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95% Certain or Hilariously Incoherent?

By Andy Caldwell

In the latest report from the Intergovernmental Report on Climate Change, the authors claimed they were 95% certain that global warming is being caused by mankind (despite the fact the planet quit warming 15 years ago). However, MIT Professor Richard Lindzen believes the report is hilariously incoherent! How so?

The excuse for the failure to account for the absence of warming is that the heat is unexpectedly hiding in the deep ocean. However, Lindzen points out the failure of the computer models and theories to account for the exchange of heat between the surface layers of the earth and the deeper oceans is simply an admission that the assumptions driving the various models were totally unjustified in the first place. If the computer models we have been using did not account for heat transport to begin with, then the predictions and the confidence factor that man is causing the warming, have no basis in fact! In other words, Professor Lindzen questions how anyone could have ignored the role that heat transport always plays in the natural internal variability of the climate.

The real question is how can scientists coherently claim mankind is causing warming that is no longer observable? The truth is, they continue to cling to the hype built on computer models despite the fact that the models have been proven wrong in the real world! Predicting climate change involves an infinite number of variables and complex phenomenon. The subject can not be reduced to the function of a single trace gas such as carbon dioxide. For an example of the complexities involved, consider the research of Professor Lindzen.

Dr. Lindzen is an atmospheric physicist and the Alfred P. Sloan Professor of Meteorology, Department of Earth, Atmospheric and Planetary Sciences at MIT. He specializes in the subject of heat transport in his capacity as a dynamical meteorologist with interests in the broad topics of climate and hydrodynamic instability. MIT indicates his research involves studies of the role of the tropics in weather and global heat transport, the moisture budget and its role in global change, the origins of ice ages, seasonal effects in atmospheric transport, and the observational determination of climate sensitivity. He has made major contributions to the development of the current theory for the Hadley Circulation, which dominates the atmospheric transport of heat and momentum from the tropics to higher latitudes, and has advanced the understanding of the role of small scale gravity waves in producing the reversal of global temperature gradients at the mesopause, and provided accepted explanations for atmospheric tides and the quasi-biennial oscillation of the tropical stratosphere. He has developed models for the Earth's climate with specific concern for the stability of the ice caps, the sensitivity to increases in CO₂, the origin of the 100,000 year cycle in glaciation, and the maintenance of regional variations in climate.

Professor Lindzen's contempt for the latest climate report indicates the fact that the science is far from settled, and we can be 100% certain of that!

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Santa Barbara Picks Drilling Over Greening

By Wayne Lusvardi

Santa Barbara is ground zero for the environmental movement in California after the infamous Union Oil Company oil spill in the Santa Barbara Channel in 1969. Almost 45 years later, the Santa Barbara County Planning Commission approved 136 new oil wells on 32 acres in the unincorporated area of Orcutt in Santa Maria Valley.

The Orcutt project signals that local governments are now willing to overcome environmental opposition in return for jobs and tax revenues. Over 80 percent of Santa Barbara County's debt comes from unfunded pensions.

Gone are the days when mainly overwhelming numbers of environmentalists showed up at County Planning meetings to oppose oil projects. Climate Group 350 in Santa Barbara collected 2,700 signatures in opposition to the Orcutt project. On their website, Climate Group 350 branded as "Project Deathstar" the Santa Maria Energy Company Orcutt Oil Field project. The reference was to Darth Vader's world-destroying Deathstar in the 1977 "Star Wars" movie.

But those who favored the project also presented a petition to the County with 2,500 signatures. Groups like the Economic Alliance of Northern Santa Barbara County have also sprung up. A spokesperson for the Santa Maria Valley Chamber of Commerce advocated the project for the taxes that could be generated for local public schools. The local Chamber of Commerce endorsed the oil project for the potential taxes it would generate.

The project was approved by a narrow 3 to 2 vote by the County Planning Commission. The major issue was how many tons of greenhouse gases the steam generators that loosen the oil for extraction would emit into the air. The project is estimated to create 88,000 metric tons of greenhouse gases per year.

Under AB32, the California Global Warming Solutions Act of 2006, Santa Maria Energy would be required to lower emissions to 10,000 tons, which would be 16 percent of usual production; or mitigate the emissions by buying pollution permits on the quarterly cap-and-trade auction of the California Air Resources Board.

The Orcutt Oilfield will produce oil and taxes

The Orcutt oilfield is named after William Orcutt, a former manager of the Geological, Land and Engineering Departments of Union Oil Company. Orcutt dis-

covered prehistoric fossils in the La Brea Tar Pits near the core of the City of Los Angeles. Today, the town of Orcutt, a former home for oil field workers, has a population of about 35,000.

The proposed 136 new oil wells will produce 3,000 barrels of oil per day. Today's spot price for oil is \$142 per barrel. Twenty-six pilot wells are already in operation. So, the Orcutt field would generate a \$426,000 dollars per day; or over \$155 million per year.

California does not have an oil severance tax. Instead, it has a corporate tax from 15 to 35 percent on oil depending on gross revenues. This would equate to \$23.3 to \$54.4 million per year in tax revenue. The 8 percent sales tax in Santa Barbara County could generate \$1.8 to \$4.3 million in additional taxes. Combined corporate and sales taxes generate more revenues than a typical oil severance tax would.

Ironically, in 1910 Orcutt opposed a 1/8 oil royalty proposed by President William H. Taft on oil field leases in Ventura and Santa Barbara Counties. Today, it is the prospect of new taxes at a rate of about 1/7 to 1/3 of gross revenues that is opening up new well sites.

The County Planning Commission authorized exceeding the AB32 emissions threshold of 16 percent. This left Santa Maria Energy with having to buy emissions allowances from the state's cap-and-trade program for the 78,000 tons of emissions exceeding 10,000 tons. At the going rate of \$10 per ton at recent cap-and-trade auctions, that would equate to \$780,000 in additional taxes imposed on the project. When emissions allowances increase to \$25 per ton, the cap-and-trade tax would rise to \$1,950,000 per year.

