Eye on the World *Oct. 26, 2019*

This compilation of material for "Eye on the World" is presented as a service to the Churches of God. The views stated in the material are those of the writers or sources quoted by the writers, and do not necessarily reflect the views of the members of the Church of God Big Sandy. The following articles were posted at churchofgodbigsandy.com for the weekend of Oct. 26, 2019.

Compiled by Dave Havir

Luke 21:34-36—"But take heed to yourselves, lest your souls be weighed down with self-indulgence, and drunkenness, or the anxieties of this life, and that day come on you suddenly, like a falling trap; for it will come on all dwellers on the face of the whole earth. But beware of slumbering; and every moment pray that you may be fully strengthened to escape from all these coming evils, and to take your stand in the presence of the Son of Man" (Weymouth New Testament).

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An article by Jacquelyn Melinek titled "Oil Rises After Report OPEC, Allies to Discuss Deepening Cuts" was posted at bloomberg.com on Oct. 22, 2019. Following is the article.

Crude oil held onto gains after an industry report showed expanding U.S. inventories as OPEC and allied oil producers mull deepening supply cuts.

Futures settled 1.6% higher in New York on Tuesday before the American Petroleum Institute disclosed a 4.45 million-barrel increase in crude inventories, according to people familiar with the data. If confirmed by a government tally on Wednesday, it will be the longest run of gains in almost a year.

Prices rose earlier after Reuters reporter that members of the Organization of Petroleum Exporting Countries are concerned about the outlook for demand next year.

"The biggest piece of news is that OPEC is considering deeper cuts," said Josh Graves, senior market strategist at RJ O'Brien & Associates in Chicago."I think that's something that needs to be done."

Oil settles 1.6% higher on Tuesday after two-day slump

U.S. benchmark futures have been under pressure for the past six months as the protracted U.S.-China trade war imperiled worldwide energy demand. President Donald Trump on Monday said negotiations are progressing, raising expectations that the world's largest economies may sign a deal as soon as next month.

West Texas Intermediate crude for November delivery, which expired Tuesday, rose 85 cents to settle at \$54.16 a barrel on the New York Mercantile Exchange. The more active December contract rose 81 cents to \$54.32 at 4:59 p.m.

Brent for December settlement increased 74 cents to close at \$59.70 on the London-based ICE Futures Europe Exchange. The global benchmark crude traded at a premium of \$5.22 to WTI for the same month as of the close.

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An article by Patrick Goodenough titled "Russian Troops Enter Syria-Turkey Border Zone; Moscow Accuses US of Fueling Kurdish Separatism" was posted at cnsnews.com on Oct. 24, 2019. Following is the article.

Russian troops rolled into Kobane in northeastern Syria on Wednesday, on a mission to oversee the withdrawal of Syrian Kurdish fighters and their weapons from the area in line with an agreement reached by the Russian and Turkish presidents a day earlier.

Russian Foreign Minister Sergei Lavrov accused the United States of having openly tried to create a Kurdish "quasi-state" on sovereign Syrian territory, but said all such separatist projects would now be thwarted.

Under the deal reached by President Vladimir Putin and President Recep Tayyip Erdogan, Russian military police and Assad regime border guards will together manage the withdrawal of Kurdish YPG fighters from a 30-kilometer wide strip of Syrian territory adjacent to the border with Turkey.

According to a map released by Russia's defense ministry, this will apply to the entire length of the Syria-Turkey border from the Euphrates River in the west to the border with Iraq in the east—except for the central area which is currently occupied by Turkish forces who invaded on Oct. 9.

The Turkish offensive, "Operation Peace Spring," was designed to clear the area of the YPG—which Turkey's Islamist president defines as terrorists—and the de-facto autonomous Kurdish zone, to enable the resettling there of millions of Syrian refugees now in Turkey.

The offensive has now been halted, following the end of a temporary ceasefire negotiated last week by Vice President Mike Pence, but Turkish forces will remain in that central area for now. Erdogan claims to have no designs on Syrian territory and says their presence there will not be open ended.

YPG fighters are a key component of the Syrian Democratic Forces (SDF), an effective ally in the U.S.-led campaign to defeat ISIS and its "caliphate."

The Erdogan-Putin deal gives the Russians and Assad regime forces 150 hours, until Tuesday, to ensure that the YPG withdraws to south of the 30 kilometer line. Following that, Russia and Turkey will begin join patrols in a strip extending 10 kilometers from the border. (The agreement also requires the YPG to withdraw from two key towns west of the Euphrates, Manbij and Tel Rifaat.)

Although Moscow opposed the Turkish incursion, its interests in the area do benefit from it: Russia intervened in the civil war to prop up its embattled ally in Damascus, and helping Bashar Assad's regime to extend its effective control over all of Syria again would necessitate an end to the de-facto autonomous Kurdish region.

Known as the Autonomous Administration of North and East Syria, and with the SDF effectively serving as its armed forces, the zone encompassed a large swathe of Syrian territory, stretching across parts of four provinces in the country's northeast—Aleppo, Raqqa, al-Hasakah, and Deir ez-Zor.

Deir ez-Zor is the region where President Trump has now confirmed some U.S. troops will remain to safeguard oilfields which the SDF wrested from ISIS' control in 2017.

What future support the U.S. may provide to the SDF remains unclear, but Trump spoke by phone Wednesday to SDF commander Gen. Mazloum Abdi, who said in a tweet posted by the SDF press office afterwards that "President Trump promised to maintain partnership with SDF and long-term support at various spheres."

"Quasi-state"

At a press conference with his Turkish counterpart after the Putin-Erdogan meeting in Sochi, Lavrov accused the U.S. and others of fueling Kurdish separatism inside Syria.

"The situation on the eastern bank of the Euphrates raises some flags," he said. "It is in that area, beyond the control of the [Syrian] government, that the United States and the U.S.-led coalition have been actively creating comfortable accommodations, complete with electricity and water supplies, and social and health services."

"Moreover, they were not even hiding that they wanted to create a quasistate there," Lavrov continued.

He said the just-signed Russia-Turkey agreement had rejected "all separatist games in Syria."

"I am sure that the implementation of this memorandum will strongly interfere with these plans," he said. "In the final analysis, we will work to nullify them."

Testifying on Capitol Hill on Tuesday, U.S. special envoy for Syria James Jeffrey expressed skepticism about Russia's pledge to see YPG fighters leave the area, calling it "not particularly believable." On Wednesday, however, Kremlin spokesman Dmitry Peskov told reporters that if the YPG does do not retreat, the Russian and Syrian personnel will stand aside and the Kurdish fighters will then face "the weight of the Turkish military machine."

