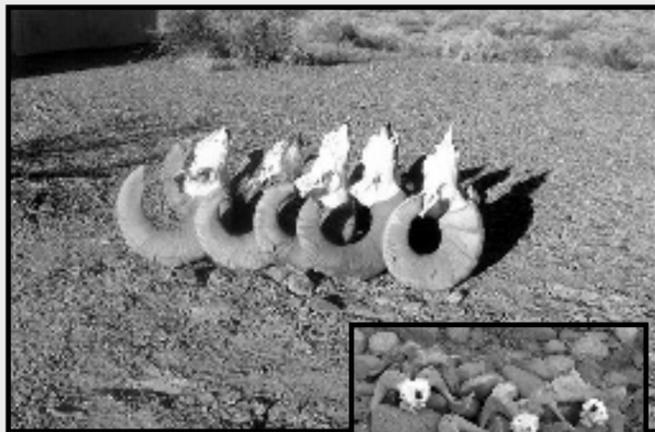


Nevada News & Commentary

Dead Bighorn Sheep



By Cecil Fredi

The blood and deaths of these rams (and probably hundreds more) belongs on the hands of Wildlife commissioner Clint Bentley, former Wildlife commissioners Tommy Ford and John Moran.

That is a bold statement. Now let's prove it! The

pictures above shows the skulls of 9 desert bighorn sheep rams. They were located in two different areas. In one area, 6 skulls were found in 4 days! A total of 11 skulls were found. This is how bad the lion predation is in our state. How did this travesty develop? Well, you can

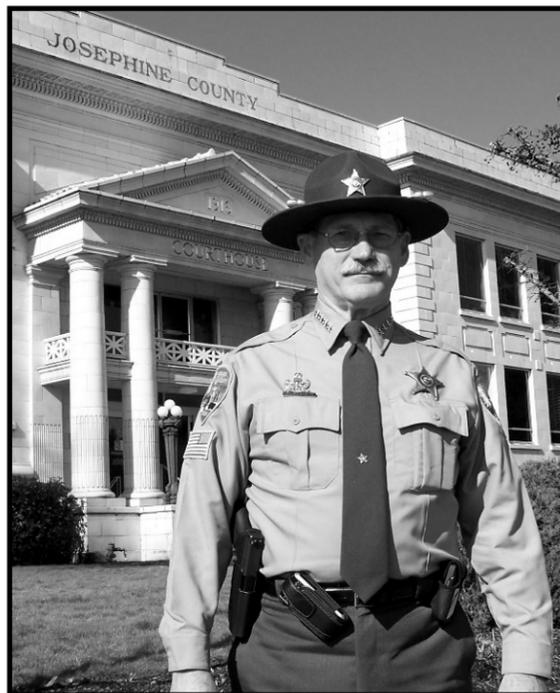
For more Nevada News & Commentary turn to page 14.

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“There’s a New Sheriff in Town”

By Ron Lee
Investigative
Reporter

Josephine County, OR - Over the last few sheriff terms we were given promises of great community service and beefed-up patrols. Unfortunately for this community it never transpired and that administration quickly laid blame on the public for not voting for higher property taxes in the form of levies to increase its yearly budget. Now we have a new administration headed by Sheriff Gil Gilbertson, and again we were promised great things prior to his election and we are now faced with another possible levy.



Sheriff Gil Gilbertson outside the JoCo courthouse

What's new, you might ask? Everything. With the loss of O&C funding looming Josephine County, on a whole, is facing a

crisis, and Gilbertson hasn't just made promises, he is keeping them.

Unlike the previous sheriff Dave Daniel - who seemingly still has the support of the Daily

Courier and seems bent on weighing in by slamming Gilbertson in their letters to the editor - Gilbertson is working with the county commissioners to solve the departments funding problems. According to Sheriff Gilbertson, the commissioners are doing a great job and really have the best interest of the public in mind when making decisions about the direction of the county.

And also unlike his predecessor Gilbertson has already improved patrol in the Illinois Valley and the Northern areas including Sunny Valley and Wolf Creek.

It's absolutely clear Gilbertson is delivering on his promises and that his interest truly lies with continuing to create the best department he can for all Josephine County residents.