Paradoxically, Santa Barbara Channel has the largest natural oil and gas seeps in the Western Hemisphere. About 86,000 barrels of oil seep from the ocean bottom each year, the equivalent to the 1969 Santa Barbara Oil Spill. Since 1970, there have been the equivalent of 43 "1969" oil spills. About 6,075 tons of Reactive Organic Compounds (natural gas) seeps into the air every day from the Santa Barbara Channel and has done so since way before the Industrial Revolution and the development of carbon-based energy.

Additionally, the Orcutt oil field would provide 50 to 75 high-paying jobs.

(Continued on page 18)

A Death Blow to Career Politicians

By Andy Caldwell

By now, California voters should be convinced that California government needs to be radically re-vamped and reformed if we are ever going to wrest control from career politicians, entrenched bureaucrats, lobbyists and special interest groups.

Our state's long term debts and deficits are approaching \$1 trillion dollars! Except for the Bay Area, the California economy is still lagging behind the rest of the nation. Nothing serious has been accomplished with regard to pension reform, prison overcrowding, and our perilous and crippling infrastructure shortfalls.

Previous attempts to tweak state government, including term limits and a redistricting commission, have proven to be too weak to produce meaningful change. Enter John Cox and his ballot initiative to create a neighborhood legislature, which is based in part on the model of representation in New Hampshire, a state with 1.3 million residents and 424 elected legislators.

Currently, here in California, we have 80 state assembly representatives, each of which have 500,000 people in their district. Every one of our 40 state senators has nearly 1,000,000 constituents. Most people will never even meet their state representative let alone have the chance to influence their vote. The only voices heard in Sacramento are those that control the flow of money and the ability to deliver blocks of votes. Regular citizens, especially those in primarily rural districts, simply don't matter.

The neighborhood legislature would create 12,000 neighborhood representatives! Each current assembly and senate district would be subdivided into 100 neighborhood districts. Each assembly district would have 5,000 residents. Each senate district would have 10,000 residents. Each of these neighborhoods would elect their representative who would work part time out of their home and earn \$1,000 per year.

The plan is to have each of the 100 assembly and senate neighborhood representatives meet in a convention to elect 80 assembly and 40 senate working committee members who would then go to Sacramento and vote on matters. These working committee members would earn \$30,000 per year.

The Neighborhood Legislature Initiative clearly states the two-fold purpose it hopes to address. Return

power to individual citizens and take the influence of money out of the political equation. The initiative is a declaration that our legislature does not serve the interests of the citizens. It only serves special interests and prior attempts at reform have failed.

Neighborhood campaigns would be door to door. The ability of special interests to influence the grass roots style structure would be eviscerated. The meager pay, limited power and increased accountability would encourage truly community-minded citizens to serve while simultaneously deterring and discouraging career politicians from running for office.

Cox's organization is recruiting 12,000 future candidates to get involved right now by explaining the initiative to their neighbors and building the coalition necessary to take back our government from the special interests and career politicians who are going to fight to the death against this reform measure. To find out more information and get involved visit www.neighborhoodlegislature.com

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The Implosion of the Population Bomb

By *Andy Caldwell*

Today's rage against mankind has to do with our contributions to climate change, but not long ago, we were told that our birth rates would be our undoing. In 1968, Paul Erlich, in his book *Population Bomb*, predicted that hundreds of millions of people would starve to death as early as the 1970's!

Erlich is but one of many doomsday prognosticators dating back to Thomas Malthus, who have proven themselves useful idiots to fear mongers, misguided do-gooders, and despots looking for an excuse to control human behaviors. The myth Erlich helped perpetuate in this age of birth control, divorce and the decline of marriage, all contributing factors to population decline, has catastrophic implications that the world has not seen since we descended into the dark ages.

We are continuously warned that the population of mankind threatens to overrun the carrying capacity of the planet and that population control efforts are the cure. The specific remedy most often prescribed is a birth rate lower than the replacement rate necessary to sustain ourselves. But, non-replacement birth rates are not an ideal, they are in fact pathological! The myth of population explosion has prompted us to embrace dangerous, pernicious, and diabolical tenets that persist to influence public policy.

Jonathan Last has written a great book, *What to Expect When No One's Expecting*, that details the perils and pitfalls of declining birth rates in the US and throughout the world. His analysis is downright frightening for us and our allies, such as Canada, Germany, England and Japan. His book also explains political instability and bellicosity in the world in terms of demography, with even Iran and China facing serious difficulties in the long run.

In essence, Last notes that no nation has ever experienced long term prosperity in the face of contracting population. The trends can be characterized by the example in Germany where a obstetrics clinic was converted to a retirement home. In Japan, more than half of the country is categorized as "depopulated", with more adult diapers now being sold than diapers for babies! Similar trends such as these would be more evident in our own country were it not for the fact that immigrants and their progeny have temporarily masked our demographic decline, notwithstanding

the fact that relying upon immigrants to prop up our numbers raises problems of its own.

Demographic decline affects our economy and quality of life in many ways including our ability to care for the elderly through such programs as Social Security and Medicare. In essence, these programs rely on greater than replacement birth rates to keep the money paying forward. Countries in demographic decline also eventually suffer declines in both labor and capital. Political instability eventually rears its ugly head. This explains much of what is happening in Greece today.

Mr. Last quotes the Prime Minister of Hungary: "Demography is the key factor. If you are not able to maintain yourself biologically, how do you expect to maintain yourself economically, politically and militarily? It's impossible."

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Driving Progress Into Darkness

By *Andy Caldwell*

California legislators and activists drive “progress” by way of promulgating regulations that require the invention of new technology in order to meet standards unique to our state. The requisite investment, while securing some benefits, nonetheless comes with a steep price tag.

The paradigm employed counts on the fact that companies will invest to meet the regulatory requirements in order to keep doing business in this the most populous state in the nation. The standards ostensibly have to do with minimizing impacts to air and water quality, and to improve on energy consumption, albeit there is legitimate controversy that the costs outweigh the benefits in many instances. Overall, many industries find out they cannot comply for one of two reasons. The technology was too expensive to employ or it simply does not exist. This explains why some businesses no longer do business in our state.

