

THE LOYAL OPPOSITION

The E-newsletter of the
Cambridge Republican City Committee

Volume I, issue 2 – 2nd Quarter 2010

Editors' Outlook

"Loyal Opposition" means...what?

If nothing else, the passage of Obamacare shines a bright light on a loyal opposition. At every level the GOP now has opportunities and big challenges.

Let us applaud the GOP members of the US House of Representatives. Not a single one voted for Obamacare. Unity like that gives a loyal opposition real heft.

Let's also applaud the Republican Senators who were equally united against "reconciliation" four days later.

Now it's our turn. Our state needs a two-party system and a Republican governor. Scott Brown needs to keep his new job. State and local GOP candidates need support:

Frank J. [Addivinola](#), Jr., candidate in the 1st Suffolk & Middlesex State Senate District. Barbara Bush, write-in candidate in the Middlesex, Suffolk & Essex State Senate District.

Brad [Marston](#), candidate for State Representative in the 8th Suffolk District.

Mary Z. [Connaughton](#) and Kamal [Jain](#), candidates for State Auditor.

Bill [Campbell](#), candidate for Secretary of State.

Next up – A Republican Governor

The 2010 Massachusetts Republican [Convention](#) is on Saturday, 17 April 2010, at the Worcester DCU Center. Sen. Scott Brown will be the keynote speaker. The

CRCC's delegates and its one superdelegate look forward to the event.

If MassCare is the precursor of Obamacare, we are all in trouble. As a last resort to keeping health care costs down, Governor Patrick is resorting to price controls. Local residents who survived the rent control wars will remember how well they work...

It is very important that we put a Republican back in the corner office. Competition for the office is only a good thing and we have two strong competitors:

[Charlie Baker](#)

([Richard Tisei](#), Lt Governor)

Mr Baker answered his own top ten policy [questions](#) on 6 October 2009. It is still a good read.

Selections from his bio include: 'Mr Baker graduated from Needham High School in 1975 as an All-League basketball player; graduated from Harvard College in 1979, lettering in varsity basketball and graduating with a degree in English in 1979; earned an MBA from Kellogg Graduate School of Management at Northwestern University in 1986.

In 1991, he joined the newly elected Weld/Cellucci Administration as Undersecretary for Health in the Executive Office of Health and Human Services; and became Secretary of Health and Human Services in the fall of 1992; became Secretary of Administration and Finance in the fall of 1994.

Mr Baker became CEO of Harvard Vanguard Medical Associates (HVMA) in the fall of 1998, and was soon recruited by

Harvard Vanguard's parent – Harvard Pilgrim Health Care – to serve as its CEO in May, 1999.

He served for 3 years as a member of the Board of Selectmen in Swampscott, and served on the town's School Building Committee.'

[Christy Mihos](#)

Family, public service, The Big Dig: All of these things are mentioned when you get a proper introduction for Christy Mihos, and all of these things have contributed to Christy's campaign for Massachusetts Governor 2010. Click on his name above to learn why Mr Mihos wants to put people before politics in his bid for Governor of Massachusetts in 2010.

Selections from his bio include: 'After graduating from Brockton High School, Mr Mihos headed down the road to study management at Stonehill College in Easton.

In 1998, he was appointed to the Massachusetts Turnpike Authority, where he served as Vice Chairman and thereafter Director.

Christy's civic life extends beyond his time on the Turnpike Authority. He has served on the boards of numerous organizations, including the University of Massachusetts, the Boys and Girls Club of Brockton, a South Shore Greek Orthodox Church, and the Cape Cod Chamber of Commerce. Christy has also served as a board member of The Genesis Fund, an organization dedicated to the treatment and prevention of birth defects.'

Horn Tooting

CRCC members Peter Sheinfeld and Willard Hooton make a great signature-gathering team for local candidates, earning special success on Erie Street.

Meantime, Charlie Marquardt is continuing to mine information about the city's finances, specifically addressing unfunded pension liabilities. The hope is to

focus the CRCC's attention on this local issue.

Peter Wilson is coordinating a project with two Harvard graduate students to expand GOP activity at the university while broadening the local committee's profile. Goals include significantly upgrading the Speaker's Bureau, finding new writers for both the *Right View* column and this quarterly e-newsletter, getting help with website and networking technology, and most important seeking and supporting young candidates.

