Twitter Thread by @SaysDana ■



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■This is a story about a supermarket chain.
- One of the largest employers in the U.S. (~193,000 employees)
- ~$38 B in revenue
- 1200+ locations in 7 states
- Employee owned with majority shares still owned by the Jenkins family members
It's called PUBLIX
THREAD
1/

I deleted an earlier tweet because I started to quickly. Forgive me for jumping the gun.
It was about a story that came out today in the WSJ about a big Trump Donor helping fund the #EllipseRally in D.C.
Great reporting by @rebeccaballhaus @shalini @AlexandraBerzon
2/

https://t.co/ru13PVfTzp
Here's that story
3/

The donor who gave the money to help fund the #EllipseRally in DC that led to domestic terrorists storming the capital was Julie Ansley Jenkins Fancelli.
Julie gave $300,000 to help fund that rally.
But this THREAD is also about PUBLIX.
4/

Julie is the daughter of George Jenkins, the original founder of PUBLIX. It began as one store in 1930 and grew to what it is today, despite the Great Depression and World Wars.
But that's another story.
5/

In 1972, Julie, as a student from the University of Florida, went to Florence Italy. There she met future husband, Mauro Adolfo Dino Fancelli. Dad was still the Chairman of PUBLIX and interestingly, Mauro Fancelli ran a similar business

(wholesale) in Florence.

■

6/

Mauro Fancelli Weds Julie Ansley Jenkins

Special to The New York Times

LAKELAND, Fla., Dec. 30— Miss Julie Ansley Jenkins, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. George Washington Jenkins, was married here this evening in the First United Methodist Church to Mauro Adolfo Dino Fancelli, son of Mrs. Faliero Fancelli of Florence, Italy, and the Late Mr. Fancelli. The Rev. David Horton performed the ceremony.

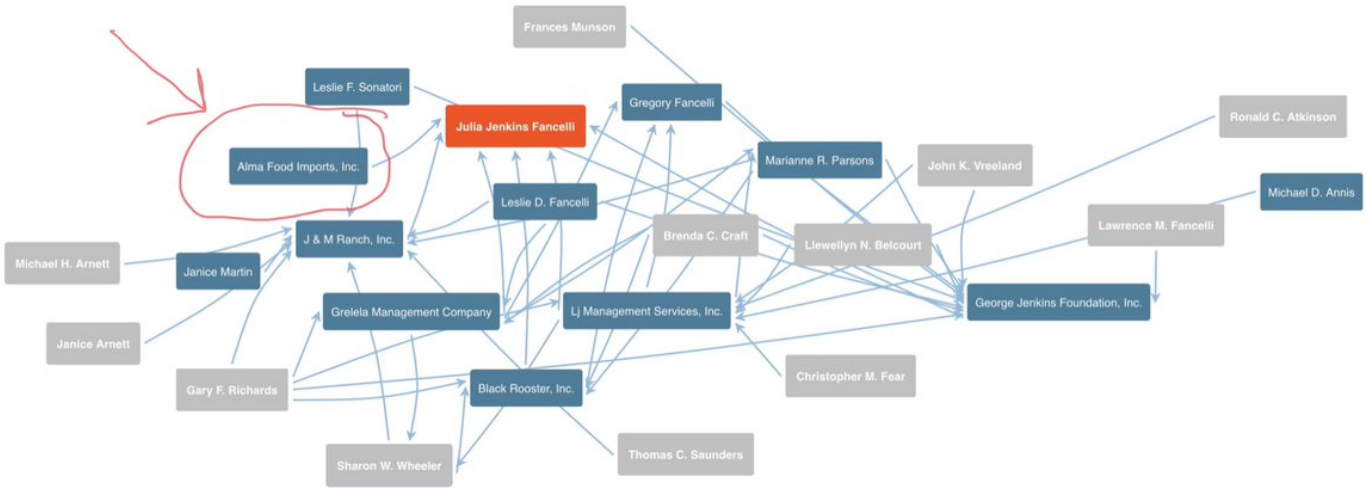
The bride is a graduate of Mount Vernon Seminary in Washington and the University of Florida. Her father is chairman of Publix Super Markets, Inc., here. Mr. Fancelli heads his family's fruit and vegetable wholesale business in Florence, where the couple will live.

The couple split their time between Italy and Florida and created many businesses. One of them was Alma Food Imports, Inc.

Again, it's pretty interesting to ME that she found a kindred spirit who is also in the same industry as her dad

(Cough)

7/



Julie and children/family helped grow the family business. Carol Jenkins Barnett left the business recently due to an Alzheimer's diagnosis. She and another family member, Howard, are considered the wealthiest in FL and in a Billionaires category.

