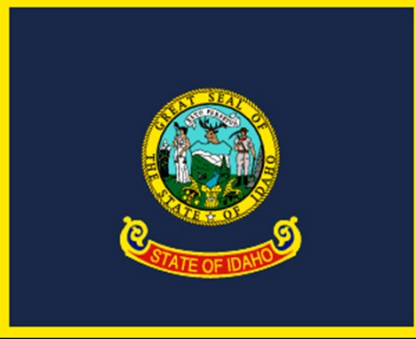




THE GEM STATE PATRIOT



All Around Idaho Inc. Publication
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©

Knowledge is Power as Silence is Consent. We will
bring you the knowledge so you can rise up and
restore freedom and liberty back to our country.

Welcome to The Gem State Patriot, we are a not-for-profit newsletter.



HAPPY NEW YEAR

FROM THE STAFF OF

THE GEM STATE PATRIOT

Bob, Steve, Tammy & Parrish

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Q & A with Your Health Idaho: Idaho's Exchange Responds in a Gem State Patriot Exclusive by Steve Ackerman

Editor's Note: *The Idaho Health Exchange, known, of course, as Your Health Idaho, has been a source of controversy since Governor Otter chose to create it. Some of the problems stem from the nature of an exchange. Others are outside its control. For example, the governor's decision (and the legislature's support) for a state operated exchange based largely on federal rules means it is not a state entity to begin with. It is a federal regulatory program. While the "Gang of 14" included fixes I believe improved the final bill, it cannot be overstated that irrespective of these fixes, the concept of bringing the Affordable Care Act into Idaho is an anti-liberty imposition on our people. The ACA (Obamacare) is unworkable, unyielding, and based on central government control. Having said this, I do not envy the difficult implementation task Your Health Idaho has, due to the mandates from the Governor and the majority of the legislature.*

I remain troubled by several things from the health exchange: 1) "Borrowing" state money to cover costs, in apparent contravention of state law; 2) Awarding a "no-bid" contract to a former member of the health exchange's board; 3) Lacking transparency over several actions taken by the health exchange; 4) Underreporting of performance metrics around the health plan enrollment and purchasing; and 5) Giving the exchange's senior leadership salaries that exceed the governor and other senior government positions, despite unclear performance requirements.

I believe the state exchange is a corrupt perpetuator of anti-liberty and anti-free market principles necessary for a society based on liberty and bounded by the rule of law. For that reason, I believe it is harmful to Idaho and her people. I seek its demise. But while it is here, more oversight by our legislature is needed.

Whatever vote elected officials took on this issue, the vast majority acted in what they believed was in the best interest of Idaho. However, they were wrong. Foisting the damaging effects of the Affordable Care Act upon the people of this great state was a colossal mistake. It is time to come together — supporters and opponents of the this federal program — to introduce free market solutions to return liberty and prosperity to our people.

Please find below questions and answers to Your Health Idaho. We want to thank Ysabel Bilbao of Gallatin Public Affairs for taking the time to furnish the Gem State Patriot with answers to our questions. As difficult as these issues can be, the time and effort of people like Ms. Bilbao and her colleagues is greatly appreciated.

1) What controls are there so that a person knows the data being divulged on healthcare.gov is being prevented from widespread sharing throughout the federal government? Is the federal government tracking and documenting specifically where the data goes once a person releases that information through healthcare.gov?

2) Which specific agencies and departments of the federal government will have access to the private financial and health data of Idahoans? How long will they be able to keep this data? Are they restricted on the use of this data? Is there an agreement for them to let the State Health Exchange know if they want to use the data for anything other the prescribed purpose for which the applicant intended?

3) I understand there were "certification issues" related to the federal government's handling of private financial and health data coming from Idahoans. Has that been resolved? What agreements do we have from the federal government as verification?

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Q & A with Your Health Idaho: Idaho's Exchange Responds in a Gem State Patriot Exclusive by Steve Ackerman

The three questions above are all connected. Security of Idahoans personal information is a top priority for Your Health Idaho – additionally, this was called out in our enabling legislation as a priority [as follows] *“before the exchange begins taking applications or collecting information from exchange users, the board shall certify to the director (of the Idaho Department of Insurance) and the governor that personal information collected from and about any person who voluntarily uses the exchange including, but not limited to, healthcare records and income is and will continue to be secure.”*

Because the enabling legislation wasn't passed until March, Your Health Idaho has to borrow, borrowing the federal application technology for the first year, a senior person from CMS presented to the board about the federal application security standards. Following that presentation, that certification letter was signed by the chairman of the board Stephen Weeg on September 27, 2013 and given to Governor Otter and Department of Insurance Director Bill Deal and I have attached copies of that letter here.

Later this year, we will be building our own technology solution – and because privacy is a top priority for Your Health Idaho, we have made one of the requirements for potential vendors be that they include an experienced Privacy and Security Officer to the project for all phases of the project. See below:

The offeror (the vendor) will be required to assign an experienced Privacy and Security Officer to the project for all phases of the project. The Privacy and Security Officer shall be responsible for ensuring that all privacy and security standards are maintained, as required by federal and state regulations, including but not limited to Idaho Code § 41-6101 et seq.

4) The State Health Exchange board voted to charge users 1.5% (or maybe 2.6%) of the premium -- whatever that premium ends up being. Yet, Idahoans were told the fee would be "\$4.80 per member per month." What was the reason for the change? Why was this not done through the state legislature? Why was there not any kind of a comment period on this move?

One of the benefits of being a state based exchange is that we are able to make decisions on how our exchange is managed including determining the fees. Exchanges are using what are called “Assessment fees” charged to the carriers for each policy sold through the exchange. The federal assessment fee is currently set at 3.5% - earlier this year the Your Health Idaho board set Idaho's fee at 1.5%, significantly lower than the federal fee.

I am not sure where the \$4.80 per month came from perhaps someone was estimating what the dollar amount would be? Although there are a wide range of prices of the plans depending on age and metal level of the plan – in order for \$4.80 to be the value of the assessment, a person would have to have purchased a plan that cost ~\$320 per month—if my math is correct – but if a person selects a bronze plan priced at \$95 per month, then 1.5% of that \$1.40 per month – so there is a wide range.

5) Why aren't health insurance products available on the website for a person to view? I understand the tax credit / and subsidy issue. However, why can't a person look at the products without having to apply? (Editor's Note: This question has somewhat been overtaken by events, as Your Health Idaho now makes health plans available without having to complete an application.)

Because the enabling legislation was passed in March of this year, Your Health Idaho is borrowing the federal application technology for the first year – which requires the application process to be started before seeing plans.

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Q & A with Your Health Idaho: Idaho's Exchange Responds in a Gem State Patriot Exclusive by Steve Ackerman

However, one of the benefits of being a state-based exchange is that we can work around issues to accommodate the needs of Idahoans. We have heard from Idahoans that they are interested in browsing plan information without having to fill out an application and today we published a new plan and rate booklet where Idahoans can view plan information and estimate plan premiums at <http://www.yourhealthidaho.org/additional-resources/plan-information-page/> . When using the plan information booklet it is important to remember that the rates you will see are full rates, before any Advanced Premium Tax Credit is applied, and that many Idahoans will pay significantly less for these plans based on their income and family size. We encourage Idahoans to contact a Your Health Idaho Consumer Connector, including agents, brokers and In-Person Assistants who can help you understand what your families' costs will be.

“FACEBOOK” TODAYS PAUL REVERE?

Social media is an absolutely indispensable tool for pro-gun and pro- constitution patriots; any politically active citizens who shun it considerably diminishes their effectiveness for their cause.

Facebook in particular is today's Paul Revere and it is one of the most powerful tools for promoting or defending any issue. Our opponents effectively used it in the last election and it cost us seats in congress. Social media must be a part of any conservative resurgence in the near future—the tools are simply too politically useful to ignore. And with the right message and the right messenger, we can set social media alight and regain control of this country. Absent social media though, we will simply be rolling a rock up a hill, again and again.

The common argument against Social Media is concern that your personal information will be mined and used by the government or nefarious persons. Those concerns are assuaged with ease.

