

ANOTHER VIEW

Matt Dies

Glad for more coverage into Mallory's death

I was very happy to see the other media join the Santa Barbara News-Press in covering the other side of the story of my daughter's needless death...

When you have nothing of substance to say, I guess they think it best to impugn the source and misdirect as much as possible.

In regard to the FBI investigation of the attempted cover up and its origins, it is fairly clear that this came in response to District Attorney Joyce Dudley's request to the Department of Justice and US Attorney for the Central District, Andre Birotte.

Does a tea party victory bode well or ill for Republican prospects in November? Is Mr. Cantor's defeat significant beyond his own district? Could other Republican incumbents share Mr. Cantor's fate?

It is the duty of the fourth estate to fearlessly pursue stories like this where the powerful attempt to trample the weak and where public servants forget that they work for the people...

Now that other media has begun to cover this side of my beautiful child's tragic death at the hands of the representative of Rep. Lois Capps...

What Mr. Cantor's loss actually means will provoke extended discussion and perhaps some revision of election strategy all around.

Matt Dies is the father of Mallory Rae Dies.

LETTERS TO THE NEWS-PRESS

Military bases: Dumping grounds for illegal immigrants

A source tipped me off last week to a curious occurrence: It seems that two plane-loads of illegal immigrants were recently shipped to Massachusetts.

According to my tipster, approximately 160 illegal immigrants arrived on that flight and stayed nearly a week before being transferred to a Department of Homeland Security site and then released.

The second flight reportedly was diverted from Hanscom to Boston's Logan Airport this past weekend. I am told that both Massachusetts and New Hampshire officials were on hand.

Question: How many other military bases are stealthily being used to redistribute, house, process and release illegal border crossers?

What we do know for sure is that the Obama administration already has converted several other military bases across the country into outposts for tens of thousands of illegal immigrants from Central and South America.

The Fort Sill Army post in Lawton, Okla., was ordered on Friday to take in 1,200 illegal aliens despite the objections of GOP Gov. Mary Fallin, who blasted the White House, saying, "The Obama administration continues to fail in its duty to protect our borders and continues to promote policies that encourage, rather than discourage, illegal immigration."

A makeshift detention center in Nogales, Ariz., is being used as

the central clearing station for the latest illegal alien surge. The deluge is a threat to national security, public safety and public health — not to mention a slap in the face to the law-abiding men and women in uniform on those bases and a kick in the teeth to law-abiding people around the world patiently waiting for approval of their visas.

Meanwhile, a law enforcement source in Texas tells me this week that countless illegal immigrants are being released into the general public despite testing positive for tuberculosis.

The latest "crisis" is a wholly manufactured byproduct of White House administrative amnesties, which are supported by a toxic alliance of ethnic-vote-seeking Democrats and cheap-labor-hungry Big Business Republicans.

We have a White House forcing military bases to provide benefits and services to illegal immigrants for political gain, while it evades responsibility for allowing military veterans to die waiting for the most basic of medical services.

And where's the GOP "leadership" in this country? Doing the bidding of the amnesty-loving U.S. Chamber of Commerce and demonizing Republican candidates at every level who are sick and tired of giving away the store and the country.

Michelle Malkin writes for Creators Syndicate.



Michelle Malkin



Cleaning House

Does a GOP leader's defeat spell mid-term trouble for Republicans?

The stunning primary defeat Tuesday of House Majority Leader Eric Cantor has left establishment Republicans scratching their heads and wondering what to do next.

Among House Republicans, Mr. Cantor was a prime mover on immigration reform, which Mr. Brat criticized as "amnesty." He was also viewed as a pro-business, generally conservative legislator — not necessarily a moderate or "Republican in Name Only."

Does a tea party victory bode well or ill for Republican prospects in November? Is Mr. Cantor's defeat significant beyond his own district? Could other Republican incumbents share Mr. Cantor's fate? Ben Boychuk and Joel Mathis, the RedBlueAmerica columnists, weigh in.

The second-ranking Republican in the House of Representatives is a bit like the well-travelled husband who took his wife for granted, then is stunned to arrive home one day to find that she's packed up and moved in with her boyfriend.

Mr. Cantor took his district for granted. He was, by all accounts, rarely if ever there. Virginia's legislature drew a safe Republican district for Mr. Cantor after the last census, which he carried in the last election by a more than two-to-one margin. But his constituents — the people who actually cast the ballots, as opposed to the lobbyists who wrote his campaign checks — say they neither knew him nor trusted him.

So if you remember the old saw that "all politics is local," then it's really no wonder why Mr. Cantor lost.

