

THE GEM STATE PATRIOT



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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.

DUE TO THE LACK OF PARTICIPATION FROM PRO-MEDICAID EXPANSION DEBATERS WE ARE CANCELLING OUR SCHEDULED DEBATE FOR PRESIDENTS DAY FEBRUARY 16, 2015

GOVERNOR OTTERS STATE OF THE STATE MESSAGE WAS SIMPLE

CUT TAXES FOR THE HIGHEST INCOME EARNERS

ELEMINATE THE PERSONAL PROPERTY TAX FOR BUSINESS

INCREASE AID TO EDUCATION BY \$100 MILLION

INCREASE THE GAS TAX AND REGISTION FEES WHICH WILL HIT THE MIDDLE AND LOWER INCOME CITIZENS THE HARDEST

“NO I REPEAT NO” TAX CUTS FOR THE PEOPLE OF IDAHO WHO WORK TWO AND THREE JOBS TO MAKE A LIVING

LOOKS LIKE WE ARE GOING TO HAVE FOUR MORE YEARS OF CRONYISM AND TAKING CARE OF THE GOOD OLD BOYS

“DON'T BLAME US WE DIDN'T VOTE FOR HIM”

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Editorial “Horse Trading” by Bob Neugebauer GROCERY TAX VS GAS TAX



You’re going to find two important articles in this edition. One deals with the grocery tax and the other with the gas tax. Both of these taxes are regressive taxes as they put a much heavier burden on lower income families than on those in the higher income levels. We have done some research and would like to offer a suggestion to our legislators. If they are going to consider raising the gas tax they should consider eliminating the grocery tax.



This is the cost of feeding a family of four, two adults and two children one age 6-8 and one age 9-11 for one year. These are the most recent government figures available from the USDA for each of four plans. The numbers have been rounded. Sales tax/ Grocery tax is figured at Idaho’s current sales tax rate of 6%.

<u>Thrifty Tax</u>	<u>Low-cost Tax</u>	<u>Moderate Tax</u>	<u>Liberal Tax</u>
\$7,620 \$457	\$9,960 \$598	\$12,456 \$747	\$15,096 \$906

The average miles driven in the U.S. across all age groups and gender is 13,476 per. year. The average number of miles driven in Idaho is 15,000 per. year

Knowing these averages we can calculate the cost of the gas tax per year for the average driver. Please note that the totals do not include any potential increase in the federal tax.

<u>Average MPG</u>	<u>CURRENT Fed. \$.184pg</u>	<u>CURRENT ID. \$.25pg</u>	<u>INCREASE ID. \$.31pg</u>	<u>FED & STATE+6CENTS \$.25 / .31 / TTL FED&ST.</u>
15mpg	\$184	\$250	\$310	\$434+60 = 494
20mpg	\$138	\$186	\$231	\$324+45 = 369
25mpg	\$110	\$150	\$186	\$260+36 = 296
30mpg	\$ 92	\$125	\$155	\$217+30 = 247
35mpg	\$ 79	\$107	\$133	\$186+26 = 212

The average age of a car on the road in 2015 will be approximately 11.5 years and the average MPG for all passenger vehicles in 2004 was approximately 20 mpg (Univ. of Michigan Transportation Research Institute).

We looked at our own food bill to see how this move would affect us. Being a retired couple we receive a 200 tax credit for our grocery tax which is about \$280.00 less than we actually spend on tax each year. We drive about 12,000 miles a year and get about 15 mpg on both our vehicles so we contribute \$200.00 in Idaho gas tax @ 25 cents per gal. and with a 6 cent increase we would pay \$60.00 more for a total of \$260. If there were no grocery tax or corresponding credit we save \$280 and the increase in our gas tax would cost us \$60 which leaves us with \$220 of additional spendable income. Take an average family of four driving 15k miles per year at 20 mpg pays \$186 in gas tax, with the 6 cent increase it is \$45 more or \$231. Their grocery tax at the Moderate cost would be **\$747** with a \$400 credit for a total of \$347. With no grocery tax or credit they are ahead \$302.00 after you subtract the \$45 in additional gas tax cost which they can spend on

This might be an avenue to remove the grocery tax, one of the most regressive taxes put upon low wage earners and at the same time fund the infrastructure of roads, highways and bridges without hurting the middle class. This would be an reasonable trade off. We have control of how much we drive but food is something we can’t do without.

“CHEAP GAS” WILL IT HELP OR HURT?”

By Bob Neugebauer



The middle class has received a windfall in the past month because of gas prices plummeting to levels not seen for a year or more. The government says this is all because we have an oil glut as oil production has increased with the evolution of fracking and horizontal drilling, but I'm not so sure that's the whole truth. You have to wonder if oil prices were not manipulated and kept artificially high by not only speculators, but by deliberate slowing of production by the big oil companies.

There are consequence to having cheap oil and gas as exploration and production have contributed almost 40% of our economic and job growth for the past 5 years. Forty percent of all new jobs created have been in Texas since 2009, and a majority of those jobs can be attributed to the petroleum industry. The

other side of this economic story is that many of these new exploration companies have begun to lay off workers and are slashing their exploration and production budgets. This is going to mean more unemployment, not just in the petroleum industry, but in all of the services that support them.

Were it not for the petroleum industry adding almost \$400 billion to our economy in the past few years, our Gross Domestic Product of the U.S. would probably have been negative. Without this growth, unemployment would be at much higher levels. Understand that for every person that works directly for the petroleum exploration and production industry, three more are employed in related businesses.

When you have prices drop by 50% in a month and a half from over \$100 per barrel to \$50 per barrel you have to expect dislocations within the industry where production costs are higher than \$50 per barrel. This is a simple matter of economics 101. When production exceeds the demand for a product the price will drop until the excess is absorbed or production is slowed.

Many of the shale oil companies have substantially higher costs of production so they are drilling fewer wells and laying off employees. The kicker to this is that many of these companies have leveraged themselves to the hilt with high interest rate debt to the tune of almost \$500 billion and much of this debt was high yield bonds issued by subprime companies. The big question is what will happen if these companies start defaulting on this huge debt bubble? No one really knows, but it could bring about another problem with our banking system should defaults become severe enough. This is not going to happen in the next quarter, but by the third quarter of this year we could be feeling the effects with higher unemployment and lower GDP.

It is hoped that the drop in energy prices will somehow offset this dislocation of employees, earnings and investment in the petroleum industry by giving consumers more discretionary income to spend on other items. We should also see a drop in food prices as transportation is a significant part of the cost. The one thing you can be sure of is that the oil companies are not dummies, and they will be shutting down production and curtailing drilling to keep their losses to a minimum. Over time the excess supply will tighten and therefore raise the price. The supposed glut of oil and gas that the media pundits continue to harp on is not that large and many Guru's of the oil industry are predicting that by year end oil could be back to \$100 a barrel. So enjoy the energy feast for as long as it lasts, but don't be surprised when gasoline is back at \$3.50 a gallon, and our state and federal governments have added another 18 cents a gallon in taxes to the price.

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“CHEAP GAS” WILL IT HELP OR HURT?”

By Bob Neugebauer

Now that we have gas prices below \$2.00 a gallon, the politicians in Washington are talking about a 12 cent increase in the federal tax, and of course we have our Governor who would love to hike the state tax by 6 cents a gallon. So now that the middle class has gotten some relief from high gas prices our state and federal governments are going to take that money back. Don't you just love the way the middle class is constantly getting screwed.

The gas tax is a regressive tax which disproportionately affects lower income families as opposed to the wealthy, much like the grocery tax. It doesn't seem to matter much to our politicians how much they crush the middle class since they are not heavy campaign contributors. We don't have an abundance of real conservatives in our Idaho legislature. In fact if you check the 2014 Idaho Freedom Foundation Freedom Index (a non partisan analysis on legislators voting) which indicates which legislators voted conservative on bills, you will only find nine of our senators and 28 of our representatives who are conservative voters. You can see a breakdown of the legislators scores on pages 21 thru 23.

Right now we are paying 25 cents per gallon in State and 18.4 cents per gallon in federal tax. That's 43.4 cents or almost a quarter of today's price per gallon. With the proposed raises 12 cents federal and 6 cents State total tax will be 61.4 cents per gallon. That would be a 42% increase that is going to hit the middle class harder than anyone else.

I assure you that when gas prices go up they are not going to cut the taxes they imposed on us when prices were low, and you can be sure that gas prices will not stay this low forever. There is also an inherent unfairness in the gas tax since the people who can't afford a new car or truck with better gas millage will bear the brunt of any new gas tax that is imposed since older cars get worse gas millage. The roads and highways benefit everyone not just the people who drive on them, and there needs to be a better way of distributing the cost of building and repairing our roads and bridges besides a tax on gasoline.

With the advent of electric and hybrid cars along with extremely fuel efficient new model vehicles, those who cannot afford those new modes of transportation are just plain out of luck. The cost for infrastructure should definitely be borne by all those who use our roads and bridges, but also those that benefit from having those roads and bridges. Problem is there are few alternatives that would make any sense. There have been proposals to use mileage as a measure of how much tax you would pay, but then there is the problem of tracking odometers annually and accounting for distances driven out of state. Putting GPS units in cars would be totally invasive and unacceptable to most of the public as we have enough people watching where we are and what we do every minute of the day already.

If you increase the tax on truckers, they will just pass the cost along to the manufacturer who in turn will pass it along to the consumer. If you were to tax the manufacturers, they would add it to the cost of the product and pass it along to the consumers. In the end the consumer will pay for the infrastructure.

One idea that has been proposed to make the difference between new hybrids and old cars is to tax hybrid and electric cars which are the most fuel efficient each time the vehicles registration is renewed. This seems a little fairer as anyone buying a fuel efficient car is saving money on the gas they use but should still be responsible for the tax to build infrastructure.

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“CHEAP GAS” WILL IT HELP OR HURT?”

By **Bob Neugebauer**

Let’s take a look at the average miles driven per year according to the U.S. Department of Transportation for different groups. (MPY=miles per year)

Men drive 16,550 mpy and women 10,142 mpy. This holds true across all age groups.

Drivers between age 35-54 drive 15,291 mpy and those over 64 drive only 7,646 mpy.

Those driving the least are over age 65 at 4,785 while men age 35-54 log the most 18,858 mpy

The average across all age groups and gender is 13,476 mpy, Average for Idaho is 15,000 mpy

Knowing these averages we can calculate the cost of the gas tax per year for the average driver.

