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Good News Friday

DEFENDING THE REPUBLIC
AUG 14



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Friday: August 14, 2026

Dear Patriot,

Get your relaxing in now because very soon it is going to be all hands to deck to save our children from evil and insane communist terrorist.

So...

READ a book.

READ a long article.

GET some sun.

GRILL some meat.

RELISH your family.

DIG into some of the good news.



1- President Trump does not leave Americans behind....unlike other presidents.

Mr. Gilman joins over 100 Americans whom President Trump has freed during his second term in office.

The White House

Trump Brings U.S. Marine Home After Biden Abandoned Him in a Russian Prison for Four Years

QUOTE: President Trump announces that American citizen and former U.S. Marine Robert Gilman is finally coming home after more than four years of imprisonment in Russia, where he was detained in 2022 under the Biden administration.

"After my discussions with President Vladimir Putin, Russia has agreed to release him, very much on a Humanitarian Basis. We appreciate this decision, and the fact that Russia asked for no one in return — No exchange took place.

Robert will land at Andrews Air Force Base, in Washington, D.C., tonight, where my Representatives, some of whom are on the plane with him, will welcome Robert back to THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA!

I just spoke to him, and he had one request — A GREAT cheeseburger when he lands. I will take care of that!"

- President Donald J. Trump GOD BLESS AMERICA!



2- Priority number one: Keep Americans Safe.

United States Department of State

State Department Revokes More Than 175,000 Visas

QUOTE: Under President Trump, the United States Department of State has revoked more than 175,000 visas from foreign nationals who violated the terms of their visas, committed crimes, called for violence against U.S. citizens, defrauded Americans, abused our immigration system, or endangered national security.

The majority of these visas were revoked due to law enforcement encounters for a range of criminal activity, with assault, driving under the influence, theft, and drug crimes being the leading causes. A significant share of visas were revoked for reckless driving, sexual assault, child abuse, fraud and embezzlement, and other crimes.

The revocations come as a result of the State Department's continuous vetting operations, which ensure that visa recipients abide by the terms of their visa and do not endanger Americans.

Under President Trump and Secretary Rubio's leadership, the State Department will continue to identify, investigate, and revoke the visas of foreign nationals who threaten the safety of the American people. A U.S. visa is a privilege, not a right. The Department remains committed to

abuse it.



3- We wanted action, here is some action. On his first full day as Attorney General, Todd Blanche lays down the law.

Watch the press conference on YouTube

Attorney General Todd Blanche has ARRESTED 11 “naturalized” US citizens from China for 1,000 SHAM MARRIAGES

QUOTE: Wednesday afternoon, Attorney General Todd Blanche announced the ARRESTS of 11 “naturalized” US citizens from China who arranged over 1,000 SHAM MARRIAGES between Chinese nationals and Americans.

“This is one of the largest marriage fraud prosecutions in United States HISTORY,” Blanche said “This scheme was not a quick fly by night operation but rather a years long multimillion dollar cottage industry to criminally assist people who would not or legally could not otherwise become citizens of the United States.”



4- It seems that all we ever hear is whining, complaining and blaming America for all the sins of the entire world through all time.

And yet....people come up with the darnest schemes to break the immigrations laws to become citizens.

Secretary Rubio is cracking down on these fake Americans.

The National Pulse

Trump’s ‘Birth Tourism’ Task Force Has Revoked 600 Visas in One Month.

QUOTE: Secretary of State Marco Rubio announced that the State Department task force on “birth tourism” has already revoked over 600 visas on Wednesday. The task force targeted visa holders involved in networks exploiting U.S. citizenship laws by orchestrating schemes for foreign nationals to give birth in America, conferring automatic “birthright” citizenship on their children.

The task force has been reviewing visa activity, dismantling illegal birth

tourism rings, and seeking to address fraudulent practices like document forging and coaching foreigners to exploit immigration laws. Rubio highlighted the operation as a critical step in ending the "heinous abuse" of America's lax citizenship laws. His announcement coincides with President Donald J. Trump's recent executive orders attempting to restrict birthright citizenship and stop birth tourism.

