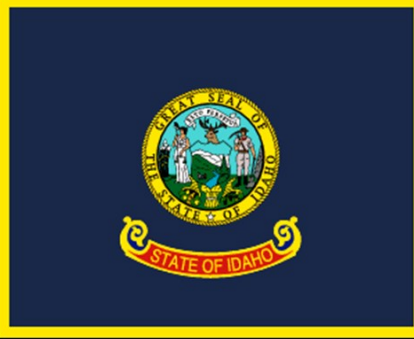




THE GEM STATE PATRIOT



All Around Idaho Inc. Publication
Volume 6 September 1, 2013
©

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.



The Gem State Patriot would like to introduce our readers to Elizabeth Harris, winner of the Patriot Academy Essay Contest. Elizabeth is the daughter of Katherine Harris, Leader of the Payette County Tea Party.

You will find Elizabeth's Essay on page 2. I urge you all to read it, and when you are finished, you will realize that patriotism lives among our youth. Elizabeth is a prime example of tomorrow's leaders. Our future lies with them. They know what the Constitution and the Declaration of Independence mean and are willing to stand up for them. They are the leaders of tomorrow.

Our thanks to the many people who made the Patriot Academy possible. We would like to offer a special thanks to Elizabeth Allan Hodge and her husband Allan for their untiring efforts to make this first Patriot Academy possible. This first class for Idaho graduated 40 students from around the state

"INSIDE THIS ISSUE"

- PAGE 2** Essay by Elizabeth Harris "What Liberty Means to Me" .
- PAGE 3,4** Pictures & Quotes from the Patriot Academy Students.
- PAGE 5,6** Freedom vs NSA by Representative Janet Trujillo.
- PAGE 7** "Protectionism" Only Protects Special Interests.
- PAGE 8-10** State Health Care Exchange Frequently Asked Questions & Answers.
- PAGE 11** "Fire and Politics" By Representative Lawrence Denny.
- PAGE 12** Kevin in the Big Dog House "Kevin Miller Show" KIDO 580 am radio.
- PAGE 13,14** Youth Leadership Flyers.
- PAGE 15** "My Boot Camp of Politics" By Abigail Bartels.
- PAGE 16,17** Promises vs Realities of the State Health Care Exchange by Steve Ackerman .
- PAGE 18** Idaho 2nd. Amendment Alliance Notice & Letter to the Editor.
- PAGE 19-22** Special Messages, Events and Schedule of Meetings

Please direct any comments or requests for subscriptions to this newsletter to:
Bob Neugebauer: Publisher E-mail - nugie@cableone.net Phone - 208-887-2144
Steve Ackerman: Editor E-mail - sackerman@cableone.net Phone - 208-860-8055

“What Liberty means to me” is a foundational question.

To answer such a question one must first ask, what is liberty?

In my generation, young people believe that Liberty means the absence of restraint, doing what is right in their own eyes with no thought of consequences or costs in their own lives or in the lives of others. This is not what liberty is.

Liberty, I believe, is a God given privilege to serve those around us and pursue the gifts and talents that we have been given.

Liberty is power and a responsibility we must fulfill to our fellow man and our Creator.

Liberty is not something to be taken lightly or used wantonly.

It has the potential to raise a person to the most glorious heights of achievement or dash nations against the jagged, deathly cliffs of immorality and oppression.

Liberty is a privilege, and those who enjoy this privilege often do not realize how vital liberty is to their ultimate fulfillment until it has been removed from them.

As Americans, living in what has been thought to be the most liberated country in the world, we have neglected our responsibility to maintain true liberty.

We must return to the original intent of liberty,

“to give freedom to every person to make full use of his faculties, so long as he does not harm other persons while doing so.” Frederick Bastiat.

This is what liberty means to me.

Liberty is power. This power enables us to make choices and experience consequences.

It opens the doors of discovery revealing the necessity of ethics and morals.

It is a shield against the few dictating to the many.

When people relinquish their liberty to a ruling governmental body, then true liberty is lost and individual character and value become non-existent.

We must reject the cowardly act of abdicating the power of liberty and instead embrace the challenge of championing liberty to the benefit of every individual and society as a whole.

Protecting liberty is one of the most important responsibilities a person and a nation can have.

For with responsibility comes the need for discipline and accountability.

Liberty is not a right to be demanded, but an appointment to us by our Creator to strive for development and wholeness.

If true liberty is pursued, then a nation can grow, not only in military strength, free market and scientific advancement, but also in the development of character and individuality.

What does Liberty mean to me?

Liberty means sacrifice, power, responsibility and the opportunity to fulfill the purpose of leading by example in the development of all our faculties to honor our Creator, strengthen our fellow man and our nation.

PICTURES & QUOTES FROM PATRIOT ACADEMY STUDENTS

The Idaho Patriot Academy recently completed its first course. Held in the state capitol, the Idaho Patriot Academy included guests such as David Barton. According to the Academy's Idaho director, Elizabeth Ann Hodge, this was the largest first-time class since the Patriot Academy began in Texas in 2003 by Rick Green and several friends and family. Idaho's inaugural Academy program fielded some 41 students. They submitted essays, attended seminars and workshops, and developed legislation went through the full legislative process. The course ended with a floor debate and vote on those bills that got out of committee.

The Gem State Patriot visited with some of the Academy's students during their weeklong course. We asked them to name one thing they took away from the course. Below are some of their responses:



*"It taught me to understand that an elected official is to be a servant of the people," said **Domenic from Meridian**. "It's more than passing bills; it is also learning about the foundation of our government and the way our system works."*



*"We went through the formal process of arguing to get our bills out of committee and onto to the House floor," said **Asa from Priest River**. "I really enjoyed the debates discussions to try and work something out with other representatives. My bill was the "Beating Heart Unborn Protection Act. It bans abortion at 10-12 weeks, when the heartbeat can be detected by ultrasound technology. It is similar to a bill passed in Arkansas."*



*"I enjoyed learning about parliamentary procedure," said **Dellan of Boise**. "Just the idea of gathering together with people who share some of the same views as me, and with others in debate was definitely worth it. There are too many young people who aren't active, so it was great to see some people my age doing something."*

PICTURES & QUOTES FROM PATRIOT ACADEMY STUDENTS



At the left you can see Rep. Vito Barbieri who spoke at the Academy having lunch with some of the students.

