

OUR VIEW

CTE gets state budget boost that can help fill those jobs

If there weren't enough intrinsic rewards for those pursuing career and technical education, the state of Arizona wants to sweeten the pot. More money and a bonus for each participating school are in the works.

The proposed offerings are a key piece of the puzzle in assuring that Arizona's economy remains strong by developing in-state talent to fill in-demand jobs. Those jobs, by the way, currently outnumber the number of the qualified applicants.

The coming year's budget proposes \$10 for additional CTE programs and a \$1,000 dividend to schools for each student who

obtains a certification for an in-demand industry.

And what are those industries? They span categories, but include a huge variety of technical fields and construction trades. The need for CTE programs is large enough that Gov. Doug Ducey proclaimed March as career and technical education month as he announced the budget proposals, a new aviation technology center in Pima County and an expanded health care career center in the Phoenix area.

CTE programs provide a relatively quick leap into well-paying jobs for those daunted by the long time commitment of college or the prospect of big student loan debt. CTE is more than the shop and home ec classes of yesteryear, preparing students for numerous technology careers. At the high school level, a choice for CTE hardly precludes a path towards college. The same academic prep work is required in CTE as in mainstream school programs.

CTE classwork can be especially helpful for students because it offers practical, usually hands-on, applications of principles that can be confusingly abstract in an academic classroom.

Arizona is moving toward allowing out-of-state residents to transfer their occupational licenses to

the state. This signifies both that Arizona has more jobs than qualified workers right now and that Arizona is serious about filling them and propelling the economy forward.

CTE offers a leg up to state students looking to fill those jobs. Students not clearly set on a purely academic course after high school should seriously consider a CTE path. The public at large should support those programs as well, especially if they think they may need their plumbing fixed or their cars repaired or their xrays taken or...you name it...anytime in the future.

— Today's News-Herald

OTHER VIEWS



BY MICHAEL SHANNON
GUEST COLUMNIST

What Nixon and Trump have in common

It's hard to believe Richard Nixon, the consummate, disciplined insider, and Donald Trump, the shambolic, impulsive outsider, have anything in common, but it's true. Both men shared the belief that winning a national election should convey political power.

Acting on the belief a national majority gave him a popular mandate to make changes in Washington cost Nixon his presidency. Just mentioning draining the swamp in passing is in the process of costing Trump his.

John Marini, author of "Unmasking the Administrative State," pointed out this unlikely coincidence during a book discussion sponsored by Hillsdale College and the Claremont Institute. What made both men a target was the threat to the status quo enjoyed by Washington's vast permanent bureaucracy.

Nixon's "third-rate burglary" in the Watergate complex provided the bureaucracy and its allies in the Democrat Congress the pretext to drive him from office.

Forty-three years later the administrative state had grown so powerful that it required no cooperation from Trump to supply a crime. His investigation is based on speculation and conjecture supplied by political enemies and it began shortly after the swearing in ceremony.

Both investigations are designed to nullify an election by using the power of the administrative state to taint and drive from office a president who wants to change the way Washington operates.

As Henry Kissinger wrote, "Nixon provoked a revolution...For reasons unrelated to the issues and unforeseeable by the people who voted for what Nixon represented, this choice was now being annulled."

As in usual in these matters, Alexis



de Tocqueville — the crystal ball of the 19th Century — warned of the danger of the administrative state. He wrote that centralized administration is what despotism will look like in democratic times.

During his second term, Nixon planned to confront the permanent bureaucracy. In a November radio address he said, "If this kind of [bureaucratic] growth were projected indefinitely in the future, the result would be catastrophic. We would have an America top heavy with bureaucratic meddling, weighted down by big government, suffocated by taxes, robbed of its soul."

Trump in his scattershot manner has spoken of eliminating entire cabinet agencies and moving the surviving headquarters out of Washington. That sentiment was one reason Marini had confidence in Trump, "his perspective was that of a citizen's and a common sense view of what politics should be."

Both faced daunting obstacles. Nixon had a Congress controlled entirely by the Democrat Party. Trump had what Nixon earlier termed a "timid [Republican] party" controlled by Curator of the Senate Mitch McConnell. And both presidents were "resisted by the combined and determined inertia of Congress and the bureaucracy."

Marini writes, "Although Woodward and Bernstein were lauded as investigative reporters they served merely as a conduit by which the bureaucracy [the FBI and other leakers] could undermine the authority of an elected officeholder." Disgraced FBI agent Andrew

McCabe and his cabal of administrative state functionaries demonstrated contempt for the democratic process and "the instinct for self-preservation at all costs" when they began spying on Trump before the election and concocted "Russia Collusion" after.

The confrontation that drove Nixon from office and is paralyzing Trump is essentially a test of the consent of the governed. Our nation was founded on that principle. An unaccountable, unelected administrative state that makes its own law flies in the face of consent of the governed, because the governed have no way to challenge the bureaucracy.

Marini observes "Congress has stopped legislating and started delegating." Congress is an "oversight body" given to theatrical displays instead of demanding accountability from the administrative state.

The only national referendum where voters have a say on the direction of the federal government is the presidential election. Michael Anton said at the event the people who elected Nixon and Trump "have a sentimental attachment to the Constitution" that swamp residents find quaint. Marini concurs and adds, "the people that elected Trump think elections should make a difference."

It's the administrative state's central mission to prove those voters wrong. Currently, the bureaucrats are winning.

Michael Shannon is a commentator and public relations consultant, and is the author of "A Conservative Christian's Guidebook for Living in Secular Times."

"Get off of my lawn!" seemed to be the only line missing from her tone deaf performance.