8/

Jenkins Barnett ranked 1,234 on the list and Jenkins barely made the cut at 1,940.

Publix is the country's largest employee-owned company and has more than 200,000 employees at 1,144 stores.



There is little that you can find about Julie herself. She and her husband, outside of FL, seem to keep a low profile.
The entire Jenkins family is about conservative values. Giving back and supporting Republicans.
As the story tells us
9/

Carol Barnett gave $110,000 to Perdue and the PAC that helped run $50Million in advertising for Loeffler as well.
She supported an effort, giving $800K to a conservative group fighting making marijuana from becoming legal.
PUBLIX pharmacy is huge
10/

According to **FEC filings**, on Oct. 16 Jenkins made a $10,000 donation to Sen. David Perdue's PAC, Perdue Victory Inc. Then, on Nov. 17, Jenkins dumped another $100,000 into the Senate Georgia Battleground Fund, which benefits both Perdue and Republican Sen. Kelly Loeffler and has so far spent over $50 million in advertising for the Georgia GOP's voter turnout operation.

This isn't the first time Carol Barnett Jenkins has thrown an insane amount of money into a political fight. In 2016, she also **donated $800,000** to a conservative-led campaign fighting to keep medical marijuana illegal in Florida.

Pumping money into politics is not unusual for the George Jenkins family tree. **According to the *Miami New Times***, multiple Publix offspring maxed out federal donations to Trump's 2020 campaign, including the founder's other daughter, Julia Jenkins Fancelli, and his grandchildren Gregory Fancelli and Leslie Fancelli Sonatori.

As a company, Publix has a long history of donating to conservative politicians. In 2018, Publix donated an unprecedented **$670,000** to self-described "proud NRA sellout" Adam Putnam's campaign for Florida governor.

There's also the Lakeland-based grocer's very on-brand history of **fighting minimum wage increases**, **suing cities that try to ban single-use plastic**, and refusing to cover "pre-exposure prophylaxis"(or PrEP) drugs that prevent HIV-negative people from contracting the virus **simply because they didn't want to**.

And Julie, seems to have had a great business importing products from her husbands business in Italy to PUBLIX. Getting caught by the SEC after several decades, finally gave Julie the opportunity to step away from the company in 2018. 11/

A Publix spokesperson this morning said the Fancelli family is not directly involved in day-to-day Publix operations. But that was not always the case: For decades, Publix Super Markets routinely purchased food from Alma Food Imports Inc., which Julia Jenkins Fancelli appears to have owned for decades. In 1996, the South Florida *Sun Sentinel* noted Publix was forced to disclose to the government that it was funneling a lot of money to companies owned by or connected with Jenkins family members – including, at the time, $1.7 million to Alma Foods.