*“To me, I gained an understanding in how important it is to know what is going on with our government,” said **Ruth from New Plymouth**. “I always knew it was important, but when you have to commit to an issue, you have to take a stand on moral values and political issues. It forces you to be more aware.”*

*“I appreciated the different presentations and the ideas the speakers conveyed,” said **Michael from Rigby**. “We gained information to help us think in different ways about issues.”*



One does not walk away from these young people with a discouraging sense of disengagement or lack of interest from our citizenry. On the contrary, these Academy graduates were involved, active, and willing to take on difficult issues. Examples included Elizabeth from Payette’s bill to end funding and close down for the State Health Exchange, and Asa’s bill to try and ban abortion at 10-12 weeks. They were articulate, principled, and clear in their determination to make a difference.

It says much about the good work of the Idaho Patriot Academy that it can attract so many active and conscientious people. This starts with the students who attended the program, and ends with those who supported this important cause. If these students are any indication of the next generation, this state and this Republic have a fighting chance.

FREEDOM VS NSA

by Janet Trujillo (Rep. 33rd District — Idaho Falls)



I am not a frequent flyer however I do have the honor of being frequently selected for random security checks. Every time I have flown I have been chosen to step aside for further search of my person. I am subjected to a violation of my personal freedom, but one I am told I must endure to be safe in a post 9-11 world.

September 11, 2001 was a tragedy Americans will never forget. We were attacked on our own soil by foreign terrorists. Our national security was instantly questioned and President George W. Bush along with congress responded by passing the Patriot Act.

The act was passed just 45 days after the attack with very little debate or opposition due to a mindset of the citizens following a tragedy. It is in these emotional times that Congress is able to slip through legislation that normally would undergo more scrutiny from the citizens. It provided the federal government vast powers to access personal information perform searches and detain suspects in the interest of national security. The Patriot Act allows federal officials to intercept communication methods if doing so prevents terrorism. This means that federal law enforcement and other officials may listen to private telephone conversations and read emails of suspected terrorists without penalty of invading privacy. New investigation tactics also allow for stored voice mail to be treated as stored email for investigation purposes.

The rights of citizen's under the 4th Amendment of the US constitution (The right of the people to be secure in their persons, houses, papers, and effects, against unreasonable searches and seizures, shall not be violated, and no Warrants shall issue, but upon probable cause, supported by Oath or affirmation, and particularly describing the place to be searched, and the persons or things to be seized.) are stretched under the guise of national security.

Federal agents investigating cases involving foreign intelligence, including terrorism and espionage, must obtain **Foreign Intelligence Service Act** warrants to conduct searches and engage in wiretapping. The name refers to a 1978 law that created a secret court to review and approve warrant applications. Congress enacted the law in response to concerns about the lack of oversight in domestic spying programs. Unlike most courts, FISA court proceedings are conducted in total secrecy. The public is denied knowledge of the nature of the petitions, although nearly all are approved.

The FISA Amendments Act of 2008 added a new Title VII to FISA. The US Senate extended the FISA Amendments Act until December 31, 2017 which renews the U.S. government's authority to monitor electronic communications of foreigners abroad. Section 702 permits the Attorney General and the Director of National Intelligence to jointly authorize targeting of persons reasonably believed to be located outside the United States, but is limited to targeting non-U.S. persons. Once authorized, such acquisitions may last for periods of up to one year. <http://tinyurl.com/66ndp9>

Recent events involving Edward Snowden leaking a top-secret order issued by the FISA court to the media have sparked considerable public controversy. It required a subsidiary of Verizon to provide a daily, ongoing feed of all call detail records—including those for domestic calls—to the NSA. This appears to be a direct violation to the Patriot Act and the FISA Amendments.

Continued on Page 6

FREEDOM VS NSA

by Janet Trujillo (Rep. 33rd District — Idaho Falls)

On July 18, in a letter to a federal judge, the Obama administration responded officially for the first time to one of the new crop of suits (*ACLU et. al. v. Clapper*) by questioning the plaintiffs' legal standing to sue the government, given their inability to prove that their metadata was not just collected, but specifically reviewed by the National Security Agency:

Plaintiffs cannot meet this essential requirement, even assuming their metadata have been or will be collected, because it is no more than speculation that their metadata have been or ever will be among the very small percentage of the records in the database that are ever reviewed. ...Indeed, the chances that their metadata will be used or reviewed in a query are so speculative that they lack Article III standing to seek the injunctive relief requested in their July 2 letter. If the court agrees with the government's position, an obvious question arises: how can *anyone* achieve standing to challenge the surveillance programs' constitutionality?

If the standard for filing suit requires that plaintiffs demonstrate that their phone records were not merely collected and warehoused but actively reviewed in an investigation, and the history of whose records were reviewed is one of the government's most closely guarded secrets, then there seems to be simply no way to meet the standard. And if the standard to challenge the surveillance programs is impossible to meet, then the programs reside, in effect, beyond the reach of the Constitution. <http://tinyurl.com/pct9dgw>

From Judge Andrew Napolitano: *"What the president said and what the president has done is as distressing as anything I have observed the government doing in my entire professional life. This president has orchestrated an end run around the constitution of gargantuan proportions. He approved it, he authorized it, he knows it's extent. He did it in secret and now he is denying that it exists."*

"The federal government, in order to make their job of catching bad guys easier -- they are determined to catch bad guys, God bless them for that -- has decided to sweep up the private communications of everybody else, as well. If the constitution and the Fourth Amendment were written for anything, they were written to prevent exactly that." <http://tinyurl.com/lenpp5n>

