

INTERVIEW

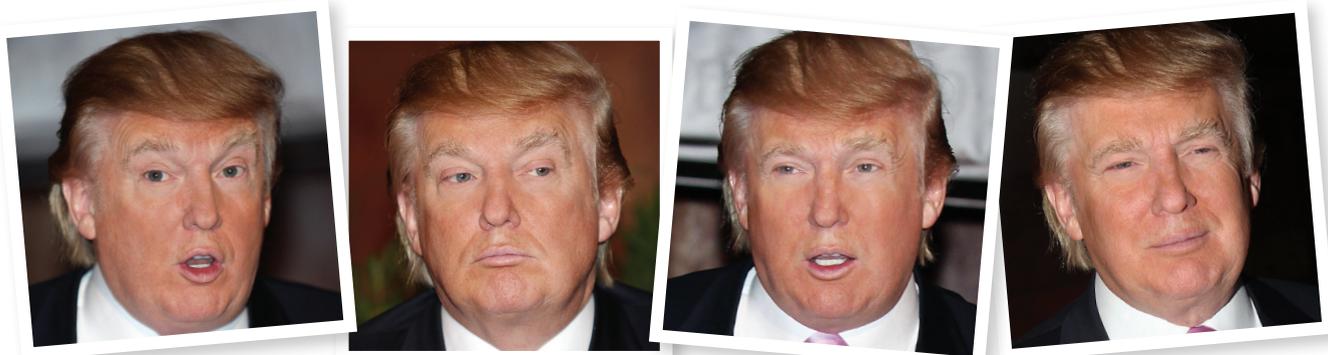
Trump Talks Business

The Donald opines on the economy, the president, and how to weather tough times.

THE DONALD: THE NAME SAYS IT ALL. An icon of billionaire luxury, Donald Trump has been long sought after by Americans for advice and direction on business and politics. In spite of the recession, Trump remains strong as one of America's most prominent billionaires with properties around the globe. Aside from his real estate deal-

ings, Trump has distinguished himself as a modern Renaissance man, creating his own TV reality show (*The Apprentice*), producing the Miss Universe and Miss USA pageants, and penning a best-seller.

Recently, Trump and Newsmax's Dan Mangru discussed real estate, healthcare, the recession, Obama, bailouts, and the 2012 election.



Newsmax: In terms of Obama's handling of the economy, do you think it's time to say, "You're fired!"?

Donald Trump: It's too soon. He walked into an incredible mess. He should pay more attention to OPEC and what's going on there, but I believe he's done his best so far. Whether it will be good enough is what we'll find out.

Newsmax: Economist Robert Shiller recently told Newsmax that housing is bottoming. Are your residential properties seeing a comeback?

Donald Trump: My properties have remained strong as they are good investments. I'm not sure if the market has bottomed yet.

Newsmax: Is now the time to buy real estate and where would you tell someone to place their bet?

Donald Trump: There are a lot of opportunities out there, and I like to advise people to invest in what they know. Whether it's a good or bad market, that's always good advice.

Newsmax: We keep hearing commercial real estate is the next

shoe to drop. Your take?

Donald Trump: The job market has a very specific impact on both residential and commercial real estate. A lot depends on how the job market goes, and where it goes.

Newsmax: The TARP chief says U.S. bailouts so far have amounted to over \$23 trillion. Are government plans going to work, or just bring on massive inflation or worse?

Donald Trump: Considering we were facing a major depression, I think the right things were done to save us from a bigger disaster. Whether they work in the long run, time will tell. Much of this was caused by immense greed and irresponsibility from a relatively small group of people.

Newsmax: You are not known as a stock market guy, but folks trust your judgment on the overall economy — which is linked to the market. Do you see the end of the recession?

Donald Trump: I think we've got a ways to go. Things run in cycles but we had a big blow, and it will take a while for a full recovery.

Newsmax: As someone who has made billions, but has also gone through tough times in the past only to come back bigger and better, what advice can you give someone facing personal financial difficulties?

Donald Trump: It's important to focus on the solution, and to realize problems can be solved by looking for the opportunities. When I faced difficulties, I refused to give up and just kept at it. You have to be tenacious as well as positive.

Newsmax: Democrats in Congress appear on the verge of passing sweeping healthcare legislation. Obama says it will actually save business and the public money. Your view?

Donald Trump: That's a complex issue, and it's not clear enough yet. I don't believe it's been thoroughly thought out at this point.

Newsmax: You keep refusing to run for president. Your son Barron is too young this time. So who is your ideal candidate in 2012?

Donald Trump: No comment! □