	FED TAX		IDAHO TAX		TTL FED&STATE	
	OLD	NEW	OLD	NEW		
Avg. mpg	<u>\$.184</u>	<u>\$.304</u> ^65%	<u>\$.25</u>	<u>\$.31</u> ^24%	<u>.434 / .614</u> ^41.5%	
15mpg	\$184	\$304	\$250	\$310	\$434	\$614
20mpg	\$138	\$228	\$186	<u>\$231</u>	\$324	\$459
25mpg	\$110	\$182	\$150	\$186	\$260	\$368
30mpg	\$ 92	\$152	\$125	\$155	\$217	\$307
35mpg	\$ 79	\$130	\$ 107	\$133	\$186	\$263

It is easy to see why the gas tax is no longer keeping up with the cost of infrastructure. Going from a vehicle getting 15 MPG to a vehicle getting 35 MPG gives you a 43% drop in the total fuel tax collected by state and federal governments. Other systems for collection of taxes to fund infrastructure are VMT (vehicle miles traveled) and AVL (automatic vehicle location). Both of these methods would have to overcome resistance to privacy intrusion which has proven a formidable obstruction to using new GPS and AVL technologies.

If the state increased the registration fees on all cars getting more than 20 miles per gallon so that the average cost for the fuel tax they had to pay matched the \$233 per year average, I would think this could help solve our problem of equalizing the burden between high mpg cars and low mpg cars. Example: if your car got an average of 25 MPG, you would pay \$186 per year from the gas tax plus \$47 in additional registration fees, or if your average was 30 MPG then you would pay \$155 in state gas tax plus \$78 in additional registration fees.

This is definitely a conundrum, and one that you can be sure will continue to put the burden on the middle and lower income families.

Idaho's State Healthcare Exchange is a Federal Exchange

By Russ Fulcher



In response to the Marty Trillhasse Lewiston Tribune piece praising adoption of the state health exchange Dec. 28, 2014. Idaho's "state-based" health exchange... isn't. It is a federal exchange, governed by federal rules, operated by cooperating state employees. When Idaho leaders chose this path for healthcare, Idaho taxpayers were forced to swallow the federal "bait" (\$), impaled on a hook of federal control. And Idaho officially became an invested partner in seeing President Obama's Affordable Care Act (ACA) succeed. But decisions have ramifications, and this one is not turning out like Mr. Trillhaase says.

Let's remember what the ACA truly is: A mandate that taxpayers purchase a product, whether they want it or not. That product (health insurance) must contain ingredients defined by the feds; like mandatory prenatal care for men, prostrate care for women, and taxpayer funded abortifacients for everyone. It's a mandate for employers to provide insurance to employees – a move that discourages full-time employment, and can make the difference between profit and loss, especially for small companies. It was deceptively "sold" to lawmakers as a way to get federal subsidies they would not otherwise receive. However, reality is that with an \$18 Trillion debt, federal money doesn't exist, so it's only a matter of time when partnering state taxpayers will have to pay the bill. But for sake of argument, let's forget about subsidy and just talk policy:

What happens when the government subsidizes things - in this case, healthcare? Of course there's a small number unable to help themselves that will benefit. But on a much grander scale, those who work end up paying for those who don't. Those who perform get penalized, and those who choose not to work, game the system, and are in the country illegally – receive the benefit. In essence, the incentive of subsidy is used to discourage work and encourage illicit activity or non-productivity.

Then there's the long-term impact on the healthcare system. When the government subsidizes healthcare, "demand" becomes endless, while nothing is done to encourage "supply" or quality thereof. How long will it be before the system is so burdened with low-paying demand that overwhelmed providers become discouraged, quality decreases, our best and brightest choose not to be in the medical profession, and the system breaks down?

In short, the ACA does nothing to improve healthcare, access to it, or reduce costs. Partnering states like Idaho are hitting the accelerator to implement the long-term impact of the law – which is increasing reliance and relinquishing power to a federal government laden with debt and intoxicated with control.

We should tell the feds they can have their precious ACA. If they want their federal exchange so badly, they can run it themselves. In the meantime, we are going to create a superior free-market solution in Idaho. We can increase incentive for productivity and patient-control by offering tax-deferred healthcare savings accounts. We can utilize some of the taxpayer money traditionally slated for indigent care by encouraging strategically placed private clinics as an alternative to expensive emergency room use. We can reduce insurance rates via increased competition by allowing providers to operate across state lines. We can encourage "direct care pay" options whereby "health memberships" in a physician's practice can be purchased, avoiding the need to buy an Obamacare policy and allowing the patient to pay a flat fee for a range of previously agreed-upon services.

Mr. Trillhaase has fallen prey to the same flawed thinking as congressional and state leaders that have forced this law down our throats. The government is not the solution to improving healthcare and reducing cost. Thanks to the ACA and partnering states, government is the problem.

Idaho's Grocery Tax is Regressive and Burdens Low Income Earners

By Tea Party Bob



It's time for the men and women we have elected to our legislature to do something for the middle class families of Idaho. These are the people who pay a majority of the taxes and do the voting, yet they are ignored and forgotten by the people they have elected to govern them. For the past 5 years the median income for a family of 4 has dropped by over 3 thousand dollars, and these families have been struggling to survive in a world of lower wages and more part time employment than full time employment. With higher food prices and healthcare costs it has become a serious challenge for Idaho's middle class citizens to just stay even, never mind getting ahead. This is a regressive tax as it takes a larger percentage from low-income people than from high-income people.

Idaho is one of seven states that taxes groceries at the same rate as other goods. There is a tax credit for senior citizens and the poor of \$120 and \$100 respectively, and for other tax payers the credit is \$80 and will reach \$100 this year. According to our legislature if the grocery tax were to be repealed, it would cut state revenues by \$172 million in 2017 and would be offset by repealing the tax credit with a net cost of \$26 million; however, there is reason to believe that it would be a net neutral revenue cost. Food is one of the largest cost items for a family, and the tax credit doesn't begin to offset the 6% tax in most cases. About 65,000 Idahoans file taxes each year just to recover the grocery tax that would not normally have to file at all.

From an economic standpoint this would put an additional \$172 million immediately into consumer's pockets for their use to purchase more or better quality food or other necessities like health care and clothing instead of the state holding that money till the next year. It seems that many of our leaders in the legislature don't understand that this grocery tax is a true burden for the lower income citizens, and that eliminating it would increase economic activity as people have more of their hard earned money to spend.

"The disadvantages of a tax on food are that it places a disproportionate burden on lower income households and lowers the rate of growth of sales tax revenues relative to consumption growth which has lead the majority of states to raise revenues and simplify sales tax administration in ways other than taxing food." "As a share of income food taxes are typically four to five times as high for poorer families as for upper-income families." "The burdens that state and local taxes place on lower -income families take on added importance at a time when government policies heavily emphasize moving families from welfare to work." "A reduction in the sales tax on food can make it easier for poorer families to support themselves on the earnings from low wage jobs." (Center on Budget and Policy Priorities)

Our legislature needs to get their priorities straight and dump this tax. In last year's legislative session Senators Russ Fulcher and Cliff Bayer drafted a bill to exempt food from the sales tax and had two dozen co-sponsors from both parties. Problem was that 2014 was an election year when Russ Fulcher was challenging Governor Otter in a primary bid, and that did not sit well with some of Otter's supporters like Speaker Scott Bedke who blocked this bill from getting introduced. I guess Speaker Bedke did not care about how the middle class families of Idaho are struggling, but only about his friend Butch Otter getting reelected.

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Idaho's Grocery Tax is Regressive and Burdens Low Income Earners

By Tea Party Bob



When will politicians learn that they are paid by the people and work for the people. Here was a perfect opportunity to help the middle class families of Idaho which was laid to rest in the dead bills file by Speaker Bedke because he thought it would make Russ Fulcher, the Governor's primary opponent, look good in the eyes of the voters. This is what is wrong with many of the legislators who are running our state. Their primary concern is themselves and not the citizens of Idaho. They care more about looking good during an election and placating the lobbyists than taking care of the people who elected them.

Just think about how our state legislators passed legislation last year that gives the ok to offer tax breaks for companies to open businesses in Idaho for up to 15 years with your tax money. Why don't they care enough about you to eliminate a regressive tax on groceries? It has to make you wonder why you we elected them. Our legislators know that this is a bad tax that hurts the lower income families of our state, yet they do nothing to rectify the situation. Remember, we are one of only seven states that taxes groceries.

The Idaho Freedom Foundation has a petition to repeal the grocery tax and give that money back to the people. We are in total agreement and would encourage everyone to go to their website and click on the green button and sign the petition. Here is an opportunity to have your voice heard. The more people who sign, the better our chances of getting this tax repealed. Click on the link, and it will take you to the website s to sign the petition.

<http://idahofreedom.org/>

Has Congressman Labrador Turned His Back on Idaho's Conservatives?

By Tea Party Bob



Congressman Raul Labrador voted for John Boehner as speaker of the house after receiving hundreds of calls and e-mails from his constituents to vote against him. Does this tell you anything about his character or where his allegiance is?

Labrador won the hearts and minds of the tea party and conservative organizations throughout Idaho, but seldom if ever mentions the fact that it was they who were in the vanguard that got him elected in 2010. Now that he has been in office for four years, I guess he doesn't feel the necessity to be as conservative as he said he is.

This vote for Boehner was nothing short of a slap in the face to the conservatives that elected him last year, and if he thinks for a minute that the press release that was put out by his local mouth piece, Dan Popkey, has helped explain his action, he is seriously mistaken.

E-mails and phone calls came in all day to our office from Tea Party and conservative groups throughout our state and the country asking us to get the word out for citizens to call Labrador's offices in Idaho and Washington and tell him not to vote for Boehner. We know for a fact that his office was inundated with calls and e-mails, but evidently he didn't feel the necessity to listen to the voters of Idaho. Shame on this man who so many Idahoans have put their trust in that he should turn on them for the favor of John Boehner.

Labrador's press release said Boehner "asked for his help in moving the house in a more conservative direction and promised this would be a model for how he'll conduct himself as speaker in the 114th Congress." If he believed that line, we could probably sell him some farmland in Death Valley. We ask you when John Boehner has ever demonstrated that he is willing to listen to the conservatives. The only thing he cares about is being speaker for a third term to hold on to his power, even though the polls show that 60% of the people do not want him in that position.

This is just typical of politicians like Labrador who have been elected into office for a third term. They become way too enamored with their own BS and disregard what the people who elected them want. This is the reason we need term limits. When politicians turn on the people who elected them to office, they are no longer working for those people and need to be voted out of office.

If this vote for Boehner is any indication of how he is going to vote for the next two years, he will find a much different reception in Idaho at his next town hall meeting. It was bad enough when he supported the establishment by endorsing Governor Otter in the last election, but to support John Boehner for speaker of the house is a transgression that will probably not be forgiven by the voters of Idaho.

The Federal Government is Hopeless. Here's What to Do.