The issue is being brought close to home for Idaho by the fact that Utah has been chosen to build a new facility for the NSA. The National Security Agency (NSA) is setting up a new \$1.5 billion cyber-security data center at the Utah National Guard's Camp Williams near Salt Lake City. In an e-mailed comment, an NSA spokeswoman said the new center will provide "critical support to national cyber-security priorities" but did not elaborate. A statement released by Hatch's office said the facility would add "important capabilities" to the intelligence community and provide technical assistance to the U.S. Department of Homeland Security. <http://tinyurl.com/y9f9s4s>

Does the violation of my person at the airport or the NSA collecting my personal data really make our national security any better? The gathering of information was taking place during the inception and implementation of recent events such as the Boston bombing and the Fort Hood shooting and was unable to stop either from occurring. The gathering of information has only enabled the targeting of private citizens deemed political enemies of this administration. I am reminded of the words of Benjamin Franklin "Those who desire to give up freedom in order to gain security will not have, nor do they deserve, either one."

"Protectionism" Only Protects Special Interests

By Parrish Miller

Protectionism exists in many facets of the economy and is essentially the use of taxes, regulations or other means to disincentivize, restrict, or prohibit trade. The idea is simple: I am the only widget maker in town and I get the town council to levy a 50 percent tax on any widgets that are manufactured elsewhere and imported into the town. That's a great deal for the town council (that gets to spend the extra tax money) and for me, but not so much for my customers. I can now charge more or use lower quality materials because I know that any competing widgets will cost substantially more thanks to the import tariff.

Unfortunately, protectionism is rampant in US economic policy and impacts everything from pickup trucks (which face a 25 percent import tariff) to French truffles (with a 100 percent import tariff.) In some cases, protectionist policies are so extreme that they actually ban importation altogether which often leads to soaring prices (due to lack of competition) and illegal black markets and the violence associated with them. These import bans cover all manner of goods from beluga caviar to jadeite and rubies mined or extracted from Burma (and articles of jewelry containing them.) Even something as common as rice cannot legally be imported from many foreign countries.

Tariffs have existed throughout US history and were heartily endorsed by the original "big government" supporter Alexander Hamilton as a way to protect US national interests. The reality is, however, that protectionism doesn't actually protect anyone except the special interests which lobby for these trade restrictions.

Instead of endorsing protectionism, the US should focus on manufacturing and production efforts in which it has a comparative advantage. If Japan produces better pickup trucks, the US should transition to producing biopharmaceuticals or nanotechnology rather than charging a 25 percent tariff to make up for its inability to compete on a level playing field.

One especially egregious example of protectionism is restricting the free movement of labor. While supporters of strict immigration quotas assert that they are necessary to 'protect American jobs,' the truth is that if Americans could and would do the same amount of work for the same amount of money, importing laborers would not be advantageous. The reason why businesses choose to bring in foreign workers is because Americans either lack the necessary skills or expect more than the market price for their labor.

Similarly, attempts by governments to prevent the outsourcing of jobs are based on the faulty assumption that is preferable to pay higher wages to domestic workers simply to keep low-skill jobs from being phased out. The preferred alternative is to allow the low-skill jobs to be outsourced and replaced by high-skill jobs that pay more—not because higher wages are mandated—but because there are fewer individuals who qualify for the positions. Protectionism is ultimately a futile attempt to slow or halt the effects of time. Comparative advantage shifts with changes in technology and trying to stem the tide of innovation and preserve the status quo is both economically destructive and restrictive of individual liberty.

The free market is far and away the best system for creating prosperity that has ever been tried or even contemplated. It works without oversight, regulation, or central planning and allows for the rapid adjustments necessary to adapt to changing consumer wants and needs. When governments try to intervene by setting price floors (such as the minimum wage), price ceilings (such as rent controls), or by engaging in protectionism, the efficiency of the free market is compromised and potential prosperity is destroyed. We must reject government intervention in the free market and embrace free trade and the free movement of labor. At the end of the day, freedom is the best policy for everyone.

State Health Exchange FAQs

Many people have questions about the State Health Exchange. Please find answers to our most frequently asked questions:

Q. Am I required to use the State Health Exchange?

A. No. However, the only way to get tax credits and/or subsidies to deal with the cost of premiums is to purchase your health insurance through the State Health Exchange. This is because the State of Idaho brought in the authority of the IRS into our state when it passed H248.

The IRS can now impose tax mandate penalties on Idaho's businesses and people through the State Health Exchange. You are now susceptible to the tax mandate penalties whatever you decide to do.

Q. How do I know whether I will qualify for tax credits and/or subsidies?

A. You qualify for tax credits and/or subsidies if you earn between 138% and 400% of the Federal Poverty Level (FPL). This is roughly \$15,415 to \$44,681 for an individual and \$31,500 to \$92,500 for a family of four. However, the State Health Exchange is reporting a top line number of \$62,500 per year. The Gem State Patriot is checking into this.

You must declare your estimated taxable income for 2014 when you sign up and purchase your health plan by the beginning of January 2014. If you end up making more taxable income at the end of 2014 than you initially declared, you may have to return some of it. You'll learn this when you do your taxes.

Q. What information will I have to give up to use the State Health Exchange?

A. You have to provide personal financial and health information. It will include tax-related income and asset information. It will also include medical claims information. Under Section 1311 of the Affordable Care Act (ACA) it can also include any "other information" deemed "appropriate" by the Secretary of Health & Human Services (HHS). According to the ACA, the State Health Exchange cannot override HHS.

Q. State law (H248) says my enrollment and other personal information will be "secure." How do I know the federal government recipients of my information will ensure it is "secure?"

A. Currently, you don't. According to the Office of the Inspector General for the Department of Health & Human Services, there are security problems over the enrollment and other personal information that will come from Idahoans who register through the State Health Exchange.

