

The Delray Democrat

An Extraordinary President, an Extraordinary Man¹

Michael K. Cantwell

Joe Biden has been the most effective president of my lifetime. In three-and-a-half years, he created nearly 16 million jobs, more than any president in history other than Bill Clinton and Ronald Reagan, both of whom served two full terms.

His monthly average of nearly 400,000 is more than double Donald Trump's pre-pandemic monthly average, a time Trump was shilling that his was the greatest economy in history.

And that wasn't even Trump's economy; it was Obama's — on virtually every measure, the economy during Trump's first three years [was far weaker](#) than during Obama's last three. Trump is incapable of creating anything of value; his only talent is destroying things of value, like truth, and like our democracy.

President Biden made good on his promise to vaccinate 200,000 Americans in his first 100 days, presided over the lowest unemployment in a half-century and the lowest Black unemployment rate ever.

He signed bipartisan bills on gun safety, veterans' benefits and infrastructure, critical issues that had languished for decades under predecessors from both parties. His Inflation Reduction Act provides the greatest investment in green energy in history.

It also provides additional funding for the IRS to pursue wealthy tax cheats, an [effort](#) that has yielded \$1 billion in back taxes due. If funding is continued, an estimated \$851 billion will be recovered by 2034.

The IRA also removes the Bush-era prohibition on Medicare negotiating drug prices with Big Pharma. As a result, the monthly cost for insulin is now capped at \$35.

Incredibly, Biden accomplished all that with a split Senate and a 5-vote majority in the House. And even after Democrats lost the House, he outplayed Republican speakers, something neither Bill Clinton nor Barack Obama managed when in office. During budget impasses, Newt Gingrich shut down the government twice and John Boehner's inability to control the Tea Party led to a downgrade in the government's credit rating in 2011 and a government shutdown in 2013. Moreover, Biden even outplayed Mitch McConnell, securing passage of a modified Green New Deal when everyone thought it was dead.

Biden's age and experience made that possible even as it forced him from the race. I have no doubt of Kamala's ability to finish the job of rolling back Reagan's Raw Deal just as Reagan eviscerated

¹[The Delray Democrat](#), July 2024, page 1.

FDR's New Deal. *Let's call it the Real Deal, because that is what Joe Biden is.*