

Michigan State Letter
February 2024
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Subject: In the MAGA Age, We Need Arthur Vandenburg, Michigan's Greatest Flipper

Hello, Union Volunteers,

As we contemplate the spectacle of MAGA's non-stop war on democracy, it's worth remembering Michigan Senator Arthur Vandenburg, a great Republican, patriot, isolationist, and flipper. In the thirties he embraced America First, vehemently opposed involvement in Europe's war, and just weeks before Pearl Harbor voted against the Lend Lease Act that helped Britain survive.

But December 7, 1941, was Vandenburg's conversion day. Between Pearl Harbor and his death in 1951 he was transformed from ardent isolationist into dedicated internationalist, exhibiting what one historian called a "monument to bipartisanship." He supported the Truman Doctrine, the Marshall Plan, NATO, and the UN, coining the now-ignored council, "Politics ends at the water's edge."

I wish today's elected officials showed that kind of agility and ability to adapt. Some do, but sadly Donald Trump has led the MAGA team into a fact-resistant, angry, whining and dangerous mob. To "save" the United States they would destroy the very institutions that have made us great, to burn the village in order to save it, as one Lieutenant famously said in Vietnam.

The [Union](#) was formed to support our democracy. At the [Action Center](#) we help concerned citizens find local, statewide, and national volunteer opportunities to register and turn out voters and save us from this cruel, lawless ex-President and his wayward followers, also known as our neighbors.

One upcoming opportunity is:

[Insert event here]

A big thank you for your continued efforts and commitment. Please feel free to correspond with your thoughts and comments.

Regards,

[Michigan Lead]
Michigan Team Lead
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