And, there may not be adequate time to conduct proper security testing of the federal system by the October 1st deadline. Legislative members of the State Health Exchange board have expressed concern as well as argued that data shared with the federal government must be properly "certified."

Not to beat a dead horse, but should we choose to overturn the State Health Exchange and not participate in the Section 1321 exchange (the voluntary "federal regulatory program") we can avoid this issue.

Continued on page 9

State Health Exchange FAQs

Q. I heard the State Exchange's website must be set up according to federal rules. Is that true?

A. Yes. The Department of Health & Human Services not only has rules around the content and form of the State Exchange's website, but it will also set the "quality ratings" around the prices and offerings of the health plans sold on it, as well as conduct surveys of Idahoans on their "satisfaction" with the different health plans.

This information is not new. Section 1103, Part 1300, and other portions of the Affordable Care Act outline these — and other — mandates by the federal government on the State Health Exchange. Anyone who acts surprised by these mandates either failed to read the Affordable Care Act, or chose to ignore them.

Q. Isn't there a violation of Idaho state law if the State Health Exchange sends the personal financial and health information of Idahoans to the IRS?

A. Yes. The Gem State Patriot believes sending personal financial and health information to the IRS violates the Idaho Healthcare Freedom law (H391). This is because the reason for sending that data to the IRS is for them to determine tax penalties, credits and/or subsidies. The Idaho Healthcare Freedom law says that no "subdivision or agency" of the federal government may impose a "penalty" related to "the mode of securing healthcare services." The Idaho Healthcare Freedom law is based on the 9th and 10th Amendments to the Bill of Rights. The moment the State Health Exchange sends the data to the IRS, it violates state law.

Q. I heard that under the Idaho Healthcare Freedom law (H391) the federal government is not allowed to "penalize" Idahoans regarding any "healthcare services?"

A. That is correct. Under the Idaho Healthcare Freedom law, only the "State of Idaho" can impose any "public policy" related to "securing healthcare services." This includes the imposition of "penalties."

Q. But didn't the U.S. Supreme Court say the Affordable Care Act was constitutional?

A. The U.S. Supreme Court said only that Congress has the power to tax a person for not buying health insurance. According to the Affordable Care Act, the only way that tax can be enforced was through a State Health Exchange. If Idaho gets rid of the State Health Exchange, then Congress has no way to impose or enforce the tax. The IRS's enforcement authority only comes through a State Health Exchange.

Q. What about all the rules in the Affordable Care Act? Didn't the U.S. Supreme Court say they can go through?

A. No. The federal government cannot "compel" or "force" a state to agree to any federal regulatory program. The Gem State Patriot believes the State Health Exchange is a "federal regulatory program." Here's why: The benefits and coverages that must be offered on insurance plans sold through the State Exchange are based on federal rules. The plans offered on the State Exchange must be certified by the Department of Health & Human Services. Changes in premiums must be "justified" under federal law. HHS will conduct the quality ratings and satisfaction surveys of Idahoans on their health plans. Plan enrollment will be done through federal government software. The tax credits, subsidies, and penalties are imposed by the federal IRS. Even the website and "toll-free" telephone number rules are federal.

Continued on Page 10

State Health Exchange FAQs

There are three U.S. Supreme Court cases where the Court said Congress cannot mandate states implement federal rules. They are as follows:

- 1) Printz v. United States:** “The federal government may not compel the states to implement ... federal regulatory programs.”
- 2) New York v. United States:** “Congress does not have the power to force states to implement regulations.”
- 3) NFIB v. Sebelius:** “Congress may use its spending power to create incentives for states to act in accordance with federal policies. But when ‘pressure turns into compulsion,’ ... the legislation runs contrary to our system of federalism.”

The Gem State Patriot recommends overturning the State Health Exchange. If the State Health Exchange is shut down, then the federal government would have to implement a federal exchange. That federal exchange is a set of federal rules and regulations. Therefore, Idaho cannot be “compelled” or “forced” to have to follow it, according to the U.S. Supreme Court.

Q. What is the fee to use the State Health Exchange?

A. The fee will be 1.5% of the premium – whatever that premium ends up being. There is no cap on the fee. The citizens of Idaho were told they would be charged a fixed dollar fee. The governor’s staff — under testimony to two state legislative committees — said the fee would be \$4.80 per member per month. That is no longer true.

Q. Is the State Health Exchange “financially self-supporting” as required by state law (H248)?

A. No. The State Health Exchange “borrowed” almost \$400,000 from the Department of Health & Welfare – a state agency. State law H248 says the State Health Exchange “shall not request any financial support from the state.” The Gem State Patriot intends on taking this issue up with the Attorney General.

Moreover, the Gem State Patriot questions whether time and materials expended by the Department of Health & Welfare and the Department of Insurance, along with the Governor’s staff, could constitute “financial support from the state.” If so, this could be another violation of state law H248.

Q. What if I want to pick and choose the benefits I want on the health insurance I must buy. Can’t I just buy whatever health insurance I want?

A. No. The Affordable Care Act requires every policy sold through a state or federal exchange include 10 “Essential Health Benefits.” The Gem State Patriot has a petition to rescind this rule. Please go to our website and sign it.

Stephen M. Ackerman, M.A. Political Science

Editor, Gem State Patriot

Member, Board of Scholars, Idaho Freedom Foundation

FIRE AND POLITICS

By Lawrence Denny Representative (9th District Midvale)

How appropriate that on the eve of the first meeting of our interim committee on the transfer of public lands, 20 new forest fires started by lightening on the Boise National Forest. This just highlights the reason for the discussion that we are having on the management or lack thereof of the public lands in Idaho and the West. In 1976, Congress passed FLPMA, the Federal Lands Policy Management Act. This Act set the course that brought us to where we are today. 1) the Act changed the policy of the Federal Government from one of disposal to one of permanent retention of the public lands. 2) It set up a process of public involvement in management decisions.