Now, does Mr. Cantor's primary defeat necessarily mean a tea party pick-up in November? David Brat, the surprise victor, is untested and (for the moment, anyway) underfunded. Political reporters are poring over Mr. Brat's writings, looking for evidence beyond his tea party sympathies that he is a lunatic, an extremist.

Also, it's worth noting that Virginia has an open primary, which allows for Democrats to vote for Republicans, and vice versa. No doubt David Brat benefited greatly from Democratic voter mischief. He won't be able to count on those votes in the general election.

The truth is, Mr. Cantor was a creature of Washington, at a time when voters are losing patience with Beltway shenanigans. Cantor's support for some kind of compromise on comprehensive immigration reform didn't help him, but it wasn't what did him in, either. It was the casual contempt for his constituents — the ones that really matter — that brought him to ruin.

See? Sometimes democracy really does work.

JOEL MATHIS: Three quick lessons to take away from Eric Cantor's defeat: • Our politics is screwed up. Maybe Eric Cantor deserved to be defeated — I'm a liberal, remember, so he was never my favorite member of Congress — but turnout for the primary election in Virginia last week was something like 12 percent of the electorate. Which means Cantor was turned out of office by roughly 6 percent of the electorate. That's astonishing; more so when you realize Cantor might've

won re-election easily had he simply survived the primary.

Primaries attract the most committed partisans. The choices they make often look little like the choices we'd otherwise make for ourselves; but we're stuck with their choices. It's not healthy for our politics, our governance, or our collective bile levels. And it can hardly be described as "democracy at work."

There's some bit of disagreement whether immigration played a large role in Cantor's loss. But overall, enough people believe that Cantor's "softness" on the issue proved his undoing. That will terrify other Republicans. Which means immigration reform will never come through legislative means, even though polls show that most Americans want that reform.

Again, 6 percent of a Virginia district's electorate has made this decision for the rest of us.

That said: No tears are shed here for Cantor, who at the end of the day became a victim of the no-compromise, no-surrender attitude in Washington that he did so much to foster.

Time and again in recent years, President Obama and Speaker John Boehner have come to agreements that would've pushed the nation in a rightward direction entitlement reform, anyone? only to be scuttled by Cantor and the tea party caucus as insufficiently conservative.

Those agreements never came to fruition. Republicans who wouldn't settle for half a loaf didn't end up with the whole thing. Nobody was happy with the budget deals that Obama and Congress did manage to put together. Mr. Cantor's gone? Good riddance. But good riddance to the process that swept him out.

Ben Boychuk is associate editor of the Manhattan Institute's City Journal. Joel Mathis is associate editor for Philadelphia Magazine.

RED-BLUE AMERICA Ben Boychuk Joel Mathis

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Shock defeat of GOP star muddles election prospects

The defeat Tuesday in a Virginia Republican congressional primary election of House Majority Leader Eric Cantor by a previously unknown tea party adherent, David Brat, is forcing a reshuffling of the deck on the 2014 midterm elections.

What Mr. Cantor's loss actually means will provoke extended discussion and perhaps some revision of election strategy all around.

First of all, Americans who favor Congress addressing the country's major issues in a timely, efficient fashion will not regret the departure of Mr. Cantor from the scene. He was consistently at the forefront of efforts to obstruct enterprises by President Barack Obama, the Democrats and even others in the Republican Party caucus in the House who would address issues in a spirit of reasonableness.

The issue that was most visible among those that brought Mr. Cantor down was Mr. Brat's criticism of him for seeking compromise on immigration reform.

ANOTHER VIEW Pittsburgh Post-Gazette

Mr. Cantor's defeat, in part on that issue, does not bode well for prospects for immigration change in general, in spite of the fact that important Republican business campaign financiers

desire it. The success at the polls of Mr. Brat, an economics professor at Randolph-Macon College who has stated what might be considered by some to be extreme right-wing views, may raise questions for Republicans in other races. On the one hand, it may signal greater life in the Tea Party movement than has been being attributed to it recently by analysts and, more important, by big conservative donors. On the other hand, in general, Republican Party managers, based on their experience in the 2012 elections, have not favored nominating as their party's candidates people who are so extreme and vocal in their views as to risk turning off even conservative center voters.

Finally, whatever one may think of Mr. Cantor, the idea that a seven-term incumbent, with an estimated \$8 million in campaign money at his disposal, could be defeated by a virtual unknown, with a reported war chest of only \$200,000, is encouraging in terms of what some voters think of cash-fat, longtime members of the country's elected leadership.

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