New members add great value. The Ward 4 Committee welcomes Charles Hill of the Harvard Divinity School and Dan and Mary-Kathleen McCardell of Bigelow Street. Ward 9 welcomes Fritz and Leah Foley of Lake View Avenue. Ward 10 welcomes Dwight Bramble.

Special thanks are due to the Right View contributors, including but not limited to: Dwight Bramble, Elizabeth Harmer-Dionne, Vince Dixon, Charlie Marquardt, Patrick Morin, Ian Pilarczyk, and Peter Wilson (editor). Please contact Peter Wilson if you would like to contribute an article.

The Big Picture

When the President says, again and again, that the time for talk is over, it's just talk.

Gazillions of carping emails from Michael Steele at the RNC don't measure up.

Obamacare won the vote on 21 March but lost the battle for public opinion. The question remains, who won?

Shortly after the recent health care vote the TLO talked to a friend – a life-long Democrat, an experienced business analyst, and a plain-spoken fellow. It went like this: Friend: "The problem with you Republicans and the Obamacare debate is you just criticized. You don't have anything positive."

TLO (spluttering): "Whaddya mean no alternative? What about Paul Ryan's (R-

WI) [Roadmap](#) for America's Future? If it weren't for the MSM..."

Friend: "No, I'm talking about your party, the GOP's national message. Maybe you read Ryan's plan but did your party? You have a marketing problem. You know why?"

TLO: "Why?"

Friend: "Two things. One, a plan like Ryan's is risky for politicians whose priority is to get elected. It's complicated. Two, sending out negative sound bites is a lot easier than educating voters. You ought to deal with this."

In health care alone, conservatives have a quiver full of proposals that voters like – curbing junk lawsuits, lowering barriers for buying insurance across state lines; reducing mandates; giving individuals the tax benefits businesses give employees, and permitting small businesses to pool risk.

And that's not even mentioning the Tea Party Movement.

Now is a very good time for a *loyal opposition* to embrace Ronald Reagan's idea of America, and by extension Cambridge, as a "shining city upon a hill." Now is a very good time to support Republican candidates in our fair city and throughout the Commonwealth. Top priority, however, goes to making our case for the big picture, starting perhaps simply and reminding people repeatedly that neither households nor nations spend their way to prosperity.

RECENT CRCC ARTICLES

CRCC Secretary Peter Wilson addressed our fair city's supposed climate emergency in a recent Right View column in the Cambridge Chronicle. The following is an excerpt from the column. (Please visit the [Chronicle](#)'s website to read other Right View articles.)

[Community Organizing 2.0](#)

The Cambridge [Climate Emergency Congress](#) is a casebook study of a new movement of "climate community activism" that pushes sustainability issues in municipal governments.

The first step the Cambridge City Council took, in May 2009, was the declaration of a Climate Emergency. At the time it seemed a bit melodramatic, but it was actually an ingenious move. Consider this quote from the CEC [Final Proposal](#).

That where the city lacks the necessary legal authority to exert such preferences, it attempts to obtain this authority as justified by the city's emergency powers in accordance with the law.

It's doubtful that we'll see martial law in Cambridge, but the declaration of a climate emergency served the important role of justifying every action taken afterwards.

The next step taken was the formation of the Climate Congress. Former Mayor Denise Simmons followed the playbook by issuing the following [announcement](#): "I am inviting organizations of all kinds, community groups, businesses, institutions and faith-based organizations, to nominate representatives to participate in the Congress. Individuals are also invited to apply. Up to 100 delegates will be selected to represent the full diversity of Cambridge's population, institutions, and organizations."

Again, this is an ingenious move. The City Council wishes to pass a sweeping set of legislative changes, but rather than holding a series of public hearings discussing *whether* action should be taken, they created a "stakeholder" group with the explicit purpose of responding to the agreed-upon climate emergency.

This group will be self-selecting in that only someone with ardent beliefs will volunteer to spend three or four Saturdays at City Hall in global warming meetings. Secondly, in order to be admitted to the group, you have to go through an application process.

The final proposal was presented to the City Council for consideration and reported in the Cambridge Chronicle reports in a front-page story on March 11th.