By Tate Fegley

. If there is any clear lesson to be drawn from the American experience with federalism and constitutionally-limited government, it is that centralized power will not limit itself but will grow every chance it gets. Also clear is that the federal government, despite any catchy slogans about how it works for the people and not the other way around, is not beholden or accountable to any one of us. Even if the congressman and two senators that supposedly represent you vote in accordance with your wishes 100% of the time, that is 3 out of 435 votes. In other words, even if all Idahoans agreed on what federal policy should be and their preferences were reflected in Congress by their representatives, they only influence .7% (4/535) of the vote.

This might not be so bad if the federal government stuck to the powers delegated to it in Article 1, Section 8 of its Constitution. However, most of what it does is not included there. Indeed, its power has become so expansive as to dictate the minutiae of our lives, from the size of our toilets and at what rate water can pass through our showerheads to what medical insurance we must purchase and what we can put into our own bodies. Most of these rules are written by unelected bureaucrats in the executive branch, a clear violation of the Constitution's mandated separation of powers.

We were taught (maybe) in our public school civics class that the separation of powers is supposed to encourage the members of the federal government to limit themselves; ambition was to counteract ambition, in the words of James Madison. But what we have observed is that there is no strong incentive for the various branches of the federal government to limit one another's powers. Rather, powers of the various branches often grow together, not at one another's expense.

Fortunately, though, the separation of powers between the federal branches does not exhaust the full list of all checks and balances designed by the Framers. There is also the Tenth Amendment, which states, "The powers not delegated to the United States by the Constitution, nor prohibited by it to the States, are reserved to the States respectively, or to the people." There is a huge amount of power here to scale back the size and scope of the federal government, if only we choose to wield it.

For instance, right here in Idaho, S. 1332, the Idaho Federal Firearm, Magazine, and Register Ban Enforcement Act, effectively renders any future federal gun control measures null and void. It does this by prohibiting Idaho law enforcement from aiding the feds in enforcement actions. Without the assistance of state and local law enforcement, Judge Andrew Napolitano said this will make federal gun laws "nearly impossible to enforce." The federal government simply does not have the manpower and must rely on the help of the states.

Further examples of state noncompliance include the REAL ID Act of 2005, which was the federal government's attempt at creating a national ID card with biometric information. Even though the REAL ID Act is still federal law, it has been effectively nullified by states simply refusing to implement it. For those concerned about Obama's use of executive orders to bypass the Congress regarding immigration, consider the actions of South Carolina legislature, which has pre-filed two bills for the 2015 legislative session. HB3086 and HB3120 would prohibit agents of the state of South Carolina from expending public funds resulting from official contact with individuals who are in the state illegally and if not for Obama's executive order would be deported.

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The Federal Government is Hopeless. Here's What to Do.
By Tate Fegley

In addition, for Obamacare to operate, it requires the compliance of the states and the federal government assumed such compliance would be forthcoming. S.103 in South Carolina, if passed, would make it illegal for state employees to help with the implementation of the Affordable Care Act, making it non-operational in the state. Clearly, there are many ways in which the states, which are far more responsive to their constituents than the feds, can be a check on the power of the federal government.

Furthermore, all of this is legal, even according to the federal government. There is an established legal precedent called the Anti-Commandeering Doctrine, which holds that the federal government cannot require states to expend resources or manpower to enforce federal acts or programs. This precedent is primarily based on four cases, the first dating back to 1842. In *Prigg v. Pennsylvania*, Justice Joseph Story held that the federal government could not force agents of the state of Pennsylvania to enforce the Fugitive Slave Act, but would have to go about it themselves. Other precedents include *New York v. United States* (1992), *Printz v. United States* (1997), and *Independent Business v. Sebelius* (2012).

Because of all of this, I would encourage those who care about federalism and limited government to consider redirecting their political energies, if only partially, from the futile practice trying to beg federal legislators thousands of miles away to consider reducing their own power, to inform state legislators of their power to not cooperate with unconstitutional federal acts and demand that they do so. Visit tenthamendmentcenter.com and look at the model legislation they have for states to nullify Obamacare, federal gun control, illegal NSA spying, Common Core, or whatever other federal encroachment you may be interested in curtailing. We can get off the cycle of voting federal bums out only to have them be replaced by new bums who, at best, only slow the growth of the federal government rather than shrink it. There have already been successes for states in nullifying unconstitutional federal laws. Let's add to them. *Tate Fegley is a graduate student who works for the Public Policy Research Center at Boise State University. If the strategy described in this essay interests you, please contact him at tatefegley@gmail.com*

YOUR PRESENCE IS REQUESTED AND ACTION IS REQUIRED

NAMPA CITY HALL AT 6:30 pm MONDAY JANUARY 19, 2015

CITY COUNCIL MEETING ITEM 3 ON THE AGENDA

THE SUBJECT IS URBAN RENEWAL

EVEN IF YOU LIVE OUTSIDE THE CITY LIMITS YOU

SHOULD CONSIDER ATTENDING THIS IMPORTANT MEETING

FOR MORE INFO CONTACT HUBERT OSBORNE

hiclosborne@aol.com

The Facts About Gun Control

By Tony Olson

Gun control is not about controlling guns—it’s about controlling people. And, the irony is those who scream the loudest in support of gun control are the ones whose policies have led to the most gun violence. Consider this . . .

Despite strict gun laws, all of the top ten cities in the U.S. with the highest number of gun homicides are controlled by Democrats (New Orleans, Detroit, Baltimore, Oakland, Newark, St. Louis, Miami, Richmond, Philadelphia, and Washington D.C.). If you count all gun-related deaths, including suicides and accidental shootings, the top ten are still one-hundred percent Democrat (except Oakland, Newark and Washington D.C. are out, and Las Vegas, Memphis and Cleveland are in).

The same is true for cities with the most gun homicides per capita. The overall gun homicide rate for the U.S. is 3.6 per 100,000 people, based on the most recent available statistics. The top ten major cities for gun homicides per capita are as follows:

New Orleans	-	62.1 per 100,000 people
Detroit	-	35.9 per 100,000 people
Baltimore	-	29.7 per 100,000 people
Newark	-	25.4 per 100,000 people
Washington DC	-	19.0 per 100,000 people
Atlanta	-	17.2 per 100,000 people
Cleveland	-	17.4 per 100,000 people
Buffalo-	-	16.5 per 100,000 people
Houston	-	12.9 per 100,000 people
Chicago	-	11.6 per 100,000 people



These ten cities alone accounted for approximately twelve percent of the total U.S. gun homicides. Once again, they are all controlled by Democrats. Of the top ten major cities with the highest overall crime rate, *nine* were controlled by Democrats. Oklahoma City (#9) prevented another clean sweep. By comparison, the very Republican state of Utah, which the Brady Campaign determined to have the least gun control, had a gun homicide rate of less than one percent.

Gun control measures in Democrat strongholds have consistently failed. Statistics continue to show that cities and states with the strictest gun control laws have the most gun violence. Larger urban areas usually have lower rates of gun ownership than rural areas, but significantly higher murder rates.

For example, a handgun ban went into effect in Washington, D.C. in 1977. The ban also included a requirement that other firearms be kept unloaded and disassembled. Since the ban took effect, there has only been one year that the murder rate fell below pre-ban levels. In fact, D.C. ranked among the top four major cities in the U.S. for the highest annual murder rate nineteen times, earning the nickname “The Murder Capital.” And, despite having some of the toughest gun laws in the country, Washington D.C. averaged 1508 “violent” crimes per 100,000 people.

Chicago, another city with strict gun laws and a low gun-ownership rate, had 506 murders in 2012, 440 murders in 2013, and will end the year with approximately 420 murders in 2014.

Illinois finally lifted its concealed-carry ban in January 2014. Not surprisingly, the murder rate in Chicago went down, contrary to the predictions of the anti-gun activists. Overall, states that have right-to-carry laws report murder rates that are twenty-eight percent lower than states that don’t. Violent crime is twenty-four percent lower. When the 1994 Federal Assault Weapons Ban expired in 2004, the murder rate in the U.S. was 5.5 per 100,000 people. We are told assault weapons play a key role in the murder rate, yet the murder rate has declined since the expiration of the ban. Another bad law created by naïve politicians.

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The Facts About Gun Control

By Tony Olson

People (Democrats) who know nothing about guns should not be responsible for creating gun legislation, and journalists who know nothing about guns should not be reporting on them. If the gun-control proponents are serious about making a positive impact, they should redirect their efforts to the person using the gun, not the gun itself. Mental illness is the primary cause of mass murders. Background checks will reveal the criminals, but mentally ill people with no criminal history and no available medical history, would not be stopped. Until we do a better job of dealing with mental illness as it relates to violent behavior, we are wasting our time.

People who want to kill will find a way to kill. Sometimes it's with a gun, but more often than not, they find other ways to kill. Of the largest mass-murders in U.S. history, the majority did not use a gun. The tragedy of 9/11 killed 2996 people and injured more than 6000 without a single shot being fired. The terrorists used box cutters and air-planes. Timothy McVeigh used fertilizer and diesel fuel to kill 168 and injure 680 others in the Oklahoma City bombing. Arson killed 87 people at Happy Land, a social club in The Bronx. Gary Ridgway (the Green River killer), and John Wayne Gacy, killed more than 100 people combined. None of the victims were killed with a gun. And, the worst school massacre in U.S. history, which killed thirty-eight children and six adults, was committed using explosives.

In China, where there are very strict gun laws, and less than one gun for every twenty people, mass killings and injuries are just as prolific. Most of the killings there are committed using knives. The top five serial killers in the world, Louis Garavito, Pedro Lopez, Daniel Camago, Pedro Rodrigues Filho, and Abul Djabar, are suspected of killing a combined total of more than 1250 people, none of which were killed with a gun.

Unfortunately, a large portion of the population is still getting its news from biased media outlets eager to espouse the anti-gun narrative. The information that is cherry-picked paints a picture that is far from reality. The media reports that more than 32,000 people in the United States are killed by gun violence every year. That's the number they give us. The fact is sixty-one percent of those deaths are suicides, and twenty-eight percent are gang-related homicides. An additional three percent are accidental shootings, two percent were in self-defense, and six percent were classified as "other." Actual gun "homicides" totaled just over 11,000, or only about one-third of what is being reported. Of those, approximately 8800 were gang-related. If the gang-related homicides were excluded from the U.S. total, we would actually have fewer gun homicides per capita than Switzerland, which is well below one per 100,000. By comparison, Honduras has a gun homicide rate of 68.4 per 100,000 people.

The media also tries to convince us that more guns equates to an increased homicide rate, which the facts do not support. In 1960, there were a total of approximately 77.5 million privately-owned guns in the United States, or one gun for every 2.31 people. The overall murder rate in 1960 was 5.1 per 100,000 people. By 2012, the number of privately-owned guns had increased to an estimated 333 million, or just over one per person, more than double the 1960 ratio. Yet, the murder rate in 2012 was only 4.7 per 100,000 people. Once again, a majority of the killings were gang-related, which weren't as prevalent in 1960.