A current example involves all the users of heavy duty diesel engines now in the throes of the implementation of the California diesel engine rule. The rule requires all truckers, farmers and construction companies to replace their engines once right now with engines that meet today’s standards, and once again within the next ten years with an engine that does not technologically exist. The regulations are expected to cost these businesses, and the municipalities who also use heavy equipment, in excess of \$20 billion. The price of everything in the State of California is expected to skyrocket as a result of these regulations. Small trucking and construction firms have been forced to sell their existing equipment for pennies on the dollars to firms in other states because it is no longer legal to use the old equipment in California. Others have gone out of business because they can’t afford the new engines which, by the way, are notoriously unreliable.

The secondary goal of this strategy is to influence national standards. The perception is that if companies have to remake their products or change technology to do business in California, then there is a good chance they will change how they do business elsewhere too, and therefore our state will have just served to improve standards nationally.

The companies who have successfully reformulated their products or manufacturing processes have by

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definition passed the costs on to consumers. Unwitting California consumers have no choice in all this but to pay for the increased costs of such things as cars, gasoline, appliances, and now, they are in the process of being forced to pay more for electricity.

In the next few years, the price of electricity will more than double and you can expect blackouts and brownouts to occur all year long, even in the winter months. Why? It all has to do with legislation that will force us to become overly dependent upon renewable energy, such as wind and solar. These sources do not produce a steady supply of electricity 24/7, and the attempts to store power from these sources will require us to rely upon unproven, expensive technology. Further, there is a lack of available back-up sources that can be ramped up in time to meet consumer demands when Mother Nature ceases to cooperate, i.e, when the wind fails to blow, and each and every day when the sun goes down! Exacerbating this situation is the fact that California has chosen to no longer use electricity produced from coal out of concern for global warming, while other plants are being shut down out of concern for fish. And, we just lost half of our state’s nuclear power supply when San Onofre was shut down.

You may want to stock up on candles, blankets and generators.

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Tweaking the Sept. Jobs Report

By Katy Grimes

I'm no mathematician, but I understand economics. It doesn't take a professional to see the "jobs, jobs, jobs" campaign rallying cries seem to be falling on deaf ears. Unemployment may have dropped a dribble, but it remains historically high. And hiring continues to look bad.

While the government jobs report is often called a fairytale because of how it is reported, the real numbers deeper within just don't look good.

Sept. jobs report

The [September jobs report](#) saw the U.S. economy add only 148,000 jobs — notably worse than expected by economic forecasters. The report was delayed more than two weeks thanks to the government shutdown.

CNBC reported, "Job-creation weakens, but unemployment rate down."

Unemployment under George W. Bush

Remember when George W. Bush was President — even going back to Ronald Reagan's Presidency — the jobs report was reported by the media far differently? It was all doom and gloom under Bush and Reagan.

What is apparent is that this presidential administration is desperate to get to the unemployment numbers the country enjoyed under Bush — any way they can.

When President Bush took office in January, 2001 the unemployment rate was 4.2 percent, according to the [Bureau of Labor Statistics](#).

After the September 11, 2001 attacks, the highest the unemployment rate rose was 6.3 percent.

Then the economy calmed down and finally grew again, lowering unemployment to the 5 percent range, [where it stayed](#) until 2003.

The unemployment rate was 5.4 percent when Bush was reelected in November, 2004.

The unemployment rate dipped to 4.9 percent and remained in the 4 percent range [through](#) November, 2007.

By December, 2007 the unemployment rate rose to 5.0 percent, and continued to rise slowly and up to 6.1 percent in August 2008. And then the economy

tanked, and the unemployment rate shot up to 6.8 percent, ending December, 2008 at 7.3 percent.

Current unemployment

Current economists had been predicting 180,000 new jobs and static jobless rate. This is what's known as stagnation.

Stagnation is a prolonged period of slow economic growth, usually accompanied by high unemployment.

The jobs report was bad for women as well. The the number of women working in America dropped from 68,005,000 in August to 67,851,000 in September—a decline of 154,000, [CNS News reported](#).

Breakdowns

"Among the major worker groups, the unemployment rates for adult men (7.1 percent), adult women (6.2 percent), teenagers (21.4 percent), whites (6.3 percent), blacks (12.9 percent), and Hispanics (9.0 percent) showed little or no change in September," the [BLS reported](#). "The jobless rate for Asians was 5.3 percent."

While reports showing the unemployment rate fell to 7.2 percent, the lowest since November 2008, the important details were in the labor-force participation rate — holding at near 35-year lows, according to the [Bureau of Labor Statistics](#).

Between March and April, it dropped by 342,000. But because the official unemployment rate counts only those workers who are actively seeking work, that actually made the unemployment rate go down.

The labor-force participation rate takes into account a broader measurement of unemployment and underemployment, including those who have quit looking for work. The BLS reported this number is at 13.6 percent.

The Washington Post described it differently: The "labor force participation rate" "tracks the number of working-age Americans who are holding a job or looking for one," the WaPo said. And they claim, "For one thing, the trend predates President Obama."

The U.S. economy has to add at least 150,000 jobs net each month just to maintain. This jobs report means we are worse than September, but only slightly.

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Who Has a \$5 Million Retirement Portfolio?

By Andy Caldwell

The Board of Supervisors approved a contract with new CEO Mona Miyasato, currently the assistant county administrator in Marin County. Miyasato appears well qualified for the job and we wish her success. That having been said, the contract the Board negotiated with Ms. Miyasato was overly generous to a fault.

Miyasato has 18 years of public sector experience and more than likely, she will retire some day with a very generous government pension based upon her highest final average salary. As the new CEO, she will be earning \$230,000 per year. If she does in fact work until normal retirement age, she will receive a pension of over \$200,000 per year for the rest of her life. In addition, as if that is not enough money to live on, the county is also chipping in another \$5,000 per year to a 401 K type plan for Miyasato.