Neither of these changes are bad in themselves. However, over the course of the years the results have been catastrophic. For example, the typical process for taking care of a disease or insect infestation can take years; the Forest Service identifies a problem; suggests a timber sale for the removal of the diseased or infested trees; the timber sale is put up for a period of public comment followed by a period of litigation. In many cases, by the time a management decision makes it through the process, the timber is dead and if it has any value at all, it is much less than it would have been years earlier (at the start of the process).

Another Act that has led to the gridlock is the Equal Access to Justice Act which actually encourages environmental groups to sue on management decision. Even if they do not prevail on the merits, but maybe on some technicality, the government will pay their attorney fees. It has become a cash cow for environmental groups.

I asked, "What is the annual growth in board feet on the national forest in Idaho?" Two different presenters agreed that the growth was in the neighborhood of 1.5 billion board feet on the manageable land which excludes the wilderness areas, national recreation areas, and road less areas. Current harvest from the National Forest is less than 200 million board feet. That means that every year we are adding well over one billion board feet to the fuel load. Fuel that will turn those 20 lightening caused fires in the Boise National Forest into catastrophic fires that destroy the ecosystem, wildlife habitat, scenic beauty, and the watershed for years.

How would this change under state ownership? Well, if we're given title to the land on the condition that we have the same regulations-- nothing will change. However, if we are given title and allowed to manage the same way we manage our endowment lands, it would be a great benefit for the state, counties, schools, and the economy as well as the environment, the watershed, wildlife habitat and etc.



Flames burning down a ridge from the Beaver Creek fire in Hailey.

THANK YOU KEVIN OVER 2,000 ANIMALS ADOPTED IN 3 MONTHS

Please help support
The Canyon County
Animal Shelter



Be a hero rescue a
Dog or Cat today
They need you

LISTEN TO THE KEVIN MILLER SHOW
580KIDO AM RADIO

WE ASK ALL OF THE CONSERVATIVE ORGANIZATIONS

IN THE TREASURE VALLEY TO TUNE INTO THE

KEVIN MILLER SHOW EACH MORNING

5 TO 9:00 AM MONDAY THROUGH FRIDAY &

5 TO 8:00AM ON SATURDAYS

**If you live out of the area, you can tune Kevin in on your computer
Just click on the link below and listen to the show.**

<http://www.kidoam.com/pages/listenliveplayer580am>

YOUTH LEADERSHIP SCHOOL

“The Leadership Institute is paving the way for a new generation of conservative leaders.”

President Ronald Reagan



January 2014

Boise, Idaho
\$30 (five meals included)



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

You will learn to:

- Organize large numbers of volunteers and voters
- Increase the size and effectiveness of your group
- Motivate volunteers with exciting projects
- Host successful speaker events
- Develop eye-catching signs and literature
- Gain media coverage
- Organize 12 proven activism projects

Go to www.LeadershipInstitute.org/YLS to register, or contact Daryl Ann Dunigan at DDunigan@LeadershipInstitute.org or (703) 647-3352.



 twitter.com/LeadershipInst
 facebook.com/LeadershipInstitute
 www.LeadershipInstitute.org

Page 1

This Training Launched These Conservative Careers



Mitch McConnell
U.S. Senator (R-Ky)
Senate Minority Leader



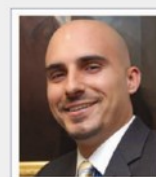
Andrew Parks
Programs Coordinator
Heritage Foundation



Tyler Herrmann
National Field Coordinator
Collegians for a
Constructive Tomorrow



Amanda Carpenter
Speechwriter
Sen. Ted Cruz (R-TX)



Brian Swenson
Political Director
Florida GOP



Terry Branstad
Governor
Iowa

“If more conservative candidates have the same secret weapon I had -- top staff and key volunteers trained by the Leadership Institute -- you and I will see many more conservative victories in the future.”

Rand Paul
U.S. Senator (R-KY)



Andrew McIndoe
Development Manager
Heritage Action for America



Tim Phillips
President
Americans for Prosperity



David Bossie
President
Citizens United



Jeff Frazee
Founder
Young Americans
for Liberty



Mark Mix
President, National Right
to Work Legal Defense
Foundation



Kate Obenshain
Political Commentator
and Author



Nick Dyer
Deputy State Field Director
Ted Cruz for Senate



Grover Norquist
President
Americans for Tax Reform

My Boot Camp of Politics at the Leadership Institute's Youth Leadership School

By Abigail Bartels

Have you ever heard or perhaps proclaimed the following statements?

I'm a college student. I can't afford the education I'm getting, and once I graduate, I have no idea if there will even be jobs available. I don't understand why the government takes such a large chunk of my small paycheck, and I hate the fact that the NSA can read what's on my smartphone.

All the while, the government acts like my political opinions don't matter. My age makes me unimportant to them. Leftist activists are knocking on my door offering me hope and change. I don't know what to do. Last year, I thought all of these things and didn't have an outlet to which I could turn. There were very few, if any, activists on my campus championing small government and personal liberty, and I was unsure of how to promote my causes or earn the respect of leaders I supported. As I searched for a summer internship, I stumbled across the Leadership Institute's Youth Leadership School, a two-day campaign activism training geared toward teenagers and adults focused on getting young people involved with politics.

The Leadership Institute is a conservative, educational foundation which seeks to place a greater number of more effective conservative activists on the political field. The Youth Leadership School is one of its forty types of training, which Senator Rand Paul highly endorsed, by saying, "If more conservatives candidates have the same secret weapon I had – top staff and key volunteers trained by the Leadership Institute – you and I will see many more conservative victories in the future." The success of the techniques taught by the Leadership Institute is not only a recent phenomenon; Morton Blackwell, the founder and president of the organization, ran the youth movement for Ronald Reagan's successful presidential bid. The methods taught by Blackwell have stood the test of time and have contributed to conservative victories for years.

