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United States Government & Politics

Weekly Current Events: Posted: 4.25.22

[Shafer, “Kevin McCarthy will live to lie again,” *Politico*, 4.22.22.](https://www.politico.com/news/magazine/2022/04/22/kevin-mccarthy-gop-lie-trump-again-00027260)

1. Who is Kevin McCarthy, and what is the story here?
2. What did McCarthy uniquely say on the audio?
3. Why did reporters release the audio?
4. How would you define McCarthy’s relationship with Trump?
5. Did McCarthy ever hold Trump accountable for the Jan. 6 insurrection?
6. Has McCarthy changed positions on this? Why?
7. What governmental position does McCarthy have his eyes on?

[Patterson and Warner, “Johnny Depp ‘Has an Uphill Battle . . .,” *People*, 4.21.22.](https://people.com/movies/johnny-depp-has-an-uphill-battle-proving-amber-heard-was-defamatory-in-legal-case-expert/)

1. What is the trial involving Johnny Depp and his ex-wife Amber Heard all about?
2. Who’s the plaintiff, who is the defendant?
3. What does the legal expert mean, “the truth is an absolute defense” in a defamation case?
4. What else is unique in winning a defamation suit?
5. What’s the burden of proof for Depp to win?

[Trump, Jr., “. . . Make J.D. Vance your Next Senator,” *Cincinnati Enquirer*, 4.22.22.](https://www.cincinnati.com/story/opinion/2022/04/22/trump-jr-make-ohio-great-again-make-vance-your-next-senator/7394395001/)

1. Who wrote this Op-Ed and why did he write it?
2. Who has the author endorsed, and for what position?
3. What qualities does the author point to in J.D. Vance?
4. What issues does Don Jr. include to distinguish the America First Agenda?
5. Do you think Trump’s endorsement is going to help or hurt Vance? Why?