As he traveled back home from Sochi, Erdogan told Turkish reporters that if Russia does not keep its commitments, Turkey would not hesitate to take the necessary steps.

He said the two million Syrians he wants to return to northern Syria—on a voluntary basis—include some 350,000 Kurds.

Erdogan also complained that Turkey has had no offers of international help to finance the resettlement of the refugees. He would now appeal to the United Nations, he said, voicing hope of the possibility it could host an "international donor conference" to raise funds.

Erdogan plans to meet with Trump at the White House on Nov. 13, and said he may also meet with the British, French and German leaders on the sidelines of a NATO summit in early December.

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"Eye on the World" comment: The following list of articles consists of headlines of extra articles, which are considered international. The articles were not posted, but the headlines give the essence of the story.

■ An article by Connor Mannion titled "Pat Robertson Compares Trump's Syrian Policy to Appeasement of Nazi Germany, Predicts World World War" was posted at mediaite.com on Oct. 24, 2019.

■ An article by Patrick Goodenough titled "US Sanctions NATO Ally Turkey for the Second Time in 14 Months" was posted at cnsnews.com on Oct. 15, 2019.

 An article by Dimitri Simes titled "US Ally Saudi Arabia Signs Deals Worth \$2 Billion With Putin's Russia" was posted at cnsnews.com on Oct. 15, 2019.

■ An article by Rozina Sabur titled "Brazil Deploys 5,000 Troops As Fury Mounts at Inaction Over Worst Oil Spill in Country's History" was posted at telegraph.co.uk on Oct. 23, 2019.

■ An article by Carlin Becker titled "Air Canada to Stop Announcing 'Ladies and Gentlemen' in Recognition of Gender Fluidity" was posted at washing-tonexaminer.com on Oct. 13, 2019.

■ An article by Jeff S. Bartlett titled "Toyota Recalls More Than 900,000 Vehicles to Replace Their Airbags Again" was posted at yahoo.com on Oct. 23, 2019.

■ An article by John Leicester titled "LeBron James No Longer King James for Hong Kong Protesters" was posted at apnews.com on Oct. 15, 2019.

■ An article titled "LeBron Under Fire After Blaming China Row on 'Misinformed' Rockets GM" was posted at afp.com on Oct. 15, 2019.

■ An article by Patrick Brzeski titled "Hong Kong Protesters Voice Disappointment in LeBron James: 'He Supports Totalitarianism?" was posted at hollywoodreporter.com on Oct. 15, 2019.

■ An article by Dan Wolken titled "LeBron James Undermines Values He's Espoused in Most Disgraceful Moment of Career" was posted at usatoday.com on Oct. 14, 2019.

■ An article by Jack Baer titled "Enes Kanter [NBA Player From Turkey] Has Some Thoughts on LeBron James' Weak Reaction to NBA's China Situation" was posted at yahoo.com on Oct. 15, 2019.

■ An article by Luke Kenton and Marlene Lenthang titled "South Park Takes Aim at LeBron James and Pokes Fun at the NBA Legend's Controversial Comments About China" was posted at dailymail.co.uk on Oct. 17, 2019.

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An article by Walter Williams titled "Intolerance in Academia" was posted at jewishworldreview.com on Oct. 16, 2019. Following is the article.

If you need an accurate update on some of the madness at the nation's institutions of higher learning, check out Minding the Campus, a nonprofit independent organization. John Leo, its editor in chief, says that the organization's prime mission is dedicated to the revival of intellectual pluralism and the best traditions of liberal education at America's colleges and universities. Leo's most recent compilation of campus madness leaves one nearly breathless.

In a USA Today op-ed, Emily Walton, a sociology professor at Dartmouth University, said that all college students should take a mandatory course on black history and white privilege. She says that by taking her class, white students "come to understand that being a good person does not make them innocent but rather they, too, are implicated in a system of racial dominance."

Walton adds, "After spending their young lives in a condition of 'white blindness,' that is, the inability to see their own racial privilege, they begin to awaken to the notion that racism has systematically kept others down while benefiting them and other white people."

This is inculcating guilt based on skin color. These young white kids had nothing to do with slavery, Jim Crow or other horrible racial discriminatory acts. If one believes in individual responsibility, he should find the indoctrination by Walton offensive. To top it off, she equates the meritocratic system of hard work with white discrimination against minorities.

If you thought integration was in, check out the University of Nevada. Based on a report in the College Fix, John Leo describes how integration on that campus is actively discouraged—and at taxpayer expense. The university provides separate dorms for different identities including Howell Town for black students, Stonewall Suites for LGBTQ students, the women-only housing of Tonopah community, the Healthy Living Floor for tofu and kale lovers and study-intensive floors for those who want to graduate.

According to a *New York Post* report, New York City school administrators have been taught that pillars of Western Civilization such as objectivity, individualism and belief in the written word all are examples of white supremacy.

All school principals, district office administrators and superintendent teams were required to attend the anti-white supremacy training put on by the city Department of Education's Office of Equity and Access.

They learn that a belief in an "ultimate truth" (objectivity) leads to a dismissal of "alternate viewpoints or emotions" as "bad" and that an emphasis on the written word overlooks the "ability to relate to others" and leads to "teaching that there is only 'one right way' to do something."

Administrators learn that other "hallmarks" of white supremacy include a "sense of urgency," "quantity over quality" and "perfectionism." Richard Carranza, New York City school superintendent, says the workshops are just about "what are our biases and how we work with them."

Michael Bloomberg, former New York City mayor, says that political rage and increasingly polarized discourse are endangering our nation. Americans used to move forward productively after elections regardless of which side won.

Now, we seem paralyzed by absolute schism and intolerance.

Bloomberg pointed to colleges as a prime example of a rising level of intolerance for different ideas and free speech.

Steven Gerrard, a professor at Williams College in Massachusetts, serves as an example of campus intolerance. Students declared Gerrard "an enemy of the people" after he suggested that Williams College join other schools in signing onto what's called the Chicago Principles. The statement, published by the Committee of Freedom of Expression at the University of Chicago, calls for free speech to be central to college and university culture.

Williams college students said free speech is a part of a right-wing agenda as a "cover for racism, xenophobia, sexism, anti-Semitism, homophobia, transphobia, ableism and classism."

Bloomberg pointed out that fewer than 70 of America's 4,000 colleges and universities have endorsed or adopted the Chicago statement.