Users of Facebook can adjust their security settings so their information, status updates, pictures, profiles, friends and videos are only visible by friends and friends of friends, specific people or only yourself. There are so many security measures that you can adjust your settings so **only you** can view certain parts of your profile... So, while I admit these hazards can be very dangerous, with a little bit of safety and careful thinking you can avoid both of them. Make sure your security settings are set to your liking, and avoid connections with people you don't know. **Most important, avoid posting private information altogether.**

We have a president who has been issuing one Executive Order after another in an effort to diminish our 2nd Amendment and other Constitutional rights by edict. It is because of social media that we are able to immediately inform our fellow patriots and mobilize opposition and the media to expose and oppose Obama's dead-of-night decrees.

Unfortunately, too many of my politically active friends are paranoid about using Facebook, either because they are computer illiterate or they are afraid of the boogeyman stealing their information. For the latter, that issue is addressed above, for the illiterate; get your wife or child to teach you how to operate the security settings and come on in, the water is fine; we need your fervor on Facebook..

Tony Snesko
Founder, Idaho Carry
Tony@IdahoCarry.org

-An Amendments-Convention- Open Letter to Idaho Legislators

I know you're aware of some of the forces in Idaho pushing for a present-day Constitutional Convention.

Constitution Convention:

For forty years establishment powers have manipulated and cajoled state legislatures to apply for a Constitution Convention (Con-Con). They have been creative in using names that might not alarm our electorate: Conference of the States; Amendments Convention; and Article V Convention Project.

Article V Escape Hatch:

The establishment elite assure us there is no need to worry if we convene an Article V Convention in this day and age. They'll have everything under *their* control and would never allow anything to happen to our Constitution. They contend our forefathers anticipated governments' propensity to defect from the limitations of the Constitution, and so consequently built an escape-hatch into Article V to use in the future. "Else why would our Founders include such a thing?"

Webster "Hold on":

Within a year of the 1787 convention there were new calls for a convention. Daniel Webster offered timeless perspective: "Hold on to the Constitution. For if the American Constitution should fail, there will be anarchy throughout the world. Hold on, my friends, to the Constitution and to the Republic for which it stands. Miracles do not cluster, and what has happened once in 6000 years, may not happen again."

Constitution Stands:

The "Eastern Establishment" has exerted tremendous effort and funding in removing the "Chains of the Constitution". But, after all the dust has cleared the Constitution still stands. That's the rub. G. W. Bush exemplified that mindset when he said: "Its just a g-damn piece of paper."

Antagonistic Attitude:

The establishment elites have exerted enormous influence over American foreign & domestic policy. They have an antagonistic and aggressive attitude toward the limitations the Constitution places upon their plundering and their global pilfering. Naturally they would prefer to exert their own unlimited control over all the levers of government. Thus, when the establishment has need of a war here, or removal of indigenous peoples there, "voila", it's done

Business Is Business:

Their rationale for control is simple: The business of the world is *business*.

Purposely Ponderous:

The levers of constitutional government were never meant to be responsive or accommodating. Our founders designed the Constitution to be purposely-ponderous. It was never meant to be a quick-assist to kings, potentates, politicians, or promoters in using the force of government to accomplish their ends.

Negative Force:

America's founders knew the innate nature of government. George Washington called it a "fearful master" They designed America's Constitution to be anti-positive: a negative force. A force protective of American "life, liberty, and property" for even the smallest minority, the individual. It was never meant to be a positive-force, nor a provider-source, never to be a manipulator of resources, nor a re-distributor of wealth. In the establishment's mind that is sufficient justification to call for and convene a new convention to eliminate those limitations and restrictions placed upon the ambitions and designs of the elite.

Bring In The Good Guys:

An Article V Convention exhibits possibilities that appear to make it advantageous as a tool for changing government. If socialists or conservatives want change, both camps can be convinced this is the route to take. If previous attempts for convention failed via the auspice of the radicals, ideologues, socialists, progressives, college professors, and big-bankers, ..then change tactics. Do it via the good-guys. Convince the "conservatives" of America to apply for a convention. Then Allow the progressives to stand back and await such an event before competing for delegate seats at the convention.

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-An Amendments-Convention- Open Letter to Idaho Legislators

Quick-Fix Deception:

It will take a little ingenuity, a little deception. Sell the Con-Con as a quick-fix. Sell it as something the Founders wanted us to eventually use. Bring in your stable of neo-cons and members of the establishment's collaboratory media to write books and promote the positive aspects of a convention: line item veto; balanced-budget amendment; anti-abortion amendment; equal rights amendment; fair-tax amendment, repeal the 17th. A plethora of feel-good amendments.

Now, Let Them Lead:

Then allow the good guys to take over its promotion. Let them lead the way and champion the convention. The single issue enthusiasts will rush to their side flashing placards, waving signs and getting legislators to endorse this miracle fix-all convention. They will all be expecting their cause, their proposed amendments to rise like cream to the top of the convention's considerations.

Go Get The Very Best:

Now the clincher. Go to the very best legislators. Get the best of the best. The crème de la crème. Gather in the good-guys and shepherd them carefully into convention. The others will follow.

It Must Look Good:

Supply the mix with support from radio's top personalities to add credibility: Rush, Sean, Glen and Mark (David Barton, too). It must look good! They've created this 'inside-edge-thing'.. this.. we know something 'you-don't-know-thing'. That's why they assure us they can keep those of unclean hands away from their constitution-amendments-thing. The promoters assure us the internationalists, the interventionists, the progressives, the socialists, the ultra-liberals, the communists, and the globalists will all sit this one out. Those that got us into this mess will *allow* 'conservatives' to meet in convention and fix everything overnight.

A Little Frayed:

That's not an assurance. That's nonsense! It's like sending your 16 year old daughter out on her first date with the Fonz. He assures you he'll return her in tact.. but she may be a little frayed and worn around the edges. You'd do well to usher the Fonz right out the door after his first assurance.

Absolutely No Controls:

Any assurances promised or implied in a Con-Con are absolutely 'no-go's' from the 'get-go'. Nothing controls a Con-Con where delegates meet to deliberate amendments proposals and draft them. Robert Natelson, Ph.D., one of the movers behind this convention, says: .."the convention delegates have the power to draft amendments and to deliberate." Now, place that in a convention context with all the advocates and promoters of world government. These are the power brokers, the captains of industry. They portray themselves in glowing terms like progressives, and forward thinkers. Remember, this is their turf. They've been planning this event for a long, long time. There are no assurances that could or would keep them away from any Amendments Convention.

Accommodate Them:

Every establishment lawyer and leftist college professor in the country is salivating to descend upon this convention. They all want to tear off a sizable chunk of carrion from the flanks of our Founders. They intend to sully and violate every Constitution limitation from the get-go. And we? Will we accommodate them?

What Avenue for Ratification?

What if Congress decides the ratification process for the amendments shall be taken from the state legislatures and placed in State Ratification Conventions? They can do that! Read Article V again. Congress can take it completely away from those states that sent the delegations in the first place. The predators, the progressives, the socialists, the clappers and scrapers will then materialize to make sure their delegates will usher in the Constitutional changes.

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-An Amendments-Convention- Open Letter to Idaho Legislators

The state legislatures may never see any of the amendments their delegates brought home if Congress directs them to convene State Ratification Conventions.

song: "Pleeze! Don't throw us into an Amendments Convention!" That's their Briar Patch and that's where they *want* to be thrown!

Briar Patch:

Remember the stories of Uncle Remus and how B'rer Rabbit got his kidnappers to throw him in the terrible Briar Patch? B'rer Rabbit had been raised in that Briar Patch! The convention Insiders are wailing the same song: "Pleeze! Don't throw us into an Amendments Convention!" That's their Briar Patch and that's where they *want* to be thrown!

An As-Is Oath:

At the time you took your oath, you did so to defend the then existent Constitution.. whether it needed any fixing or not. You took it in its "as-is" condition. To allow anyone to lead that Constitution into convention (Briar Patch) in the current atmosphere of vitriolic violations the Constitution now endures, would be an open gang invitation for wholesale changes to the Constitution, of which you would probably not want your name attached.