A survey, sponsored by the Department of Justice, arrived at an estimate of 1.5 million defensive gun uses annually in the United States. That equates to approximately 680 defensive gun uses for every gun homicide that is not gang-related. How many of those defensive gun uses *prevented* a murder? We will never hear those figures because they don't support the liberal agenda. If the facts are ever to get out to the masses, it is up to us to do it. Remember the old saying: Guns don't kill people, Liberals kill people.

Tony Olson is a free-lance writer and author of the book "Spin Game: Exposing Political Lies and Tactics"

A Friendship in Crisis: U.S.- Israeli Relations

By Tom Brennan

A friendship in crisis: US-Israeli relations. What the inconsistent approach to supporting Israel will mean for the US and foreign relations and democracy in the Middle East.

Since its founding in 1948 Israel has had a unique and firm relationship with the United States. Through a series of wars in which Israel was attacked virtually from all sides by hostile Arab nations, to facing possible Russian intervention in 1973, Israel fought its battles alone with its own troops. American supplies, military aid and funds have been serious elements in the relationship. By and large the US Congress has been almost unilateral in its consistent support for the only functioning democracy in the Middle East. Recently the Obama Administration has undermined that relationship with this bulwark of liberty with a series of statements and maneuverings in favor of the Palestinian State that have caused breaches of credibility which will have consequences of immense proportions for the United States.

The rapid advance of The Caliphate, often referred to as ISL (Islamic State of the Levant) has led to a loss of the legitimate territory of Iraq, freed by American Forces and then evacuated under the Administration's plans. A lack of strategy, piecemeal strikes and a complete disregard for the actual size and strength of the Caliphate forces allowed significant territory in revolution-torn Syria and post war Iraq to be taken over by a brutal group which the Administration termed "junior varsity" in one comment. The Caliphate cannot be dismissed as a "JV" terrorist faction. They are a self-described true Muslim Jihadists movement. They subscribe to the 7th century, fire and sword Islam which in the 600's spread with a convert or die mindset. They employ terror, brutality and the violent and vicious treatment of Christians and Muslims who do not acquiesce to their views. They use technology and sophisticated social media and video messaging to recruit worldwide and even convert "lone wolf" jihadists to work remotely. Israel has been dealing with Hezbollah, Hamas and internal Palestinian organized violence for some time. The Caliphate is a fast moving tsunami of bloodshed and its tentacles reach globally. Israel is the best possible opposing force with the experience in dealing with a 7th century mindset. (<http://www.newsweek.com/german-journalist-returns-time-isis-chilling-stories-293781>).

The most pressing issue involving Israel and the United States is Iran. The Iranian Government has repeatedly stated its attention to obliterate Israel and in turn the United States. Iran's nuclear program has progressed with minimal observation by regulatory authorities and the Administration seems determined to close a deal of some kind as soon as possible. Recently a negotiations deadline was reached and then extended for seven months. Even the least observant will note that this should be sufficient for Iran to complete work on a number of warheads. Iran has medium range missiles and could also launch from shipboard off the US Coast. The possibility of an attack by EMP (Electro Magnetic Pulse) on the nation's electric infrastructure is a genuine possibility. Crude remarks by an unnamed Administration official this Fall aroused serious doubt and questions about the support of the United States for Israel in any kind of nuclear confrontation with Iran.

(<http://www.foxnews.com/politics/2014/10/29/white-house-tries-to-ease-flare-up-over-netanyahu-insults/>)

Israel cannot permit an openly hostile nation with its declared intent to destroy it with nuclear weapons attain the means to carry out that intent.

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A Friendship in Crisis: U.S.- Israeli Relations

By Tom Brennan

With two years of a decidedly unilaterally acting Administration left, action by the Congress in full support for Israel will be critical in overcoming doubts and lack of trust by the Israeli Government. Israel is planning to call for elections and the possibility of another Prime Minister than Benjamin Netanyahu is a reality. Many Israelis are frustrated with the lack of Administration support in the recent events of the Gaza Campaign, the efforts by the Palestinian Authority to cause internal violence and a third Intifada and the rapid move by Iran toward nuclear capability.

A recent development that has serious implications for the United States is the diplomatic activity of the Government of India which has expanded diplomat relations and military sales and purchases with Israel. The Government of Prime Minister Modi has also made clear its intentions to no longer support the Palestinians in their demands for a separate State.

(<http://www.jpost.com/Arab-Israeli-Conflict/New-Delhi-considering-changing-policy-of-automatic-support-for-Palestinians-at-UN-385398> .)

The United States has the most to lose in this current situation for several reasons. A visible lack of willpower, an inconsistent foreign policy and loss of credibility has seriously impacted the ability of the United States to project any type of presence or power in the Middle East and in many regions previously relying on the backing and support of American financial and military support. India is a superpower, the world's largest democracy and an economic giant. Israel's growing alliance with India could have serious implications for the withdrawal of what was formerly considered the leader of the free world. Nature abhors a vacuum and the current concept of "leading from the back" by the United States is creating such a power vacuum. Someone will fill that empty space and the world be a vastly different place.

We can only hope that wiser heads in Washington will countermand the current direction, or lack of it. The next President will need to publicly and in leader to leader, direct contact, reaffirm that absolutely necessary partnership between the United States and Israel.

For accurate, non-Mainstream Media slanted information about Israel here are some suggested websites and links:

<http://www.i24news.tv/en/>

<http://www.jpost.com/>

<http://www.haaretz.com/>

<http://www.thejerusalemgiftshop.com/israelnews/>

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<http://tsm-listen-live.s3.amazonaws.com/players/580kido/index.html>

To access Kevin's Podcasts click below

<http://580kido.com/category/podcasts/>

WHO IS WATCHING IDAHO'S HIGHER EDUCATION SYSTEM?

By Chris Pentico

During the Spring of 2014, I asked a friend to do something unusual. I asked her to go down to the Boise State University Library and ask for their employee salary list. The list is public information and usually sits in the reserve section. She was slightly embarrassed on telling me the results, and I assured her not to worry. She got the run-around, and there was even a call to an administrator or two. When the list was produced and she wanted copies, the library wasn't happy and was trying to find the most awkward, difficult, and expensive ways for her to get this information. She was embarrassed, she came back empty-handed. I told her I could get the information without trouble by going online, and I knew this before I sent her out there. The real test was the University's reaction to her. The information is readily available from State Controller Brandon Wolfe's "Transparent Idaho" website.

The "Transparent Idaho" website has a lot of interesting information there, like workforce trends, salary lists by agency, and the list of state public employees that make more than Governor Otter. I noticed something that seemed slightly askew when I examined the salary lists by agency. Why are the presidents of our public universities "non-classified" employees? This prompted me to do a small experiment with the list of state public employees that make more than Governor Otter; I examined the "classified"/"non-classified" status of all these people.

"Non-classified" employees have a reasonable expectation of continued employment. They are usually your regular employees. Tenure protection would force regular professors into this "non-classified" status. I also expected the judicial branch and elected officials to be "non-classified"; they were. I was not worried about the appointment types for the non-education people on the list, but there could be a very good reason to leave them as "non-classified" despite their higher pay.

"Classified" staff have given up their job security for higher pay. Classified staff tend to be administrators and their immediate support staff. For classified staff, you can pay off a contract, tell the employee to not come into the office, and not give a reason. This is one reason why whistleblowers will not take what looks like a promotion in many cases, especially if it is a move into a "classified" staff position.. You have greater "due process" protections as "non-classified" staff. This does not preclude a "classified" employee from putting in some protections into their personally negotiated contract. There are two reasons about the non-education people on the list that cause me not to worry as much. First, many of these people have to get Senate confirmation. Second, this protects the employee if she/he is following state and federal law and is ordered not to do such (*i.e.*, the "Pam Lowe" situation).

Research professors/faculty buy out their own contracts with their university and should be "classified." Research faculty usually have some sort of federal government funding constraints that will tie them to a college or university. Technically, they can and do shop for colleges/universities with more favorable circumstances to do their research and still keep their federal funding. (Sometimes, the funding entity even suggests this when a college or university becomes overbearing in demands or money.) Athletics people and their support staff should be "classified," especially if they have performance clauses. Upper and mid-level administration should be "classified," especially if they are not teaching a class. They weren't. When I asked a legislator why these people were not "classified" staff, he was surprised as well. Essentially, the only "classified" employees that make more than the Governor work in the Health and Welfare Department.

University policy is a contractual matter. In higher education, breach of contract applies to everyone, students, non-classified employees, and classified employees. "Breach of contract" could be the basis for a tort claim with weird implications. An administrator theoretically could be responsible for doing an investigation on himself or herself, which is a "conflict of interest," due to the "non-classified" status. Oops! Furthermore, I also questioned why did Idaho university presidents willfully limit their own hire/fire capabilities as well.

Finally, I would like to thank Mr. Wolfe for his website.

WHAT IS AGENDA “21”

By Karen Schumacher



[Agenda 21](#) is an action plan created by the United Nations (UN) and signed by GHW Bush for the United States as a UN member state in 1992. WJ Clinton signed executive order [12852](#) in 1993 creating a President's Council on Sustainable Development to implement Agenda 21 through federal legislation.

The 4 pillars of Agenda 21 are:

1. Equity - global citizenry, equal sharing of resources, [multiculturalism](#)
2. Education - indoctrination of UN values through education, businesses, media, and entertainment
3. Economy - redistribution of wealth and resources
4. Environment - protection of the environment and redistribution of [populations](#)

Since the implementation of Agenda 21 the federal government has [imbedded](#) Agenda 21 goals and UN ideology into legislation. Every current issue that patriotic groups and the United States are dealing with right now stem from Agenda 21 and multiple other UN agendas.

Equity - Agenda 21 calls for the equal treatment of all human beings and has no [boundaries](#) either geographically or [culturally](#) for absolute [social justice](#). Animals and resources such as [forests](#) are even included as having a right to equality. The goal is to erase borders between countries for free migration and force countries to adapt to multicultural beliefs and lifestyles. All forms of human behavior should also be treated equally. The UN is the driver behind "diversity", and other issues the United States currently struggles with such as non-traditional families and marriage, aberrant sexual behavior, forced tolerance of all cultural behaviors and religions, and even acceptance of some criminal behaviors as normal.