The crackdown aims to address systemic abuse of U.S. immigration laws and reinforce the Trump administration's broader efforts to restrict birthright citizenship.



5- We appreciate that the Trump Administration, which has it's hands full, takes the opportunity to help FAMILIES.

While all others seek to destroy the foundation of a functioning society, President Trump works to solve problems and aid families in tough situations.

The Epoch Times

Treasury Department, IRS Unveil New Paid Family Leave Incentives

QUOTE: The U.S. Treasury Department announced new guidance on Aug. 5, expanding incentives for employers to offer paid family leave for children and sick family members.

It allows employers to claim a tax credit for paid family and medical leave that was first established under President Donald Trump's 2017 tax cuts bill. The measure can offer businesses greater incentives to allow for up to 12 weeks of paid leave, while employees can use the leave to recover from health conditions that prevented them from working or take care of sick family members.

"Hardworking Americans should not have to choose between caring for a loved one and earning a paycheck," Treasury Secretary Scott Bessent said in a statement.

It should allow for "greater incentives to provide paid leave so workers can care for a newborn or other family member or recover from a serious illness without sacrificing their financial security," Bessent said.

He also said that the guidance released on Aug. 5 "provides employers with the clarity they need to claim the enhanced credit, supporting American workers, families, and businesses."

The policy stems from Trump's One Big Beautiful Bill Act, which expanded the paid leave tax credit as part of the broader tax and immigration package. The Working Families Tax Cuts is another name for the bill, which Trump signed into law in July 2025.



6- This is the second DSA candidate in a week who had a double digit lead on their opponent in POLLING and barely came within striking distance after the vote. This is polling being used to influence the outcome of elections.

But at least a straight up mentally ill woman was defeated by a slightly less mentally ill Democrat.

NYPPost

Holiday-hating Francesca Hong loses to David Crowley in Wisconsin Democratic gubernatorial primary

QUOTE: Milwaukee County Executive David Crowley narrowly upset Democratic socialist Francesca Hong in Wisconsin's Democratic gubernatorial primary Tuesday night, despite polls showing Hong in front by double-digits in the final stretch before polling day.

Crowley's campaign said the 37-year-old state legislator and member of the Democratic Socialists of America called Crowley early Wednesday to concede the race. Hong trailed her rival by more than 3,200 votes out of more than 787,000 ballots cast as of 6 a.m. ET., a margin of 0.41 percentage points.

Under Wisconsin law, Hong could have requested a recount since she trailed by under one percentage point, but would have had to pay for it since her deficit was greater than 0.25 percentage points. State law does not provide for automatic recounts in close races.

Crowley, 40, was the late choice of Wisconsin's Democratic establishment after Lt. Gov Sara Rodriguez and her predecessor Mandela Barnes dropped out of the race in recent weeks. Crowley had initially dropped out and endorsed Rodriguez last month, but re-entered the race in an effort to stop Hong after Barnes quit.



7- We are constantly presented with less than stellar examples from the younger generations. But, there are a lot of young people who have real skills and smarts. We want to always celebrate them and thank God for them.

Thank you Lillie Vehling.

Woman saves 3 young girls from drowning in Lake Washington during Seafair weekend

QUOTE: Lillie Vehling was in the right place at the right time when three young girls struggled to stay afloat in Lake Washington during Seafair last Friday.

Vehling is in Seattle for a summer internship and was attending Seafair for the first time. While sitting in Genesee Park waiting for the U.S. Navy Blue Angels air show, Vehling noticed the three girls about 15 yards offshore.

"I was scanning the water after reading a page of my book, and I saw three kids just over the top of my book who were really struggling," she said.

They were screaming for help, and their heads were bobbing up and down, Vehling said. She immediately recognized the early signs of drowning.

Vehling is a skilled water polo player at UC Davis and started her own swim lessons program after completing certified lifeguard training.

"I could see their faces from where I was sitting," Vehling continued. "And they needed help."

