

my Personal side

By Craig Hastings



I was watching one of President Trump's daily briefings on the Coronavirus last week when one of the most ridiculous questions anyone could ask at a time like this was pitched at the President. "Mr. President, is it true that someone in the Oval Office called this virus "Kung-Flu?" "And if so Mr. President don't you think that is a racist remark?" I wasn't sure if at the moment the President was tempted to laugh or berate the reporter for asking such a romper room question. With a choice of a hundred pertinent questions concerning the crisis at hand, this is the question this reporter chose to ask!!? The President actually handled it quite well. He quickly acknowledged that he himself has tagged this as the China flu. "And why not he said, it did originate in China so why wouldn't we refer to it as "The China Flu!?" Of course he added that even if this statement had been made by someone in the White House that he didn't see how it would be considered a racist remark. Me, I believe more than twenty people inside the White House and in every other political arena in DC have mouthed the phrase "Kung-Flu." How in the

world is this a racist remark rather than a poke at humor? How many of us knew just how much America and Americans rely on Chinese manufacturing to keep our day to day lives running? How many of us knew that 95 percent of all of our pharmaceuticals are manufactured in China? How many of us knew China holds about a trillion dollars of American debt we pay interest on every day? The next time you buy anything but a food product, turn that product upside down and check the little sticker on the bottom. 90 percent of the time or more that sticker will state, "Made In China". Have we become so cheap and disinterested in our own well being that we are willing to demand rock bottom prices for rock bottom in quality junk products? That answer is "yes". My friends, this pandemic has taken us all to school. If we won't learn from our mistakes, we're doomed. Well, maybe not those of us fifty and older because our years are numbered anyway but, we AARP qualified citizens need to right this ship and do it quickly. The future of our own children and grandchildren are depending on us. Any of you ever re-

searched, really dug as deep as you could, how much property and how many industries are owned by the Chinese government right here in America? I've not worried myself as much as maybe I should about this because I figure we could always just take these things away if the circumstances ever demanded it. But of course the extreme left wing, Bernie Sanders, Elizabeth Warren, and Alexandria Ocasio-Cortez types would fight for the rights of the Chinese government even in a time of crisis to stop the common sense right wingers from taking anything away from the Chinese government even if those actions meant saving the American economy from ruin. Remember a few years ago when we snickered and sneered at the public remarks and displays of these radical left wingers that had just been elected to Congress as they bellowed, cussed, and accused the rest of us for being racist, for being Americans? They proudly proclaimed how they ran for office and were elected by their supporters to bring great change to America. A socialist government was their goal and is still today. Damn, the Democrats set Bernie Sanders up in 2016 to fail before all the world to see in order to put Hillary Clinton in the office of President of the United States. It was the Democrats attempt to show the world that anyone supporting a socialist movement in America was destined to fail and they buried Bernie

and didn't even try to hide their dastardly deed. And in 2020 the Democrats are doing it all over again to Bernie! He never had a chance to win the nomination of the democratic party in 2020. As I write this tonight he is officially still in the race against Joe Biden but unofficially he's out! He knows it but there he is, waving his arms and pointing his fingers, face turning red, and all the while a bunch of young Americans that can vote but won't take the time to vote are holding up "Vote Bernie" signs in the background. This is Bernie's last harrah. He really was too old this time to run for POTUS and for sure will be in 2024. So why do the democrats allow Bernie to stay in the primary race in the first place? Surely the party could squeeze him out much earlier and be done with him right? The democrats need to keep Bernie's base supporters along for the ride as long as possible. The younger generation voters that he attracts with his radical and socialist agenda become disinterested quickly once their candidate is out. Therefore Bernie gets to play in right field without being benched early in order to keep his supporters/voters at the game. Already we see this primary in it's last inning and the opposing team, "Team Biden" the players are lining up to shake hands and tell the Bernie Backers; "Good game" even though they don't mean it. This game, as the case of the 2016 Hillary debacle, was over before the first pitch was

thrown. So what or who does this leave Americans to vote for in November? In the absence of a single democratic candidate qualified or unqualified for president, President Trump should be re-elected in 2020. Love him or hate him, with what's going on in the world, now isn't a time for change. If we aren't already in an economic war with China, we will be before this pandemic is under control around the world. Some countries will need to be rebuilt and propped up in the aftermath as though they had just been through a world war of bombs and bullets. The source of all this devastation is China and the entire world recognizes this. So you tell me just how "China Joe" Biden, the father of "Hallucinating Hunter" Biden will convince the rest of the world leaders that he, Joe, is the guy they need in charge to deal with the Chinese government? Remember the undisputed flight on Air Force Two that Joe and Hunter took together to China? Soon after Hunter Biden landed a billion dollar investment deal with the Chinese government. The same Hunter Biden that had been battling drug addiction and had zero knowledge of the investment portfolio he was handed in China. Had this coronavirus evolved in any country other than China, then maybe I wouldn't be so hard on the Bidens tonight. But, boys and girls, those Ukraine and China investment deals gifted to Hunter Biden were laced with skunk oil. They

