

2020 – Eerie/Weird and Different Times

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BOB TURNER RURAL ISSUES CONSULTING

Voss, Texas

cell text 325 669 1717

Austin, Texas

The Coronavirus and the Pandemic impact that it has brought on – are a first-time occurrence of this nature for all of us. Of course – health and life are the number one issues. However – keeping the national - state and local economy afloat is also a major concern. Surviving this virus is one thing – yet – surviving it with our business and job still intact is also very important. I note that the Texas State Comptroller – Glenn Hegar – has discussed the delicate nature of the state budget and economical condition with members of the legislature. Needless to say – there are tons of “WHAT - IFS” being discussed – both publicly and privately.

As I write this report – the Dow at mid-day reporting has gone up over \$1,700.00. I would suppose that the congressional possibility / probability of federal “economic relief” – currently being fought over in congress – is the major driver of this dramatic upturn.

There is now talk at the state capitol of the probable need of a special legislative session – to re-evaluate the state budget and the sudden drop in tax revenue. Some state projects – such as implementation of The Department of Transportation’s master plan has been put on temporary hold – pending outcome and grandeur of the impact of the Coronavirus on industry and commerce.

There is another giant issue that is presenting a challenge for candidates for elective offices. There are several candidates who will be

facing a runoff election. The May 27th date for runoff has now been moved to July 14th. This now means an additional month and a half of costly campaigning. Due to the rules imposed by government at all levels – public meetings are out – and can no longer be conducted. This includes such gatherings as fund raisers and receptions for not only those candidates involved in a runoff – but also of those who have no further opposition in either the runoffs – or the November general election. We all know how much money will be involved in those runoffs – often mounting into the hundreds of thousands of dollars. Most of us are interested in who is elected to represent us at all levels – from county commissioners- to state and federal offices. Each of us should become actively involved in helping our chosen candidate – whomever they may be – secure necessary funds to make this possible. If you are truly interested and concerned- make a phone call - get the campaign mailing address – and make your campaign contribution. Do this just like you would have done if your candidate were able to conduct a public fund raiser.

Those candidates are painted into a position where they are justifiably reluctant to ask the citizens for financial assistance at this time. I think we can all appreciate the delicate position these candidates are placed in.

Political races are not all that need continuing financial assistance. Let me add that your Church – club – or organization has a continuing need too – even though you are probably not conducting public meetings. The pastor's salary goes on – the light bill still comes monthly -not to mention insurance and a “jillion” other recurring expenses that never cease. By the way – you might want to consider mailing your tithe or contributions in.