State governors and legislators can learn something from their Alaskan counterparts, who slashed public spending on the University of Alaska by 41%. There's nothing better than the sounds of pocketbooks snapping shut to bring a bit of sanity to college administrators.

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An article by Walter Williams titled "US in Moral Decline" was posted at jewishworldreview.com on Oct. 23, 2019. Following is the article.

Last week, U.S. Attorney General William Barr told a University of Notre Dame Law School audience that attacks on religious liberty have contributed to a moral decline that's in part manifested by increases in suicides, mental illness and drug addiction.

Barr said that our moral decline is not random but "organized destruction." Namely that "Secularists and their allies have marshaled all the forces of mass communication, popular culture, the entertainment industry, and academia in an unremitting assault on religion and traditional values."

The attorney general is absolutely correct. Whether we have the stomach to own up to it or not, we have become an immoral people left with little more than the pretense of morality. The left's attack on religion is just the tiny tip of the iceberg in our nation's moral decline.

You say: "That's a pretty heavy charge, Williams. You'd better be prepared to back it up with evidence!" I'll try with a few questions for you to answer.

Do you believe that it is moral and just for one person to be forcibly used to serve the purposes of another?

And, if that person does not peaceably submit to such use, do you believe that there should be the initiation of force against him?

Neither question is complex and can be answered by either a yes or no. For me the answer is no to both questions. I bet that nearly every college professor, politician or even minister could not give a simple yes or no response.

A no answer, translated to public policy, would slash the federal budget by no less than two-thirds to three-quarters. After all most federal spending consist of taking the earnings of one American to give to another American in the form of farm subsidies, business bailouts, aid to higher education, welfare and food stamps.

Keep in mind that Congress has no resources of its own. Plus there's no Santa Claus or tooth fairy that gives Congress resources. Thus, the only way that Congress can give one American a dollar is to first, through intimidation and coercion, confiscate that dollar from some other American.

■ Such actions by the U.S. Congress should offend any sense of moral decency.

■ If you're a Christian or a Jew, you should be against the notion of one American living at the expense of some other American.

■ When God gave Moses the Eighth Commandment—"Thou shalt not steal"— I am sure that He did not mean thou shalt not steal unless there is a majority vote in the U.S. Congress. ■ By the way, I do not take this position because I don't believe in helping our fellow man.

■ I believe that helping those in need by reaching into one's own pocket to do is praiseworthy and laudable.

But helping one's fellow man in need by reaching into somebody else's pockets to do so is worthy of condemnation.

We must own up to the fact that laws and regulations alone cannot produce a civilized society. Morality is society's first line of defense against uncivilized behavior. Religious teachings, one way of inculcating morality, have been under siege in our country for well over a half a century.

In the name of not being judgmental and the vision that one lifestyle or set of values is just as good as another, traditional moral absolutes have been abandoned as guiding principles.

We no longer hold people accountable for their behavior and we accept excuses. The moral problems Attorney General William Barr mentioned in his speech, plus murder, mayhem and other forms of anti-social behavior, will continue until we regain our moral footing.

In 1798, John Adams, a leading Founding Father and our second president said: "Our Constitution was made only for a moral and religious people. It is wholly inadequate to the government of any other."

I am all too afraid that a historian, writing a few hundred years from now, will note that the liberty American enjoyed was simply a historical curiosity. Then it all returned to mankind's normal state of affairs—arbitrary abuse and control by the powerful elite.

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An article by Burt Prelutsky titled "The Libs Go Yakity Yak Yak" was posted at patriotpost.us on Oct. 12, 2019. Following are excerpts of the article.

Sometimes, I get the feeling the Democrats are in a conspiracy to keep me so busy, I won't have time to eat or sleep. I mean, what other reason could they possibly have to say all the moronic things that come out of their collective mouths?

They can't possibly think that they're improving their chances of winning an election when, referring to Trump's impeachment, Cory Booker pompously proclaims: "Politics be damned! We have to do what's right." Or when Nancy Pelosi actually says: "It's not about politics. It's about patriotism."

Hillary Clinton has a lot of nerve

Even Hillary Clinton, who just might be pinning her hopes on a brokered convention turning to her to be the party's standard bearer, proclaimed that "Trump has turned American diplomacy into a cheap extortion racket." Except for the part about its being "cheap," there's nobody around, including Jesse Jackson and Al Sharpton, who knows more about extortion rackets. But, how strange that she would call attention to her own history. After all, it wasn't Donald Trump who, as Secretary of State, had foreign nations, including hostile ones, contributing millions of dollars to a money-laundering conspiracy posing as a Family Foundation that was, itself, posing as a charity.

I was wondering if Hillary would at least hold off weighing in on the Ukrainian brouhaha, considering that the man who was the Vice-President during her reign at the State Department, is in it up to his neck. But of course, she couldn't resist accusing Trump of placing his self-interests before the interests of the nation's security.

How outrageous that this was coming from the woman who let four men die in Benghazi; who handed over our uranium deposits to Russian oligarchs; and who used an unsecure server to send and receive classified information. You have to wonder whether this rancid swamp creature even knows how to spell the word "shame."

Elizabeth Warren bounced back

Elizabeth Warren reminds me of those characters in scary movies that you think are dead and buried until they reach up from their graves and grab someone by the ankle.

How is it that someone who was the laughingstock of the nation, better known as "Fauxcahontas" than by her real name, could somehow rise phoenix-like and take the lead in the presidential polls?

It certainly appeared that her political goose was cooked, at least so far as the presidency was concerned. There was no question that she could hang on to her Massachusetts-based Senate seat as long as she had a pulse. After all, Ted Kennedy served eight terms in that august body and Mrs. Warren never killed anyone.

But, judging by the polls which now show Warren leading Biden in most of the early states, I was wrong to count her out. But if I'm surprised, imagine how shocked Bernie Sanders was when he was at the cemetery picking out his future resting place and suddenly felt a hand reach up and grab his bony ankle!

School busing

Speaking of demonic Democrats, in Montgomery County, Maryland, formerly known as the child rape capital of the United States, the school board has decided to re-institute school busing.

Because bureaucratic busybodies are among the stupidest people in America—and school bureaucrats are the stupidest of all—they've decided to bus many of the kids attending the best schools to the worst schools and to reverse the process for many of the kids attending the worst schools.

They are convinced that this will result in a better education for everyone. At least that's the lie they tell themselves. But that's because they are so stu-

pid, they seem to believe that the school buildings themselves have some magical power to instill knowledge.