To fully appreciate what this all means, you need to realize that in order to guarantee a \$200,000 pension for life, taxpayers will have to have amassed an investment portfolio worth at least \$5 million dollars in order to make the payments to Miyasato.



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Miyasato will also receive \$600 per month for a car allowance plus mileage, \$20,000 for relocation expenses, and the ability to cash in one year's worth of sick leave towards a year in retirement credit which means she could retire one year early with no financial penalty.

I am quite sure the Board of Supervisors are pleased with themselves that they "held the line" in contract negotiations with Miyasato. This all has do with a game played by politicians and government employees in this state. Because they typically only hire managers who are already working in government, and government salary and benefits are continually on the rise, it is extremely rare that anybody transferring from another jurisdiction settles for less than what the jurisdiction was paying the last employee to hold the post.

In this case, current CEO Chandra Wallar was making \$232,000 per year. In normal circumstances, Miyasato would have been given an even higher salary. So, the fact that they settled at \$2,000 per year less is a victory of sorts. But, of course in the real world, nobody increases the pay for a new employee who has not proven themselves capable of doing the job. In other words, as an assistant CEO in Marin County, Miyasato was making about \$180,000 per year. Who in the private sector would give a new hire the equivalent of a \$50,000 raise to match the salary of who they are replacing? After all, in this case Wallar had been on the job for four years. Mike Brown, who had the job before Wallar for 14 years, also had another 28 years of experience as the top dog in other jurisdictions, and he wasn't making as much as either of his less experienced successors.

In this day of cities and counties filing for bankruptcy across the state, it is high time politicians rein in salary and benefits for government employees.

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Teddy Runs Roughshod Over the Me-Generation

By *Andy Caldwell*

The Wall Street Journal recently published the “10 Things Your Kids Won’t Tell You” by Quentin Fottrell. The cliff note version? Kids aren’t worth the price, the heartache and the lost opportunities for success and happiness. There was no mention at all about the joy and fulfillment of raising a family. What does this say about our society and our future?

Fottrell compared the cost of having a child versus your chance to have a dream home. He also outlined the costs associated with having a child including the cost of delivery, insurance deductibles, childcare and the lost wages while on family leave. He cited a study that indicates that people with kids experience more depression than child-free adults. He then went on to explain the happiest people are middle income earners with no kids. Fottrell explained how you can count on your kids to break your stuff, become addicted to various forms of media, grow up to be childless- rendering you free of the experience of having grandchildren, and saddle you with hundreds of thousands of debt once they leave home for college.

This piece is indicative of the prevailing sentiment among many in the world today, and that is children are considered a financial drain, an emotional burden, and a threat to a successful career. Couple these trends with the brainwashing of American youth that bringing children into the world is not good for the environment. The end result? America has instituted its own defacto one-child policy and we are now in the beginning throes of severe demographic decline.

In essence, the trend today is to only consider children in terms of personal consumption patterns and preferences and not as an investment in our future. There are a couple of books I would like to recommend to you that speak to the dire consequences of this line of thinking and being; “What to Expect When No One is Expecting” by Jonathon Last and “How Civilizations Die” by David Goldman.

Last quotes Teddy Roosevelt: “There are many good people who are denied the supreme blessing of children, and for these we have the respect and sympathy always due to those who, from no fault of their own, are denied any of the other great blessings in life. But the man or woman who deliberately foregoes these blessings, whether from viciousness, coldness, shallow-heartedness, self-indulgence, or mere failure

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to appreciate aright the difference between the all important and the unimportant- why, such a creature merits contempt as hearty as any visited upon the soldier who runs away in battle, or upon the man who refuses to work for the support of the dependent upon him, and who though able-bodied is yet content to eat in idleness the bread which others provide.”

Teddy Roosevelt’s generation raised the greatest generation, a generation eventually tested in the furnace of the depression, the dust bowl and World War Two. Their love and sacrifice saved our civilization. We can expect today’s narcissism and hedonism to cost us everything.

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A License and a Free Get Out of Jail Card

By Andy Caldwell

Governor Brown signed a bill making it illegal to threaten to turn somebody over to law enforcement for being in this country illegally as constituting a form of extortion. Ostensibly, the bill will protect employees of unscrupulous employers who are exploiting workers and using the knowledge of their undocumented status as leverage against them. However, the California District Attorney's Association believes existing law already covers this contingency. What is really worrisome is that a person who is reported to be in this country illegally may walk while the person who reports the crime of illegal entry can now be charged for extortion.

Brown signed another bill that gives driver's licenses to illegal aliens. The bill will ensure the opportunity for 2 million illegal aliens to obtain drivers licenses and by definition, obtain drivers ed training and insurance, ostensibly making our roads safer.

Currently, driving without a license can lead to drivers having their car impounded, and possibly prompt law enforcement to begin an inquiry about the legal status of the driver. Although the special license could actually serve as a scarlet letter, identifying the possessor as an illegal alien, this law also bars law enforcement from using this information as a springboard to detention and deportation.

One activist spoke about the ultimate goal which goes beyond the ability to drive here legally. She wants to ensure that all undocumented immigrants are able to engage in everyday activities that every American does. Except of course, these people are not Americans. Of course, that distinction seems to become less relevant each and every day in this state.

One major problem with the license bill? The bill does not comply with the Federal REAL ID Act. This admission comes per the California State Senate analysis of this bill. "The federal REAL ID Act of 2005 enacts the 9/11 Commission's recommendation to establish federal standards for issuing driver's licenses and other sources of identification. It establishes minimum standards including enhanced security features on the driver's license or other identification card and a requirement for applicants to provide their social security number, birth certificate, and proof of legal presence in the United States. The REAL ID Act prohibits federal agencies from

accepting documents for official purposes (e.g. boarding an airplane) unless the DHS has determined that the state meets the minimum standards."

Not only does this bill not comport with Federal law, the brain trust in Sacramento lists something as flimsy as a utility bill as a source of identification that could be used to get one of these driver's licenses! Moreover, to ensure nobody is embarrassed by the distinction between a real California Driver's license for a legal resident, and in an effort to comply with federal law, the license for issuance to illegal aliens will subtly be marked DP instead of DL. DP stands for driving privilege. DL stands for driver's license. The back of the DP license will be stamped with language that indicates "This card is not acceptable for official federal purposes. This license is issued only to drive a motor vehicle. It does not establish eligibility for employment, voter registration, or public benefits."