Hawaii's Amendments:

Consider two of the seven amendments Hawaii proposed in their convention call two years ago (HCR 114). The very first amendment was to repeal or rewrite our Constitution's Second Amendment, a major blow to the Bill of Rights. Hawaii's second proposed amendment was to draft the Affordable Care Act (in its entirety) as a new Constitutional Amendment (all 905 pages of small print). Each state could proffer like-minded amendments like Hawaii's.

Legions Infiltrate:

There will be legions to infiltrate this convention and attempt to wrest it from your grasp. Would you agree that those who pick the delegates will control the convention? After all, wouldn't you pick different delegates than would Nancy Pelosi? The 'safety-valve' that convention advocates keep blowing hot air into, is that any new amendments or changes *must* be returned to the states for ratification.

Pandora's Box Opened:

They're right. In the original Articles of Confederation the ratifying process required 13 of 13 states to ratify it. The convention delegates trash-canned that and lowered ratification to 9 of 13 states. A new Amendments Convention could lower that even further. How would a simple majority work? Who can predict what the Convention will offer in the way of changes? What will crawl out of Pandora's Box of an Article V Convention once opened?

Lack of Adherence:

I do question the motives and manipulation of those that are digging this pit to capture and destroy what's left of our Constitution protections. Americans have been carefully led and artfully deceived to believe something is terribly wrong with our Constitution. The only thing wrong with our Constitution is Congress's lack of adherence to abide by it.

Ram-Roding The Legislature:

Our state legislators would do well to review their concerns about this Con-Con in this coming session. They're going to find themselves up against a well-oiled and tenacious lobbying combination that will "power-politics" this convention through, over and around anything or anyone that stands in its way.

Blood in Their Eye:

The instigators of this Con-Con have laid-low for the last few years when we actually passes an Idaho bill to rescinded all of Idaho's previous Con-Con calls. That put blood in their eye. Men who have been thwarted in previous malfeasance find it hard to let a dead dog lie.

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-An Amendments-Convention- Open Letter to Idaho Legislators

They will throw every media defamation, every ruse, every misconception, every slander at those who simply want to keep what is left of our Constitution intact.. which is the most important part of their oath.. "to defend and protect *the Constitution*".

Open The Constitution: Beware of legislators who will belittle or obfuscate any warning of how a Con-Con can alleviate the few remaining government limitations still found in our Constitution. Bottom-line they want to open our Constitution come hell or high water, no matter what dangers a Con-Con poises.

Sincerely,

**Dale Pearce
Area Coordinator
The John Birch Society
208-466-4664**

IT'S TIME FOR IDAHO TO LEAD ON PRO-GUN LEGISLATION By Greg Pruett

This may be a bit confusing to some gun owners because Idaho is one of the most friendly gun states in the nation. However, even in Idaho there are many ways in which we can bring our laws back into alignment with the true meaning of the 2nd Amendment.

Too often we see Idaho attempting to pass gun legislation after other states have already done so. We need to be the nation's leaders and not just followers when it comes to introducing pro-gun legislation or repealing anti-gun legislation.

The 2013 legislative session was a major disappointment for many Idaho gun owners. We want the 2014 session to be much different. That is why Idaho gun groups are working closely with several key pro-gun legislators to get solid 2nd Amendment bills put together now, before the session even starts.

When the time arrives, we need Idaho gun owners to come out in full force in support of legislation that will strengthen their right to defend themselves and bring our laws closer to the true intent of the Constitution's 2nd Amendment.

- Greg Pruett
- President Idaho Second Amendment Alliance

[http://www.idahopress.com/members/idaho-must-lead-way-on-gun-legislation/
article_16ea8bb6-684c-11e3-89f7-0019bb2963f4.html](http://www.idahopress.com/members/idaho-must-lead-way-on-gun-legislation/article_16ea8bb6-684c-11e3-89f7-0019bb2963f4.html)

REMEMBER THEIR NAMES WHEN YOU VOTE IN 2014

STATE LEGISLATORS WHO SUPPORTED THE STATE HEALTH EXCHANGE

Governor CL “Butch” Otter

REPRESENTATIVES

Brandon A. Hixon R Dist 10	Carolyn Meline D Dist 29	Christy Perry R Dist 11
Clark Kauffman R Dist 25	Darrell Bolz R Dist 10	Dell Raybould R Dist 34
Donna Pence D Dist 26	Douglas A. Hancey R Dist 34	Ed Morse R Dist 2
Elaine Smith D Dist 29	Eric R. Anderson R Dist 1	Frank N. Henderson R Dist 3
Gary E. Collins R Dist 13	Fred Wood R Dist 27	George E. Eskridge R Dist 1
Grant Burgoyne D Dist 16	Holli Woodings D Dist 19	Hy Kloc D Dist 16
Janie Ward-Englking D Dist 18	Jeff Thompson R Dist 30	John Rusche D Dist 16
John Gannon D Dist 17	Julie VanOrden R Dist 31	Kelley Packer R Dist 28
Lance Clow R Dist 24	Luke Malek R Dist 4	Marc Gibbs R Dist 32
Mat Erpeiding D Dist 19	Maxine T. Bell R Dist 25	Neil A. Anderson R Dist 31
Neil A. Anderson R Dist 31	Paul Romrell R Dist 35	Phylis K. King D Dist 18
Richard Wills R Dist 23	Rick D. Youngblood R Dist 12	Robert Anderst R Dist 12
Scott Bedke R Dist 27	Shirley G Ringo D Dist 5	Stephen Hartgen R Dist 24
Steven Miller R Dist 26	Susan B Chew D Dist 17	Wendy Horman R Dist 30

SENATORS

Bart M. Davis R Dist 33	Bert Bracket R Dist 23	Brent Hill R Dist 34
Cherie Buckner/Webb D Dist 19	Dan J Schmidt D Dist 5	Dan G. Johnson R Dist 6
Dean L. Cameron R Dist 27	Elliot Werk D Dist 17	Fred S. Martin R Dist 15
Jeff C. Siddoway R Dist 35	Jim Rice R Dist 10	Jim Patrick R Dist 25
Jim Guthrie R Dist 28	John W. Goedde R Dist 4	John H. Tippetts R Dist 32
Lee Heider R Dist 24	Les Bock D Dist 16	Marv Hagedorn R Dist 14
Michelle Stennett D Dist 26	Patti Ann Lodge R Dist 11	Roy Lacey D Dist 29
Shawn A Keough R Dist 1	Steven R. Bair R Dist 31	Todd M Lakey R Dist 32

THE BILLIONAIRE BOYS CLUB

By Darr Moon

Dear Patriots,

The talk of a National Monument for Central Idaho's Boulder-White Clouds area is gaining newsprint space in our local rag, The Challis Messenger. Every Idahoan should take notice as the consequence of a National Monument will affect us all. The one sided debate needs to be met with serious challenge as the Monument agenda is more than preservationist ideology. The premise of my argument is that the power of the Presidency can over-ride the protections given the States by simply signing away State sovereignty with the stroke of a pen. The environmental/preservationists are providing cover for this diabolical plot to slice away more of Idaho in a permanent zone of economic isolation. The gambit is being sold as some economic boon via recreation, but the underlying thesis is for the rich and powerful to accumulate more while average Joe sinks to the bottom in an economic abyss. The truths we are to believe in according to the green revolution are merely examples of class warfare and economic bigotry that will send Idahoan to the poor house. Please read below and respond. I'm sending this to the Challis Messenger in hopes that it will be printed. I suggest you pick up paper and pen and do the same.