I attended the Leadership Institute's Youth Leadership School (YLS) last December, and I honestly don't think I've ever written so many notes in my life. I went home renewed, invigorated, and ready to counteract those leftist activists. After learning about how to form a campaign plan, I began writing my own plan so that when someone lets me work as a youth coordinator on a campaign, I am ready. The YLS also taught me how to build an organization, so I decided to begin an active conservative club on my campus. The lecture I heard about effective media messaging inspired me to begin writing for my school newspaper.

I received invaluable information from my YLS. I was very excited by what I learned and what the Leadership Institute does. Encouraged by my YLS experience, I applied for the internship at the Leadership Institute, and I have had the amazing opportunity to spend the summer interning for this fantastic organization. I was assigned to the YLS department, where I have assisted with schools in Seattle, Minnesota, Virginia, and even Canada.

I believe in the value of Leadership Institute trainings, and I'm happy to tell you that the Youth Leadership School is coming to your area this January. I would encourage young people, volunteer coordinators, candidates, campaign managers, and anyone interested in turning confused youth into enthused volunteers to attend. For \$30 (or \$15 with early bird registration), you will receive meals, materials, and valuable training. We will be doing a YLS in Boise in January, and we hope to do one in northern Idaho this fall. If you are interested in attending or helping to host a training, please contact us at (703) 647-3352 or ddunigan@leadershipinstitute.org.

I sincerely hope you are able to attend. Whether you will be able to join us or not, please invite any friends you have who are interested in helping the youth movement.

Things Might Be Turning Out Differently than Promised with the State Health Exchange, but Idaho Does Have Options

There was much discussion and debate around whether Idaho should move forward with a State Health Exchange or go with a Federal Exchange. Taking editorial license, the Gem State Patriot formally came out against the State Health Exchange. It did so by arguing the following points:

- A. Idaho will not control the state health exchange. Instead, Idaho will simply be administering federal rules.
- B. The cost estimates and user fees to implement and run the State Health Exchange remain unknown.
- C. Qualifications and uncertainty over promised tax credits and subsidies on the State Health Exchange.
- D. Idaho can drop the state exchange and defaults to a federal exchange, it can then avoid having to participate in the federal exchange.
- E. If Idaho defaults to a federal exchange, it can avoid the employer tax and individual tax mandates. The IRS would lose all enforcement authority.

Idaho Will Not Control the State Health Exchange

The state health exchange is boasting a “choice” of 134 health plans. Yet, every one of those health plans must conform to the benefit and coverage levels set by the federal Department of Health & Human Services (HHS). Is it still 134 health plan options if every health plan must include the same 10 Essential Health Benefits required by HHS, and must include the uniform coverage levels required by HHS?

For two years, I have argued the State Health Exchange is a federal program. My argument: Since the insurance benefits offered are based on federal rules, since the coverages required are based on federal rules, since any changes in insurance premiums must be “justified” under federal law, and since the federal HHS can override any action by a State Health Exchange, it is a federal program.

Other issues include HHS’s mandates over the State Exchange’s website, the rating system on the quality and price of health plans offered through the State Exchange, surveys HHS will do on Idahoans on their ‘satisfaction’ with health plans offered through the State Exchange, and even the “toll-free” telephone number the State Exchange must offer.

Costs to Setup the State Health Exchange

To this day, we do not know what it will cost to set up the State Health Exchange. Will it be the \$20 million presented by Governor Otter and his staff? Will it be the \$30 million discussed on the floor of the Senate during the debate over the state health exchange bill? Will it be the \$50 million some legislators told me may be the cost? Or, will it be the \$77 million as outlined by KPMG to the governor’s task force?

The State Health Exchange User Fee: No Longer a Set Dollar Amount; Now It’s Unlimited

Despite being promised a user fee of \$4.80 per member per month for the state health exchange, the exchange board voted to make the user fee 1.5% of the premium – whatever that premium is. There is no cap on the user fee; no cap on what you will pay.

Continued on page 17

Despite things Turning Out Differently than Promised, Idaho Has Options

If You Want Tax Credits and Subsidies, You Must Buy HHS-Certified Plans Offered thru State Health Exchange

Let's say you're worried about the increasing costs of premiums. Supporters of the State Health Exchange will tell you that if you buy your health insurance through the State Exchange, you can qualify for tax credits and subsidies.

However, this is only true, if you make between 138% and 400% of the federal poverty level (between \$15,400 and \$44,700 for individuals and \$31,500 and \$92,500 for families of four – although, the State Exchange claims the maximum is \$62,500, but they are unclear beyond that). If you make less than 138% of the federal poverty level, you are driven to Medicaid. If you make more than 400% of the federal poverty level, you receive no tax credits or subsidies.

Also, you only get these tax credits and subsidies if you meet certain “affordability tests,” if the health plan you choose meets actuarial value tests, and so on.

Finally, to get these tax credits and subsidies, you must give up personal financial and health information. This includes having to estimate what your income will be. If you end up making more income, then you may have to return some of the credits or subsidies. You won't know this until you do your taxes the next year.

If Idaho Drops the State Health Exchange and Goes with the Federal Exchange, Idaho Can Avoid Participation with the Affordable Care Act

According to three U.S. Supreme Court cases, the federal government cannot “compel” or “force” a state to agree to any federal regulatory program. The Gem State Patriot believes that three cases can be used to counter Idaho from having to participate in a federal exchange, i.e., a federal regulatory program.

Idaho can overturn the State (Section 1311) Exchange, default to a federal (Section 1321) exchange, and declare it chooses not to participate in this “federal regulatory program.”

IRS's Taxing Authority: Idaho Can Avoid Federal Taxes If It Overturns the State Health Exchange

The State of Oklahoma chose not to go with a state health exchange. According to Oklahoma's Attorney General, this means the IRS has no authority under Rule 36B of the Internal Revenue Code to impose the employer mandate tax on businesses in Oklahoma. Oklahoma argued these mandates would hurt its employers, including the State of Oklahoma itself.