Nonetheless, it is still an official ID and the 9/11 commission report stated that "Travel documents are as important as weapons. Fraud is no longer just a problem of theft. At many entry points to vulnerable facilities, including gates for boarding airplanes, sources of identification are the last opportunity to ensure that people are who they say they are."

There is no getting around the fact that trying to make things better for illegal aliens will make things easier for terrorists.

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What Faith and Credit?

By Andy Caldwell

Congresswoman Lois Capps recently remarked that the TEA Party Republicans “should not be allowed to continue using the threat of economic chaos to play political games with the full faith and credit of the United States”. Capps has it all wrong. The federal government brings in \$2.47 trillion but spends \$3.8 trillion, that is, 50% more than it brings in every year! This is what is damaging the faith and credit of the United States.

In a few short years we will owe so much interest on the national debt and be so far behind in funding Medicare and Social Security we won't have the money to fund any other government services, including the military. We are simply spending more money than we have, committing to providing services to the elderly we can't afford, and borrowing more money than we could ever possibly pay back. The only solutions to this crisis offered by the democratic party is to increase our ability to borrow even more money or increase taxes. Neither of these actually increase our income or relieve us of our burdens.

Our best hope? Congressman Paul Ryan and others who insist we bring our debt and entitlement spending under control, while at the same time taking concrete steps to reduce the regulatory and tax burden that will allow our economy to recover.

Economists define what plagues our country in terms of debt to gross domestic product ratio. To explain this, let's use an analogy from personal finances.

Let's say your household income is \$100,000 per year. You have no savings, a mortgage on an older house that needs major repairs, a kid ready to enter college, another kid just home from college with huge student loan debt and no job prospects, an older car that needs to be replaced, an elderly parent with alzheimers who has no savings or assets, and you have maxed out several credit cards amassing \$130,000 in debt leaving you with no ability to pay anything more than the monthly minimum payment.

This analogy pretty much sums up our predicament as it speaks to overwhelming debt, young people who are not on the path to independence, the crisis involving caring for the elderly, the need to invest in infrastructure, with little to no discussion as to remedies!

Seeking professional help, an advisor tells you there are only two solutions to your dilemma. One is to file

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for bankruptcy, which would not solve any of your problems except the credit card debt. The second would be to apply for a higher limit on your existing cards. Who would be so stupid as to believe that borrowing even more money was a realistic remedy as compared to cutting up the credit cards, cutting expenses and looking for a better paying job?

Unfortunately, there are no easy, free or painless solutions to relieve us from the repercussions of having lived beyond our means for so long. TEA Party Republicans did not create this mess and they shouldn't be blamed for trying to bring it all into perspective. Somebody must!

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May We Please Have Some Water?

by *Andy Caldwell*

The County Board of Supervisors is going to begin a discussion about renewing the State Water Contract. Even though the current contract does not expire until 2035 there are some extenuating circumstances that could require all project participants in the county to renew their commitment sooner rather than later. It all has to do with the nature of financing capital projects and the \$24 billion dollar proposal to move water beneath the Sacramento delta.

As a way of background, there is longstanding controversy in Northern California about the safety of our state's water supply and delivery system, the integrity of levees that protect the delta islands from becoming submerged and the needs of the environment. The project that Governor Jerry Brown is supporting would convey water via enormous underground pipelines. The county's share of the \$24 billion price tag is expected to run \$100 million. Typically, a project like this is financed over time.

The delta provides water for over one million acres of farmland and over twenty million residents. The only two primary jurisdictions in our county that do not buy water are the County of Santa Barbara and the City of Lompoc. Nonetheless, it was the county that originally entered into the water supply contract with the State of California and the supervisors will be asked to consider doing it again on behalf of the cities and water districts who must rely on this supplemental water to insure ample water supplies and to ensure water quality.

Many south county residents are probably unaware that 92% of their water supply comes from Lake Cachuma and the state water project. The point here is that the south county is anything but water independent and the community has relatively few alternative sources. Firing up the mothballed Santa Barbara City desalinization plant is one consideration albeit the relative puny production capacity of the plant doesn't amount to a significant supply source.

The question is, will the county and the subscribers decide now to continue to rely on this water and sign off on the Governor's plan and commit their share of the construction and mitigation costs of the project? Or, will we see another fight emerge from the fringe members of this community who will only

count the cost of the project and not the value of the water?

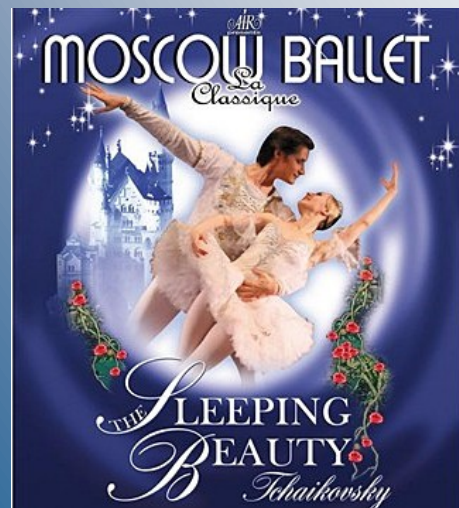
Hopefully, residents will recall the days of dead lawns, clarion calls to not flush your toilet unless absolutely necessary, and the water cops searching for the outlaws washing their cars on the driveway. Ah, the good old days when we were rendered helpless because of a drought without the recourse of being able to rely on a backup supply of water. Who in their right mind wants to suffer through that again?

There are some promising breakthroughs on desalinization technology on the horizon and California coastal communities should be eager to employ the same, but it never hurts to have a back up plan, and it seems impossible to think we could ever have too much drinking water.

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The Moscow Ballet's Sleeping Beauty

Friday, November 8th



Not Just a Bag Ban, But a Bag Tax Too!