The result will be that the white and Asian kids will be shortchanged and the black kids, who are mainly raised in fatherless homes by under-educated single women to whom education is not a priority, will be angry, frustrated, disruptive and violent, when wrenched away from their friends by well-intentioned ignoramuses.

We went through all this in the 70s and 80s when head-in-the-cloud social engineering judges ordered school busing. It didn't occur to these virtue-signaling idiots that they were adding two hours of commuting time to the kids' school day here in L.A. Even black parents were outraged, no matter what Kamala Harris says to the contrary, because if their children took sick or were injured at their new schools, they were 20 miles away. Go try getting to the Pacific Palisades from South Central or Watts on a bus!

An additional result of the disastrous experiment was that there was an enormous spike in shoplifting and vandalism in the Pacific Palisades.

Criminal or illegal alien

Tucker Carlson posed a pertinent rhetorical question recently: "When is the last time that a Democratic candidate promised to do something to improve your life, unless you happen to be a criminal or an illegal alien?"

Paul Ryan at Fox News

Speaking of Fox News, Nancy Thorner informed me that former House Speaker Paul Ryan, who now sits on the Fox Board of Directors, is apparently pushing the network to "decisively break" with President Trump.

Ryan, who hated Trump when he was still in politics, hates him even more these days. And I fear that now that Fox is in the hands of one of Rupert Murdoch's sons, they will be increasingly obliging to the forces of darkness who are constantly trying to get people like Carlson, Jeanine Pirro and Sean Hannity, suspended or fired.

In the past, I hoped that some wealthy Conservative would create a competitor to Fox just so I would no longer have to listen to the squirrelly likes of Shepard Smith, Richard Goodstein, Leslie Marshall, Jessica Tarlov, Ethan Bearman, Geraldo Rivera, Chris Hahn and Juan Williams. But now, with Never-Trumpers like Paul Ryan in positions of influence, it's become a necessity and no longer a luxury item.

More robberies, fewer arrests

In California, it used to be a felony if a thief stole goods worth in excess of \$450. Now, because the state's Democratic legislators wish to lower the risk of jailing members of their voting base, the amount has been doubled to \$900.

The result is that there's been a massive increase in robberies, but fewer arrests. Sometimes, even the Democrats, stupid as they are, achieve their intended results. Hollywood and climate change

In case you were looking for absolute proof that the climate change campaign is a hoax, look no further than Hollywood. Even though pinheads like Leonardo DiCaprio and Bradley Cooper will fly off on their private jets at the mere rumor that a climate change conference is being arranged someplace that boasts world-class hotels, five-star restaurants and lovely weather, the proof that it's all a hoax can be found by checking out the product they produce.

They churn out plenty of scary movies dealing with gigantic asteroids hurtling towards the earth and Martian invasions, but you never see any multi-million dollar productions dealing with the so-called existential threat that's supposed to wipe out 20th Century Fox, Universal, Paramount, Columbia and the inconsequential rest of the planet in 10 years.

In other words, the Leftists don't mind giving Al Gore an Oscar for his so-called documentary, "An Inconvenient Truth," but that certainly doesn't mean they take his snow job seriously. If they did, they'd try, as usual, to make a billion bucks off it.

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An article by Burt Prelutsky titled "Donald Trump As Br'er Rabbit" was posted at patriotpost.us on Oct. 14, 2019. Following are excerpts of the article.

For those of you old enough to remember the homespun tales of Uncle Remus, you might recall the mischievous rabbit who was always begging his captors to do anything but throw him in the briar patch. What they never realized is that Br'er Rabbit (southern dialect in Joel Chandler Harris's stories for Brother Rabbit), made his home in that scary-looking briar patch.

Wanting start of impeachment

That's the feeling I get whenever I hear Trump fending off calls for his impeachment. As with the Russian collusion charges, he knows there was nothing illegal or even unseemly about his conversation with Ukrainian President Zelensky, but he's dying to have the House Democrats vote to impeach him. A trial in the Senate would enable Mitch McConnell to subpoena and question everyone from James Comey to John Brennan under oath. Not only would the trial exonerate Trump and lead to his certain re-election in 2020, but it would leave the Deep State in rubble and leave House members Pelosi, Nadler, Schiff, Omar, A O-C and Tlaib, with a ton of egg on their faces.

I can't wait for the Democrats to take that fatal first lemming-like step off the cliff. So I trust you'll understand if I join Maxine Waters in chanting "Impeach 45!"

So far as I'm concerned, Trump's impeachment would not only guarantee his re-election, but ensure that the Republicans would win back the House. In other words, it would make for one very peachy impeachment.

Claiming a desire for term limits

On the other hand, when I heard that 19 Republican congressmen, half a dozen of them from Texas, announced they weren't running for re-election in 2020, I asked my Texas chum Dick Barry to explain their desertion.

He let me know that they believed in term limits. I, in turn, let him know I was outraged and considered it a betrayal. For one thing, I don't believe in arbitrary term limits. If people want to keep voting for the same liberal bozos, you might as well let them because those who regularly vote for the likes of Nancy Pelosi, Eric Swalwell, Al Green, Xavier Becerra, Jerry Nadler, Luis GutiÈrrez and Sheila Jackson Lee, will simply elect equally obnoxious replacements.

Besides, it's only Republicans who seem to believe in self-imposed term limits, so the GOP is always at a disadvantage when incumbents decide to take their pensions and then ride off into the sunset to become Washington lobbyists.

CNN's history

Although it's only been in recent years with the election of Donald Trump that most people have come to realize how corrupt a "news" organization CNN is, that's only because they've forgotten that for decades, for the questionable privilege of being allowed to maintain a bureau in Baghdad, they served as the propaganda arm of Saddam Hussein's regime, never reporting about his reign of terror, torture and murder.

I suppose in an belated attempt to make up for it, they are now accusing Donald Trump of those crimes.

Saudi Arabia and Ukraine

Why is it that I hear about jet sales to Saudi Arabia, but foreign aid consisting of guns and defense systems to Ukraine? Does Ukraine not pay for the weapons we send them? And if not, why not? Both nations are notoriously corrupt, but while Ukraine is concerned with Russia, which doesn't seem to pose much of a danger to us, Saudi Arabia is having to deal with Iran, which keeps insisting it's out to destroy both us and Israel.

Recognizing Communists

I am not a stranger to wealthy people calling themselves Communists and siding with the Soviet Union against the United States. All four of my mother's brothers, Al, Jack, Sam and Lou answered to that description.

