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Saul's News - Weekly Review
December 30th, 2018

Happy New Years!!! I hope you all had a joyous Christmas holiday season and are ready to kick off the New Year. I have much to look forward to and wish all of you the very best.

I'm going to be a grandfather for the very first time! We know there is a granddaughter on the way, so I'll have to adjust to dealing with little girls after a lifetime of boys:)

Work is still something I love. I get to travel to some great and interesting locations around the world, meet some wonderful people and enjoy the unbelievable culture and people the world has to offer.

I wish you all the best this coming year!

-Saul Anuzis

Trump forgets his base is populists and conservatives

When candidate Donald J. Trump steamrolled American politics in 2016, he seemed to understand the coalition available to him was an eclectic bunch that felt its issues had been ignored.

They were both populists and conservatives, and they placed him in office.

Over the past week, it appears he has forgotten that his supporters are both populists and conservatives — with the "and conservatives" being a very important part of the equation.

In the wake of an election where Republicans lost 40 seats, Trump has careened, strategy-free, toward a shutdown, negotiating only with himself. He's blowing up

the staff that gave wary Republicans confidence, and in the realm of foreign policy, he's abandoning the the Reaganite conservative part of his coalition to the consternation of Israel and the delight of dictators in Moscow and Ankara.

Trump won by bringing wary nationalists and populists into a conservative party. But the tail cannot wag the dog. Trump's coalition is big enough to govern as long as he agrees to preserve the four legs of the conservative stool: babies, guns, tax cuts, and a muscular foreign policy.

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What a waste... Democrats Are on a Hiring Spree for Lawyers to Help Investigate Donald Trump in 2019

Democrats are hiring attorneys to help them investigate President Donald Trump in 2019 as the party gears up to take control of the House of Representatives in early January.

A recent job posting by the House Judiciary Committee asked for experienced lawyers who practice "criminal law, immigration law, constitutional law, intellectual property law, commercial and administrative law (including antitrust and bankruptcy), or oversight work." The job post was reported by CNN on Friday.

Representative Jerry Nadler, the incoming chairman of the House Judiciary Committee, has said he planned to investigate Trump's business dealings with Russia and hush money payments to two women months before the 2016 election. Nadler also said that the first person he would subpoena was Acting Attorney General Matt Whitaker.

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Nancy Pelosi Is Spending Shutdown at Hawaii Resort

Democratic House leader Nancy Pelosi is spending the government shutdown at a luxury resort in Hawaii, the Washington Free Beacon has learned.

Pelosi, who has put blame squarely on President Donald Trump for the current government shutdown, was spotted Thursday vacationing in Hawaii at the Fairmont Orchid resort, where room accommodations range from \$899-a-night for a standard room to \$4,899-a-night for the presidential suite...

...Trump canceled his Christmas trip to Florida and remained in the White House, saying on Christmas Eve that he was "waiting for the Democrats to come back and make a deal." The president left the White House on Christmas to travel to Iraq and meet with American troops stationed overseas.

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How arrest of Chinese 'princess' exposes regime's world domination plot

Huawei executive Meng Wanzhou's arrest in Vancouver on Dec. 6 led to immediate blowback.

Furious Chinese Communists have begun arresting innocent Canadians in retaliation. So far, three of these "revenge hostages" have been taken and are being held in secret jails on vague charges. Beijing hints that the hostage count may grow if Meng is not freed and fast.

Even for a thuggish regime like China's, this kind of action is almost unprecedented.

So who is Meng Wanzhou?

Currently under house arrest and awaiting extradition to the US, she will face charges that her company violated US sanctions by doing business with Iran and committed bank fraud by disguising the payments it received in return.

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Welcome to the world of President Rand Paul

President's Trump's foreign policy follows no firm ideology but is often a combination of his long-held personal views and the influence of whoever currently has his ear. These days, Trump is listening more than ever to Sen. Rand Paul (R-Ky.), who is quietly steering U.S. foreign policy in a new direction.

After Trump's abrupt decision to withdraw all U.S. troops from Syria — against the advice of his entire national security team — a stunned Washington establishment rushed to blame Turkish President Recep Tayyip Erdogan, who reportedly asked Trump to leave Syria during a Dec. 14 phone call. But Erdogan has made that request for years. What's changed recently is whom Trump is listening to back home.

Several U.S. officials and people who have spoken directly to Trump since his Syria decision tell me they believe that Paul's frequent phone conversations with Trump, wholly outside the policy process, are having an outsized influence on the president's recent foreign policy decisions. The two golf buddies certainly are sounding a lot alike recently.

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Fear of a Rand Paul-Influenced Trump Foreign Policy

Josh Rogin, writing at the Washington Post, contemplates the supposedly frightening shadow of Sen. Rand Paul (R-Ky.) hovering over some of President Donald Trump's recent foreign policy decisions. Rogin's piece adds to some unsourced musings from Beltway types that the most influential adviser to Trump on foreign policy right now is not anyone on his staff or a member of the Pentagon brass, but the Kentucky senator known for his skepticism about endless foreign adventuring. Rogin thinks it fair to say that Paul, via informal communication with golfing buddy Trump, "is quietly steering U.S. foreign policy in a new direction." Among the public evidence for this is Trump tweet-quoting Paul after announcing his intention to pull U.S. troops from Syria on how "[it]t should not be the job of America to replace regimes around the world."

Paul's influence is bad, Rogin maintains, because "Trump may be taking Paul's word over that of his own advisers. Moreover, Paul has a history of pushing false claims and theories."

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Supreme Court Justice Antonin Scalia: "Theory Behind Roe v. Wade Does Not Make Any Sense"

There I was, peacefully switching back and forth between three sporting events when I happened upon Piers Morgan's show on CNN. He was interviewing Supreme Court Justice Antonin Scalia.

While I thoroughly enjoyed the portion that remained, I knew Morgan must have asked Justice Scalia about Roe v. Wade.

Kudos to Kathleen Jean Lopez, editor-at-large of National Review Online, who put the entire Roe/abortion exchange up online.

Let's talk about just three of many fascinating points. First, in only a few sentences, Justice Scalia exposes the soft jurisprudential underbelly of Roe. As he put it, "[T]he theory that was expounded to impose that decision [Roe] was a theory that does not make any sense." Ah, yes!

Second, Morgan asks Scalia if thinks abortion should be illegal. Justice Scalia responds with the first of several important distinctions: "I don't have public views on what

should be illegal and what shouldn't. I have public views on what the Constitution prohibits and what it doesn't prohibit."

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R.I.P. Bre Payton, Beloved Staff Writer At The Federalist, Has Passed Away

Bre Payton, our beloved staff writer for The Federalist, passed away on Friday in San Diego, California following a sudden illness.

Bre was born in California on June 8, 1992, to George and Cindy Payton.

She received her high school diploma from the Western Christian High School Private Satellite Program. She graduated from Patrick Henry College in 2015 with a degree in journalism.

Bre joined The Federalist in April of 2015. In the space of just a few years, she became a rising star on cable news, regularly featured as political commentator on Fox News Channel, Fox Business Channel, and OANN.

Bre brightened the lives of everyone around her. She was joyful, hard-working, and compassionate, and she leaves behind friends and colleagues for whom she brought nothing but sweetness and light.

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