By Andy Caldwell

Plastic bags are recyclable and reusable. We were once encouraged to use them because by switching from paper to plastic, we were saving trees. So, why are these bags now being banned in the City of Santa Barbara and the unincorporated area of the county?

Ostensibly, the activists and politicians will tell you that plastic bags are harmful to ocean life. The truth of the matter is that the original study that serves as the basis of this notion had nothing to do with plastic bags. The threat to ocean life cited actually emanated from plastic fishing gear, such as nets and fishing lines, that entangled and harmed hapless creatures.

It is true that plastic bags constitute a steady stream of litter along our roads, empty lots and yes, at the beach. This despite the fact that our community already requires recycling, it already imposes steep fines on littering, and we already have intensive community outreach to encourage people to clean up after themselves. So why ban only plastic bags when they represent but a sliver of the litter stream? After all, there is so much litter out there that a few people actually make a living collecting the bottles, cans and other materials routinely found in great abundance throughout the highways and byways of our community. Should we ban the use of all these materials that end up on the side of the road? Isn't the real challenge to cut down on littering?

Most of the plastic bag litter I have seen blowing in the wind over the years comes from one of three sources, material left in the back of a pickup truck going down the highway, people simply leaving their trash behind, and the most ironic? Plastic bags blowing out of the opening in a trash truck!

My biggest problem with the bag bans being imposed on us has nothing to do with banning the plastic bags themselves. Even though I don't want to, I can live without plastic bags. My primary objection is that these bag bans arbitrarily include a 10 cent user tax/charge for the alternative use of paper bags made from recycled material that are 100% compostable. What is the purpose of this provision? As consumers, the use of either paper or plastic was always included in the price of our purchase. So why now, when these activist politicians are taking away the plastic, they are forcing stores to charge us for the

paper bags? These paper bags pose no threat to the environment.

Of course, the answer is that the activists want to force us to use reusable bags. This despite the fact that reusable bags are more energy intensive to manufacture and must be washed regularly in order to kill the pathogens that accumulate in them over time. Even though the manufacture, use and disposal of these reusable bags, not to mention their cost, present problems of their own, we are being forced to use them. Overall, none of this makes any sense.

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The Andy Caldwell Show

Obamacare or Nothing?

By Andy Caldwell

The government shutdown reflects a breakdown on so many levels. In essence, our country is divided, our economy is reeling, and our national debt is debilitating. Instead of statesmen rising to the occasion to help us forge a path to unity, prosperity and solvency, we have gridlock.

When the United States Supreme Court ruled that the federal government could implement Obamacare, the decision was based upon the power of the congress to levy taxes. The US Constitution declares that only the House of Representatives has the power to initiate taxes! The Senate and the Administration are thereby checked from implementing Obamacare on their own volition. Hence, the Obama administration's decision to inflict pain by closing parks, including such bizarre and desperate attempts to prevent people from fishing and boating in the ocean in Florida, is nothing but a despicable effort to punish the American people for a controversy rooted in the separation and balance of powers in our Constitution.

There can be no question on who caused this shutdown. The House agreed to fund everything in the government except Obamacare. And in reality, what the House was really asking for was simply a one year delay in the implementation of the same. Given the fact that the exchanges are clearly not ready for prime time anyway, and the fact that President Obama unilaterally delayed implementation of the employer mandate without the approval of Congress, the House was not asking for all that much, in my opinion. Regardless, the fact that the Senate rejected the offer means the Senate shut down the government. For Harry Reid and company, it was

Obamacare right now or nothing! There is no other way to interpret this matter; the votes are public record.

With regard to the loss of government services during the shutdown, most of the perceived pain was clearly manipulated and exaggerated by the Obama Administration out of spite for the American people, including our veterans who wanted to participate in an event on the capitol mall. While Veterans have been threatened with arrest, other uses such as an amnesty rally have been given the green light to access the same mall. This is an outrage.

The Republican controlled House should have made it clear from the onset of the Supreme Court decision that they would utilize their powers to reflect the will of the people in this matter. Except for the TEA party Republicans, who ran on the explicit promise that they would defund Obamacare, the Republican party establishment, in typical fashion, drug their feet until the last hour, failing to lead with anything but their chin.

Most everything this administration promised with regard to the implementation of Obamacare has proven to be untrue. Polls clearly demonstrate the American people don't want this plan foisted upon them in light of the costs, the limitations, the job losses, and the exceptions now manifest. The House of Representatives therefore have the Constitutional duty and right to demand a delay in implementing the so-called Affordable Care Act.

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Memo to Chicken Little Activists

By Andy Caldwell

Consider the fact that California has 70 earthquakes per day, 448 per month, over 2,000 per month, and 25,383 per year on average. California produces 218 million barrels per year. What is the correlation between earthquakes and oil production? There isn't any to speak of. So why bring it up? Because some activists are claiming there is a correlation. The truth is the sky is not falling but the earth is shaking, and the shaking has nothing to do with oil.

One of the mind control tricks radical environmentalists play on the unsuspecting public is to confuse them as to the distinction between correlation and causation. In essence, unless proven otherwise, correlation of facts, experiences, and observations may be attributable to nothing more than mere coincidence. Causation, on the other hand, speaks to a direct and specific relationship between one thing and another that speaks to a definitive cause and effect.

With regard to this latest sky is falling warning from anti-oil activists having to do with their claim that hydraulic fracking causes earthquakes, consider the fact that they have no scientific data to back up their claims! These activists, who never seem to be held accountable for their past failures to prove causation with respect to catastrophe, nonetheless continue unabated making wild claims with impunity.

Wayne Lusvardi of CalWatchdog recently conducted a review of a study by University of Durham, U.K., Richard Davies Ph.D. on this subject titled "Induced Seismicity and Hydraulic Fracturing for the Recovery of Hydrocarbons". Lusvardi also used other sources, including reports from the UC Berkeley Seismology Laboratory, to come up with records and analysis of human caused earthquakes here in California and around the world with a focus on activities occurring between 1929-2013.