In Liberty,

Darr Moon

The Billionaire Boys Club

The modest economic boost proponents of the Boulder-White Clouds National Monument predict is paltry comfort to those of us in Custer County who have seen what devastation has been wrought by the billionaire preservationist elite. The hypocrisy of this preservation movement has been wrapped around the fact that the Boulder-White Clouds hold vast wealth in metal resources that could bring prosperity to our county, state and nation. This fact has not gone unnoticed by preservationist who continue to stack their high tech alloy made Lear Jets in Sun Valley like you or I might stack cord wood. The whole notion that we should lock up Central Idaho is not new. It began with a large high grade discovery molybdenum in the White Clouds back in the 1970's. At the time I was interested in the discovery having a background in mining which subsequently lead me to seek a degree in Geological Engineering. The ASARCO geologists whom I knew intersected molybdenum 10 times greater in grade than which is currently being mined and milled at Thompson Creek. This discovery lead to a whirlwind effort to lock out the mining company by ushering in the Sawtooth National Recreation Area. The economic benefit to this new national recreation area was touted while the lay to waste practice of strip mining vilified. Today Stanley is good example of what economic isolation under cover of environmental stewardship has brought. Only rich landowners with their cadre of imported handmaids enjoy the scenic vistas from their select high dollar perches. The rest pass through the valley for their two week annual wilderness experience, mostly within 50 yards of Highway 75, and then leave back to their mundane urban lifestyles. The once bustling town of recreational, mining and ranching interests is solely kept afloat by crafts fairs and hacky sack tournaments today. Even the once nationally touted 'Stanley Stomp' is but a memory of better days gone by.

More devastating than the SNRA will be a National Monument, a Monument dedicated to the selfish interest of those born with silver spoons. The National Monument debate comes as its pending resource lockout will put Custer County on a continued course toward steadily harder economic times.

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THE BILLIONAIRE BOYS CLUB

By Darr Moon

The county's largest employer and tax payer, Thompson Creek Mining, is threatening to close its pit having been the most significant economic engine in our small community for over the last 30 plus years. A mining company detested by environmental groups but one that has continued to be our best hope for stable, high paying jobs and who has added quality of life to many. With the prospect of our historic mining boom days over, a boom supported by a natural abundance of rare and strategic metals, Custer County's economic future looks gloomy.

It is more than economic prosperity at stake though. As hypocrisy reigns supreme in the halls of the politically connected every ounce of precious metal, every pound of rare and strategic metal locked away by this Monument will be mined in some foreign land where little regard for the environment is considered. The withdrawal of these metallic resources ranging from Antimony to Zinc in one of our nation's richest mineral reserves means further exploitation of the third world and Custer County's further isolation from economic sustainability. A bright future though for the Bourgeoisie who will enjoy their own private Idaho in their grandiose homes and shiny BMW's. Let there be no doubt, executive jets will still fly and land in our midst leaving many Idahoans owing their economic existence to polishing boots of the well to do, preparing their meals and putting down their beds.

Little is likely to come from cries for Multiple Use, a now foreign term in federal land management policy or the calls for the feds to leave Idaho completely. The federally occupied territories of Idaho will continue to evolve away from anything Idaho and more to the special interests of those with power and money beyond our borders. Such is the trend in a world where the grit and determination of the individual, those who actually won the West, is lost to political activist where ends justify their means. A simple stroke of the Presidents pen will puts us all away, forgotten and soon erased from the historical landscape. No longer will the rights of the minority be protected from the misdirected ambitions of the majority in a land where our fathers once lived free.

"BUTCH AND HIS GANG IGNORE THE RULES"

By Robert Forrey

At the November 12, 2013 special Board meeting, the Land Board voted to extend 188 leases at Priest Lake and Payette Lake for cottage site leases. All of the current leases expire on Dec. 31, 2012. In order to extend or write new leases, the Board is required by the Idaho Constitution to hold an auction. (Art IX, Sec.8).

The Land Board is also required to "secure the maximum long term financial return" for the school endowment fund and the Idaho Supreme Court has ruled, " for this reason competitive bidding is made mandatory." The Court also stated in Wasden V. Land Board, Opinion No. 104, 2012, that "...the Board breached its duty as trustee when it failed to lease endowment lands to the highest bidder in a public auction."

This Court opinion went on to say, "...it is clearly unconstitutional as - in eliminating the conflict auction procedure and instead requiring "market rent." Market rent is established by holding an auction and the Court says the auction is mandatory. In spite of theses requirements, all five of the Land Board members voted to extend the expiring leases for one year without holding an auction.

Another problem facing the Land Board is the lot appraisals conducted during 2012 - 2013. Many of the lessees complained about the values of the appraisals and refused to sign new lease agreements. The Board is now spending more money to re-appraise the properties. One must question the competence of the appraisers in the first place.

HEATHER SCOTT ANNOUNCES CANDIDACY FOR 1ST DISTRICT REPRESENTATIVE



Heather Scott of Blanchard, Idaho, has announced her intention to become the next District 1A State Representative. A fifteen-year resident of north Idaho, Heather believes her straight forward, honest, no-nonsense approach to politics will find favor with the voters. She wants them to have the choice of a small-government candidate on May 20th.

Her diverse work history includes simultaneous careers as an aquatic biologist and a local small business owner / farmer while also serving as President of God's Provision Thrift Store in Priest River. A newcomer to politics, Heather believes these endeavors have provided her with a firsthand understanding of issues that are important to District 1 residents. She understands that the current trend towards unchecked government growth is stifling the freedoms of

American families and businesses. Heather believes if voters will elect the right legislators willing to make choices to reduce federal dependency, Idaho can once again be a strong independent leader among western states.

When asked how she decided who to run against, Heather replied "My opponent, Representative Anderson appears to be making politics his career which doesn't seem to work out well for the voters. In 2012 alone, he was the highest recipient of donations (\$66,000) out of all members of the House of Representative members, yet over 84% of his reported donations came from outside District 1. This alarmed me and I would hope all District 1 voters feel the same way. Could these outside contributors be influencing Representative Anderson voting habits? He did vote yes on the State Health Care Exchange after accepting \$4600 from health care, medical and insurance companies. I believe it is time for a fresh approach from someone who has no intention of being a career politician."

Heather currently serves as the Spirit Valley Precinct Committeeman for the Bonner County Republican Central Committee. She has also been active in local school and land rights issues as well as educating residents on potential consequences of Idaho's new state healthcare exchange. If elected she plans to focus on the issues below:

- Working to repeal the State Health Care Exchange and prevent Medicaid Expansion in Idaho.
- Promoting and supporting legislation to transfer federal land ownership back to the State of Idaho.
- Promoting statewide legislation for term limits.
- Working to insure Idaho citizens maintain their privacy from government data collection.
- Protecting, preserving and promoting our 2nd Amendment rights.

Heather plans to introduce herself to the residents of District 1 by visiting many north Idaho communities and hosting dessert potlucks. These community events will give residents an opportunity to meet her, hear her platform, and discuss local issues. These events will help inform voters on what is happening at the state level with our current north Idaho legislators.

If you would like to find out more about Heather Scott or when and where the next local community dessert potluck will be, please contact her at 208-920-3120 or check out her website at

www.voteheatherscott.com

MOVATING OTHERS TO HELP SAVE OUR REPUBLIC

ARE WE SPEAKING A FOREIGN LANGUAGE by Heather Scott

A republic works properly when citizens are engaged and directing government, not when the government is centralized and directing citizens. Over the last decade, those of us who still believe in our republic form of government seem to be fighting numerous battles yet are making little progress. Our strategy isn't working. Could it be our language? We think we are being clear when we share the *facts* but I am afraid we are speaking a foreign language to most of our fellow citizens.

Most of us conservative patriots want to use our *fact* sledgehammer to pound our point home. We are sure that when our friends and neighbors hear the truth, they will join our fight. We spend countless hours studying the data and sharing it among fellow conservatives to insure accuracy. If we could just do a data dump into the minds of our friends and family, we believe they will understand the problems and come along and support our cause. Right? Well I say wrong. This tactic doesn't seem to be working.

Let me give you an example. An atheist decides to look into Christianity. He slips in the back door of a revival tent and sits down to learn. He hears phrases like "washed in the blood", "saved and born again", and "righteous Lamb of God". Baffled, he leaves. He cannot understand the language.

This is the same problem I see most patriots have. We are speaking the wrong language. When we approach our uninformed citizens, trying to share our concerns about the problems in our country and state, we deliver a message of facts to a person who has spent hours watching *American Idol* and *Dancing with the Stars*. We speak *our* language of constitutional jargon but they have no clue what we are saying. Conversation over! If we want to convince our fellow citizens of the problems America faces and motivate them to help us fix these problems, we need to know their level of understanding, where they are coming from, and speak their language! Only then can we effectively communicate our message.

