

Democratic leadership send signal to left-wing base

The uncommitted voters of Michigan say "Jump," and Chuck Schumer asks "How high?"

The Senate majority leader gave an extraordinary speech flaying the democratically elected leader of an ally engaged in fighting a defensive war against a hideous terrorist enemy.

The speech calling on Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu to go, along with increasingly critical statements by the White House, shows that the Democrats have decided that appeasing their left-wing base in an election year is now their top consideration.

This is bad all around. As a matter of basic decency, this is not something that allies do to one another, especially not in wartime. Present unvarnished views in private? Absolutely. Try to nudge a partner toward a favored policy? Sure. But blast a friendly government in hopes that it can be toppled via a new election, just months after suffering a monstrous attack and as it is still trying to destroy a terrorist group deeply embedded in an urban environment? No.

The fact of the matter is that this is not Bibi Netanyahu's war. It is the nation of Israel's war. Netanyahu sustained political damage after the Oct. 7 attack, but his goal of prosecuting the war against Hamas to its completion is widely shared in Israel. Immediately after the attack, Israel formed a government of national unity that has pursued the war policy that Democrats now find so objectionable. If Netanyahu were to resign tomorrow, any number of things might change, but the war against Hamas would stay the same.

It is easy, sitting in Washington, D.C., and worrying about how to placate the anti-Israel uncommitted voters in the Democratic primary, to forget the shock of the massive pogrom carried out by Hamas on that infamous day in October. Israelis, though, aren't going to forget, nor should they.

It's a key tell about Schumer's intentions that his speech engendered a universally negative reaction in Israel, and Schumer -- who is no naif -- must have anticipated as much. Benny Gantz, who would presumably run against Netanyahu in a future election, harshly rejected the Schumer call for a new government. So, the only place where Schumer could have any assurance

of advancing his cause was here at home.

What stronger signal could there be that the Democratic leadership has heard the activist calls to rein in Israel than the previously staunch supporter of the Jewish state, Chuck Schumer, unloading on its wartime government?

Hamas has been getting devastated on the battlefield, but the turn against Israel among Democratic officials in the U.S. is a sign of the success of its longer, deeply cynical strategy. By doing everything in its power to create the predicate for more civilian casualties in Gaza, Hamas hopes to turn international opinion against Israel. So it has done in one of the two major American political parties.

If you had told many of the same Democrats criticizing Israel today that within five months of the Oct. 7 attack they would be inveighing against Israel's war against Hamas, they would have been incredulous. If you had told them they would be getting pushed around by pro-Hamas sentiment in their own party, they would have rejected the idea as impossible. If you had told them they would have been seeking a two-state solution as one of their highest post-Oct. 7 priorities, they might have considered it a smear.

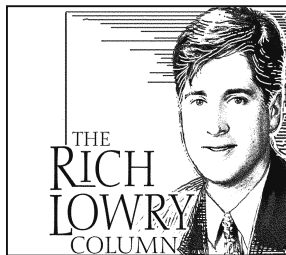
Yet here we are.

On top of everything else, this isn't good domestic politics. There is still majority support for Israel. The anti-Israel turn demonstrates, yet again, that the Biden campaign is pursuing a base strategy in November. Just the last couple of days, Kamala Harris visited an abortion clinic, Joe Biden suggested there will be no executive action at the border, and Schumer -- having run it by the White House first -- delivered his Philippic.

What's fidelity to an ally compared to zeal in pursuit of an embattled president's election strategy?

Rich Lowry is editor of the National Review.

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Lone Star Tick Bites Cause Alpha-Gal Syndrome

DEAR DR. ROACH: I was recently diagnosed with alpha-gal syndrome (AGS). I live in the country, but I do not remember having a tick on me. My husband and I are very cautious and always check for them. I am struggling to understand what exactly are my symptoms, and what I can and cannot eat. I don't know if I am someone who can have dairy or not.

The biggest challenge seems to be eating out. If I order chicken, fish or vegetables and they are cooked on the same grill as meat, then they are not safe to eat due to cross contamination. Also, dairy, lard and whey are in many food items.

Is there a specialist I should consult? My doctor seems to know about some of this, but is unable to answer many of my questions. Any information you can share would be helpful. -- S.N.

ANSWER: AGS is an allergy to galactose-alpha-1,3-galactose, a carbohydrate allergen found in all mammalian meats, such as beef, pork and lamb. The allergy can be serious as people develop symptoms, including various syndromes like skin itching and rashes; gastrointestinal symptoms; and even anaphylaxis, a severe allergy syndrome of cardiovascular collapse.

These reactions are delayed compared to other typical allergic responses, with people often developing symptoms the night after consuming meat -- about two to six hours after consumption. A blood test for alpha-gal allergies can confirm the diagnosis.

These symptoms usually begin after getting bitten multiple times by a Lone Star tick. The tick has alpha-gal in its saliva, which triggers the sensitivity. Many medical professionals are unaware of this newly described condition (40% reported never having heard of the syndrome), which can prevent a diagnosis from being made in a timely fashion.