But inasmuch as they had made their money in the black market that flourished in Chicago during World War II, and that they then took their ill-gotten loot and became absentee landlords in post-war Los Angeles, I felt entitled to point out to them that if the revolution they longed for ever took place in America, the Bolsheviks would line them up in front of the firing squad before they even got around to dealing with the Rockefellers.

These days, we have actual billionaires like Mark Zuckerberg, Bill Gates, Jeff Bezos, George Soros, Michael Bloomberg and Tom Steyer, not only sounding like my late, unlamented uncles, but playing footsies with China.

Congratulations to China?

Speaking of China, did Trump actually have to tweet "Congratulations to President Xi and the Chinese people on the 70th anniversary of the People's Republic of China!"?

I'm willing to cut him some slack when he says something nice (but obviously insincere) about guys like Xi, Putin and Kim Jong-un. I figure that comes out of "The Art of the Deal," where I suspect he mentions that a little sugar can often sweeten negotiations.

But that's a far cry from celebrating a bloody takeover of a country by the Communists and the enslavement of a billion people. It didn't help that at the same time that Trump was sending a love note to that loathsome regime, in Hong Kong the Chinese were shooting freedom lovers waving American flags.

Just a word of advice to my favorite President: Don't send a congratulatory tweet to Japan's President next December 7th.

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An article by Burt Prelutsky titled "An Evening in Purgatory" was posted at patriotpost.us on Oct. 18, 2019. Following are excerpts of the article.

It's not as if there wasn't anything else to watch on TV. I had recorded the third game of the league series between the Houston Astros and my beloved New York Yankees, but there I was seated in front of my TV, tuned in to CNN, of all things, watching what was billed as a political debate, but was more like a three-hour commercial for the DNC.

And, yes, I stuck around for the entire three hours, so don't ever say I don't do anything for your folks. I acknowledge it's not quite the same as dying for your sins, but around the midway mark it sure began to feel that way.

Because there was no cohesion to the event, the best I can do is report the notes I jotted down along the way.

Hunter falsely accused?

Things got off to a predictable start. The die was cast when Anderson Cooper began his first question to Joe Biden by saying "Mr. Vice-President, Donald Trump has falsely accused your son Hunter . . ."

Kamala didn't include abortionists

Moving on, I got the first of my few chuckles when Kamala Harris, in referring to women's reproductive rights, said: "People should keep their hands off women's bodies." Actually, if Sen. Harris could pass that particular piece of legislation, we wouldn't have to spend so much time discussing women's reproductive rights. (Have you ever noticed how reluctant the Left is to use the word "abortions"?)

Clearly, Harris wasn't including the hands of Planned Parenthood abortionists in her comment, which, by the way, received a nice round of applause from the sheep in the audience.

Bernie doesn't mention he is rich

Bernie Sanders waved his arms around a lot, signaling to the world that he had recovered from his recent heart attack as easily as most mere mortals get over a cold.

Besides giving himself a clean bill of health, he let us know that he is still at war with billionaires. He made a point of alerting us to the fact that three men have as much wealth as the bottom 50% of the population, and he, for one, isn't afraid to call it a moral outrage. What I find a moral outrage is that Sen. Sanders has at least 20 times as much money as I do and that his books have out-sold mine by some obscene multiple.

Three wealthiest Americans

And whereas Sanders neglected to identify the three wealthiest Americans, perhaps because they are all generous contributors to the Democratic party, I have no such compunction. The three are Jeff Bezos, Bill Gates and Warren Buffett. In case you were wondering, Mark Zuckerberg is in eighth place, but he's still young.

If Bernie Sanders wants to confiscate their wealth in order to finance his ludicrous plans to erase student debt and introduce Medicare for All, I'm happy to be his cheerleader. The money wouldn't come close to covering the \$3 trillion a year required to pay for his various wet dreams, but I'm for anything that stops this trio of left-wing nitwits from joining George Soros, Tom Steyer and their ilk in electing puppets and parrots pushing Socialism on the rest of us.

■ Tom Steyer agreed?

Speaking of Tom Steyer, a billionaire who was one of the 12 on stage, he seconded Bernie's call for soaking the rich. I'm sure that will come as a surprise to his expensive accountants who earn their keep by making certain that Steyer doesn't pay even a dollar more than he can get away with when April 15th rolls around.

Kamala pretended to be poor

Kamala Harris always implies that she was brought up by a poor black mother in the ghetto who, after putting Kamala and her sister to bed, "would sit at the kitchen table trying to figure out how to make it work."

In fact, her Haitian-born father was a professor of economics at Stanford and her mother, who was born a Brahmin, the highest caste in India, was a researcher in oncology, who, after divorcing the professor, moved herself and the kids to Montreal, where she worked as a well-paid researcher at Jewish General Hospital.

The theme song to Kamala's life would not have been a Billie Holiday dirge, as she pretends, but something more along the lines of "Everything's Coming Up Roses."

Most mistresses of powerful older men are lucky to get a mink coat out of the deal. But, Kamala, who took up with the speaker of the California Assembly, 60 year old Willie Brown in her 20s, wound up the beneficiary of a well-funded political career.

■ Handguns, not "assault weapons"

The candidates spent the better part of 45 minutes attacking assault weapons, and only once, very briefly, did Cooper mention that most murders in America are conducted with pistols.

But they quickly moved back to picking on the AR-47 and the AK-47 because that allowed them all to suggest that the NRA is the source of violence in America and to avoid pointing out that black and brown gangbangers, armed with handguns, living in eight or nine major cities, are responsible for 95% of the homicides in the nation.

Previous ban not extended

Most embarrassing of all, although all 12 of the participants called for a ban on assault weapons, neither Anderson Cooper nor his two fellow moderators reminded them that in 1994, the Senate voted 52-48 to ban the weapons for 10 years and Bill Clinton signed the bill that same day. But in 2004, there had been no decrease in gun-related murders, and the ban was not extended.

Skin-crawling ads

It wasn't just the event that was a debacle. We also had to sit through skincrawling ads for the *New York Times* ("The truth is worth it"), the *Washington Post* ("Democracy dies in darkness") and commercials for a couple of California-based personal injury firms (Jacoby & Meyers and Knightline).

Atheists

Worst of all were a couple of spots on behalf of the Freedom from Religion group that boasts it's the world's largest and most effective association of Atheists and Agnostics. And wouldn't you love to be invited to their Christmas bash?

The punchline in the commercials, delivered by none other than Ron Reagan, is "Working to keep church and state separate just like our founding fathers intended."

Reagan, who gives new meaning to black sheep of the family, proudly boasted that he was an unabashed, life-long Atheist who, with a smirk, claimed he was "Not afraid of burning in Hell."