The majority of opinions of people I have talked to over the past several months, regardless of their party affiliation, do not differ greatly. They all appreciate freedom and do not want to be told what to do or how to do it. Most aren't overly interested in politics but do seem to understand that something is currently wrong with the state of our country. This is a great opportunity to motivate them to get engaged *if* we can just deliver a message they understand. We need to stop overwhelming them with excess data and information. We need to present a clear simple message that shows them how they can ultimately influence the issues that directly affect their livelihood and finances.

I would encourage all of you who may be frustrated at trying to get your friends and families to be more motivated and engaged in civic duties, to remember one thing. We cannot change others, we can only change ourselves. So let's start by changing the language of our message so that others can understand our concerns and help us with this fight.

Heather Scott
Candidate for District 1A House

If you would like to find out more about Heather Scott or when and where the next local community dessert potluck will be, please contact her at 208-920-3120 or check out her website at

www.voteheatherscott.com.

THE RIGHT TO KEEP AND BEAR ARMS

By Parrish Miller

Why do we have the right to keep and bear arms? Is it because the Constitution says so, or is there more to it than that? Most Constitutional scholars will tell you that the Founders did not attempt to create any new rights when they formulated the Bill of Rights, but were rather attempting to enshrine the existence of what they considered preexisting, inalienable natural rights that could never be taken away legitimately.

Such is the case with the right to keep and bear arms. This right is merely the logical extension of our right to own property and to defend that property along with our lives and liberty from aggression whenever it becomes necessary. 'Arms' are but tools that allow us to more effectively defend our rights and the rights of others.

The right to engage in self-defense is necessarily implied by the existence of any rights at all. To claim that one has a right but may not defend it is to negate that right for all practical purposes. To claim that one has the right to engage in self-defense while denying them access to the tools necessary to effect that self-defense likewise neuters the fundamental right to self-defense.

In short, your right to life must necessarily include the right to defend your life and the right to possess the tools necessary to get the job done. It's really not all that complicated.

Now let's take a quick look at some of the common restrictions on our right to keep and bear arms to see how they contradict these fundamental rights. The basic rule of thumb when considering a particular situation or individual is to ask the following questions:

Does this individual in this situation possess his natural rights of life, liberty, and property? If the answer is *yes*, move to question 2. If the answer is *no*, please explain how an individual could be legitimately deprived of their inalienable rights when inalienable rights by definition are "impossible to take away or give up."

Does this individual in this situation have the right to protect his natural rights from aggression? If the answer is *yes*, move to question 3. If the answer is *no*, please explain how an individual could be legitimately deprived of the right to defend his inalienable rights.

Does this individual in this situation have the right to possess the tools necessary to protect his natural rights from aggression? If the answer is *yes*, any restrictions or limitations on the right to keep and bear arms are unjust and illegitimate. If the answer is *no*, please explain how an individual could be legitimately deprived of the right to possess the tools necessary to exercise his right to defend his inalienable rights.

It quickly becomes clear that gun license and registration mandates, gun-free zones, and claiming that certain individuals can be deprived of their right to keep and bear arms due to some past infraction of the law are all fundamental violations of the inalienable natural rights of individuals. A person's right to protect himself (and others) from aggression can never be legitimately restricted and any attempts to do so render the restrictor an aggressor who must be stopped.

Ultimately, the simple fact is that the right to keep and bear arms is a preexisting, inalienable natural right just as fundamental to human existence as the rights of life, liberty, and property. These rights cannot be legitimately taken away or even bargained away in some perverse notion of a "social contract." Every attempt by the state to restrict or limit the right to keep and bear arms is an act of aggression and tyranny. There is a reason why the Founders wisely chose the incontestable phrasing of "shall not be infringed."

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THE LEAST COMMON DENOMINATOR

By Darr Moon

Last Tuesday a small group from the Mini-Cassia Tea Party met with the Cassia School District to protest treatment of former Representative Elizabeth Allan Hodge's dis-invitation to speak to Burley High juniors about the Patriot Academy program. Mrs. Hodge's snub came after a very enthusiastic and successful presentation to some 190 or so Burley High seniors. The students as well as faculty were very excited about the opportunity to learn more about the principles and foundation of our government at this next summer's Patriot Academy held at the Capitol in Boise. The good cheer regarding the prospects of meeting with the juniors was soon met with a sheepish dis-invite from staff as Elizabeth called the day before the scheduled assembly to make sure all was ready. Seems the principal was not too keen on the idea of putting thoughts of America's founding and the principles thereof in the minds of mush they've so carefully tended.

The rebuff of the Patriot Academy program, summarily rejected by the principal of Burley High, stuck deep in the craw of several patriots from the Mini-Cassia Tea Party. Ruffled by the rebuke, Rita Ramsay and others set a date with the School Board to hear their redress.

It is here where realization became apparent as to how far down the rabbit hole we've fallen. Parents are completely out of the loop in the affairs of public education and are so because our generation has put faith in a system that no longer considers parents or family an integral ingredient in the development of the whole child's education. The awakening of a hopelessness feeling sprang forth as we waited our turn to testify. Before the small crowd was displayed excerpts from the academic policy manual that needed updates due to further degradation of American society.

The list of policy items included ways by which regulations would be enforced and methods of detainment and restraint conducted on wayward children. I found myself listening to a tribunal of good intentioned board members discussing the means by which students would be shuttled off to school purgatory for all sorts of offences and accordingly with zero tolerance. The inquisition continued with appropriate uses for restraining devices and means to strap down the uncooperative. I felt as if I was hearing about the means and methods of dealing with violent prison inmates at Pelican Point our nation's most infamous incarceration facility. A cold chill ran down my spine as I realized the good folks making these decisions were my neighbors all conducting business so carefully under the direction of law. The dismissal of Mrs. Hodges Patriot Academy program began to all make sense. How could an elitist cadre of enlightened regulators let such thoughts of liberty go unpunished?

Rita, who I must admit has more moxie than most red blooded Americans, presented her argument to a cohort of royalists asking why the Patriot Academy was so back handily scuttled. The question was much too controversial for the blind academics to engage so they simply passed her off to meet with Superintendent Smyers for further discussion of the matter. In her plead for hearing, Rita invited those rubes of intellectual foresight the opportunity to hear concerns regarding Common Core at a public meeting so scheduled at the King's Fine Arts center this coming January 9, 2014.

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THE LEAST COMMON DENOMINATOR

By Darr Moon

This announcement brought immediate reaction from a member of the Stazi protesting that the invitation was a concealed agenda and not that for which she had presented herself. God help us all that freedom of speech no longer prevails in the hallowed halls of education, looks like a rereading of the Fourth Amendment may also be in good order for the bureaucrats who reign.

I cannot tell you the impact of the moment upon my sense of hope for this country. It was an obvious knock on my door that the wolf beckons. There will be no changing what has been set in motion over many decades of dumbing down. I can only hope that you who have children or grandchildren in public education look for an open door and run! The perversion of our public education system is wholesale and systemic. The powers that be are and will continue to cater to the least common denominator rather than realizing our greatest common factor, our children's unique character and special attributes which make them more than just a mere member of a future workforce in a one size fits all utopia.

In Liberty,
Darr

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REPRESENTATIVE LAWRENCE DENNEY CANDIDATE FOR SECRETARY OF STATE DISCUSSES THE ISSUES



I have been asked why I am running for the position of Idaho Secretary of State. There are three areas that need to be addressed. They will be my priority should I win:

Integrity of the Vote: Some have said Idaho has never had an issue with votes at the ballot box. But if you believe that, I may have some land to sell you. Since traveling around the state to visit with constituents, I have learned that we have issues in the registration process, the voting process, and even in counting ballots. Our vote is one of the most important things we have to ensure we remain a free people. I will work to strengthen that.

Reform of the Idaho Land Board: Many people are not aware that the Land Board buys and invests in private businesses. This makes the state a competitor to private companies out there. Affordable Self-Storage in Boise was a recent example. When the state buys a business, the competition is unfair because the business does not have to pay local property taxes, or various state taxes. Also, that state-owned business has access to Land Board funds that a private business does not. Finally, how can the state regulate a business it also owns? That just doesn't make sense.