The State of Oklahoma just got “standing,” in federal district court on their argument. This means a federal judge ruled that Oklahoma demonstrated it could be injured by the IRS's enforcement of the employer and individual tax mandates. This is the crossing of a major hurdle in Oklahoma's fight to prevent the IRS from imposing penalties on its businesses.

Idaho had the opportunity to join Oklahoma in this battle. Idaho chose not to do so. Idaho could still overturn the State Health Exchange, accept the federal exchange, and declare it will not participate in this “federal regulatory program.” This would indirectly support Oklahoma and the many other states that have chosen not to go with the State Exchange. Thank you.

Stephen M. Ackerman: Editor, Gem State Patriot; Member, Board of Scholars, Idaho Freedom Foundation

Idaho Second Amendment Alliance-September Newsletter

We are only four months away from the 2014 Idaho Legislative Session. The ISAA has several goals we want to accomplish this session and we need Idahoans support and grassroots effort to make them happen! Here is what we want to do:

1. Implement “Constitutional Carry” in the State of Idaho. This has been our biggest goal as an organization. No person should have to request permission from the government to defend him/herself. Any law abiding citizen should be able to carry a firearm for self-defense and they should not have to worry about repercussions for doing so. It’s your life; you don’t need permission to protect it.
2. In addition to and in conjunction with CC, we want to see a solid “Stand Your Ground” law in the State of Idaho. Currently our self-defense laws come from case law, meaning the judge will use previous cases to determine your justification for self-defense. Many states have actual code protecting their citizens and Idaho needs to do the same. We are going to work with Alexandria Kincaid, Idaho’s 2nd Amendment lawyer, as well as legislators and other patriot organizations to do just that.

We welcome all 2nd Amendment legislation that does not expand government power. Please support the ISAA by liking our Facebook page at <https://www.facebook.com/IdahoSecondAmendmentAlliance> or email us at idaho2aa@gmail.com

Thank you for your support!
Greg Pruett-President of the ISAA

LETTER TO THE EDITOR TIME FOR A POW WOW by Jim Chmelik (Idaho County Commissioner)

I am respectful of the Nez Perce tribe’s right to protest; however I struggle for an understanding as to why.

The mega loads are a source of economic stimulus for our region, providing added employment and dollars infused into our local economies. Idaho State Route 12 road was built for commerce, the very commerce that allows disposable income for the many tourists to utilize the Nez Perce tribal casinos and resorts.

The Nez Perce tribe collects the value of state gas taxes at their pumps yet they do not contribute these dollars to the state for the construction of roads and their maintenance. The Nez Perce tribe also received \$193,000,000.00 in the Nez Perce Snake River Basin Adjudication agreement. These dollars came from taxes collected through commerce; commerce the Nez Perce leadership wishes to halt.

Without commerce and industry you do not collect taxes. You do not fund Social Security, Medicaid, Medicare, workman’s compensation, unemployment payments, food stamps and the many other social safety net and entitlements programs funded through government transfer payments.

The FS does not have jurisdiction over a state highway even though it goes through the national forest. The state has an easement and therefore a legal entitlement to its right away. This is similar to the right away my neighbors have through my property to access their property and their utilities. I can in no way interfere with this legal right. Yes I own the property, however they own the right away.

I support the Nez Perce and their ability to benefit from the free exchange of commerce our form of government allows, however I am disappointed they do not view this as a two way street.

THE GEM STATE PATRIOT NEEDS YOUR HELP

This is the six-month anniversary edition of the Gem State Patriot. How are we doing?

- ♦ **We have grown from 3,000 to 8,000 readers in our first six months: A 167% increase in our readership.**
- ♦ **We have readers in every part of the state, from more than a dozen conservative and pro-liberty grassroots organizations, and several principled and influential leaders.**
- ♦ **We have been the platform for some of the most difficult, controversial, and timely issues being discussed in Idaho. We have presented them with openness, clarity, and honesty.**
- ♦ **Every issue has included contributions from current and/or former elected officials: Their interest shows how much they value this publication. Our satisfaction in publishing their thoughts is matched only by our appreciation for their wise, principled, and sincere insights. There are good and decent people in state government; the legislative contributors to this publication are at the top of the list.**

Need for Donations

We have readers who either lack access to a computer, or who cannot obtain our e-mail or website-based editions. We are exploring new printing and mailing options. This includes having portions of the Gem State Patriot be included as inserts in various local newspapers around the state.

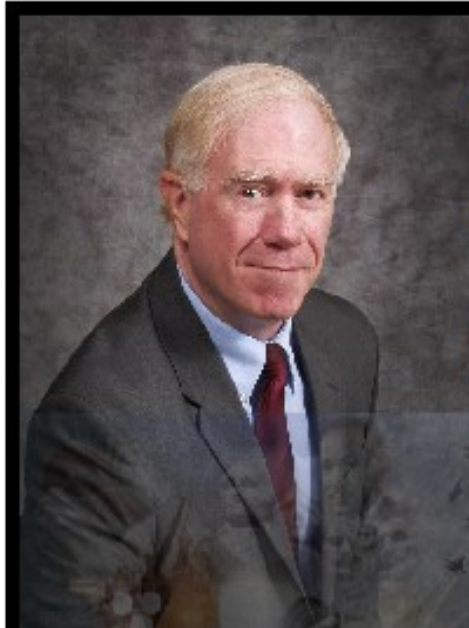
Would you like to be involved? We are asking our readers to consider a donation of \$1, \$5, or \$10 toward this effort. The money will go to ensure these readers can get the Gem State Patriot every month.

We hope to have a Pay Pal setup on our website for electronic donations. In the meantime, you can send your donations to the following address:

**The Gem State Patriot
C/O Steve Ackerman & Bob Neugebauer
1577 North Linder Road, MB #166
Kuna, Idaho 83634**

The Gem State Patriot is a non-profit, voluntary venture. We intend to keep it that way.