Suddenly, Hunter Biden didn't seem all that bad.

You might think that, not being religious myself, I might be more sympathetic to Ron Reagan and his fellow Atheists. But it has never made the slightest bit of sense to me that anyone would make a religion out of being a non-believer.

And whereas I have no problem with those who actually are religious, every time I've seen someone as smug and cocksure about the non-existence of

God, someone like Richard Dawkins, Stephen Hawking, Christopher Hitchens and Ron Reagan, I find myself mentally reaching for a Louisville Slugger.

Preschoolers playing pattycake

Frankly, I was surprised at how nicely the dozen contenders got along. For the most part, they were like a group of preschoolers playing pattycake.

Nobody slammed Joe Biden about his son, not even asking what the heck Hunter was doing aboard Air Force Two when his father was allegedly on official business in Ukraine and China or even whether Joe picked up the tab.

They all, including Biden, applauded Bernie Sanders for his pluck in showing up for a 3-hour talkathon just days after suffering a heart attack. It left me wondering if on his death bed, Sanders will regret having spent four of his last years on earth campaigning to become president.

There were some brief spurts of antagonism when Kamala Harris and Amy Klobuchar took a few swipes at Elizabeth Warren's multi-trillion dollar proposals, challenging her to explain if she has a secret orchard filled with money trees.

I suppose there isn't a lot that people can do about their voices, but am I the only person wondering if Kamala Harris suffers from a perpetual head cold? I keep waiting in vain for her to hawk up a loogie and clear her throat once and for all.

Unasked questions

Besides wasting three hours I can ill-afford to waste at my age, I did find myself wishing that someone had asked certain questions.

For instance, when Elizabeth Warren claimed that she and Bernie had agreed not to accept money from big tech companies, why didn't Bernie point out that she has already accepted millions from Amazon. Google and Facebook? Was it out of fear that she might ask him the same question?

When Kamala Harris argued that women's bodies were created to ensure the perpetuation of the human race, why did nobody challenge her support of Planned Parenthood? Was she perhaps hoping for the end of the human race?

And when she said that women are the final authority when it comes to their body, how was it that nobody on stage pointed out that an abortion kills a second body, not the woman's, although it does arguably destroy her soul.

I wondered if 78 year old Bernie Sanders actually heard himself when he said that "the American people don't want the same old same old."

When Joe Biden bragged about being instrumental in keeping Robert Bork off the Supreme Court, it occurred to me that when a man is in politics for 50 years and has accomplished nothing of lasting value, he has to use whatever he has, no matter how pathetic.

When one of the moderators pointed out that, if elected, Joe Biden would be 80 when he took office, Biden countered by claiming his age and experience

made him an ideal president. Naturally, nobody asked him if that meant he thought that Barack Obama, who was 47 years old with only three years in the Senate in 2008, had been in over his head.

Hoping to be the running mate

There's not much to say about Andrew Yang, Cory Booker, Beto O'Rourke, Tulsi Gabbard, Peter Buttigieg, Amy Klobuchar, Tom Steyer, Cory Booker and Julián Castro, except that most of them will be absent from the next debate. They'll be home waiting for next summer to roll around, hoping that the eventual Democratic nominee invites him or her to join him or her on the ticket as his or her running mate.

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An article by Burt Prelutsky titled "Acting Lessons for Democrats" was posted at patriotpost.us on Oct. 19, 2019. Following are excerpts of the article.

When it comes to acting, there are various schools of thought. Some preferred the Stanislavski approach, which was generally referred to as The Method. It called for actors to dig into their sense memories. How did they feel when their dog died? How did they feel when that little schmuck Dustin Hoffman got the role they were born to play? They are then expected to bring that emotion to the surface, giving their performances that certain whiff of ham in the air that we all came to identify with James Dean, Vic Morrow, Rod Steiger, Marlon Brando and Ben Gazzara.

Then there was the technique preferred by Spencer Tracy, who advised a young actor to "Learn your lines, hit your mark and don't bump into the furniture."

But, whatever their preference, the Democrats should learn to deliver their lines with some degree of sincerity and to keep in mind they shouldn't say the same words in exactly the same way as they go from one cable channel show to another because most of the same people will be tuned in.

Montage delivering the same lines

It's actually funny when Tucker Carlson runs a montage of House Speaker Pelosi delivering the same lines about being saddened by President Trump's fall from grace and his impending impeachment in a voice better suited to a grief counselor at a mortuary than a partisan hack. As if the words aren't hackneyed enough, she invariably pauses at the same spot, as if overcome by emotion, to find just the perfect heart-felt words . . . and the words turn out to be the exact same heart-felt words she uttered 20 minutes earlier.

Impeachment prophecy

In 2016, prior to the election, Evelyn Farkas, an Obama appointee to the State Department, declared during a televised interview that in the highly unlikely event that Donald Trump was elected, he would very quickly be impeached.

Keep in mind he hadn't yet been elected, hadn't been inaugurated and hadn't made a single executive decision, and Ms. Farkas was speaking with some certainly that the President wouldn't make it through his first term.

It is such a fantastic statement to make, I suspect even the publicity-crazed Criswell would have shied away from predicting something that far-fetched. Yet here we are, less than three years down the road and Ms. Farkas is looking like a 21st century Nostradamus.

Avoiding the discussion of politics

I heard that, according to a recent poll, 64% of Democrats and 55% of Republicans admit they don't have friends in the other party. I expect that many on both sides have relatives of the other political persuasion but wish they could avoid family get-togethers.

In my case, the only Democrats I know and like are a former agent of mine named Frank and a black couple across the street named Frank and Dodie. It hadn't occurred to me before now that they're both Franks, but the secret to our success is that the Franks and I never discuss politics.

Have you any idea how difficult that is for me? Talk about the elephant in the room!

To be fair, it's probably almost as difficult for the two Franks to avoid mentioning the elephant, recognizing that it's the noble symbol of the Republican party.

Red meat is good again

I did get a bit of good news last week when I heard about an international scientific report on red meat that claims the health scare is over and that red meat is, in fact, a healthy source of protein and other nutrients.

I'm reminded that various experts take turns trying to scare us. If it's not eggs, butter and global cooling, that are going to kill us, it's global warming, sugar and cheeseburgers.

I think you should eat whatever you like. Eventually, life itself is going to going to do you in, so enjoy yourself while you're here.

Having said that, I still believe that kale, arugula and cilantro, will kill you faster than anthrax.