Because the condition is new, there are some factors that we don't really understand about it, like why some people tolerate muscle meat from an ani-

mal but react strongly to organ meat. There just aren't answers to some of the questions that you might be asking. For example, milk, whey and gelatin sensitivity have been described with AGS, but not lard (at least that I could find).

Sometimes a person tolerates cooked meat but is intolerant of raw (or barely cooked) meat. Some people lose the allergy over time (usually a few years), but additional tick bites may bring it back.

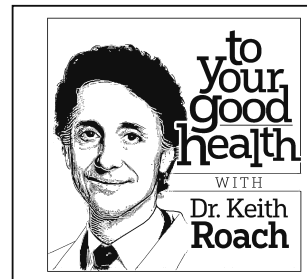
The ideal specialist in this case is an allergist. You should certainly have and know how to use an epinephrine injector in case of a severe reaction.

DEAR DR. ROACH: A dietician recommended that I drink six glasses of water every day. I tend to drink most of the water in the morning and early afternoon. My husband thinks I should drink it "equally" throughout the day. His logic is that I don't retain enough water to stay properly hydrated throughout the evening and night. Does timing really matter? -- C.R.

ANSWER: Your body has a system in place to hold onto water so that you don't need to drink it during the night. Unless you are losing unusually high amounts of water (as you would in a very dry and hot environment, for example), there is no reason to hydrate at night. Most people realize that doing so will cause you to visit the bathroom rather than sleep.

Dr. Roach regrets that he is unable to answer individual questions, but will incorporate them in the column whenever possible. Readers may email questions to ToYourGoodHealth@med.cornell.edu.

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LETTERS TO THE EDITOR



Dear Residents of Lake Worth Beach

I am writing to express my enthusiastic endorsement for Andy Amoroso as the next mayor of Lake Worth Beach, FL. Like many of you, I am concerned about the welfare and progress of this unique community. As a teacher with the School District of Palm Beach County, I

know how important having the best people in the right positions can be. I have had the opportunity to witness Andy's dedication, vision, and tireless efforts in making this city a better place for all.

Andy brings with him a wealth of experience, integrity, and a genuine commitment to serving the interests of every resident. His extensive involvement in local initiatives and his unwavering advocacy for issues that matter to the community demonstrate his leadership qualities and his ability to effect positive change. If you walk around Lake Ave, everyone knows Andy Amoroso - he has been a business owner for over twenty years and he truly cares about Lake Worth Beach and its residents.

I believe Andy's platform, which includes sustainable development, equitable policies, and fostering a sense of unity among diverse populations, aligns perfectly with the needs and aspirations of Lake Worth Beach. His in-

clusive approach to governance and his willingness to listen to the concerns of all residents make him the ideal candidate to lead the city forward.

Andy's track record of collaboration and his proven ability to build and foster relationships will be invaluable in addressing the challenges the city will face, as well as in capitalizing on the opportunities that lie ahead.

Sincerely,

Name and address withheld upon request.

Dear Residents of Lake Worth Beach

I am writing to ask you to vote for Andy Amoroso on April 2nd. I am a long time Palm Beach County resident and am recently retired from the Palm Beach County Sheriff's Office. With over 30 years in law enforcement, I know how important it is to have the best person in a leadership position. I truly believe that Andy is that person.

Andy and I grew up in Palm Beach County and Andy has lived in Lake Worth Beach for over 30 years and has been a small business owner during that time. We have all watched how several events in the downtown area have slowly gone away. Andy can bring those events back for our friends and families to enjoy. Andy has the experience and the commitment to move the city back to where it needs to be. His enthusiasm shows in his extensive involvement in assisting the residents at any given time when they come into his store asking for his help.

If Andy is selected to be your next Mayor these are just a few of the things that he will get to work on for you: Fixing your roads, helping with the homelessness, bringing back more events, and supporting small businesses.

Andy has proven his leadership by his willingness to listen and help the residents of Lake Worth Beach. He has always cared for the city and the things that go on there.

Andy will prove to you that he is the best candidate to vote for on April 2nd. Please come out to vote and help to get Lake Worth Beach where it needs to be.

Sincerely,

Dawn Amoroso

March 21, 2024

Dear Editor,

My husband and I own a condominium across from the Gulfstream Hotel.

I want to express my support for Andy Amoroso in the runoff election taking place Tue. April 2nd.

There has been noticeable deterioration in the day to day life here in these last few years.

We have experienced attempted car break ins, intruders walking in hallways trying to open doors, loitering in the stairwells using our laundry room and showering with the community hose in our parking lot. One of our residents was severely beaten while exiting his car one evening.

I don't feel safe walking in Bryant Park by myself anymore or out on the Snook Island boardwalk.

When you were in office, it seems there was much more attention to public safety. The City government was more assertive in enforcing statutes that affect EVERYONE'S quality of life. It felt like more effort was focused on improving Lake Worth Beach in many different ways.

I am hopeful that you will be successful in the runoff. I will walk with my shirt and my sign. I wish you well.

Sincerely,

Jan Jorgensen

Coastal/Greenacres Observer

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