As it turns out, many lines were missing. The video was heavily edited to reflect the worst of the exchange, and the Twitter outrage mobs came for Feinstein. Perhaps she deserved it. But in focusing their anger on a Democratic senator from California who just got re-elected to a six-year term and sees climate change as a threat to national security, climate activists missed a bigger story — one that lends context to Feinstein's dim view.

According to a report by Brian Merchant of Gizmodo, California tech giant Google — along with Amazon and Microsoft — has quietly gone into the oil business. The goal: to use artificial intelligence, big data and other advanced technology to maximize oil exploration and production.

"Google is using machine learning to find more oil reserves both above and below the seas, its data services are streamlining and automating extant oilfield operations, and it is helping oil companies find ways to trim costs and compete with clean energy upstarts," wrote Merchant. "It's striking to see Google transforming itself into a veritable innovation arm of the fossil fuel extraction industry

— at precisely the time when an understanding that climate change poses an existential threat to populations across large swaths of the globe has never been more acute."

Amazon and Microsoft have also eagerly entered the oil business.

To recap: The most brilliant technology companies in the world are using their power to make sure we extract as much oil as possible from the ground. They're doing this despite the fact that scientists say 80 percent of known fossil fuel reserves must stay in the ground to avoid climate catastrophe. They're also doing it despite their own vaunted commitments to solve the climate crisis at the 11th hour.

The Feinstein video got zillions of views, but Gizmodo's blockbuster report about the biggest tech companies in the world helping to destroy the planet for money slipped under the radar.

It's the latest in a string of unfortunate revelations about our intensifying climate crisis.

The kids are right to feel passionate and make demands. Feinstein made herself an easy target, but the truth is that no one is doing enough on climate. Not government, not business, not journalists — no one.

— The Sacramento Bee

OTHER VIEWS

State Parks is committed to Havasu Rivera development

Editor:

I wanted to respond to the recent article and editorial regarding the state's commitment in the Havasu Riviera project.

Arizona State Parks remains fully committed to working with the City of Lake Havasu and Havasu Riviera, LLC, in making the Havasu Riviera project a reality. We fully understand the importance this new state park brings to the community and the economy of Lake Havasu, and that it is a vital development for the western shores of Arizona. We also value the unique opportunity that this partnership provides in cooperatively managing one of the public's State Parks. Under a public-private partnership agreement, this project will feature a public boat launch ramp, wet slip marina, dry boat storage facility, waterfront restaurant and bar, parking and other recreational amenities for the residents and visitors of the area.

The review of our statewide capital improvement projects is nearing completion, and we anticipate moving forward with this project in the very near future due to the public and private investments already made by our partners.

For the past few months, staff has been working diligently to complete this internal review to ensure that this and all other construction projects are within budget appropriations, and all necessary state and federal regulatory requirements. I have personally contacted the partners associated with this project to relay our willingness to continue working in partnership on this project.

We are currently scheduling a meeting to take place as soon as possible with Arizona State Parks staff, partners from the City of Lake Havasu, and Havasu Riviera, LLC to review the master plan and discuss any outstanding details necessary for the State's contractual requirements associated with this important development.

Bob Broscheid, Executive Director
Arizona State Parks

MAIL LETTERS TO: Editor, Today's News-Herald
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EMAIL LETTERS TO: editor@havasunews.com. Be sure to include "letter to the editor" in the subject line of your email.

NOTE: Letters should be no more than 300 words and are subject to editing for spelling, grammar and space considerations.

GUEST COLUMN

Supporting ASU in Lake Havasu City

Roughly 7 years ago this community banded together to raise more than \$2 million to bring ASU to Lake Havasu City. Our citizens knew that having a campus of such a world renowned university was just what we needed to raise the bar of this community's educational attainment, economic development and expanding opportunities for our children.



MARK NEXSEN
FORMER MAYOR

Attracting ASU to our community was not easy. The volunteers at the Havasu Foundation for Higher Education put their heart and soul into the effort. The school district stepped forward to provide a campus and leadership at City Hall had countless meetings to bring the whole endeavor and parties together.

ASU has invested millions of dollars in this community. ASU actively engages citizens through monthly lectures, engages hundreds of our children in STEM summer camps, was a strong contributor to our successful finish in the America's Best Communities competition and will have awarded 139 bachelor degrees as of May 2019.

ASU is actively involved in our business community. ASU staff and leadership work closely with the Chamber of Commerce, the Convention and Visitors Bureau and has provided students to fill internship positions at local businesses and City Hall.

In addition, many businesses have benefited from the annual operating budget of this campus and the student spending. This will only increase over time as campus enrollment grows and they expand its offering of majors which currently stands at 17.

Lake Havasu City's future is tremendous. The future is even brighter as ASU expands with the support from our community. Local businesses and citizens have widely shown their support of ASU and similar support is expected from our local print media.

I hope that conclusion is shared by this newspaper as I am confident that our citizens are thrilled by the presence of ASU in Lake Havasu City.

OTHER VIEWS

Amazon, Google and Microsoft want to burn the planet? Let's yell at Sen. Feinstein

Sen. Dianne Feinstein went viral for all the wrong reasons last week. Her sin: giving a group of elementary school children a blunt lesson in climate change pessimism.

In a videotaped encounter, Feinstein rebuffed the kids' efforts to get her support for the Green New Deal. The 10-year plan calls for a massive investment to stimulate the economy by transitioning to clean energy. Congresswoman Alexandria Ocasio-Cortez (D-New York) and environmental activists champion it as a way to create jobs and prevent climate catastrophe.

Feinstein was having none of it. She forthrightly assured the children there's no hope for a Green New Deal in the Senate. When pushed, she boasted of her million-vote margin of victory in 2018 and archly reminded a 16-year-old that minors can't participate in elections.