[Education](#) - Throughout Agenda 21 there is a heavy emphasis on education, actually indoctrinating humans on UN ideology. For over 20 years our education system has included [sustainable development](#) through a partnership with the UN. UN [ideology](#) has been promoted via partnerships with [businesses](#), advertising, the media, and entertainment. By expanding their partnerships with non-profit organizations the UN has been successful in promoting their [ideology](#) at the grassroots level, also known as [non-governmental organizations \(NGO\)](#) by the UN. Professional organizations and universities have also partnered with the UN and as a partner promote UN ideology by indoctrinating students and organizational members. The United States has now ceded our education system to UN ideology through Common Core. All funding sources and NGOs who support Common Core are in partnership with the UN. These partnership agreements are to promote the [UN](#) goals and objectives which includes fostering [global citizenship](#).

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WHAT IS AGENDA “21” By Karen Schumacher

Economy - The UN outlines the redistribution of wealth throughout Agenda 21. Heavy emphasis is placed on the sharing of resources between countries, not only raw materials but also scientific and technological knowledge, and money, separating the world into [North, the wealthy countries, and the South, the poor countries](#). Agenda 21 promotes the redistribution of wealth to support national [health care](#), education, and resources as examples. BUT, the goal is redistribution of everything at a global level through [regionalism](#) with the UN controlling all of it. The [Trans-Pacific Partnership](#) (TPP) will put the United States one step closer to globalizing our economy and trade(#6).

[Environment](#) - The one issue the UN identifies as justification for this massive takeover of the world is protection of the environment. There are too many [people](#) for resource availability, therefore equalization is necessary, and we must be indoctrinated to believe it. Banning access to [forests](#), forcing closure of coal mines, preventing necessary acquisition to [resource](#) development, attempts to control our [water](#), these are just a few of their excuses for environmental protection that will lead to their control of our resources and eventual control of our lives.

Because of the UN agenda for [global migration](#) we see our southern border being erased. Because of Agenda 21 our trade will be taken over by TPP, our education system has been hijacked for [indoctrination](#) of our youth ([pg 11 #6,7,8](#)), wealth is being redistributed, [healthcare](#) has been nationalized, we hear constant rhetoric of putting [women](#) in leadership roles and a woman's right to [contraception](#), plus a host of other issues Americans are fighting, one must realize just how close the UN is to successfully achieving their goal of [global governance](#), perhaps they have already.

All Agenda 21 goals are being accomplished. Every patriotic group must include the background UN goals as part of their fight and include them in their conversations. The bigger picture must be understood by every American. It is not a conspiracy, it is right in front of everyone to see, as easy at looking on the UN websites. UN words have already infiltrated into our daily conversations. [Human rights](#), [diversity](#), [democracy](#), [civil society](#), tolerance, smart growth, [economic development](#), and [sustainable development](#) are just a few. And of course, human rights as defined by the UN, not God given rights.

The advancement of UN ideology and objectives into our lives and the destruction of America has accelerated so rapidly over the last 6 years it may be too late if we do not take a stand and demand that it is stopped. At a minimum, we must do it for Idaho.

For more information you can go to:
idahoansagainstagenda21.weebly.com

**HOW DO YOUR SENATORS VOTE?
DO YOU HOLD THEM ACCOUNTABLE?**

A Quote from Governor Butch Otter

“IDAHO IS THE REDEST OF THE RED STATES”

WE SAY IDAHO IS THE BLUEST OF THE RED STATES

Here is the proof according to the Idaho Freedom Foundation 2014 Freedom Index

Below are the Republican Senators voting records that scored negative.

We consider scores from 0 to minus 29 **Moderates**, minus 30 and below **Liberals**

TOO MANY OF OUR REPUBLICAN LEGISLATORS ARE VOTING LIKE “DEMOCRATS”

FIND YOUR REPRESENTATIVE BELOW AND ASK THEM WHY?

1st. Term Legislators are not listed

<u>REPUBLICAN SENATORS</u>			<u>DEMOCRATIC SENATORS</u>		
		SCORE			SCORE
Curtis D McKenzie	Dist. 13	-23	Janie Ward-Engelking	Dist. 18	-63
Jeff C. Siddoway	Dist. 35	-26	Michelle Stennett	Dist. 26	-64
			Elliot Werk	Dist. 17	-65
Todd Lakey	Dist. 12	-32	Dan J Schmidt	Dist. 5	-66
R. Steven Bair	Dist. 31	-36	Cherie Buckner-Webb	Dist. 19	-70
Chuck Winder	Dist. 20	-36	Roy Lacey	Dist. 29	-72
Daniel G Johnson	Dist. 6	-39			
Jim Guthrie	Dist. 28	-54			
Marv Hagedorn	Dist. 14	-56			
John Tippets	Dist. 32	-58			
Brent Hill	Dist. 34	-61			
Fred S Martin	Dist 15	-61			
Bart M. Davis	Dist. 33	-63			
James Patrick	Dist. 25	-63			
Lee Heider	Dist. 24	-64			
Bert Brackett	Dist. 23	-66			
Patti Anne Lodge	Dist 11	-66			
Dean L Cameron	Dist 27	-70			
Shawn A Keough	Dist. 1	-74			

HOW DO YOUR REPRESENTATIVES VOTE? DO YOU HOLD THEM ACCOUNTABLE?

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<u>REPUBLICAN REPRESENTATIVES</u>			<u>DEMOCRATIC REPRESENTATIVES</u>		
		SCORE			SCORE
Jeffery D Thompson	Dist. 30A	-5	Phylis K King	Dist. 18B	-58
Garry E Collins	Dist. 13B	-5	Hy Kloc	Dist. 16B	-64
Robert Anderst	Dist. 12A	-25	Mathew Erpdlding	Dist. 19A	-70
			John Rusche	Dist. 6B	-70
Patrick McDonald	Dist. 15B	-31	Susan B Chew	Dist. 17B	-74
Linden B Bateman	Dist. 33B	-32	Grant Burgoyne	Dist. 16A	-74
Cristy Perry	Dist. 11B	-34	Donna L Pence	Dist. 26B	-76
Stephen Hartgen	Dist. 24B	-38	John L Gannon	Dist. 17A	-76
Steve Miller	Dist. 26A	-39	Elaine Smith	Dist. 29B	-88
Julie Van Orden	Dist. 31B	-40	Ilana Rubel	Dist. 18A	-105
Marc Gibbs	Dist. 32A	-41			
Maxine T Bell	Dist. 25A	-44			
Rick D YHoungblood	Dist. 12B	-45			
Dell Raybould	Dist. 34B	-46			
Wendy Horman	Dist. 30B	-46			
Clark Kauffman	Dist. 25B	-46			
Lance W Clow	Dist. 24A	-46			
Scott C Bedke	Dist. 27A	-49			
Fred Wood	Dist. 27B	-51			
Neil A Anderson	Dist. 31A	-54			
Luke Malek	Dist. 4A	-58			
Paul Romrell	Dist. 35B	-58			
Kelly Packer	Dist. 28B	-61			
Richard Wills	Dist. 23A	-65			

THESE LEGISLATORS ARE WHAT KEEPS IDAHO A RED STATE

THESE ARE THE TRUE CONSERVATIVES IN OUR LEGISLATURE

Idaho Freedom Foundation 2014 Legislators Voting Records

1st. Term Legislators are not listed

LEGISLATORS WHO ARE MODERATELY CONSERVATIVE

SENATORS

		SCORE			SCORE
Jim Rice	Dist. 10	+9	Dean M Mortimer	Dist. 30	+12

REPRESENTATIVES

James Holtzclaw	Dist. 20B	+6	Brandon Hixon	Dist. 10A	+4
Ken Andrus	Dist. 28A	+9	Thomas Loertscher	Dist. 32B	+7
Reed DeMordaunt	Dist. 14B	+16	Janet Trujillo	Dist. 33A	+16

LEGISLATORS WHO ARE VERY CONSERVATIVE

SENATORS

Steven P Thayn	Dist. 8	+34	Bob Nonini	Dist. 3	+48
Sheryl L. Nuxoll	Dist. 7	+72	Clifford R Bayer	Dist. 21	+59
			Steve Vick	Dist. 2	+70

REPRESENTATIVES

Mike Moyle	Dist. 14A	+32	Gayle Batt	Dist. 11A	+42
Lynn M Luker	Dist. 15A	+68	John Vander Woude	Dist. 22A	+64
Brent Crane	Dist. 13A	+72	Thomas E Dayley	Dist. 21B	+70
Terry F Gestrin	Dist. 8A	+82	Joe A Palmer	Dist. 20A	+78
Jason Monks	Dist. 22B	+94	M Peter Nielsen	Dist. 23B	+84
Judy Boyle	Dist. 9B	+98	Kathleen Sims	Dist. 4B	+98
Paul E Shepherd	Dist. 7B	+122	Vito Barbieri	Dist. 2A	+140
Shannon McMillan	Dist. 7A	+152	Ron Mendive	Dist. 2A	+154
Steven C Harris	Dist. 21A	+170			

Apathy In America

By Rich Loudenback

“The death of democracy is not likely to be an assassination from ambush. It will be a slow extinction from apathy, indifference, and undernourishment.” - Robert Maynard Hutchins (1899–1977) an educational philosopher, he was dean of Yale Law School

How might apathy in America be ended? Simple... by losing America to a world government. Then the lack of interest, enthusiasm and concern will change to one of being ticked off full time about how our sorry government had been dissolving our freedoms and creating our demise as a sovereign nation while we were so inattentive. **This apathy can be a general malaise, a bunker mentality, lost hope or fading hope.**

As Hillsdale College so aptly states in their latest solicitation for funding, “You know we have reached a critical moment in our nation's history when our Constitution is under assault and customarily violated by our own federal government. - Larry P. Arnn, President, Hillsdale College

Mr. Arnn continues, “Like you, I'm worried that the principles that guided our Founding Fathers and made America the world's moral, economic, and military leader are forgotten in the halls of government and in our schools and colleges. We must act now to reverse this trend. Make no mistake . . . our Constitution is under attack from a federal government that bears little resemblance to the government our Founding Fathers intended.

“That's why Hillsdale's educational work is so vital - no other institution in America is doing more to educate millions on the principles of liberty - and the need to defend them - than Hillsdale College. **And since the College refuses all government funding - even indirectly in the form of student grants and loans - your support has been critical to the College's work.**”

Go to HILLSDALE.EDU and donate to this most worthy institution that works very hard at educating Americans about our Constitution.

And of the organizations devoted full time to informing the beleaguered and low information citizens and supporting constitutionally minded Americans who are working steadfastly to get us back to what brought us, adherence to our Constitution, the John Birch Society has stood out for 56 years with unmatched resources in depth of information and eager volunteers. Check out their website at jbs.org and be sure to watch the free video ‘Overview of America.’ Overview’s strong shot of reality might really jerk your chain. After seeing ‘Overview’ 5 years ago on a business trip in Wyoming, I had to join and have never been so gratified with the ability to access more truth than I ever have been exposed to. I believe everyone should belong to such a truly patriotic organization and none offers the depth of resources like JBS. Sounds like a commercial, yeh?