During this study period, there were an estimated 109,200,000 natural caused large earthquakes worldwide, with 2,132,172 occurring in California alone. While seismic events attributed to man were 198 worldwide with 10 here in California, including one quake on the Central Coast. Statistically, these man-made events are nil.

What I found most fascinating about the review is that of the ten CA human-caused earthquakes, dams and reservoirs were attributed as causing nearly half, with

geothermal power plants and regular (not involving fracking) oil and gas extraction being blamed equally for the rest. Fracking was not cited as a source for any California earthquakes. Alarming residents about the non-existent threat presented by fracking here in earthquake country is nothing more than a rhetorical shakedown. Will any climate change advocate admit that good old green geothermal power plants pose more danger than fracking a well?

There is one caveat that needs to be mentioned related to fracking. This has to do with some other studies that point to reinjection of wastewater from fracking operations as being suspected of causing some seismic activity in Ohio and Oklahoma. It is ironic that the fracking operations per se are not suspected of causing the quakes, but the state's waste disposal laws which required reinjection of wastewater. The law of unintended consequences strikes again

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The Indian Wars Continue! Why?

By Andy Caldwell

Is the existing Chumash reservation too small and burdened by geographical constraints to serve the housing needs of the Chumash? That is the tantamount question before the Bureau of Indian Affairs as it pertains to the request to expand reservation boundaries.

Regarding the opposition against this project, I would be the first to acknowledge the community has legitimate concerns about the “loss of control” should the BIA approve this project. However, the community itself is becoming increasingly out of control when it comes to being anti-development, having become particularly obsessed with opposing any and all projects having to do with tribal enterprises and affairs, no matter how benign and regardless of whether the particular project involves property being taken off the tax rolls.

The County and the community claim the Tribe should go through the routine permit path and thereby waive the right to ask for fee to trust. However, the late Fess Parker, the previous owner tried that, and was repeatedly rebuffed. He was told to not waste his time, energy and money because any proposal to develop Camp 4 would be soundly rejected.

The fact that there is not a clear path to change the zoning on the parcel actually serves to justify the need for the fee to trust process. Further, the fact that the community has tied up the Tribe on a previous reservation boundary adjustment for over ten years now via litigation leaves the door open for the Tribe to make the case that they require enabling legislation as even the BIA process is fraught with endless delays.

How can the county claim that there are unmitigated impacts arising from the project while at the same time refusing to discuss with the Tribe conditions that could serve to mitigate these same impacts? In other words, if the county won't negotiate, how can the Tribe be expected to mitigate? The county is simply painting the Tribe and the BIA into a corner. The County's position is, in my opinion, unfair and indefensible. It is highly likely the BIA will agree.

Now that the county is on record in opposition to the annexation, while the application and the position of the opposition is being considered, in the meantime, why not engage in a dialogue to see if the community's concerns can be ameliorated via an agreement with the Tribe? What harm is there to try and reach

an accord? San Diego County recently and successfully negotiated with a tribe in their region to expand the boundaries of their reservation to everyone's satisfaction. Why can't we do the same? Or, at least try?

I respect the fact that residents of the valley want to protect “their” valley. But, by all means, the Tribe can certainly also lay claim to “their” valley. Is it impossible to believe there is enough valley to go around? We will never know unless we sit down and talk with one another. It is incumbent on the Board of Supervisors to facilitate dialogue. We have already had more than enough demagoguery.



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America's Way Back

By Andy Caldwell

Recently, I interviewed a fine man who served in the Reagan administration, Mr. Donald Devine. He has written a book, *America's Way Back* which highlights the principles of the founding fathers that President Reagan embraced and personified, principles we need to return to. Devine maintains that you can't have freedom apart from tradition, that is traditions based upon concepts and principles such as the separation of powers, state's rights, personal responsibilities, traditional values, and the consent of the governed. Reagan considered this synthesis of freedom and tradition as the essence of the modern day conservative movement.

Devine explains the difference between progressives and conservatives in historic terms unique to the American tradition. He describes progressives as favoring centralized powers, in the form of a behemoth federal government, as opposed to the conservative principles of a limited federal government as envisioned by our founding fathers. Devine explains how creativity and prosperity are dependent upon freedom, and how they are being stifled in this day and age of big government overreach.

The constitution could not be more clear with regard to the intent of the framers to limit the power, scope and authority of the federal government, when they specifically said in Amendment X of the Bill of Rights, "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." Instead of a large, unwieldy goliath of a federal government, the founders wanted the states, the local community and the people, as individuals and as part of private organizations, to provide the construct of society.

Another cornerstone of our tradition of freedom has to do with the consent of the governed. Judge Anthony Napolitano recently explained the roots of our tradition in terms of the endowed rights of mankind. He writes "All persons are by nature free, and to preserve those freedoms, they have consented to a government. That was the government they gave us- not power permitting liberty, but liberty permitting power- and the instrument of that permission was the Constitution. The Constitution was created by free men to define and limit the government so it can defend but not threaten our freedoms. Since only free people can consent to government, the government cannot

lawfully exist without those consents."

The market place and the home, not to mention the halls of government, can only have as much freedom as we are capable and committed to being good, moral, decent and upstanding citizens apart from government intervention and control. People, to be truly free, must govern themselves. This is a fundamental tenet of our free society. Otherwise, people would be free to lie, cheat, steal, and murder apart from the control of government and a myriad of laws designed to keep them in check. Reagan understood this. Devine explains it. And, the hope is all Americans will embrace these truths and find our way back.

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Tweaking the Sept. jobs report *cont.*

In September, 136,000 people left the workforce. The number of employed in the same population survey only increased 133,000, demonstrating the ongoing economic stagnation. And according to economists, this is another indication of the decreasing value of the jobless rate as an economic indicator.

"The number of long-term unemployed (those jobless for 27 weeks or more) was little changed at 4.1 million," the BLS reported. "These individuals accounted for 36.9 percent of the unemployed."