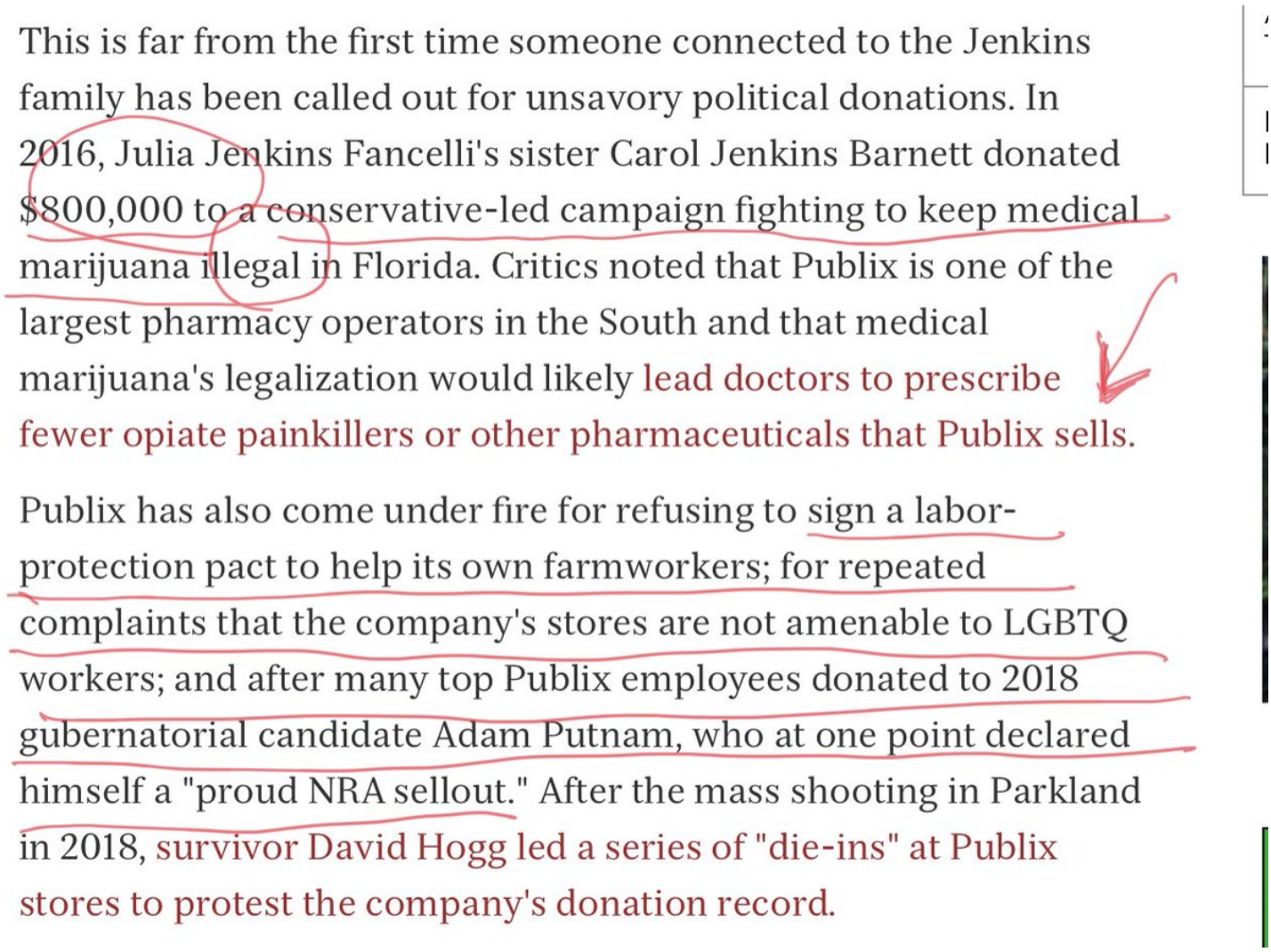
Fast-forward about two decades, and the company was still purchasing from Alma. Securities and Exchange Commission (SEC) filings from 2017 and 2018 show Publix was still buying products from Alma until Fancelli exited the company in August of that year.

"From January through April 2017, the Company purchased approximately $245,000 of food products from Alma Food Imports, Inc., a company owned by Julia Jenkins Fancelli," a 2018 SEC proxy statement reads. "Subsequent to April 2017, Julia Jenkins Fancelli has no ownership of Alma Food Imports, Inc. The Corporate Governance Committee determined that the terms of the foregoing transactions are not less favorable than terms that could have been obtained from unaffiliated third parties."

The image of this company has been created very carefully. I'm sure people like working there. But..
- PUBLIX doesn't support a raise in the minimum wage
- They don't seem to have a good tract record with LGBTQ community

12/

- Donations to far right conservatives (not a crime)
- Fighting legal marijuana (they have a large opiate business)
- Refusing to sign labor-protections for farm workers
- Top employees donated to a NRA gun advocate Adam Putnam
- Parkland students staged die-ins at PUBLIX



This is far from the first time someone connected to the Jenkins family has been called out for unsavory political donations. In 2016, Julia Jenkins Fancelli's sister Carol Jenkins Barnett donated $800,000 to a conservative-led campaign fighting to keep medical marijuana illegal in Florida. Critics noted that Publix is one of the largest pharmacy operators in the South and that medical marijuana's legalization would likely lead doctors to prescribe fewer opiate painkillers or other pharmaceuticals that Publix sells.

Publix has also come under fire for refusing to sign a labor-protection pact to help its own farmworkers; for repeated complaints that the company's stores are not amenable to LGBTQ workers; and after many top Publix employees donated to 2018 gubernatorial candidate Adam Putnam, who at one point declared himself a "proud NRA sellout." After the mass shooting in Parkland in 2018, survivor David Hogg led a series of "die-ins" at Publix stores to protest the company's donation record.

- Don’t support providing HIV drugs to needed patients.

Julie can provide monies to who she chooses, however, maybe it’s time to give PUBLIX and all their businesses another deeper look.

My guess? No one will do it.
Support PUBLIX? Might be your only store to go to
14/

But if we looked hard enough in the corners, I think we’d have a huge eye opener about who these folks really are.
END