stunk at the time and that stinch never went away. You can Febreze spray these deals day and night for a year solid and they will always still smell. I believe the Chinese government could bury the Bidens with corruption allegations whether true or false it wouldn't matter. Just because of the amount of investment exchanged in the deals with the circumstances surrounding each, the Bidens appear deeply involved. After all, who profited from these deals? Hunter himself in a television interview stated he probably wouldn't have and couldn't have landed these deals had he not been the Vice President's son. And it's China! I'll end my rant with this. One, I believe Joe Biden would have beaten Donald Trump in 2016. None of this dirt would have ever surfaced had he been President today. I thank the powers that be that Donald Trump did win and all of this was discovered along with many other dirty, rotten, political deals that have been discovered under the Trump presidency. Two, I believe we have only heard a whisper of the scandal that surrounds the Biden family. I believe we will be shocked and shaken with what we learn during the race for president between Donald Trump and Joe Biden. *The views and opinions expressed in the submitted columns are those of the author and do not necessarily reflect the position of The Journal.*

Hook, Line and Sinker

With Tony Hooker

I think I've written about it before, but some of the fondest memories of my childhood are of my grandparents' farm, just a bit north of Pierson Station. I loved nothing more than making a few rounds in the old Gleaner at harvest time, and the smell of fresh turned

earth instantly transports me in time to riding the old "M" or Allis Chalmers during spring tilling. That was the life I envisioned for myself as a child. And then it was no longer an option as grandpa sold the farm and retired before I was in a position to take it over. Truthfully, the scale of his operation would have been untenable these days, so as always his wisdom and vision of the future of the industry far exceeded my youthful wishes. As homage to my grandparents, it is always an honor for me to contribute in small measure to the annual farm and ag edition of the paper. I believe this is the forty first edition, and as tribute, I will reprint one of Paul Harvey's great commentaries. And on the 8th day, God looked down on his planned paradise and said, "I need a

caretaker"
 -- so God made a Farmer.
 God said, "I need somebody willing to get up before dawn, milk cows, work all day in the fields, milk cows again, eat supper, then go to town and stay past midnight at a meeting of the school board"
 -- so God made a Farmer.
 "I need somebody with arms strong enough to rustle a calf and yet gentle enough to deliver his own grandchild; somebody to call hogs, tame cantankerous machinery, come home hungry, have to wait lunch until his wife's done feeding visiting ladies, then tell the ladies to be sure and come back real soon -- and mean it"
 -- so God made a Farmer.
 God said, "I need somebody willing to sit up all night with a newborn colt, and watch it die, then dry his

eyes and say, 'Maybe next year.' I need somebody who can shape an ax handle from a persimmon sprout, shoe a horse with a hunk of car tire, who can make harness out of haywire, feed sacks and shoe scraps; who, planting time and harvest season, will finish his forty-hour week by Tuesday noon, and then pain'n from tractor back, put in another seventy-two hours"
 -- so God made a Farmer.
 God had to have somebody willing to ride the ruts at double speed to get the hay in ahead of the rain clouds, and yet stop in mid-field and race to help when he sees the first smoke from a neighbor's place
 -- so God made a Farmer.
 God said, "I need somebody strong enough to clear trees and heave bails, yet gentle enough to tame lambs

and wean pigs and tend the pink-combed pullets, who will stop his mower for an hour to splint the broken leg of a meadow lark."
 It had to be somebody who'd plow deep and straight and not cut corners; somebody to seed, weed, feed, breed and rake and disc and plow and plant and tie the fleece and strain the milk and replenish the self-feeder and finish a hard week's work with a five-mile drive to church; somebody who would bale a family together with the soft strong bonds of sharing, who would laugh, and then sigh, and then reply, with smiling eyes, when his son says that he wants to spend his life "doing what dad does"
 -- so God made a Farmer.
 A heartfelt thanks to all who lead the agrarian life.

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At the county board meeting of 3-18-2020, the question of "tweaking" the 2009 Wind Energy Conversion System was raised. Our WECS ordinance is woefully inadequate and does not protect us against further wind projects by Energias de Portugal or other industrial wind conglomerates. Although Chairman Don Munson stated that the ordinance did indeed require some "tweaking", nothing has been done to this point and the meeting of the 18th indicated that nothing would be done. Due to the fact that the County Board has refused to reconsider an outdated ordinance, the citizens of Douglas County must take precautions for themselves.

Document the quality and capacity of your wells.
Document the audible noise around your property
Document the value of your real estate whether your residence or other property.

Study the effects of infrasound on a person's health.
Especially important if you have any heart problems.
If possible, check your property for stray voltage.
This is a serious issue that is little known.
If you want to see the effects of this see "dancing cows" on youtube.

The County Board swore to uphold the requirements of the 2009 WECS ordinance but when it came to keeping the requirement to protect the interests of non-participating land owners regarding aerial spraying, they refused to support that protection.
 This is an indication of how they will continue to "protect" your rights.
 Do not believe those who say there will be no second phase.
 Another company will surely make an application for an Industrial Wind Complex in Douglas County and they will be able to cite the current ordinance.