The Secretary of State is a voting member of the Idaho Land Board. As a voting member, I will vote against the State of Idaho purchasing private businesses and competing unfairly with Idaho business owners. This practice is wrong and we need to stop it.

One-Stop-Shop for Idaho's Citizens and Business: Idaho is currently ranked high in national polls as a "great State to start a business." I would like to capitalize on that and work to set up a one-stop shop for prospective businesses to help them navigate the system more easily. Time is money for a business. We've got to make it less costly for a company to do business in Idaho. I will work to make that happen. The Secretary of State's office should offer a one-page checklist of each step to comply with the rules for starting your business, registering to vote, or to conduct other business. Businesses and individuals need answers to what they have to do in one visit.

You can visit Lawrence Denney's website at <http://denneyforidaho.com/>

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LAWRENCE DENNEY: THE REST OF THE STORY

Let me address some of the issues brought up about my campaign. Due to some of the issues brought up during my campaign I do feel that “**The Rest of the Story**” needs to be addressed.

I believe in God. I believe in traditional family values. I believe in free enterprise and fiscal responsibility. I believe in the Constitution and believe that it was divinely inspired. I believe in the right to bear arms. And I believe that the states are separate independent sovereigns.

Having these beliefs often brands me as a right wing radical, but those beliefs come right out of the mainstream of the Idaho Republican Party. It’s in the preamble of the Idaho GOP’s platform. If I’m following the mainstream of my party, then aren’t those who don’t follow it the more radical thinkers?

Since announcing my candidacy for Secretary of State, the press has tried very hard to paint a picture of who I am. It is now my turn to tell you who I am.

My decision making process is not random. On every issue, I ask five basic questions: 1) Will this decision enhance or detract from personal responsibility, freedom, or liberty? 2) Does this decision uphold the Constitution? 3) Does it promote the common good? 4) Do the short term and long term benefits outweigh the short and long term costs? 5) What are the measureable results?

With that background, let me address a few of the issues which have been raised:

Representative Phil Hart: Representative Phil Hart was the whipping boy of the press for several years. I was chided as being easy on Representative Hart and, as Speaker of the House, not removing him from his legislative duties. Well as far as I know, there were never any criminal charges filed against him, nor any convictions.

The House Ethics Committee found no violations. It recommended he no longer be Vice Chairman of the Transportation Committee and that he not serve on the Revenue and Taxation Committee. As Speaker of the House, I supported these recommendations. Representative Hart had a tax judgment against him, which he was appealing at the time.

He has every constitutional right to exhaust all appeals. On the other hand, I had no constitutional right to remove him from the House. Representative Hart was duly elected by voters to represent his district. We need to be cautious in taking actions that overturn the results of an election. I believe my honoring the will of the voters shows that I will bring integrity of the vote to the Secretary of State’s office – should I win your vote.

Financial Disclosure: In 2009, Senate Bill 1156 passed the Senate and came to the House. We did not have a hearing on the bill because it did not disclose anything.

I encourage everyone to read SB1156. Under the bill, legislators would be required to disclose “sources” of income over \$10,000, but not the actual amount. Whether it is \$10,000 or \$10 million, all you have to do is disclose the source of the income. Moreover, a “professional person” – like a lawyer, an accountant, an insurance person or a consultant – would have been exempted from disclosing their client, even the client is government. The bill failed to provide the proper detail around disclosure work. It was also not consistent, treating certain “professional persons” differently than other people. The bill needed more work. We need transparency and consistency in disclosure rules around campaigns and elections. This gives voters more information they can use when deciding how to vote.

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LAWRENCE DENNEY: THE REST OF THE STORY

So called “pension spiking”: In the 2012 session, House Bill 444 concerned state pensions. Again, I encourage every one of my fellow Idahoans to read this bill. The bill had a hearing in the House State Affairs Committee, where many questions came up and were not answered. So the bill was held by the Chair to give time to address the committee’s questions.

But the questions were never satisfactorily answered, so I asked the Chairman not to reschedule a hearing. We have a lot of legislative business and members sometimes sit on more than one committee. If there are unanswered questions of legislators, they need answers, so they can vote on a bill fully educated. Also, we have other issues members need to address. We can’t hold up important business of the legislature for one issue. The health exchange debate already took a lot of time from other business. We have work to do, and leadership sometimes requires prioritizing to get things done.

But the issue brings up other questions. The Constitution sets up a citizen committee to set legislative compensation. This was done to take politics out of legislative compensation. Pension is a part of that compensation. If we don’t have pensions be of the jurisdiction of the citizen’s committee, then could we end up putting politics back into the process?

The entire pension system needs revision. It is only 70-90% funded, but it should be fully funded. If “spiking” is a problem and we fix it, we still have the funding issue. The funding issue is a problem because the economy can slow down again, and the lack of growth would leave a huge unfunded liability – in the billions of dollars.

With new rules coming out of D.C. – like Obamacare – the cost of doing business is getting more expensive. The Affordable Care Act is also undermining job creation. We cannot hope the economy will just improve. We have to be prepared to deal with the funding commitments, even if the economy tanks again, which could happen. The solution to this problem is simple, yet politically difficult. It will take courage to fix it. I propose changing from defined benefit plans and go to defined contribution plans on all future hires. This will save money, while putting new employees in charge of their healthcare retirement benefits. This will only affect new hires, as we cannot change the promise made to existing employees. But, just like we have a rainy day fund, we need to be prepared to deal with less government tax money by being smarter at managing the benefits our state employees receive.

The Victory Fund: In 2007, I started the Victory Fund. It was a political Action Committee controlled by me. I was the only one who was able to sign checks for the fund. I started the Victory Fund to be able to help our candidates in the primary elections. There is a House Caucus Fund, but it is separate, controlled by all four House leaders. It is used only in general elections.

In 2012, the Victory fund gave \$10,000 to the Gun Pac to help our House incumbent candidates. But the Gun Pac also supported candidates that I did not choose. That gave the impression I was supporting challengers to some of my colleagues in the House. I regret and take full responsibility for not making certain the Gun Pac only supported those candidates I chose. When I make a mistake, I admit it. It happens in all walks of life. But in politics, it is important candidates outline who they are – warts and all. I never claimed to be a perfect candidate, but I was elected repeatedly by my constituents, and was elected by my colleagues to be Speaker of the House. So I think I’ve done pretty well. I am proud of my record, and as I showed here, am happy to discuss it.

I have ideas and solutions and will implement them if elected to be your next Secretary of State.

Lawrence Denney, Representative (District 9)

WRITE FOR FREEDOM

As we head into the New Year we think about the silly things that people were outraged at in the past year. For instance, it seems everyone was up in arms about UPS and FEDEX not being able to deliver packages on time for Christmas, but they forget the U.S. Postal Service has not been able to deliver on time for the past 50 years, and they are losing five billion dollars every year? Has Christmas just become another time of the year where we are so caught up in THINGS that we go into an outcry because our packages didn't arrive on time? What has this world come to when all that is important to us is instant gratification?

We have all become too wrapped up in THINGS that we have forgotten to think about those less fortunate than we are. Too many of us forget about our military men and women putting themselves in harm's way in foreign lands to preserve our freedoms. Those freedoms that our forefathers fought for with their blood, sweat and tears. We pay so much attention to our THINGS that we stand by and watch those freedoms get taken away one by one each and every day by a government hell bent on regulating every part of our daily lives. What has happened to our nation that used to be based on faith and trust in God? We now watch as our government takes God out of our lives by removing all signs relating to religion or God from our culture, our schools and our public buildings.

When will the American people stand up and say "No More". Will it be in 2014 that we find ourselves in a sea of change? Will this be the time when the people of this country finally get so fed up that we see historic change for the better in our legislative houses as we saw in 2010? I only hope this is the case, but I'm not sure if our citizens now fear government so much that they are unwilling to stand up and fight for their God given rights. We need to worry more about losing our freedoms than reprisals by government agencies or vilification by the liberal left. Americans are becoming like the frog that was put in a pot of cool water on a stove with a low flame. We all know what happened to the frog as the water started to boil. Our liberties are worth fighting for, but many have forgotten what they were as the government continues regulating us into oblivion day by day. I pray that 2014 is the year of awakening for the American people. That they finally come to grips with the fact that if they don't fight for their rights they will disappear one by one. We need to activate ourselves and join in the battle to reclaim our freedoms by going to the polls and voting for people who can affect a positive change for our state and our nation. All I can say is wake up America, our forefathers are crying out for your help. This is your chance to affect change, **do not miss this opportunity.**

PLEASE READ THE ESSAY ON PAGE 22 WRITTEN BY SARAH THE 18 YEAR OLD DAUGHTER OF JIM CHMELIK COMMISSIONER OF IDAHO COUNTY.