"The number of persons employed part time for economic reasons (sometimes referred to as involuntary part-time workers) was unchanged at 7.9 million in September," said the BLS. "These individuals were working part time because their hours had been cut back or because they were unable to find a full-time job."

And the number of people currently unemployed, but looking and available for a job was at 2.3 million.

Does this sound like a health country?

Today is All They Have

By Andy Caldwell

I seriously doubt anyone who would normally resent being preached at will raise any objections regarding the recent proclamation from the local group ECOFaith who declared it was their moral responsibility to speak up about climate change as they sang the praises of President Obama. This despite the fact that many progressives, agnostics and atheists manifest fear and loathing when anybody starts pushing their religion off on others. In the end, I guess it depends on what religious tenets are being served over whose objections.

ECOFaith bills itself as a coalition of faith communities and they are claiming the high moral and spiritual ground as they call on all faith communities, our government and every citizen to sustainable living.

ECOFaith boldly proclaimed their belief that our planet is sacred, which in religious parlance means it is worthy of our worship, and further they declared it is our spiritual duty to protect the sanctity of the same from the spiritual enemy known as carbon. ECOFaith declares that climate change is the most critical moral and ethical crisis facing mankind today and they appeal to us on the basis of their inheritance of the wisdom of the ages.

There are of course competing views and alternative realities with which to interpret the musings of ECOFaith. From both the vantage point of faith and reason, one could easily demonstrate that these faith leaders are bordering on biblical heresy, having been duped by junk science, and seduced by political correctness. Further, to the peril of billions of people on this planet, these leaders comfortably ensconced in the land of plenty and a lifestyle of leisure, are ignoring the tangible mortal threats facing mankind. This all stems from the fact that facing the world's reality means discussing controversial issues and this would ultimately cause these leaders nothing but grief.

Climate change is certainly not the most pressing issue of the day. Even by the standards of junk science, the threat of catastrophe from climate change is 50-100 years off. How many people will starve to death in the meantime? How many will be killed in ethnic conflicts? How many will die from malaria and dysentery? How many will be slaughtered by terrorists? How many children will be aborted? How many women will be forcibly sterilized? Relatedly, how many elderly will die miserably because, due to catas-

trophic demographic decline, they will have no one to care for them? These are the pressing issues of today. And, for most of the world's inhabitants, today is all they have.

How on earth can these leaders dare speak about the sanctity of life as it pertains to the planet itself, but not the sanctity of people?

I highly recommend Dr. Robert Zubrin's book "Merchants of Despair". He references what he describes as the cult of anti-humanism; the heart, soul and spirit of today's radical environmental movement and the historical and dastardly underpinnings of the same.

In conclusion, there is no spiritual imperative to pit the needs of people against the health and well being of the planet.

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Petition to Overturn School Bathroom Bill Now Available

Sacramento, CA—A petition to place the recently enacted California School Bathroom Bill, AB 1266, up to the people for vote is now available for download online. A link to the referendum petition can be found on Pacific Justice Institute's special website, GenderInsanity.com.

In order for the referendum to be successful, supporters will need to acquire roughly 500,000 signed petitions from citizens across the state by early November. If successful, the Bathroom Bill will then be placed on hold before it goes up for vote in the next State general election in November of 2014.

[Sign the Petition Against The School Bathroom Bill](http://GenderInsanity.com)

Go to www.genderinsanity.com

Santa Barbara picks *Cont.*

(Continued from page 2)

(On a larger scale beyond just Orcutt, the U.S. Energy Information Agency says the Monterey Shale Formation could add 1.4 million jobs for California. As of August there were 1.62 million workers unemployed in California.)

Overall oil production is slightly down in last decade

Santa Barbara County's oil production has fallen in half since its peak in the 1980s. The County has about 20 operators with active leases. The expansion of the Orcutt field would increase the county's total production by one-third to 12,000 barrels per day. Forty new drilling projects have been proposed in the last three years. Statewide, however, the number of drilling permits substantially declined in 2012.

Tupper Hull of the Western States Petroleum Association

stated he doesn't see a boom coming, however, due to the regulations and obstacles, especially in Santa Barbara. Santa Barbara is the only county in California with its own energy department with jurisdiction over drilling.

No local water use or fracking

Water for drilling will be supplied to the Orcutt oil field from an 8-mile-long reclaimed water pipeline from the Laguna County Sanitation District. So no water would be taken from local agriculture or groundwater basins. Oil extraction by steaming would occur below the water table, some 1,000 feet below the ground surface.

Hydraulic fracturing — called fracking — of subsurface rock would not be used to extract oil. Instead, the Orcutt oil field operator, Santa Maria Energy, would use a steam injection process that heats the oil in a well to produce sufficient oil flow.

What Turned the Tide in Santa Barbara County?

What turned the County Planning Commission to passing the proposed project amidst environmental opposition? According to Noozhawk.com, it was about 25 people who showed up to speak in favor of the project, along with the 2,500 signatures on a petition expressing support for the project.

Santa Barbara County has a population of about 425,000. It took about 0.5 percent of the population to overcome environmental opposition to new oil production at the Orcutt Oilfield.

For decades environmentalists have thwarted oil production in California. If there is a prescription for change in California from the Santa Barbara example, a similar small margin of supporters will need to be active at each public hearing for new oil well installations.

Construction of the new oil wells in Orcutt will begin in about a year. That is, unless the Santa Barbara-based Environmental Defense Center appeals the County Planning Commission decision to the County Board of Supervisors.

Even if an appeal occurs, the Santa Barbara situation marks a change in the mentality in favor of drilling in California. 2010, Earth Justice was paid nearly \$4.7 million, the Sierra Club received about \$967,000, and the Natural Resources Defense Council got more than \$252,000.

Third, they foot the bill for campaigns launched by the American Lung Association (ALA) which support EPA's actions and criticize lawmakers who are critical. In the past 10 years, the EPA has provided nearly \$20.5 million to the ALA. The American Traditions Institute (ATI) says the agency has "uncomfortably close ties" with both ALA and the Sierra Club. In January, ATI sued the EPA for failing to respond to a Freedom of Information Act request for details about these questionable alliances.

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