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Palm Beach County jobless rate still high, who's to blame?

March 26, 9:00 PM West Palm Beach Libertarian Examiner Karl Dickey



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The latest figures for Palm Beach County came out today and it wasn't pleasant. According to the Florida Agency for Workforce Innovation, 12.5% of eligible residents were unemployed. This is above record-breaking 12.2% (1.26 million residents) for the entire state.

According to the Unemployment Insurance Tracker website Florida is down to its last \$138 million and is currently borrowing nearly \$1.5B to make good on its promises to pay the unemployed until they find work.

Palm Beach County, as well as other parts of the state, has seen a rise in people starting their own businesses as more residents are unable to find employment.

The Florida legislature has focused on ideas that are ineffective and many legislators have stated it is their duty find jobs for the unemployed. A libertarian perspective may be to have the legislators get out of the way of their constituents so they are able to become employed or start their own businesses without the 'red tape' and delay often caused by government bureaucracy.

On the national level, the Obama administration continues forward with its Big Government ideology to "help" the economy recover from the recession. Technically we are no longer in a recession which started (technically) in December, 2007. At first blush, it would appear things have reached a turning point. After all, throw trillions into the economy and something gotta' happen. In 2009 we saw the Dow and the S&P return 11% & 20% respectively. But a viewing of this video of Dan Mitchell from the CATO Institute will show a more realistic scenario of what is happening with the numbers behind the scenes.

The results of the various bailouts and stimulus projects by our Federal government can be misleading. For instance, the data shows the only way Americans will buy a car these days is if the government gives them a huge subsidy. The same for housing with the \$8,000 "first time" home buyer credit being sent out the "new" home buyers. "New" is in quotes as to qualify as a new home buyer, one only needs to not have owned a house for three years. So these handouts or bailouts to Americans to purchase tangible property has its costs as the U.S. Government doesn't have a dime to its name and this fact is beginning to rear its ugly head as the government explores the globe seeking someone to lend it money.

The Reason Foundation did an interesting article this month called "The Myth of the Recovery" where it goes into depth about the Recovery Act and the amount jobs actually created. Similar to an article I wrote on March 22, 2010, we see no true recovery with respect to jobs and no real financial recovery for the State of Florida, or Palm Beach County.

But yet, Palm Beach County Commissioners seemed to find another \$800,000 to dole out even though county commissioners are suppose to be finding ways to stop spending county dollars. Our county commissioners thought it would be great to give \$800,000 to billionaire John Kluae for his pet

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project the [John and Tussi Kluge Center for Creative Education](#). Kluge is worth \$6B and county taxpayers are helping to foot the bill for his education center?

So, for those wondering why the jobless rate is so high, look no further than the politicians you have elected to represent you. They get in the way of your ability to find work and gift billionaires taxpayer money like it is water.

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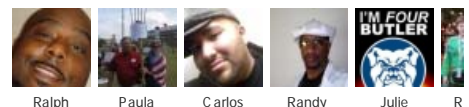
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