

## America

## Ohio special election

## Trump kingmaker 'status' faces test

GROVE CITY, Ohio, Aug 2, (AP): As soon as it became clear last week that a Texas congressional candidate backed by Donald Trump would be defeated in a special election, the former president's allies quickly shifted their attention to Ohio to ward off another embarrassing loss.

Make America Great Again, a super PAC chaired by Trump's former campaign manager, quietly purchased \$300,000 in Ohio television advertising. The buy was intended to provide a late-stage boost to another Trump-backed candidate facing a crowded field of Republicans in a special election on Tuesday.

The midsummer race for Ohio's traditionally Republican 15th Congressional District wouldn't typically get much national attention. But it's suddenly becoming a high-stakes test of Trump's endorsement power, which he has wielded as a cudgel to silence opposition in the GOP.

Low-turnout special elections aren't perfect measures of Trump's strength and he remains a powerhouse in GOP politics, revealing over the weekend that his political action committees are sitting on a massive \$100 million pile of cash. But a second loss in two weeks could chip away at Trump's self-proclaimed kingmaker status heading into next year's midterm elections.

"If it happens a couple times, candidates and political professionals - they're not stupid - they're going to say you can win this race even if you're not endorsed by Trump," said Ohio Republican consultant Ryan Stubenrauch.

In other cases, Trump's decision to throw his weight behind candidates with baggage, including several running against GOP incumbents who crossed him by voting in favor of his second impeachment, has put him at odds with other party leaders. Some Republicans fear his moves could complicate efforts to win back majorities in the House and Senate next year.

In Ohio, Trump has endorsed Mike Carey, a coal lobbyist who is among 10 Republicans jockeying to replace former GOP Rep. Steve Stivers, who retired from Congress earlier this year. He faces a formidable lineup, including three current state lawmakers: state Sens. Bob Peterson and Stephanie Kunze and state Rep. Jeff LaRe. Former state Rep. Ron Hood is also a contender.

LaRe is backed by Stivers, who held the seat for a decade. Hood, meanwhile, has generous support from U.S. Sen. Rand Paul's political action committee. Candidate Ruth Edmonds, a Black minister and former Columbus NAACP president is endorsed by religious conservative James Dobson and Ken Blackwell, a former Ohio elections chief who served on Trump's transition team.

In an interview, Carey described the pitch he made to Trump when the two met for what he thought would be a photo-op earlier this year.

"I said, 'Listen, Mr. President, you've been somebody that supported a lot of political candidates over the course of your lifetime, and many of them let you down.' I said, 'I'm kind of in the same boat - I mean, on a much smaller scale,'" Carey recalled. "After about an hour and 20 minutes, he said, 'I'm all in. I'm going to endorse you and do whatever it takes to get you over the finish line.'"

Trump, who headlined a rally with Carey in June, repped his endorsement last week, decrying candidates who have used his likeness or cited him in ads to try to woo voters. "I don't know them, and don't even know who they are. But I do know who Mike Carey is - I know a lot about him, and it is all good," Trump said in a statement.

"Let there be no further doubt who I have endorsed!"



Trump

## UK eases travel restrictions, Industry lobbies for more

LONDON, Aug 2, (AP): Britain opened its borders to fully vaccinated travelers from the U.S. and the European Union on Monday as travel industry leaders urged the government to further ease restrictions and allow people to enjoy the benefits of a successful COVID-19 inoculation program. The new rules came into effect amid reports that Prime Minister Boris Johnson's government may add a new category to Britain's traffic light system of travel restrictions, a move industry officials say would make many people decide to stay home.

As of Monday, fully vaccinated travelers from destinations on Britain's "amber list" are allowed to enter the country without self-isolating for up to 10 days. The government is considering creating an amber watchlist to warn people about destinations that may be downgraded because of rising infection rates or the emergence of new variants. "An amber watchlist will be viewed as a massive red flag, which is likely to cause bookings to those countries on that watchlist to collapse," Huw Merriman, chairman of the

House of Commons' Transport Committee, told the BBC. "In my view, we don't need any more uncertainty, complexity or anxiety for passengers or this beleaguered sector. It just needs clarity."

