

that partners business and students to provide workforce training and postsecondary education and certification pathways ranging from biology to exercise science. Any of the academies are going to have between four and



## Letters to the Editor

## Unity – In the Eye of the Beholder, You the Reader

I read with interest Beth Shelly's Rim Top Ramblings titled "Distrust and unity" hoping to find some thoughtful insight on unity and what can be done to bridge the gap between the sharply divided political views in our country. I was disappointed yet not surprised to read yet another of her weekly disparaging ramblings of Donald Trump; that his "Big Lie" of voter fraud is the cornerstone of our nation's problem. There's "no evidence of a rigged election" Shelly stated. To add fuel to the fire, she implied that we Trump supporters are detached from reality and willing to sacrifice everything (truth, moral character, the Sermon on the Mount, conservative principles, the Constitution) on Trump's alter. As for her solution to unity, you guessed it, we should just blindly submit to Joe Biden as he is going to rescue us and better serve all Americans.

I'm not a certified unity counselor, but it doesn't seem that the quest for unity is furthered by labeling those on the other side as wackos and the cure is for them to be reprogrammed and simply trust the candidate they opposed in the recent election. An opponent, I may add, is one that many label as a career, corrupt politician with early stages of dementia, who won a stolen election, and who should be impeached for his quidpro-quo dealings with Ukraine that garnered millions for his family. By the way, it was nice to see Hunter at the inauguration.

President Biden invoked "unity"
11 times in his inaugural address including an eloquent, "For without unity, there is no peace, only bitterness & fury." Actions speak louder than words. If he really means it, he will call off the dogs of an unprecedented impeachment trial of a former president. My guess is that he will turn a blind (or sleepy) eye and let it all roll forward. His plea for unity will surely pick back up again when the impeachment proceedings are over.

In terms of unity, let's not forget the Resist Movement, the "Not My President" bumper stickers, and the Washington Post feature article on January 17, 2017, the day after President Trump's inauguration, titled "The campaign to impeach President Trump has begun." A lasting impression of this type of "unity" was Democrat Speaker Nancy Pelosi ripping up President Trump's State of the Union address while standing behind him and in front of a national audience.

Many Trump supporters have said we should give the same level of respect to the new President as the liberals showed to President Trump. It appears Ms. Shelly's view of unity is to mandate support for everything Joe Biden does and for us Trumpers to denounce our support of the Make America Great Again movement. Locally, I'm sure she and the county's Democrats are very supportive of unity behind our Republican county commissioners and other elected officials.

The best way to advance unity is to implement policies that support the interests of our country and the American people. Biden started off his "America Last" agenda on the wrong foot and without a walker by re-entering the Paris Climate Accord; blocking the Keystone XL Pipeline, and opening up our borders.

I'm sure Ms. Shelly will further address these issues in upcoming ramblings and echo the calls of cancel culture advocates for us Trump supporters to be reprogrammed and the benefit of Big Tech censoring conservatives - for the sake of unity, of course. In the meantime, I along with millions of Americans and thousands of Elbert County residents will continue to wonder why the hundreds of signed affidavits and allegations of election fraud in swing states were never investigated, how someone who spurs as much excitement as a nursing home bingo game, who spent 12 weeks during the campaign in his basement, and who won 300 less counties than Obama, somehow got 80 million votes.

If beauty is in the eye of the beholder, then you, the reader, should be the judge of unity and not the media. 75% of Elbert County supports the "America First" populist agenda and voted for Donald Trump. We don't trust the mainstream media and refuse to watch CNN, MSNBC, and the rest. So, here's the bottom-line unity question: Have you enjoyed the last four years of reading a regular, divisive rambling that questioned your values and attacked the President you voted for and are you looking forward to the next four years of a weekly rambling on how everything Sleepy Joe is doing is good for you and if you don't support him you are against unity and part of the problem? If this was a network news channel, you would probably be looking for the remote control.

Tom Peterson, Chairman Elbert County Republicans tpeterson18@gmail.com High School where a similar program is underway. But much of the hard work went to EHS faculty members who have had the opportunity to help design the curriculum.

"I really cannot commend my staff enough. They did this," McClendon said. "This was them looking at all the different pathways and academies that different schools have and coming up with what we thought would best fit Elizabeth High School and we are very excited."

Course descriptions are submitted to a pathways committee to determine if they fit into pathways within the academies. "What we're trying to do is find courses that intrigue teachers and intrigue kids, but also provide opportunities for looking at, what am I going to do after I graduate?

The question was asked, can students choose more than one pathway and, if so, do they have to be within the same academy, and do students have to choose a pathway? And is there a traditional graduation credit track through Elizabeth High School with these academies?"

To which McClendon responded, yes, yes, and yes.

"Kids can choose an open academy and get the traditional graduation requirements," he said, adding, "I think we will probably be bringing a new set of requirements to you (board members) based on the academy and pathways. We are not there yet."

A student can choose a pathway in one academy and a pathway in another academy if those are things they are interested in. "And we're not locking kids anywhere. So, we just

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