RE-STATING HENRY KISSINGER

Repeating Kissinger’s quote from a recent issue of GSP is most apropos: "Today, America would be outraged if U.N. troops entered Los Angeles to restore order. Tomorrow they will be grateful! This is especially true if they were told that there was an outside threat from beyond, whether real or promulgated, that threatened our very existence. It is then that all peoples of the world will plead to deliver them from this evil. **The one thing every man fears is the unknown. When presented with this scenario, individual rights will be willingly relinquished for the guarantee of their well-being granted to them by the World Government.**" - Henry Kissinger, Bilderberger Conference in Evians, France, 1991

Continued on page 25

Apathy In America By Rich Loudenback

A WORLD OF LIES

It appears we have a ‘do much that’s wrong or do nothing’ President and we definitely have had a ‘can’t do anything’ Congress. **Americans are frustrated, victimized and mad about fundamental changes we’ve been undergoing. And it didn’t all start with Obama, he’s just the great exacerbator. The socialist agenda has been fermenting in America through many innocent sounding programs going back to 1913, all slowly transitioning increased power and bureaucracy through many unconstitutional programs, new laws and endless regulations to the federal government.** Many of which were sold relentlessly with great sounding names and presented from poker faced salesmen/politicians with high levels of aggrandized presentations born of naivety or deceit actually claiming they are for our good.

RECOGNIZE DECEPTION

Blatant lies, in-correct proclamations, half-truths, spin and innuendo must be challenged with truth emphatically stated as promptly as possible in as high a profile as possible to smack down audacious wrongs that are influencing and damaging our government and its citizens. **We must begin as a people to question all with verification and trust no one. Especially, well-spoken elected officials, bureaucrats and the press! Trust no one! Verify! And for sure, check voting records in the Freedom Indexes at AccountableIdaho.com and jbs.org!** I’m reminded here that U.S. Congresswoman Michelle Bachman recently said: “Nothing frightens a congressman like the whites of his constituents’ eyes.”

ESPECIALLY, QUESTION THE PRESS!

Without question the greatest influencer of the public’s mindset is our sorry big media and even smaller newspapers & other local media affiliated with them, many of whom depend on the big media’s resources for their coverage. In Bernard Goldberg’s book ‘*Arrogance*,’ he quoted from a New York Times book review: “The notion that a vast left-wing conspiracy controls America’s airwaves and newsprint [is]...routinely promoted as gospel on the right.”

“Wrong again!” says Goldberg. “But they are right about one thing: **There is plenty of paranoid talk about a ‘vast left-wing conspiracy’ in the newsroom. The problem is, the paranoids dreaming it up aren’t conservatives – they’re liberals!**”

“And the uncomfortable truth – uncomfortable for ideologues on the Left anyway – is that there now exists ‘a huge body of literature – including at least 100 books and research monographs – documenting a widespread left-wing bias in the news,’ according to Ted Smith III of Virginia Commonwealth University, who has done extensive research into the subject. And **much of the evidence comes *not* from conservatives with axes to grind but straight from the journalist themselves, who in survey after survey have identified themselves as liberal on all the big, important social issues of our time.**”

“Despite the overwhelming evidence, despite all the examples of bias that were documented in my book and others, despite the surveys that show large numbers of Americans consider the elite media too liberal, *despite all of that*, the elites remain in denial.”

THE YEAR THE NEWS MEDIA DIED

This is how seriously inept the elite’s media lackeys have become: In Brent Bozell’s book ‘*Weapons of Mass Distortion*,’ he has a chapter named ‘*The Year the News Media Died*’ in which he points out that the media’s focus on how **Bill Clinton’s Lewinsky scandal actually helped divert attention from even bigger scandals. The ‘Chinagate’ story involved huge sums of money being funneled to the Democratic National Committee.**

Continued on page 26

Apathy In America By Rich Loudenback

This was in exchange for U.S. missile technology and other top secret information often gotten via Chinese nationals who were given top secret security clearances and high positions in some of our most sensitive areas of government including military facilities.

I will be glad to email an exhaustive (condensed) 36 page report titled 'Chinagate' that was researched by *The New American* magazine from over 4000 pages of documentation to anyone requesting it. E-mail me at cdajbs@gmail.com and ask for 'Chinagate'. If you read it you will believe like me that Bill Clinton should be convicted of high treason. Reading this story will definitely rock your boat!

AND THE TRANSFORMATIVE POWER OF TELEVISION

Ben Shapiro in his book 'Primetime Propaganda,' "Television affects Americans whether we like it or not. And here's the bottom line: **Television reflects those who create it and transforms everybody else. If the creators are liberal – and they are – that liberalism will have an effect on Americans. Television acts as a magnifier for television creators' liberal life experiences – those experiences now become our reality. "The transformative power and influence of television can be wielded for political causes, ideological causes, and moral causes well outside the bounds of mainstream America."**

VIGILANCE, ENLIGHTENING AND INFORMING

The media has not been the sole cause of all the apathy. It has largely contributed, but comments like 'it's overwhelming,' 'we can't turn it around,' 'it's over,' and the such, **also come from the effects of attacks on our Constitution, morals, and American traditions. The actual causation of all the hurting from Obamacare, business strangulation, job losses, taxes, overwhelming regulations, the travesty of illegal immigration, government corruption and on and on and on have been as the result of our elected representatives not doing right by us. And it's not a party thing. It's a Constitution thing that requires adherence to it and all other laws. Once again, it matters not a whit what any legislators, governors, or any other elected official, or especially our sorry President says. It only matters what they do.**

Monica Crowley on FBN's Varney and Co. stated as a result of a WSJ/NBC recent poll on pessimism and cynicism: "A lot of Americans don't think their vote counts that much because they think that the two parties are so similar. They see the Democrats and Republicans as too much alike to have any real effect on making change. They see a lot of politicians who refuse to lead, that are too cowardly, afraid of their own shadows to really defend the Constitutional Republic in which we live. And that depresses a lot of Americans."

We must question politicians for hard answers, follow them in the voting indexes, keep ourselves informed and enlighten and help inform others. I repeat, we must enlighten and help inform others... to dissolve their apathy! I leave you with two last relevant quotes.

"Everybody in America is soft, and hates conflict. The cure for this, both in politics and social life, is the same -- hardihood. Give them raw truth." - *John Jay Chapman (1862–1933) called The Anti-Alinsky - author of 'Practical Agitation' teaching conservatives the spirit of practical agitation*

"I have a very strong feeling that the opposite of love is not hate -- it's apathy. It's not giving a damn." - *Leo Buscaglia (1924 -1998) - American author and motivational speaker, and former professor in the Department of Special Education at the University of Southern California*

State Board of Education vs. Parents & Teachers

By Valerie Candelaria

At a time when parents and grandparents across the country are beginning to wake up to the harsh realities of high stakes testing in our public schools (and the personalized data capture that occurs continuously throughout the interactive computer process), our Idaho SBOE has decided to double down with their testing plans into the foreseeable future for Idaho students. They seek to codify the federally financed test developed by the Smarter Balanced Assessment Consortium (SBAC) into Idaho graduation requirements through the year 2020 under the familiar ISAT name. Current rules already carry it through 2016.

[The SBOE proposed rules](#) to accomplish this are in review by the legislature right now. The *rules review process* is always the first official order of business in the legislative session and generally takes two to three weeks to complete. Legislators cannot modify a proposed rule or introduce a new one. The assigned committees can only vote up or down on each rule. All rules that survive committee review are bundled together into one big omnibus bill and voted on as a package deal in both bodies of the legislature. We must act quickly if we want to influence the outcome of a proposed rule. That is the purpose of this article.

[Idahoans for Local Education](#) would like you to consider contacting the House and Senate education committees now and ask them to reject the SBOE proposed rule changes for **Docket No. 08-0203-1401** that entrench these high stakes tests even further. In fact, we'd also like you to **consider including a request to reject the SBAC designed test altogether**, effective immediately, and ask that Idaho begin taking measures to exit the consortium altogether. We should be able to revert to the previous ISAT test pretty easily, until a more permanent solution can be found. You can use hedu@house.idaho.gov and sedu@senate.idaho.gov.

There is absolutely no doubt that the Idaho SBOE and the Idaho Department of Education are well aware of the backlash that schools are already getting from parents across Idaho with regard to the **SBAC/ISAT test**. The number of parents wanting to opt their kids out of this end of year **summative assessment** is on the rise and state staff know that the national momentum continues to build against this nationally developed test. Especially among those states who were first in line to implement the Common Core standards and related tests, such as New York and Kentucky. Idaho parents are hearing the [horror stories](#) coming from those "early" states and they are determined to protect their own children from similar experiences here.

Last spring, the state and the districts backed down from fighting parental opt outs here at home, because they knew they couldn't easily defend the enforcement of a field test. The simple fact that no scores would be returned from the field test was reason enough to back off because it would prevent the state from upholding their own obligations under rule. But that was last year. This spring, the test will matter and parents can expect a bigger battle if they intend to refuse the test.

Under both current and proposed rules, students could be denied graduation regardless of their GPA, regardless of their body of work, regardless of their performance on any others of the vast array of tests they will take, simply because they and their parents refused this excessive and unbeneficial test. Reasonable people know that this is inherently wrong. The only salvation from this unrelenting power is that each district is required to have a *state approved alternative path to graduation* to accommodate students who do not have a proficient score on the test. Until the system is changed, this may be the only option available to parents who understand the problem with the SBAC/ISAT test and the data collection that goes with it.

According to many teachers, **this is a test that does nothing to inform or improve classroom instruction** for your child. Testing companies and state staff know that these tests are more focused on measuring teachers, schools and districts than they are in measuring your child's progress. Just listen to them in their own words in this short video... <http://youtu.be/kZx7IRaAk0Y>.

Continued on page 28

State Board of Education vs. Parents & Teachers

By Valerie Candelaria

Not only does this 7-8 hour test not directly benefit our children, it **doubles** the amount of time required for administering the test, from 4 weeks to at least 6 or 8 weeks. That's nearly 2 months out of a 9 month school year (20% of the year!) when computer labs and classroom instruction will be continuously disrupted for this **one test**, and that doesn't include all of the related test prep time, or any other tests!

Another disturbing fact about the SBAC/ISAT test is that no one is allowed to know or see what is on the test. Not even after the fact. Not teachers, parents, principals or board members, absolutely no one... except the nameless, faceless, unaccountable test developers with SBAC. In fact, any test proctor (teacher or otherwise) is instructed to position themselves in the classroom in such a way that they cannot see any student screens. The content of the test is a closely guarded secret. Unusually so, which causes unusual suspicions to creep in among parents and teachers. It's very unsettling to think that **there is absolutely no one between your child and the computer delivered content.** The recent Sensitivity and Bias Review exercise carried out by the State Dept of Ed must be a ruse to appease parents. You cannot convince us that Idaho's concerns about appropriate content could successfully sway anything in the uniform test that is administered to students in 22 other states. Idaho doesn't have that much sway at SBAC, nor do we get to design our very own test.

