living Space
- 1200 Sq. Ft. Shop/Garage
- BEES Certified 5 Star Rating, Energy Efficient!
- Stained Concrete Radiant Floor Heat, Corian Counters
- Concrete/Fiber Siding, Metal Roof, Trex Deck
- 1 Acre with Garden & Lawn
- Built in 2003, Finished in 2004
- HRV, Walk-In Closets
- Concrete Floor in Crawlspace
- Outdoor Wood/Coal Boiler & Indoor OFB
- On-Demand Rinnai DHW
- Custom Coal Shed Holds 15 Ton, Dump Truck Accessible
- New Rain Gutters, Downspouts & Snow-stops



**210 Tamarack,
Anderson
4 Bedroom, 2
Full Bath,
2 Half Bath
Available Soon**

**\$265,000
No Realtor
OBO FSBO**

Classified Advertisements

House for Sale by Owner

120 B Street, 3 bdrm,
attached 2-car, heated
garage, hot water baseboard
heat, new boiler, wood stove,
W/D, fresh ext. paint, new
kitchen & bath tile floors,
outdoor storage shed. 2 lots.
Avail. Sept. 1, 2016.
\$110,000. Call 321-794-8108
or 907-696-4246.

House for Sale

Reduced to \$109,000
170 C Street, Anderson.
4 Bed, 1 Bath, Garage,
1,200 Sq. Ft., .23 acres.
Call Dwayne Tucker
(970) 208 3131

For Sale, Rent or Lease

4 Bedroom House w/
1.5 baths,
2 car garage on 2.11
acres. Separate
commercial garage/shop
Located at 302.1 Parks
Hwy, Nenana, AK
Contact: Carl Jauhola
(907) 347-0114

Property for Sale

28 $\frac{3}{4}$ acres located at
the end of first street
across from Riverside
Park. \$110,000. The 99
Chevy suburban is for
sale for \$3,000.00.
Call Jim Segal 719-
355-6037.

2,619 Sq. Ft. Home

107 Aspen St., Anderson.
4 bedroom house with 3
baths, kitchen, dining
room, office, game room,
and fitness room, 720 sq.
ft. garage, 1.56 acres,
\$225,000.
Call Ross Nelson
907-347-6142.

2 Lots in Anderson

Located at 197 D Street
and reaches back to
E Street.
Connected to Anderson
sewer system. \$8,000.
lu.schneider73@
gmail.com
(907) 378-9040

12 Anderson City Lots for Sale

100'x100'
Not subdivided
/developed. Lots are
located on Aspen Street.
907-745-1860 or
E-mail jauna@
mtaonline.net

3 Bedroom Duplex Apartment for Rent in Anderson,

Ten minute commute to
Clear AFS,
1 bath. New
construction.
\$800 plus utilities.
Contact Shaleen Holmes
@ 907-378-8021

Wanted:

Gallon & $\frac{1}{2}$ gallon
jars, pressure
cooker/canner,
5 gallon buckets.
907-888-8401

Local Businesses

Alpine Plumbing & Heating (Commercial & Residential, Licensed, Insured & Bonded) 907-209-7645.

Dew Drop Inn (Restaurant & Bar)
Closed for winter

Fireweed Roadhouse located on the Parks Hwy milepost 288.5 We offer comfortable lodging, full menu with all-inclusive contractor rates. Come enjoy true Alaskan hospitality in one of the last standing roadhouses. We serve homemade pizzas, burgers, soups and salads. I look forward to serving your family and friends! 907-582-2224 or 907-460-9292 and web:
www.fireweedroadhouse@denali.com

Homefire Country Inn Bed and Breakfast, Past Fire Hall on South D Street, Left on Park Ave, follow to end, last house on right. 907-582-1895.

North Star Independent Baptist Church
Aspen & 1st Street, Anderson.
Kevin Smith (907) 712-4244
Sunday Services: 11:00 AM and 6:00 PM
Wednesday Night; 6:30 PM

Rabideau's Clear Sky Lodge, Mile 280 Parks Hwy, 907-582-2251, Open 10 A.M.-Midnight (Grilling 11 A.M.-11 P.M.).

Scentsy: Wick-less, flameless, soot-free candles, and personal care and laundry products that add scent-sationally to your life! **Velata Fondu:** Chocolate, Cheese & Artisan Rubs. Grab your friends and get together. Velata makes parties fun and EASY! Dawni Corbin
(907) 582-2419 or (907)378-8272
Scentsy Lead Consultant
<https://scentsforalways.scentsy.us>
Velata Lead Consultant
<https://makeminemelted.velata.us>

ViVi Jewelry, The New Cookie Lee, is available in Anderson today. Try it on and take it home. Shop for your favorite styles at guilt-free prices. Book a show and earn free jewelry. I also do fundraisers. Check out my website www.bevivi.com/janis.

Thank you for reading the Dispatch and for your submissions!
Please inform us of any errors.

Please send your submissions for the next issue by August 10, 2016.