British airlines and holiday companies are hoping for a late summer travel boom after the pandemic halted most international travel, slashing profits and threatening thousands of jobs. The number of passengers traveling through London's Heathrow Airport, the U.K.'s busiest airport, fell 75% in

the first half of this year.

David and Susan Handfield were among the first beneficiaries of the new travel rules Monday, seeing their granddaughter Charlotta for the first time after she and her parents stepped off a flight from Berlin.

Charlotta was born in February but virus concerns and travel restrictions prevented her parents from bringing her to London until now. Her grandmother greeted her with a delicate kiss to the forehead at Heathrow Airport.

## High Line Division &amp; Power Grid Company won a contract by the Ministry of Electricity and Water of the State of Kuwait

Visit of the Spanish Ambassador in the State of Kuwait to High Line Division S.L. Spanish Engineering Company and Power Grid General Trading & Contracting Company facilities in the industrial area of Shuaiba.

The alliance between the national Kuwaiti Company «Power Grid Co.» and the Spanish «High Line Division» was awarded by the Ministry of Electricity and Water of the State of Kuwait with a Contract for the "Replacement of 400, 300 & 132 KV Overhead Line Insulators in different areas in the State of Kuwait"

The value of the contract is 18 million dinars, and the contract scope includes the live line insulator strings replacing by previously vulcanized insulators, transmission lines inspection services and the construction of a dedicated control room for "real time monitoring" of transmission lines conditions. One of the innovative areas of this project is the implementation of Unmanned Aerial Systems «drones» to perform aerial inspection and faults early detection to improve network performance and reliability.

On this occasion, the Spanish Ambassador to Kuwait, Miguel Moro Aguilar, accompanied by the Commercial Attaché of the embassy, Mr. Francisco Javier Medina Gonzalo and the Market Analyst, Mr. Pedro Navarro paid an official visit to the headquarters of Power Grid Company & High Line Division in the Shuaiba Industrial Area. The diplomatic team was received by the Chairman of the Board of Directors of Power Grid, Dr. Adel Issa Al-Yousifi, Board Member Abdulaziz Adel Al-Yousifi, a member of the Board of Directors, Engineer Muhammad Abdul Salam Shuaib, company's general manager, Ali Jamal Al Bloushi, representing High Line Division, company's CEO, Mr. Daniel Granja Pardiñas, Mr. Samir Ahmed Mayas, member of HLD Boards of Directors and the staff of the company who show the installation and explain the processes taking place.

On this occasion, he expressed his



happiness that High Line Division & Power Grid Company won this contract, stressing at the same time that such contracts will save the state millions of dinars, in addition to the new experiences and technologies that were imported from abroad to strengthen and develop overhead line networks, especially and it aims to early diagnose the problems that the electrical line network may be exposed to before they occur and develop the necessary solutions to ensure that the power outages do not affect the Kuwaiti power network.

He pointed out that «HLD & Power Grid» will rely, in implementing this contract, on the latest technology and international techniques used in this field, noting that for the first time in the history of Kuwait, advanced «drones» will be used to inspect the network in vast areas of the State of Kuwait, and determine the work steps in an appropriate and accurate manner, which will ensure better performance and longer network life.

After a lengthy tour by the Spanish ambassador team to the company's headquarters located in the industrial area of Shuaiba, during which he was briefed on the activities that the Spanish company and its Kuwaiti partner will provide to overhead electric lines in various regions of Kuwait, Ambassador Aguilar praised the great and advanced capabilities that High Line Division possesses, and its association with Power Grid, which qualified this association to win this important contract.

He said that the alliance between Power Grid and High Line Division would ensure the successful implementation of the contract requirements in the best way, especially since the Spanish company possesses the experience and advanced technology that enables it to implement the project as required, and to meet the requirements of the Ministry of Electricity and Water in this contract.

He added that the Spanish company has sufficient experience in this field, especially as it has implemented similar projects in Spain and a number of countries in the Middle East and Arab region, reaching Saudi Arabia, Egypt, Yemen and Libya, in addition to its entry into other European and South America countries.

High Line Division holds portfolio of successfully completed projects for relevant companies such as Siemens in Egypt, Rabigh Refining Co. (subsidiary of Aramco) in the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia, Masila Petroleum Co. in Yemen, National Transmission and Distribution Company (NTDC) from Pakistan and in Spain with customers such as British Petroleum, Red Eléctrica de España and Iberdrola.