Many thanks from Bob, Steve, and Tammy



AMERICA Yesterday, Today & Tomorrow

SUNDAY SEPTEMBER 29 6 PM

PAYETTE HIGH SCHOOL AUDITORIUM

FREE ADMISSION

1500 6th Avenue South Corner of Hwy 95 & 6th
Big White Dome~ Parking Lot In Back

**Who is America?
What has she endured?
Where is she now?
What does the future hold?**

Accompany America and her battles for freedom, including the War of Independence, Civil War, WW 1 and II, Korea, Vietnam, as well as the Cold War and the War on Terror.

Is there another and greater battle that will affect America's future?

America's Founding Fathers were acutely aware of the battles of their past, present and those to come in the future. With clarity, they knew the necessity of seeking our Creator and the importance of biblical foundations for true liberty.

For decades, America and her leaders have been '*cutting & pasting*' her foundation.

Has America's foundation increased in strength?

Is there confidence in inalienable rights that no man can remove?

Where is the necessary balance between God & man?

Former U.S. Marine Corps Captain and National Track & Field Champion, Mike Riddle, presents, with *NO CUT & PASTE* but *CUT TO THE CHASE* clarity, the historical, foundational & liberating truth vital for the freedom that a suffering America is in need of. So who exactly is America? YOU are America. Learn/reinforce your foundation for freedom.

Question & Answer session to follow.

Includes memorable graphics and music that reflect this country's heritage.

Contact: 208-642-9207 or 208-355-2076 Washington & Payette County Tea Party

Mike Riddle holds a degree in mathematics, a graduate degree in education and is president of CTI. Mike is an international speaker and education specialist whose experience in the education field includes: ▪ Teaching junior high & senior high mathematics ▪ Managing U.S. Sprints world-wide technical training ▪ Managing Microsoft's world-wide engineer training ▪ Development & delivery of courses on presentation skills & teaching methods ▪ Christian education & worldview

SPECIAL EVENTS SECTION

WASHINGTON FREEDOM SUMMIT OCTOBER 4TH & 5TH

The Washington Freedom Summit will feature the Center for Self Governance, doing extensive training on taking more control in local governments. Attending will be Representatives Elizabeth Scott, Matt Shea, Jason Overstreet, Dave Taylor and Jeff Holly, and Elizabeth Holly along with a Texas Congressman Louie Gohmert.

THE COST IS \$55.00 BEFORE THE DEADLINE OCTOBER 1.

MAIL TO P.O. BOX 2604 WALLA WALLA WA. 99562 OR

ON LINE REGISTRATION at

<http://www.eventbrite.com/event/7926238593/rss>

“ACT! for AMERICA” TREASURE VALLEY CHAPTER

SEPTEMBER 25th. At Meridian Veterans Memorial Hall Upstairs 7:00 PM

They will be showing a 30 minute presentation by Deborah Weiss, an expert on UN Resolution 16/18 The Istanbul Process, and the Organization of Islamic Cooperation’s (OIC) an on going effort to criminalize speech it deems “offensive”. There will also be a show of a seven minute trailer for the Documentary “Silent Conquest” about how Islamists are silently working to take over our culture and country.

SPECIAL ANNOUNCEMENT

Idaho Against Agenda 21 now has their web-site up and running. Anyone wishing to visit their web-site please follow the link below

<http://idahoansagainstagenda21.weebly.com/>

www.MomZGarage.com

Classics, Antiques, Muscle Cars, Streetrods & Customs



Restorations, Modifications, Repairs & Custom Builds

Corey S. Watson 208-350-1310

PO Box 488, Star, ID 83669 corey@momzgarage.com (Tammy) 208-350-1223

SCHEDULE OF ORGANIZATIONAL EVENTS

SEPT. 7th. 2013 Lemhi County Tea Party Seminar 8:00 AM to 5:00 PM Level One Class Tennessee Ctr. For Self Governance.

SEPT. 10th. 2013 Treasure Valley Act! For America will meet at 7:00 PM Meridian Veterans Memorial Hall, 22 Broadway, Meridian upstairs.

SEPT. 11th, 2013 Gem County Tea Party monthly meeting at 7:00 PM Emmett Middle School, 301 East 4th St. Emmett. Steve Ackerman will be speaking on The State Health Exchange and Solutions.

SEPT. 11th. 2013 9-12 Project of Idaho committee's will meet at 7:00 PM at the American Legion Hall, 22 Broadway Meridian.

SEPT 19th. 2013 Sandpoint Patriots will have a joint meeting with Oathkeepers for Constitution Day at 6:00 PM Panhandle Environmental Health 322 Marion. For further information please contact Pam Stout at 208-610-4222

SEPT 17th. 2013 Oathkeepers, will meet at 7:00 PM at the American Legion Hall 22 Broadway.

SEPT. 18th. 2013 Eagle/Star JBS Meeting at 7:00 PM at the American Legion Hall 22 Broadway.

SEPT. 25th. 2013 9-12 Project of Idaho open member meeting at 7:00 PM American Legion Hall 22 Broadway, Meridian

SEPT. 26th. 2013 Canyon County Co. 27/43 Lightfoot Militia, Rk Gunsmithing 201 Kings Rd. Nampa.

OCT. 4-5 Washington Freedom Summit to be held in Spokane Washington. Please see the Special Events Section on page 20 for details on how to sign up.

HERE ARE LINKS TO CONTRIBUTORS OF THIS NEWSLETTER

<http://idahobusinessalliance.com>

<http://912projectidaho.com>

<http://freeenterprisepac.com>

<http://idahocarry.org>

Please take some time and visit our new web site and Tea Party Bob's Blog

<http://gemstatepatriot.com>

http://bob.techlogs.com/?page_id=2

PATRIOT COMPUTER SERVICES

PLEASE CALL - 208-649-4184

ASK FOR NATHANIEL LONGSTREET

Their capabilities include installing new networks servers, PC/workstations, and POS systems for the IT needs of small to medium businesses.

They will also do in home repair and/or pick-up and repair home PC's Laptops or Desk tops.