She ran into the water, kicking off her shoes and sunglasses. One by one, Vehling pulled each girl to shore. By the time she went back into the water for the third girl, Vehling said the child was unconscious, barely floating and tangled in the rope of a small buoy.

"You could tell that she was desperately trying to grab it to save her own life," Vehling explained. "She wasn't responding to me at this point, and I knew I needed to get her out of the water as soon as possible."

Once on shore, people called 911, and Seattle Fire Department paramedics arrived to provide medical aid. All three girls are now in good health.

"To save three people, I didn't think twice about myself," she said. "I'm just glad everyone's safe."



8- Oh looky...two can play this game!

The Gateway Pundit

Judge Blocks Mamdani's Pied-à-Terre Tax After Homeowners File Lawsuit

QUOTE: A New York judge on Monday temporarily blocked NYC Mayor Zohran Mamdani's new pied-à-terre tax, which hits New Yorkers who own a valuable second home.

Last month, Mamdani implemented a so-called luxury property tax on second homes valued at \$5 million or more. The property tax also affected certain co-ops valued over \$1 million.

Mamdani doxxed the homeowners after his Department of Finance published a database listing the names and addresses of the 960,000 properties.

"As per State law, a property roll was released for public inspection. From this list, DOF will identify properties that may be subject to the new non-primary residence property surcharge," a Mamdani spokesperson said.

Affluent homeowners said the database and doxxing could lead to harassment and violence. Homeowners filed a lawsuit in New York's Supreme Court to stop Mamdani's property tax

The lawsuit argues that New York City bungled the execution of the new tax by "arbitrarily and capriciously" forcing hundreds of thousands of residents to prove they do not owe the tax.

On Monday, a Staten Island Supreme Court Judge temporarily blocked Mamdani's property tax as the lawsuit makes its way through the legal system.



}- Our childhood dreams coming true.

Red State

DeSantis Announces Flying Cars Are Coming to Florida, and Sooner Than You Think

QUOTE: For decades, people have asked the same half-joking, half-serious question: "Where are the flying cars we were promised?"

The Jetsons, after all — with George, his boy, Elroy, daughter Judy, and Jane, his wife — debuted their concept of flying cars in 1962. 1962!

And while some of the technology featured in that cartoon has become a reality, such as video chats and robots that do basic chores (vacuuming, mowing), the

flying car has remained rather elusive.

That is about to come to an end.

On Monday, Gov. Ron DeSantis (R) gave the closest thing to an answer yet to that aforementioned question, announcing that Florida will begin actively testing electric "flying cars" — known as eVTOLs — by the end of the year.

"I can't promise we'll ever be able to take you to the future, to the past."

DeSantis told reporters, a nod to the "Back to the Future" movie franchise. "But I think we're going to be able to get you up in the air at some point in the not too distant future."

The eVTOL stands for electric Vertical Take-Off and Landing.

Standing at a SunTrax testing facility, DeSantis framed the moment as turning a long-running sci-fi dream into an actual state project, complete with vertiports already built and aircraft preparing to lift off without runways.

He announced on social media that the Sunshine State would begin "actively testing" the aircraft by the end of the year.



10- Chart of the Day

Unleash Prosperity

Should I Compare Thee to the Biden Pay?

QUOTE: Let's compare the "affordability" issue under Biden and Trump.

We just updated the trend under both presidents.

Under Biden real wages went straight down and then made a slight comeback during his last year in office. Under Trump 2.0 real wages are up 1.2%.

That's a small gain in affordability, but it isn't negative. Under Biden the real wages were DOWN nearly 4%.

Real Wage Gains and Losses – Biden Vs Trump

Follow Sidney on X @SidneyPowell1

UPDATED: Read the five part series truthfully explaining the unprecedented lawfare used by the left to remove Sidney Powell's right to free speech.

This will be permanently available for all at Defending The Republic.

Regardless of who wins any election, to have confidence in the outcome, we must continue to demand (1) real paper ballots, (2) hand counted in a bipartisan transparent process, and (3) citizen voter ID.

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