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The Villager



www.TheAustinVillager.com

A Community Service Weekly Since 1973
4132 E. 12th Street Austin, Texas 78721

TPA TEXAS PUBLISHERS ASSOCIATION



This paper can be recycled

Vol. 49 No. 6

Phone: 512-476-0082

Email: vil3202@aol.com

September 23, 2022



RAPPIN' Thomas Wyatt

FRIENDS

It's no wonder Donald Trump and Vladimir Putin are friends. They're both insanely delusional. The funny thing about Trump is his slowly declining stature in society. I still remember him boasting about shooting someone in a crowded street and not losing votes. I bet he can't claim *that* [bleep] anymore.

And how does a former president get his own kids indicted? Like my girl Regina King said in the movie 'The Harder They Fall', "Now that's some unscrupulous shit!"

That family was getting mammoth loans by overstating values on government documents. FOR 10 YEARS! Trump even had the audacity to overclaim the square footage of one of his properties by more than three times it's actual size. Don't laugh. That lie allowed him to value his apartment's net worth in New York at a staggering \$327 million. And that's just ONE of his over 200 lies on official financial records.

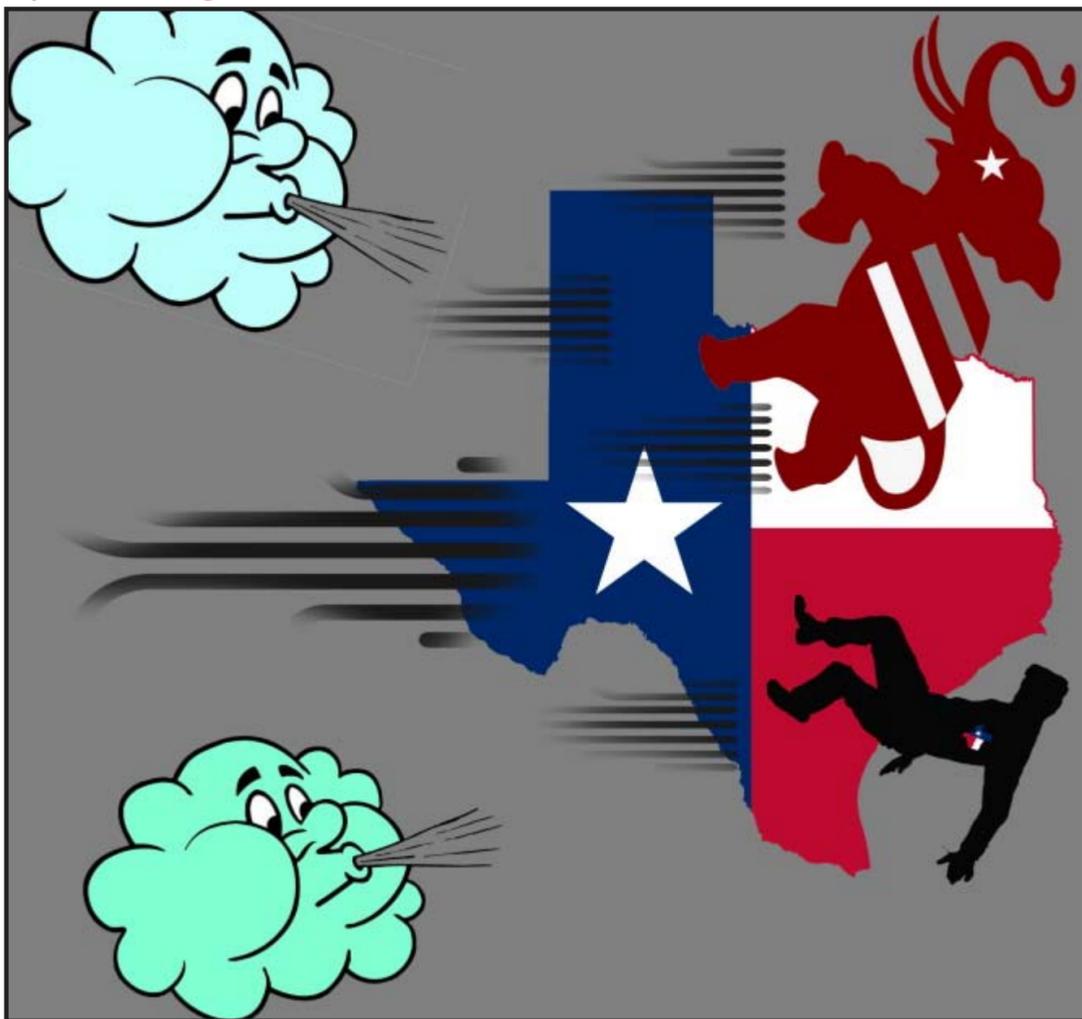
But let's get off Trump for a second and talk about his friend Putin. 'Ole Putin has been waging a war against Ukraine for months. Right when he thought he had the upper hand, the Ukrainians tore him a new one; *with our weapons, I might add*. However, the real story is how his troops just bailed. They didn't even put up a fight. Furthermore, those Russian troops forfeited hundreds of military equipment, including armored tanks, guns, and heavy munitions.