When you are finished ask yourself what are you doing to keep from losing our freedoms? We are looking for volunteers who would be willing to write Letters to the Editor about important issues that affect our state and country. We need you to fight with words against the liberal media and the progressive left. Only with your help can we affect the changes necessary to repeal bad laws and regulations that infringe on our natural born rights. With your help we can elect the conservative candidates to make these changes both in our State and National governments. Don't wait another minute activate yourself to become part of the solution.

Send an e-mail to teapartybob@cableone.net and volunteer to Write for Freedom.

**Happy New Year and God bless you and your families.
Tea Party Bob**

“DAUGHTERS OF THE AMERICAN REVOLUTION”

OUR AMERICAN HERITAGE AND OUR RESPONSIBILITY FOR PRESERVING IT

FOCUS QUESTION:

HOW DOES ONE'S PERSONAL HERITAGE AFFECT ONE'S DUTIES TO OUR NATION

As American citizens, living in a nation of peace and luxury, we often forget where we came from. We often forget the blood and sweat poured into this nation. We often forget that it was our ancestors who risked their necks for life, liberty and the pursuit of happiness. But this is where we come from and this is why we must preserve our American Heritage.

America was founded on a belief, a belief of freedom and justice. Thousands of soldiers died for this freedom that millions now take for granted. It took tremendous amounts of courage to stand up to Europe, the superpower of the world at the time, so that we, today, would not be suppressed. Even after the Declaration of Independence it took years and years of struggling and hard work to make the United States the best! This is our heritage. This is what we believe in.

As American citizens now, it is our duty to fight and believe in those same beliefs of our ancestors, for freedom, justice and pride. We hold these truths to be good. We believe that all men were created equal. We believe in the freedoms of speech, religion and the right to own private property. It is only by our Independence that we can live these freedoms. It was for these reasons why our ancestors died fighting. It is our personal responsibility to honor our heritage by fulfilling the legacy of our ancestors.

Preserving our heritage involves a duty to our Nation. This duty includes building upon our successes and working towards excelsior. As a citizen it is important to participate first in our families, then communities and government. It is by creating a strong base that we can create a strong and prosperous nation. We must instill these qualities of virtue and patriotism so that we can defend these truths. Take up the responsibility to fulfill your duty for the sake of your ancestors.

It is by knowing what we believe in, living our beliefs and educating our own family to live as patriots in America that we will preserve our freedom. Let us not forget where we came from. Let us not forget the lives lost for our freedom. Let us make our ancestors proud. So we hold our head high in this great nation, the land of the free and home of the brave. We stand in the light of those who came before us and build the future for our children to live as we have lived, only better. Remember our American heritage and fulfill the duty of preserving it.

Sarah Chmelik

MORE REASONS FOR THE HIGH COST OF HEALTHCARE

By Dr. John Livingston

I would like to comment on the Idaho Statesman's article on Health Care Executive Compensation printed on January 29.

<http://www.idahostatesman.com/2013/12/29/2947963/as-a-boise-health-system-grows.html>

Every year such an article is written and every year it generates conversation about the Big Hospital system compensation formulas and how they relate to increasing health care costs. After about 3 days everybody forgets about this. Below the fold on the left hand side Elizabeth Rosenthal writes an article entitled "Health Care's Road to Ruin."

It is ironic that these articles appear on the same page, and the both beg the same question. Why does health care cost so much? I really ask of you to not let this issue die this legislative session. With the Exchange under fire and Medicaid Expansion on the table we need to get in the game and offer solutions to these problems.

Let me make some general comments before we move forward.

We need to have all non-profit health care institutions with more than \$100million dollars of revenue be required by law to undergo an independent outside audit to be made available to the citizens of Idaho---the people who confer on them their non- profit status. The article in the Statesman uses IRS Form 990 information. THIS IS NOT AN AUDIT! Furthermore the report is based on Gross Receipts not Gross Revenues----other sources of revenue including grants from CMS {Medicare and Medicaid} NIH, HHS etc. may actually increase revenues by more than 40%!

In the NYT article they mention attempts at cost containment under the ACA. At no time do they mention that even today 45% of our Health Care industry is already nationalized---Medicare, Medicaid, Tri-Care, VA, Federal and State Employees Etc. One of the reasons for the increasing costs in health care is from this very fact alone----no competition in the market place.

Now to address the local Statesman article. Please know that I have never been a hospital employed physician. I was offered such a position in 2002 when I was head of the trauma department at Al's and turned it down because I had seen over the previous 4 years the manipulation in billing and coding and the cost shifting by the large hospitals and carriers that I felt was immoral----Robin Hood was a thief. It would be wrong for me to criticize a process that I was party to---especially when I am soon to be retired. I am very proud that I have retired as an independent physician and I am able to say that I have never been party to such a process, especially one where my patients are made to bear the costs.

WE are blessed to have an outstanding medical community in Idaho. I never make another person's business my business. The prices being paid to physicians who are employed by hospitals are not only for services rendered, but also for the book of business (patients) that they bring into the enterprise. Hospitals can afford to pay extra for physicians salaries by transferring funds from facility fees to salaries for physicians. What I have been most disappointed in during my career in private practice is that physicians are willing to sell their souls to the hospitals for a pay check paid for by increasing insurance premiums paid for by their patients.

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MORE REASONS FOR THE HIGH COST OF HEALTHCARE

By Dr. John Livingston

The other point about this is that the salaries that the doctors receive are only a portion of their total compensation. They don't have to pay the salaries of their employees, mal practice coverage, salaries for back office and accounting functions etc. this is all paid for by "rolled up" charges in the facility fees. This will only get worse and be more costly with Accountable Care Organizations under the ACA.

The economic principle that exposes the folly in this process is very simple. When a physician received a fee for his service from the patient both parties----buyers and sellers were intimately involved in the transactions. They were willing participants and if either was not satisfied with the outcome there would be a price to pay moving forward---either an opportunity cost lost by the provider or decreased compensation from the patient. With multiple disinterested third parties involved in multiple third party transactions economic signals result in distortions that result in increased costs. No command and control system can fix these problems because the people sitting far away from the situation are themselves not involved in the transaction.

I for one am appalled at the article. Here is an interesting question that I asked Sister Patricia Mulvane 30 years ago: Why is it appropriate for a large hospital system that pays its' executives and physicians 7 figure salaries to send out a bill collector and place a patient in jeopardy of bankruptcy, when the reason that these people are placed in jeopardy is because the insurance premiums that pay for these their salaries are so high that many people can't afford to buy insurance?

Again I feel a sense of despair when I see all aspects of the health care delivery system-----doctors, hospitals, insurance carriers and our own government involved in such a large "money changing" operation.

I would like to point out to you that the estimated taxes not paid by the large hospitals---corporate real estate, sales, and deferred income, would pay for 2/3 of our Medicaid budget this year!

Why are we not addressing this issue with our legislature? Is it because these organizations and their lobbies are so powerful that in an election year our politicians do not wish to jeopardize their campaign financing if they take on such an issue? Fine. Then just pass a law that all non-profit health care institutions that have over \$100 million of revenue----gross or received be required to undergo an independent outside audit and have the results of such an audit be made available to the public. Heck, many 501(c)-3's do this voluntarily---the YMCA, Salvation Army, Catholic and LDS Charities etc. Why are the large hospital systems special?

This is a tough fight, but only one that the private sector can win. Collusion between government and large health care systems---hospitals and insurance carriers will only transfer the terms of the economic transaction further away from the parties to that transaction. The problem we have today is that we are moving further away from the solutions to these problems.