One last item of concern about the newly designed SBAC tests is the cost associated with *scoring* them. Tom Luna explained last year that roughly 40% of the new test would continue to be a multiple choice, with the remaining 60% being comprised of open-ended performance based items that require some form of written response from the student. He said that in order to be fair, these performance based items will be hand scored by two teachers, and if those two teachers cannot agree on a score, then a third teacher would be called in to settle the score. So 60% of a much longer test will now require manual scoring, but the cost of the scoring will be 'about the same' as the previously computer scored tests. Right... who believes that? The eventual cost to Idaho taxpayers is still a big unknown at this point (but SBAC federal \$\$ has run out).

The problems with the SBOE power play don't end with the test or extended graduation requirements. They are tightening the screws on teachers too. As you heard in the video link above, the main purpose of the SBAC/ISAT test is to measure accountability, not necessarily student achievement. The effectiveness of teachers, schools and districts will be measured by the results of these specific student tests... despite the fact that there are many factors beyond their control. Factors that will change with each new group of students they teach every year.

As readers of this newsletter, you may recall seeing a [previous article](#) from Idahoans for Local Education about **Tiered Licensure**, which included a warning about the potential risk to teacher certification that comes with this SBAC/ISAT testing for accountability purposes under the Common Core reform program. The SBOE wants to tie a teacher's professional license to their employment evaluation. No other profession in the world does this. We understand that teachers are suing in some states with tiered licensure.

The certification and professional license that most teachers have worked very hard for are at risk of being overturned or reduced if their students don't do well on these tests. It's a big part of *what's at stake in a high stakes test*. As parents, we expect our teachers to feel an obligation to advocate for our children, even when that obligation conflicts with the interests of their employer. The tiered licensure proposal as contained in the SBOE proposed rules will undermine that commitment.

We hope you will consider letting the education committees know that you oppose this heavy-handed means of controlling the teachers by asking them to reject the SBOE proposed rules on **Docket No. 08-0202-1401**.

Common Core, SBAC Tests & The Truth



Peg Luksik, Ph.D.

Founder and chairman of <http://FoundedOnTruth.com/>
Experienced educator – teaching preschool through college, both mainstream and special education. Thirty-six (36) year educational involvement includes writing and evaluating curriculum, training teachers and four (4) years with US Dept of Education evaluating education reform programs. She also has considerable knowledge about standardized testing.

Attention Parents, Grandparents, Educators and Policy Makers!

This informative presentation will address many of your unanswered questions about the Common Core program and the Smarter Balanced Assessment (standardized test).
Open to the public and admission is **FREE**.



<http://www.corestandards.org/>



<http://www.smarterbalanced.org/>

Bring your friends and neighbors. Come learn the truth about how the latest federal education reform initiative impacts Idaho children!

Sponsored by:



Idahoans For Local Education

Visit
I4LE.com

EVENT DETAILS

Tuesday January 27, 2015

6:30-8:30 pm

**State Capitol Building
700 West Jefferson Street
Boise, Idaho 83720**

Room WW02 – House/Senate Auditorium,
West Wing Lower Level

Join the Idaho Second Amendment Alliance



Your membership makes a difference!

The ISAA is a member-driven organization fighting for our Second Amendment rights in Idaho. The support of our members is critical to supporting our efforts, such as:

- the Preemption Project to remove illegal "no guns" signs and illegal city and county ordinances that penalize law abiding gun owners, and
- Constitutional Carry legislation being introduced in the 2015 state legislature.

Membership levels available:

- 1 Year - \$25, Includes Window Sticker
- 2 Year - \$40 (save \$10), Includes Window Sticker & Hat
- 5 Year - \$90 (save \$35), Includes Window Sticker, Hat, & Challenge Coin
- 5 Year Founding - \$150 (Only 100 Available), Includes Window Sticker, Limited Edition Hat, Limited Edition Numbered Challenge Coin

Sign up online at idahosaa.org/membership/



Come join us to support our Constitutional Carry (permitless carry) legislation. This bill allows everyone who is not prohibited by state or federal law to carry openly or concealed without a permit.

We will meet at the Center on the Grove at 3:30pm and march to the capitol building for a short rally

HELPING HAND FUND

5K RUN/WALK

WILL BE HELD AT
JULIUS C KLEINER PARK
SATURDAY MAY 2, 2015



JOIN US FOR THE HELPING HAND 5K RUN, PET WALK & PET FAIR!

The Helping Hand Fund will bring you an exciting day on May 2nd, 2015. The second annual Helping Hand event will be held at the beautiful Kleiner Park from 9:30 am - 12 pm.

The days events will feature a "Beat the Doc" 5K run, a 1 mile Pet Walk, and a Pet Fair with fun contests for people and pets, demonstrations and vendor booths.

Proceeds from the walk will benefit the Helping Hand Fund, Meridian Valley Humane Society (MVHS), and Helping Idaho Dogs. All three organizations are not-for-profit and benefit pets and people.

Please review our Sponsor Package with the many exciting benefits for your company,

If you have any questions, please contact myself, or one of the charity leaders below.

BENEFITS OF BEING A HELPING HAND RUN, WALK & PET FAIR SPONSOR

Our goal is for each sponsor to connect with the pet owning public as you help make our event successful. We will be offering a variety of marketing approaches to make your investment in the event pay off for your business.

ADVERTISEMENT & PRESS RELEASES

There will be press releases and community calendar listings of the event

We will showcase the event with PSA and ads

ONLINE ADVERTISING

A web page is set up at www.idahohelpinghandfund.com listing sponsors and event information. Walkers will be accessing this site for sign up as well.

POSTERS & EVENT BROCHURES

We will have brochure handouts with major sponsors listed along with their logo. These will be distributed at local stores and gathering places.

VENDOR BOOTHS AT ALL SPONSOR LEVELS

All levels of sponsorship can have a vendor booth at the event.

There will be a raffle of an iPad and participants will have to visit booths for a stamp to be eligible for the raffle.

TARGETED HOME OWNERS RELEASES

We will have mass e-mails sent to various Meridian Home Owner Associations telling of the event and featuring the sponsors



DR. BOB BEEDE, *Co-Chair*
KIM MULVAHILL, *Co-Chair*
Helping Hand Fund
208.888.2910

DEBBY DECKER, *PRESIDENT*
Meridian Valley Humane Society
208.412.6779

CAROL JENSEN
Helping Idaho Dogs
208.850.3936



SPONSORSHIP CONFIRMATION



COMPANY NAME:
(exactly as it should appear in print)

Contact Name: _____ Title: _____

MAILING ADDRESS:

City: _____ State: _____ Zip Code: _____

Phone: _____ Fax: _____ Email: _____

We/I would like to sponsor The Helping Hand Fund Fun Run and Walk at the following level:

- TOP DOG (\$5,000)** Yes, we want to provide and host a vendor booth for the event approx. 10' x 10'
- HEART OF GOLD (\$2,500)** Yes, we want to provide and host a vendor booth for the event approx. 10' x 10'
- BEST IN SHOW (\$1,000)** Yes, we want to provide and host a vendor booth for the event approx. 10' x 10'
- CHAMPION (\$500)** Yes, we want to provide and host a vendor booth for the event approx. 10' x 10'
- EVENT PATRON (\$250)** Yes, we want to provide and host a vendor booth for the event approx. 10' x 10'
- VENDOR SPACE (\$125)** Yes, we want to provide and host a vendor booth for the event approx. 10' x 10'
- NOT FOR PROFIT ORGANIZATIONS (\$75)** Yes, we want to provide and host a vendor booth for the event approx. 10' x 10'
- Please contact me for Raffle Prize Donation (\$25 or more in product or gift certificates)
- Please contact me for Promotional Material for Walk Packet

If you selected a vendor rank above, please describe booth content:

VALUE OF CONTRIBUTION:

1) Cash \$ _____ 2) In-kind (fair market value) \$ _____ Please list/describe item or service in detail: _____

TOTAL CONTRIBUTION \$ _____

PAYMENT METHOD:

- Check enclosed (payable to Helping Hand Fund, a 501 (c)3 fund)
- Credit Card
name on card _____
card # _____ exp _____ security code _____

DESIGNATED CHARITY

*(Helping Hand Fund, M/H/S or
Helping Idaho Dogs)*

*Please remit contribution and signed contract to:
Helping Hand Fund | 800 W Overland Rd, Ste 2 | Meridian, ID 83642*

Return signed form and logo/artwork by February 1, 2015 for inclusion in printed materials.

Email high resolution vector or native format logo/artwork to: Idahovet@iacl.com

Questions? For more information, contact:

Dr. Bob Beede at 208.888.2910 or Idahovet@iacl.com or Kim Mulvihill at 208.888.2910 or mkmi.lvahill@yahoo.com

SPONSOR: We/I agree to the terms indicated above.

Name: _____ Date: _____

Title: _____

THANK YOU FOR YOUR SUPPORT OF THE HELPING HAND FUND FUN RUN AND WALK

THE MERIDIAN VALLEY HUMANE SOCIETY



MY NAME IS SCRUFFY I'M LOOKING FOR A HOME

I'm a Lhasa Apso mix and a senior citizen at 10 years old. I get along with other dogs & cats, like belly rubs, play time and have a pleasant personality. I'm house trained know some commands and like everyone. I have a lot of good years left and just need someone who will love and take care of me in a good home.

**IF YOU'RE INTERESTED IN ADOPTING SCRUFFY
CONSIDER CALLING THE MERIDIAN
VALLEY HUMANE SOCIETY
191 S. LINDER RD. CALL 208-794-0944**

The Meridian Valley Humane Society is up and running again at a new location at 191 S. Linder Rd.

Many of you may remember that in 2013, the city of Meridian made a decision to contract with the Idaho Humane Society to provide animal control and sheltering for the City of Meridian. The old Meridian shelter closed on September 30, 2013 and the remaining dogs were transferred to the Idaho Humane Society. The volunteers of the Meridian Valley Shelter still had a dream to continue to help homeless dogs find their new homes/families. A dedicated group of these volunteers formed a new Board of Directors and became an independent canine rescue focusing on dogs whose owners are no longer able to care for them.

Debby Decker, President of Board, is in the forefront of this new shelter and seems to have matters well in hand at the new Meridian Valley Humane Society. The new shelter has been up and running for about a year, and they are handling between fifteen and twenty dogs at a time.