Phil Mudd and the Deep State

Joe Biden isn't the only Washingtonian who is talking like a movie tough guy. Former CIA and FBI official Phil Mudd recently warned that the "brotherhood," which is how he refers to his fellow Deep Staters lurking in the intelligence community, believe that Rudy Giuliani, the President's personal attorney, parachuted in from Mars and that they might very well stick "a shiv" in his back.

Mr. Mudd, who inevitably found a home as a CNN analyst, is a close friend of both John Brennan and Robert Mueller. He has called President Trump a "dirtbag." And that was said in public, so you can imagine what he calls him in private.

Isn't it odd that if a private citizen threatened to put a shiv in the back of one of the President's associates, he could expect a visit from the Secret Service, but all it gets Mudd is a cushy, good-paying gig at a cable news network?

Chicago politics

In Chicago, when it was discovered that Dan Webb, who was called in to investigate why State Investigator Kim Fox decided not to pursue legal action against Jussie Smollett, had donated \$1,000 to Ms. Fox's campaign, a presiding judge determined that did not indicate a conflict of interest.

Apparently, in Chicago, unless \$100,000 in a brown paper bag exchanges hands, it's no big deal. It does make a person wonder, though, how much the judge, himself, donated to the Fox campaign.

Still, Mr. Webb felt it necessary to claim he doesn't recall writing the check or even attending the fund-raiser.

You can't help wondering if people like Robert Mueller and Dan Webb ever worry about their failing memories and have themselves checked out for the possible onset of Alzheimer's. Perhaps those with licenses to practice law, like those with licenses to drive, should be road-tested every few years.

■ Banning urinals in Portland, Oregon

In the latest bit of gender madness, Portland, Oregon, has banned urinals in municipal buildings "for the sake of removing arbitrary differences in pursuit of gender-neutrality."

The morons who came up with this decision were elected by the citizens of Portland, which suggests there is something in the air or the water supply that makes these people believe that, biology and commonsense be damned, there are more than two genders.

■ Fired for gender nonsense

In the meantime, in Virginia, a French high school teacher was fired for referring to a female transgender (one of I suspect three in the entire nation) as she or her. The object in question had apparently made it abundantly clear that it preferred the pronoun "they."

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An article by Burt Prelutsky titled "Small Men, Big Shadows" was posted at patriotpost.us on Oct. 21, 2019. Following are excerpts of the article.

It was Yin Yutang who observed "When small men begin to cast big shadows, it means the sun is about to set."

That being the case, it is difficult to regard the current political scene in this nation as anything other than twilight. I can't recall another time in our his-

tory when so many mental and moral midgets have been so actively pursuing a single goal. That inexplicable goal is to bring the noble experiment begun by men like Madison, Jefferson, Adams and Franklin, to a grinding halt.

Benefits of this Democratic republic

The remarkable thing is, one, that anyone would think this country needed to be radically transformed, either politically or economically, considering how well this democratic republic has been able to deal with the peaceful transference of power for all these years and how prosperous its citizens have become. Even those living in what we refer to as poverty have luxuries that those in most other countries would regard as fantasies.

Most urban blacks, even those who survive on welfare, have refrigerators, washers and dryers, cars or trucks, color TVs, clean water right out of a faucet and cell phones. They also eat well, thanks to the taxpayer-funded SNAP program, formerly referred to as food stamps. Also, their kids always seem to be wearing the most expensive sneakers turned out in Asian sweat shops by Nike.

Living in a racist cesspool?

Yet it is nearly impossible to convince half the people who are fortunate enough to call America their home that, like the song says, they're the luckiest people in the world. You would think their own experiences would have immunized them from the lies told by those who resemble the snake lurking in the Garden of Eden. And yet they actually believe they are living in a racist cesspool where everyone who isn't a white heterosexual male is being oppressed.

Educators, media and politicians

It was no accident. It took a concerted effort by educators, members of the media and politicians, over the course of many years to subvert truth and to bamboozle people from an early age to believe, as in Orwell's prophetic "1984," that black is white, weakness is strength, up is down, emotions trump facts, that there are more than two genders and that slavery was not only invented in America but existed nowhere else on earth.

I'm pretty sure that Lin Yutang didn't have any specific small men in mind, and I'm equally certain that he wasn't excluding small women from the equation.

Evil inside the agencies

There was a time when I had a hard time enjoying conspiracy movies because they nearly always involved rogue agents of the CIA framing innocent parties or even killing them in order to conceal their villainy. That sure seems like a long time ago.

These days, there is nothing evil I wouldn't believe about the FBI, the CIA, the NSA or any of those other alphabet agencies whose members have sworn to defend and protect the Constitution. From everyone but themselves, apparently.

I know we're supposed to believe that it was only the folks at the top of the hierarchy who were trying to bring down President Trump, but I didn't notice any of these allegedly dedicated men and women stepping forward to blow the whistle on the Comey's, the McCabe's, the Strzok's, the Page's, the Ohr's, the Brennan's, the Hayden's or the Clapper's. It was only when it came to President Trump that these schmucks remembered where they'd stashed their whistles.

■ Ill-educated millennials

Recently, I was told that Rush Limbaugh reported that as hard as it's been for ill-educated millennials to find gainful employment after they've graduated with their pathetic degrees in Black Studies, Lesbian Studies and Rap Music, a great many are now quitting their jobs.

I didn't hear what reason he gave, but Dan Parker guessed it's because the youngsters have been convinced by the likes of Al Gore and A O-C that the end is near for mankind, and they figure they may as well just make the best of the short time left to them. And that definitely does not involve punching a clock.

It occurred to me that the group that will be hit the hardest are those folks selling life insurance.

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"Eye on the World" comment: The following list of articles consists of headlines of extra articles, which involve the United States. The articles were not posted, but the headlines give the essence of the story.

Deficit

■ An article by Terence P. Jeffrey titled "Federal Debt Up \$1.2 Trillion in FY 2019; Borrowed \$9,432 Per U.S. Household" was posted at cnsnews.com on Oct. 16, 2019.

■ An article by Terence P. Jeffrey titled "\$3.22 Trillion: Federal Programs That 'Transfer Income' Projected to Hit Record in FY20" was posted at cnsnews. com on Oct. 23, 2019.

Finances

■ An article by Luke Darby titled "Bernie Sanders Wants a 97 Percent Tax Rate on the 400 Richest Americans" was posted at yahoo.com on Oct. 14, 2019.

■ An article by Stephen Dinan titled "Bernie Sanders' \$97.5 Trillion Blueprint Would Put Half of Americans on Government Payroll" was posted at washingtontimes.com on Oct. 15, 2019.