The Health Care Exchange as it evolves maybe even into a private exchange could help provide more competition but also more transparency in the entire system.

John Livingston, MD

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January 2014

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The Leadership Institute's Youth Leadership School is a two-day, comprehensive campaign activism training that provides the tools to be an effective youth leader for conservative candidates and causes. Any student who wants to be active in the political process should attend this school.

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Page 1

Idaho 2nd Amendment Appreciation Day

We the People

*insure domestic Tranquility, provide for the com
and our Posterity, do ordain and establish this*

*of the United States, in order to form a more perfect Union, establish Justice,
ives*
Monday, January 13, 2014

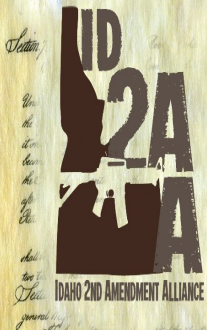
*Article I.
Section 1. All legislative Powers herein granted shall be vested in a Congress of the United States, which shall consist of a Senate and House of Representatives.*

Section 2. The House of Representatives shall be composed of Members chosen every second Year by the People of the several States, and the Electors in each State shall have the Qualifications requisite for Electors in that State.

The 2013 legislative session did not produce the results that many Idaho gun owners wanted to see. In the 2014 session we want to make sure the Idaho legislature knows the desires of its constituents. We need thousands of Idahoans to march with us in January and every legislator to stand with the people of Idaho in defending the 2nd Amendment. We want to see Idaho lead the way in the preservation and expansion of our 2nd Amendment rights.

*Article II.
Section 1. The executive Power shall be vested in a President of the United States of America. He shall hold his Office during the Term of four Years, and shall be eligible to one Term only.*

We are going to meet at the Boise Center on the Grove near the water fountain. We will meet at 10:30 and begin the march at 10:50. Once we arrive at the capitol we will have a few quick words from special guest speakers and then present our legislative ideas to the legislators. From 11:30 to 2:00 we encourage you to set up a time to meet with your legislators and take a tour of YOUR statehouse.



Please contact Greg Pruett with questions at:
idaho2aa@gmail.com or on our facebook page.

Sponsored by the Idaho Second Amendment Alliance.

*Article III.
Section 1. The judicial Power shall be vested in one or more Supreme Courts, and in such inferior Courts as the Congress may from time to time ordain and establish. The Judges, both of the Supreme and inferior Courts, shall hold their Offices during good Behaviour, and shall, at stated Times, receive for their Services a Compensation, which shall not be diminished during their Continuance in Office.*



DUCK DYNASTY STARS COMING TO IDAHO

Ducks Beware - Duck Dynasty Stars to Land at Idaho Center

Boise, ID – November 25, 2013 – As the ducks migrate north through Idaho this spring, the Duck Commander will be tight on their tail feathers.

Representative Lawrence Denney and Donna Denney, in connection with DenneyforIdaho.com, are pleased to announce that the stars of A&E's record-breaking hit series "Duck Dynasty" have committed to a special, one-night engagement for the public at the Idaho Center in Nampa, Idaho on March 29, 2014.

Dubbed 'Happy, Happy, Happy: An Evening with A&E's Duck Dynasty', this special night will feature Duck Dynasty Patriarch Phil Robertson and his wife Miss Kay, as well as Alan and his wife, Lisa Robertson. With the same authenticity and frankness that has endeared their show to millions, making it the #1 viewed non-fiction show in cable history, they will share about business, family values, a story or two, and their belief about what makes this country great.

Tickets start at under \$30, and will be available through the Idaho Center's ticket office in the coming weeks, just in time for Christmas.

In addition, DenneyforIdaho.com will be selling a limited number of VIP tickets for a pre-event meet-and-greet and photo opportunity with the Robertsons.

Family. Ducks. Guns. God. Hard work. Fun. Come hear what drives the Robertson family, their business, and their lives. As "Duck Dynasty" continues to prove, down home values and a PG rating are still appealing to a vast majority of American society. If the over 11.8 million people tuned in for the Season 4 premier in August have a say, this Louisiana family business won't be "flying south" any time soon.

Lawrence Denney is an Idaho Representative for District 9, and a candidate for Secretary of State. Updates on the event will be posted at www.DenneyForIdaho.com

Now in its fourth season, Duck Dynasty is the #1 rated non-fiction cable show in history, airing Wednesdays on the A&E Network. Phil Robertson started making Duck Commander duck calls in his garage. With son Willie now at the helm, the family business has grown into a duck-sporting empire, but fame and fortune have failed to cause this family to abandon their roots.

HAPPY, HAPPY, HAPPY AN EVENING WITH A&E's DUCK DYNASTY

MARCH 29, 2014



CELEBRATE AMERICA'S HERITAGE & FAMILY VALUES WITH A&E DUCK DYNASTY STARS PHIL & AL ROBERTSON WITH SPECIAL APPEARANCES BY MISS KAY & LISA ROBERTSON

Denney for Idaho is proud to announce Happy, Happy, Happy: An Evening with A&E's Duck Dynasty. Come hear stars, Phil, Miss Kay, Alan & Lisa Robertson speak on their family values and America's Heritage. This event will be the evening of **March 29, 2014**. There are a *limited number* of VIP tickets available for this event. VIP tickets are \$500 per person and will feature a meet & greet and photo opportunity with the Robertsons as well as Hors d'oeuvres.

ORDER YOUR VIP TICKETS TODAY
at www.denneyforidaho.com

Main Event tickets will go on sale just in time for Christmas!

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DENNEY
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Rick Howard, CPA, Treasurer

SCHEDULE OF ORGANIZATIONAL EVENTS DECEMBER & JANUARY

JAN. 6th. Monday at 6:15 pm Tea Party Patriots Meeting sponsored by the Blanchard Area Tea Party. Speaker will be Scott Rockholm who is a Documentary film maker and producer.

JAN. 8th. Wednesday At 7:00 pm The Gem County Tea Party will meet at The Pizza Factory in Emmett. Karen Schumacher will speak on Agenda 21.

JAN. 13th. Monday Idaho 2nd. Amendment Appreciation Day. Marchers will meet at Boise Center on the Grove near the fountain at 10:30 am. We will begin the march to the State House at 10:50 am. Once at the Capital there will be a few quick words from some speakers and then present our legislative ideas to the legislators. From 11:30 am till 2:00 pm we encourage you to meet with your legislators.

JAN. 16th Thursday at 7:00 pm Canyon County Tea Party will meet at a location yet to be determined. Contact Darryl Ford at canyontea@gmail.com for further information.

JAN. 21st. Tuesday at 5:30 Lewis Clark Tea Party, Lewiston Idaho Group meeting at Roosters Landing, Clarkston Washington. Volunteer information Call: 208-970-8055

JAN. 21st. Tuesday at 7:00 pm Treasure Valley Oath Keepers regular monthly meeting at Meridian Veterans Memorial Building. 22 W. Broadway Ave, Meridian, Id.

JAN. 27th. Wednesday at 7:00 pm Canyon County 27th BN Idaho Lightfoot Militia will hold its regular monthly meeting at R K Gunsmithing 201 N. Kings Road #101 Nampa Idaho 83687-3670

MAR. 29th. 2014 Duck Dynasty will land at the Idaho Center Nampa. Sponsored by Lawrence Denney for Idaho. See pages 25 and 26 for further details on tickets.



**PLEASE GO TO OUR WEB SITE AND SIGN THE PETITION TO DEFUND THE
STATE HEALTH CARE EXCHANGE <http://gemstatepatriot.com>**

HERE ARE LINKS TO CONTRIBUTORS OF THIS NEWSLETTER

The Idaho Business alliance <http://idahobusinessalliance.com>

The 9/12 Project <http://912projectidaho.com>

The Free Enterprise Pac <http://freeenterprise.org>

Idaho Carry Open & Concealed <http://idahocarry.org>

Idaho Freedom Foundation <http://idahofreedom.net>

Idaho for Local Education <http://idahoansforlocaleducation.com/>

Idaho Chooses Life <http://idahochoosesthechoice.org/>

Please take some time and visit our facebook page and give is a like

www.gemstatepatriot.com

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