While climate negotiations at Kyoto and Copenhagen are largely among nations, this global warming movement among local

governments is gaining momentum. When our Cambridge City Council sends delegates to Copenhagen, or passes one of its resolutions on international matters, residents might chuckle that our Council ought to pay attention to potholes and stop opining about things they cannot control. This is to underestimate the potential power of this movement, which although nascent represents a challenge to the vertical structure of local-state-federal organization outlined in the Constitution.

ON THE SAME PAGE

Our objective in this column is to recommend books and to write or solicit book reviews. Last quarter we recommended George Melloan's *The Great Money Binge: Spending Our Way to Socialism* and *After The Fall: Saving Capitalism from Wall Street and Washington*, by Nicole Gelinias and we're delighted to review them in this issue.

A friend once said that his father read the Wall Street Journal's editorial page to get himself revved up in the morning. Mr Melloan's book delivers a comparable jolt, any time of day. The author knows his supply-side economics inside and out and writes about the fundamental principles with ease and humor. While the tone seems like you're getting wise advice from a gruff grandfather, underlying it is the seriousness of an Army drill sergeant. People don't use the word "socialism" lightly these days, whatever they think. Placing on his front cover means Mr Melloan is serious. Yes, we can revive American economic growth, but only by adhering strictly to classical economic principles and investing in entrepreneurial, job-producing activity. So it's good history that makes complex economics clear, kind of like an extended version of the WSJ editorial page. If you feel lost and in need of more juice after the last editorial, this is a great book to have nearby as you finish your cup of java.

It's no overstatement, says this reviewer, to say Nicole Gelinias is today's

Benjamin Graham. As you work through her book – and it's the kind of work that satisfies – you can feel riveted in your pew with this wonderful analyst delivering an ecumenical sermon about the recent financial crisis, using her extensive sense of history to inspire each reader to find faith in the markets, to recognize limits to regulatory zeal, and to see things can more likely be right when they are transparent. As the search for value goes, so goes Ms Gelinias. I am not going to part with my copy of *After The Fall*.

We have one book to introduce before taking this newsletter to print. One of my former bosses raved about *The Big Short* by Michael Lewis. A recent WSJ [review](#) didn't quite capture the same enthusiasm, in that it didn't suggest you'd find yourself laughing out loud as you read about the few investors who got it right in the great recession.

If any reader of this newsletter has read it, or plans to read it, please send in your comments or even a review.

FACE TO FACE

ETHRIDGE KING...

... was born in Barbados and raised in Cambridge. He is married to Astrid (a native of The Netherlands) and they have a 7 year old son Jasper. Ethridge is a product of the Cambridge Public Schools and a graduate of Boston University. Professional positions include Assistant Director for Gift Accounting and Alumni Records at B.U. and Director of Development Operations for the Radcliffe Institute at Harvard University. Currently he's the Director for Development Services at the Children's Hospital Trust.

Ethridge has served the City of Cambridge conscientiously and creatively as a member of the Board of Election Commissioners since his appointment by the City Manager in 2007. The Board, which is increasingly becoming known as the city's breeding ground of statesmen and women, preserves the integrity of the city's election system.

Ethridge's turn toward the Republican Party occurred during a campaign for public office in Cambridge. Though he was a registered Independent, his candidate profile clearly indicated his inclination to support many conservative initiatives. This was not lost on CRCC members Steven Jens and Fred Baker at the time. They began to recruit him for the GOP – and the rest is history.

In his free time he restores his Victorian colonial house in Providence, Rhode Island. He loves to travel and spends as much time as possible with his wife and son. Ethridge serves as Chairman of the Ward 4 Republican Committee.

(The TLO will profile a Cambridge voter in each issue of the *TLO*. The voter will often be a CRCC member, but not necessarily. Pictures will be added when the editors are more technologically adept.)

*Welcome to the
Cambridge Republican
City Committee*

OUR STATEMENT OF PURPOSE

The goals of the Cambridge Republican City Committee (CRCC) are to promote the principles of the Republican Party, to cooperate in carrying out the program of the Republican State and Republican National Committees, and to promote and effectuate the election of Republican candidates. In particular, the CRCC's objectives are to recruit and assist Republican candidates; to communicate our positions and activities by maintaining a website and a newsletter and by hosting speakers; to recruit new members and activists, raise funds, and promote Republican voter registration;

A MESSAGE TO READERS
OF *THE LOYAL
OPPOSITION*

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Thank you very much.
Onward and upward,
The Editors