Currently the dogs come from owner relinquishments, and outlying communities that have no shelter where police departments keep animals for only five days and then euthanize them. They are now serving all of the Treasure Valley, including people from Oregon.

Their expertise is getting to know the animals likes and dislikes and then matching them with families looking for dogs. They have had great success with finding a "forever home" for the dogs. They feel the "dog chooses his family".

They are run totally on donations with no government support. They have no volunteer vets on staff, but they do get group discounts from the vets they use. They have been running some offsite events to help fund the shelter. The next one will be on Oct. 24. Debby Decker said it has been a "blessed year" for them with people being very good about donating. They are a 501c3 so all donations are tax deductible.

COMPASSIONATE CARE AND PASSIONATE VOLUNTEERS. Their paycheck is hearing updates from people who adopted one of their dogs. They are in need of more volunteers. Their website shows various opportunities for volunteering with an application on the website.

<http://www.meridianvalleyhumanesociety.org/>

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...teaching the principles of a Free Society and Free Enterprise

Idaho State Capitol



Our Mission

To teach the principles of a Free Society and Free Enterprise beginning with the Founders acknowledgement that men are by nature free and derive their natural rights from God, not government, that the proper role of good government is to protect the "inalienable right to life, liberty and the pursuit of happiness", and that Free Enterprise is the right of the people to engage in a free and moral exchange of ideas, goods and services.

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- Adults, no age restriction

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Also offering Adult Classes ages 19-119, no age restriction!

We have heard from many adults who believe their educational experiences were far from complete. This is *your* chance to "fill in the holes" with some **Austrian Economics and Free Market Principles** from the brilliant likes of Hayek, Von Mises, Rothbard and others. Learn historical perspectives from Frederick Bastiat, Alexis de Tocqueville and some other historical figures you might not have learned about.

For more details on program, costs, and scholarships contact us at:

info@nwlibertyacademy.org

Hosted by White Pine Foundation, Inc., a nonprofit, nonpartisan, non-denominational Idaho Corporation.

Northwest Liberty Academy 2015

...teaching the principles of a Free Society and Free Enterprise

2015 Essay Contest "Eternal Vigilance" and the Oath of Office

- Write an essay on what you think Thomas Jefferson meant by "eternal vigilance", and why the Oath* of Office is considered a sacred trust.
- The winner will receive a scholarship to the Northwest Liberty Academy to be held at the Idaho Statehouse in Boise, June 17-20th, 2015.
- The winning essay will be submitted for memorial resolution to the 2016 Legislative Session.
- Deadline for essay submission is May 15, 2015.
- The winning essay will be announced and read at the 2015 Northwest Liberty Academy.

- Rules -

1. For students, ages 12-18 at the time of the academy
2. Essays are limited to no more than 500 words
3. Submit essays by email to: elizabethallanhodge@gmail.com
4. The scholarship includes student tuition, materials, bus transportation during academy, hotel stay and meals. It does not include transportation to and from Boise.
5. Deadline for essay submission is May 15, 2015.
6. The essays will be collected and an independent panel will pick the "best of the best".

*Noah Webster 1828

nwlibertyacademy@gmail.com

White Pine Foundation, Inc. is a non-profit organization in Idaho



**SORRY WE HAD TO
CANCEL THIS DEBATE
DUE TO**



**LACK OF WILLING
PRO-MEDICAID PARTICIPANTS**

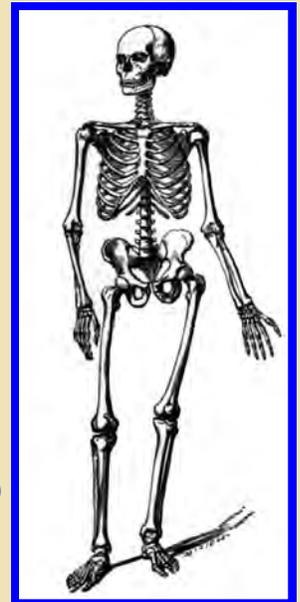
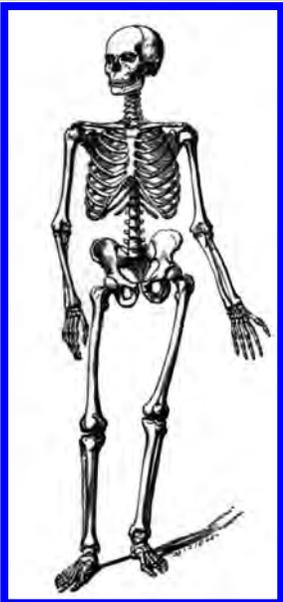
**JUST WHAT THE DOCTOR ORDERED
MEDICAID EXPANSION
DEBATE**

**PLEASE JOIN US ON FEBRUARY 16TH, 2015
AT**

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**8:00AM THROUGH 11:00 AM
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**THE GEM STATE PATRIOT
ADA COUNTY TEA PARTY AND
THE VOICE OF IDAHO**



**NO BONES ABOUT IT YOU WILL NOT WANT TO MISS
THIS IMPORTANT DEBATE**

The Gem State Patriot would like to introduce our readers to a new web site we are partnering with.

“TVOI NEWS THE VOICE OF IDAHO”

Their mission is to bring common-sense back to our government and elected officials.

TVOI News is a brand new online alternative news and entertainment site whose mission is to shine a light of journalistic truth through unbiased well documented news as well as local entertainment including talk shows, mini series programs and music/talent shows.

TVOI

The Voice of Idaho

Visit the TVOI website click the link below

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Serenity by the Sea is located in the beautiful gated community of Nantucket Shores in Pacific City, Oregon. Nantucket Shores sits above the ocean and has spectacular ocean and mountain views



Serenity accommodates up to 10 guests. It's ideal for Family Vacations, Retreats, Conferences and Honeymoons. We're offering a 15% discount (excluding July and August) for Gem State Patriot readers. For further details go to <http://www.vrbo.com/preview/165064> or call Patty at 503-936-9247. We have been here three times and enjoyed every one. Bob & Judy Neugebauer

CONTACT TOM MUNDS JBS COORDINATOR

tmunds@jbs.org

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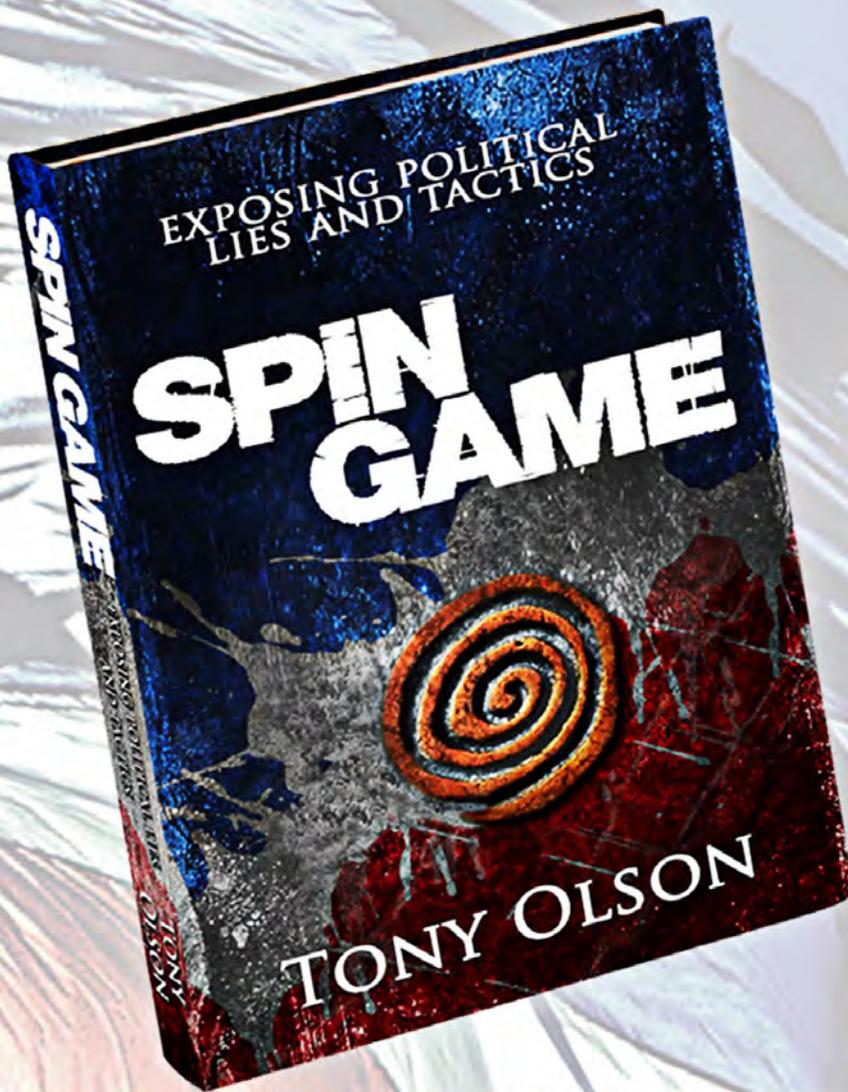


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**SORRY WE HAD TO CANCEL THIS DEBATE
DUE TO THE
LACK OF WILLING
PRO-MEDICAID EXPANSION
PARTICIPANTS**

**JUST WHAT THE DOCTOR ORDERED
MEDICAID EXPANSION
DEBATE**

WANTED NEWSLETTER WRITERS

**THE GEM STATE PATRIOT IS LOOKING FOR WRITERS/REPORTERS.
WE WOULD LIKE TO HEAR FROM YOU ABOUT IMPORTANT
NEWS ON ISSUES AFFECTING YOUR COMMUNITY.**

**WE ARE LOOKING FOR GRASS ROOTS WRITERS THAT CAN HELP
KEEP US INFORMED ON IMPORTANT INFORMATION IN THEIR
COMMUNITIES THAT WE CAN PASS ALONG TO OUR READERS.**

**WE ARE ALSO LOOKING FOR YOUR OPINION ON ISSUES FACING
OUR STATE AND OUR COUNTRY.**

**IF YOU HAVE A PASSION FOR WRITING PLEASE FEEL FREE TO
SEND US AN ARTICLE OR A LETTER TO THE EDITOR ON AN ISSUE
YOU MIGHT BE CONCERNED WITH.**

SEND YOUR STORIES & LETTERS TO bob@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>

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

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

Act for America https://www.facebook.com/pages/Idaho-ACT-for-America/288121108039664?ref=br_tf

The Voice of Idaho <http://www.tvoinews.com/>

Oath Keepers <http://oathkeepers.org/oath/>

**Please take some time to visit the Gem State Patriot website TV section.
<http://gemstatepatriot.com/blog/category/gem-state-patriot-tv/>**

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Recommended by The Gem State Patriot Staff

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