So, what does Putin do? He announces a 'partial mobilization' across his country. And how did *that* work out? He's got protest up to his short behind. He won't get the 300,000 re-recruits he's asking for. Not to mention, he has no military equipment to give them if he did. Even by invoking this strategy and trying to get his populace to build more weapons quickly, there's no chance in hell he will be able to hold off Ukraine from re-taking all their territory.

So, what's his new strategy after realizing this? **Annexation!** You heard me right. Friends! How many of us have them?

Latest statewide poll shows majority of Texans think state is headed in the wrong direction

By Julian Aguilar | The Texas Newsroom



(TEXAS NEWSROOM) - A majority of Texans think the state is headed in the wrong direction and an even larger number believe elected officials are not doing enough to prevent mass shootings, according to the results of a statewide poll released Monday.

The findings also showed that Texans are mixed when asked about the overall job Texas' top Republicans are doing running the state

The poll, conducted by the Dallas Morning News and the University of Texas at Tyler, surveyed about 1,270 registered voters across Texas from Sept. 6 through 13 and has a margin of error of plus or minus 2.8 percentage points, the Dallas Morning News reported.

When asked if things in Texas are headed in the right direction or the wrong track, 54% of respondents said the wrong track compared to 44% that said the opposite. The remaining 2% chose "neither."

The partisan breakdown showed nearly two-thirds of Democrats, or 62%, think the state is headed in the wrong direction, while 37% said the right direction. Republicans were more optimistic, with 57% saying things in Texas are headed in the right direction compared to 42% who said the opposite. Thirty three percent of voters who identified as independent said the state is headed in the right direction while 64% thought it was on the wrong track.

On gun safety, nearly two-thirds of the respondents, or 63%, said they are concerned about gun violence. Some 32% said they were very concerned, and 31% responded that they were somewhat concerned. That's compared to 21% who said they were not very concerned and 13% who said they were not concerned at all. On that issue, 82% of Democrats said they were concerned, compared to 51% and 58% of Republicans and independent voters, respectively.

Gun safety has been a hot-button issue for several years following several mass shootings that have taken place in Texas, including the most recent killings of 19 schoolchildren and two teachers in Uvalde in May. That followed the 2017 shootings at a church in Sutherland Springs that claimed the

lives of 26 people; the shooting at Santa Fe High School that killed 10; the 2019 El Paso Walmart shooting where 23 lives were lost and the Midland-Odessa shooting just weeks later where seven people were killed.

Most respondents gave Texas lawmakers low marks when asked if elected officials were doing enough to prevent more mass shootings with only 29% agreeing and 60% disagreeing. The partisan breakdown showed nearly 75% of Democrats and 46% of Republicans disagreeing, while 4% and 12%, respectively, chose "neither."



Abbott



O'Rourke

The poll also showed that 50% of those surveyed approve of the job Gov. Greg Abbott is doing in office. Abbott, a former Texas attorney general, is seeking his third term against Democrat Beto O'Rourke, a former El Paso congressman and city council member. Abbott's approval is compared with 47% who said they did not approve of his performance, while 3% neither approved nor disapproved.

Lt. Gov. Dan Patrick's approval among the respondents was evenly split with 40% approving and 40% disapproving, according to the survey. About 19% of the voters chose "neither" when asked if they approved or disapproved of Patrick's performance.

Abbott's approval rating hasn't translated into a closer contest for O'Rourke, however. According to the poll, Abbott's lead has increased to 9 percentage points, a 2-point improvement since last month, the Dallas Morning News reported. Abbott leads O'Rourke 47% to 38% with 12% of respondents opting for another candidate and 2% who said they didn't know.

INSIDE



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