

Ramblings from The Village Idiot

The ICE Follies Road Show is now publicly executing members of the audience who disapprove of their performative state-sponsored terrorism. DHS and ICE have a script for this: Falsely defame their victims, and lie about the circumstances. They have trotted this script out twice so far.

That approach may have worked reasonably well in an age when there weren't a bunch of people with cell phones recording the actual events. But even with their lies exposed, the propagandists soldier on. They're even making lying denials of previous lies they've already been caught making.

In the latest episode, Alex Pretti, an ICU nurse who treated sick veterans in a VA hospital, was recording the show with his cell phone. When he saw a cast member sprint toward a woman in the audience and knock her down into a snowbank, he went to her assistance. The masked thugs then pepper-sprayed them both, gang-tackled him, kicked and pummeled him, found the gun concealed in his waistband, and disarmed him. Then, while still restraining him after disarming him, they shot him repeatedly. His last words, to the woman he'd tried to help, were, "Are you OK?" Multiple videos show that the agent who fired the first shot had seen the disarm. He fired once, paused, then, joined by at least one other agent, simply blazed away.

Then, rather than check his pulse or administer CPR as per protocol, the agents instead began counting the

bullet holes in him. And when a doctor tried to assess his condition, they refused to let him. Instead, they repeatedly demanded to see his medical license.

Alex Pretti was legally entitled to carry a concealed firearm. He had not done anything to indicate that he was even carrying it, let alone intending to use it. His rap sheet had nothing worse than traffic tickets. No matter, the Administration parroted their script, calling him an "armed terrorist" and "assassin" intending to "massacre" law enforcers.

There is nothing to support either assertion. And the videos tell a very different story. I believe my eyes, not my government's lies.

But this Administration has no regard for facts or the law. Their attitude is that their lies will become true, or at least accepted, by repetition. Greg Bovino, director of the ICE Follies Road Show, recently tried to pretend he hadn't been caught lying in court about events during Operation Midway Blitz. But he had admitted in court to having lied, and was confronted with court records proving it. DHS Secretary Kristi Noem and FBI director Kash Patel have, in the present case, both egregiously misstated the law governing concealed carry. And in a report to Congress which hastened the end of his tenure, now-former FBI Deputy Director Dan Bongino was quoted as saying, "The truth is for chumps." I'm going with Benjamin Franklin on this: "A lie stands on one leg, truth on two."

Pastor Stahl's Weekly Message of Faith



Hello Everyone!
Happy February! January was a LONG month, wasn't it? We would get done with one snow and another one would be on top of us. Each day in February is one day closer to Spring.
Thank Goodness!
And in a week or two pitchers and catchers report to Spring Training. Go Cardinals!
Good Luck to the Super Bowl teams this Sunday.
The New England Patriots are playing the Seattle Seahawks. I'm not a fan of either team, but the game promises to be a good one. At least we get to watch all the commercials!

They were bitter rivals and didn't speak to each other for many years.
They came together at the White House in November of 1963, after the assassination of President John F. Kennedy.
They were sitting together in the Blue Room of the White House on the day of President Kennedy's funeral. Both Eisenhower and Truman were old men, their time of power had long past.
Ike goes up to Harry and says, "Harry, it's really a shame that we're here today under these circumstances. Look at us, two old birds still mad at each other, while that young man who succeeded us is laying down the hallway in a casket.
It doesn't make any sense, does it?" Harry agreed and they both decided to bury the hatchet. Truman and Eisenhower attended the funeral together and were on speaking terms once again. There are some things that are more important than political rivalries.
During this month of Valentines Day, let us remember to love one another.
God Gave us the Greatest Valentine when He Sent His Son Jesus to Die for us.
He Wants us to be one family, with Christ at the Center. We give Valentine Cards to each other to symbolize our love and affection.
Let us love one another as Christ Loves us.
God Has an endless supply of Love and Mercy that will never run out.
God Bless all of you!
Pastor Jeff Stahl
Countryside and Ogden United Methodist Churches

February is President's Month and it is also Valentines Day. I wrote a couple of weeks ago about doing a report on the Presidents when I was in the Third Grade at Wiley School.
It began a life long love of the Presidents and United States History. What a thrill it would be to serve as President and live in the White House. No matter who the President is, they have all tried to do the best they could.
It is a very exclusive club. Only 45 men have served as President. Grover Cleveland and Donald Trump are the only two Presidents to have served non consecutive terms. Some Presidents have been bitter rivals but later became friends.
Harry Truman was the 33rd President and Dwight Eisenhower succeeded him as the 34th President. To be honest, they didn't like each other very much. Truman was a Democrat and Eisenhower was a Republican.

and strives to better serve the public."
The Commissioner provided an overview of the meaningful improvements being made at SSA:
Americans now have 24/7 access to their personal My Social Security account, when previously the website was down 29 hours a week.
Sixty-five percent more calls were answered in FY 2025 compared to FY 2024.
The average speed of answer for the National 800 Number is now in the single digits.
Technology improvements allowed 90 percent of calls to now be resolved via self-service or convenient callbacks.
The upgraded phone system supported field offices nationwide and enabled 30 percent of all calls to be handled instantaneously through technology.
The average wait time for visitors at field offices decreased by nearly 30 percent from FY 2024 to FY 2025, and those with an appointment wait on average just six minutes to be helped.
The pending inventory of initial disability claims has decreased by 33% from the all-time high of 1.26 million pending claims in June 2024.
Completed sending over 3.1 million payments, totaling over \$17 billion, to beneficiaries eligible under the Social Security Fairness Act (SSEA), 5 months ahead of schedule.
Addressed waste, fraud, and abuse by prioritizing the accuracy of payments and ensuring those ineligible to receive benefits are not improperly paid.

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Psalm 103
King James Version
103 Bless the Lord, O my soul: and all that is within me, bless his holy name.
2 Bless the Lord, O my soul, and forget not all his benefits:
3 Who forgiveth all thine iniquities; who healeth all thy diseases;
4 Who redeemeth thy life from destruction; who crowneth thee with lovingkindness and tender mercies;
5 Who satisfieth thy mouth with good things; so that thy youth is renewed like the eagle's.
6 The Lord executeth right-

eousness and judgment for all that are oppressed.
7 He made known his ways unto Moses, his acts unto the children of Israel.
8 The Lord is merciful and gracious, slow to anger, and plenteous in mercy.
9 He will not always chide: neither will he keep his anger for ever.
10 He hath not dealt with us after our sins; nor rewarded us according to our iniquities.
11 For as the heaven is high above the earth, so great is his mercy toward them that fear him.
12 As far as the east is from

the west, so far hath he removed our transgressions from us.
13 Like as a father pitieth his children, so the Lord pitieth them that fear him.
14 For he knoweth our frame; he remembereth that we are dust.
15 As for man, his days are as grass: as a flower of the field, so he flourisheth.
16 For the wind passeth over it, and it is gone; and the place thereof shall know it no more.
17 But the mercy of the Lord is from everlasting to everlasting upon them that fear him, and his righteousness unto children's children;

18 To such as keep his covenant, and to those that remember his commandments to do them.
19 The Lord hath prepared his throne in the heavens; and his kingdom ruleth over all.
20 Bless the Lord, ye his angels, that excel in strength, that do his commandments, hearkening unto the voice of his word.
21 Bless ye the Lord, all ye his hosts; ye ministers of his, that do his pleasure.
22 Bless the Lord, all his works in all places of his dominion: bless the Lord, O my soul.

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Minister—Mike Zylstra
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