For his part, the General Manager of Power Grid, Ali Jamal Al Bloushi, confirmed that the contract signed with the Ministry of Electricity and Water extends for three years and has a total value of 18 million dinars, and consists of 3 phases, the first relates to inspect all overhead electric lines, the second related to coating insulators, and the third is the replacement of existing

insulators with new insulators that have been previously coated.

Mentioning that the main objective of the project is the implementation of RTV coated insulators and replacing existing insulators by the coated ones, is to eliminate the need of regular insulator maintenance schedules and increase the life span of the electrical network in Kuwait and improve the reliability and performance of electricity transmission across the grid lines, in addition to the inspection of the electrical network lines with "drones" with the aim of early detection of electrical problems before they occur and developing the necessary solutions to avoid outages and failures, ensuring that there is no power interruption.

Al-Bloushi pointed out that the boundaries of the contract include the southern region of the country, which extends from the main control point in the Jabriya region to Al-Zour South Station, where all electrical insulators will be replaced along the length of this line, in addition to prior inspection of all electrical grid lines in Kuwait through aircraft Drone specialist.

Al Bloushi thanked the Ministry of Electricity and Water for its cooperation with the company in overcoming all obstacles encountered in the implementation of the contract. We also thank the Ministry of Interior, the Ministry of Defense and the General Administration of Civil Aviation, which helped us obtain approvals to operate the drones necessary to implement the contract.

As part of Gulf Bank's corporate social responsibility commitment to supporting and empowering Kuwaiti youth

## Gulf Bank Sponsors National Union of Kuwaiti Students (NUKS) Orientation for New Students Studying in the US



Gulf Bank sponsored the National Union of Kuwaiti Students (NUKS) new student orientation for high school graduates who are planning to study in the United States. This year, Gulf Bank partnered with NUKS as part of its ongoing corporate social responsibility commitment to supporting and empowering Kuwaiti youth.

In addition to sponsoring the event, Gulf Bank's Training & Development department offered all student attendees the opportunity to receive a paid internship opportunity in the fields of data science and cyber security. This year's NUKS orientation event was held on

Sunday at The Arena in 360 Mall.

Regarding this year's sponsorship of the NUKS orientation event, Gulf Bank's General Manager of Human Resources, Ms. Salma Al-Hajjaj, said: "Now more than ever, the job market is in need of a skilled workforce that is capable of taking on global challenges; that is why Gulf Bank is keen to create a human workforce that is capable of adding value not only to our work, but to the banking sector as a whole. For this reason, and in support of the national higher education strategy of focusing on majors like cybersecurity and data science, Gulf Bank was keen to offer all student attendees (including those who are majoring in data science and cyber security) a paid internship opportunity that combines practical and theoretical training and offers students hands-on training before college. This

is because we believe that sustainability at the human resources level also means supporting and empowering our youth to develop their skills — in fact, this is one of Gulf Bank's most vital pillars. We would like to wish all our students every bit of success in their upcoming university studies, and we look forward to receiving them as colleagues at Gulf Bank after graduation."

The General Manager of Consumer Banking at Gulf Bank, Mohammed Al-Qattan, also added: "At Gulf Bank, we are proud to prioritize the local youth segment because they make up such an incredibly significant and distinguished category of our clients. We are constantly working to understand their requirements, and exceed their expectations at every turn. We recently launched the 'red' account specifically for the youth



Salma Al-Hajjaj

segment, completely revamped with a new look and updated features, the result of our collaboration with a group of local youth who helped to lay down

the foundations for the revamped card. We are excited to sponsor this incredible orientation presented by the National Union of Kuwaiti Students in the United States for students who are planning to study abroad. We are very proud of everything they have achieved at the high school level, and are confident in their ability to excel at the university level."

Multiple exciting events took place at Gulf Bank's booth at the NUKS orientation, including a competition that the Bank held on social media for student attendees. This year, attendees had the chance to win cash prizes worth up to KD 1,000 from Gulf Bank.

For more information on Gulf Bank's various initiatives and activities, customers can visit one of Gulf Bank's branches or log on to Gulf Bank's Online Banking services.