■ An article by Kathleen Elkins titled "There Are 618,000 Millennial [Born Between 1982 and 1996] Millionaires in the US—and 44 % of Them Live in 1 State [California]" was posted at cnbc.com on Oct. 22, 2019. ■ An article by Neal J. Leitereg titled "Legendary Bel-Air Estate Casa Encantada Lists for the Highest Price in America: \$225 Million" was posted at latimes.com on Oct. 16, 2019.

Trade war

■ An article titled "U.S. Farm Sales to China May Hit Pre-Trade War Level by Election" was posted at bloomberg.com on Oct. 24, 2019.

Green New Deal

■ An article by Daniel Turner titled "2020 Democrats Love the Green New Deal But Embrace Fossil Fuels to Power Their Campaigns" was posted at foxnews.com on Oct. 21, 2019.

Illegal immigration

■ An article by Paul Bedard titled "Ken Cuccinelli Cites 22 Million Illegal Immigrants, Nearly Twice Previous Tally" was posted at washingtonexaminer. com on Oct. 16, 2019.

Comments about weapons

■ An article by Matt Vespa titled "Could This Be the Reason [Running for President] Why Dick's Sporting Goods CEO [Ed Stark] Destroyed Millions of Dollars [\$250 Million] of Guns?" was posted at townhall.com on Oct. 23, 2019.

Comments about Trump support

■ An article by Kyle Drennen titled "NYT Columnist [James B. Stewart] Admits Deep State Exists. . . .To Protect Us From Trump" was posted at news-busters.org on Oct. 7, 2019.

■ An article by Craig Bannister titled "[Mark] Levin: Serial Murderers Get More Due Process Than Democrats Want to Give the President" was posted at cnsnews.com on Oct. 14, 2019.

Comments about Trump opposition

■ An article by Joe DePaolo titled "Longtime Hillary Clinton Adviser Leaves the Door Wide Open on a 2020 Run: If She Thinks She Has 'Best Odds' to Beat Trump" was posted at mediaite.com on Oct. 23, 2019.

■ An article by Natasha Korecki titled "Dick's Sporting Goods CEO [Ed Stack] Quietly Tests Presidential Bid" was posted at politico.com on Oct. 23, 2019.

■ An article by Gibson Johns titled "Judge Judy Just Publicly Endorsed Someone [Michael Bloomberg] for President for the First Time in Her Career" was posted at aol.com on Oct. 23, 2019.

■ An article by Brian Schwartz titled "Mike Bloomberg Keeps Talking to Allies About Running for President As Joe Biden Struggles Against Elizabeth Warren" was posted at cnbc.com on Oct. 14, 2019. ■ An article by Miriam Elder titled "Joe Biden's Advisers Knew in 2018 His Comments About Ukraine Would Be a Problem" was posted at buzzfeed-news.com on Oct. 5, 2019.

■ An article by Walt Hickey and Eliza Relman titled "Biden's Most Loyal Supporters Are Starting to Look Elsewhere, According to a New Insider Poll" was posted at businessinsider.com on Oct. 17, 2019.

■ An article by Ben White titled "Corporate America Freaks Out Over Elizabeth Warren" was posted at politico.com on Oct. 23, 2019.

■ An article by John McCormack titled "Pete Buttigieg Is Making the Democratic Race More Unpredictable" was posted at nationalreview.com on Oct. 24, 2019.

Kamala Harris

■ An article by Judy Woodruff and Candice Norwood titled "Kamala Harris Defends Her Health Care Plan From Rival Critics" was posted at pbs.com on Oct. 23, 2019.

Robert Francis (Beto) O'Rourke

■ An article by Tobias Hoonhout titled "O'Rourke Defends Comments Comparing Trump's America to Nazi Germany" was posted at national review.com on Oct. 23, 2019.

News about the media

■ An article by Kyle Drennen titled "Networks Cheer Biden 'Fighting Back' After Trump 'Weaponized' Hunter's Shady Deals" was posted at newsbusters.org on Oct. 14, 2019.

■ An article by Nicholas Fondacaro titled "Without Evidence, NBC Tries to Tie Violent Video to President Trump" was posted at newsbusters.org on Oct. 14, 2019.

■ An article by Eric Spracklen titled "Part 1: CNN Insider Blows Whistle on Network President Jeff Zucker's Personal Vendetta Against POTUS" was posted at projectveritas.com on Oct. 14, 2019.

■ An article by Eric Spracklen titled "Part 2: CNN Leadership and Staffers Reveal True Sentiments; Network Picks Favorites Among Democratic Candidates on Eve of Debate" was posted at projectveritas.com on Oct. 15, 2019.

■ An article by Eric Spracklen titled "Part 3: Field Ops Manager at CNN: Zucker's 9:00 am Calls Are 'Bulls**t'; 'We're Totally Left-Leaning. . . .But We Don't Want to Admit It' " was posted at projectveritas.com on Oct. 17, 2019.

■ An article by Eric Spracklen titled "Part 4: #MeToo CNN Video Exposes Alleged Sexual Misconduct by CNN Exes and Possible Cover-Up by Senior CNN Management" was posted at projectveritas.com on Oct. 22, 2019.

General interest

■ An article by Melanie Arter titled "[Ted] Cruz: 'Really Sad to See' NBA Censoring Free Speech in the Interest of Money" was posted at cnsnews.com on Oct. 14, 2019.

■ An article titled "Group of Approximately 200 Juveniles Disrupts Traffic, Businesses in Northeast Philadelphia: Police Say" was posted at cbsphilly.com on Oct. 14, 2019.

■ An article by Amrith Ramkumar titled "Rising California Gasoline Prices Highlight Growing Divide in U.S." was posted at wsj.com on Oct. 22, 2019.

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Isaiah 55:6-11—"Seek you the LORD while He may be found, call upon Him while He is near. Let the wicked forsake his way, and the unrighteous man his thoughts; let him return to the LORD, and He will have mercy on him; and to our God, for He will abundantly pardon. 'For My thoughts are not your thoughts, nor are your ways My ways,' says the LORD. For as the heavens are higher than the earth, so are My ways higher than your ways, and My thoughts than your thoughts. For as the rain comes down, and the snow from heaven, and do not return there, but water the earth, and make it bring forth and bud, that it may give seed to the sower and bread to the eater, so shall My word be that goes forth from My mouth; it shall not return to Me void, but it shall accomplish what I please, and it shall prosper in the thing for which I sent it."