Continued on page 4

– Nevada Wildlife – Crimes and Crisis



By Bud Sonnentag

NEVADA - As I looked around the audit hearing room, it was impossible not to notice the people who weren't present who should be here. Where are the Board of Wildlife Commissioners, I thought, and their usual phalanx of enviro-conservationists? Where are all the officials from the big name Nevada sportsmen's groups like Bighorns Unlimited, the Fraternity of Desert Bighorn, Nevada Bowhunters Association and the Mule Deer Foundation? Where's the United States Fish & Wildlife (USF&WS) and the Sierra Club? What the heck! Where's the News Media? I must be in the wrong room for sure...Until I saw Nevada Department of Wildlife (NDOW) Acting Director Buonamici walk in

... it all came into focus. I said to myself, sensing the audit was dirty, I'll bet the whole bunch of them are going to be deserters.

Following a recent state audit hearing of NDOW on December 14th 2006, monumental revelations of criminal activity involving officers of four government and private groups came to light. The state audit calls this NDOW activity "inappropriate," which in this case is a euphemism for the more appropriate word "criminal," because the Nevada statutes that were violated were listed.

Over a period of 6 years from 2000, through 2006, NDOW Director Terry Crawford was illegally using restricted federal government money to run the Water Development

Continued on page 15

Destruction of a Family DHS/Doernbecker Hospital/CASA Partners in Crime?

By Investigative Reporter
Edward Snook

Grants Pass, OR – Since Jessica and Shane Swann were literally stolen from their adoptive mother Fran Swann in early 2006, the Oregon Department of Human Services (DHS) in conjunction with new-age-experimental doctors representing Doernbeckers Children's Hospital have all but ruined two young children, their mother and the family they once shared. The background on the once thriving Swann family can be found by reading our last article titled "DHS Creates Modern Day Tragedy" at www.usobserver.com. Our previous article spells out the hellish details of Jessica and Shane's life prior to being rescued by Fran Swann.

This article will expose some of the destructive individuals who

are responsible for this tragedy. Some would consider these people professionals, but the US~Observer considers them conscious-less individuals who deserve to be behind bars for their indiscretions, lies and "criminal actions." Most of the players in this unbelievable story often testify in "courts of law," where judges who have totally abandoned common sense eat up every deceptive word they speak and rule accordingly – and in many cases wrongfully. We are currently working on an in-depth article that will name these judges and detail their ridiculous and damaging decisions from the bench.

In all fairness we should



Fran Swann – A January 14, 2002 Daily Courier front page article about Fran is titled, "Woman who fosters hope to run with torch." The sub-head reads, "Olympic honor goes to 'amazing advocate' for severely abused children."

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Warning: The End of America as We Know It is at Hand

By Greg Evensen
NewsWithViews.com

The Patriot's Preamble

"Let it be known far and wide that American Patriots will come together in the year 2007, to unite the citizens and statesmen of the Republic of the United States of America. They will gather with the purpose of maintaining our nation's sovereignty, to reinstate our Constitutional and Natural Rights, and to free the American people from institutional servitude. They will come to pursue this course with Honor, Dignity, and Courage, while acknowledging that unless God keeps our nation and guides her steps, we will have labored in vain."

The United States of America and its citizenry has been assessed, warned, plotted against, and sold out by internationalists in government, business, and the banking industry. Its workforce has been decimated, its standard of living shredded and its working people made financial slaves through unjust taxation, socialist government practices, rules and regulations at all levels in society that would make any communist dictator grin with envy.

Our role as partners in governmental affairs has been reduced to a whisper that is not heard by any elected official anywhere—with very, very few exceptions. Our representative government has become 535 regional dictators who live a life of luxury, self-importance and as arrogant master over the populace. The congress of the United States has carefully exempted itself from virtually all repressive laws they choose not to adhere to and have given themselves retirement pensions, health care and other perks, the rest of us can only dream of. They have become the Duma (Soviet Parliament) types who exemplify nothing other than crass selfishness at the expense of every American working citizen.

The Bush Administration has been pursuing a blending of Canada, America and Mexico into the "North American Union." They have done it under the cover of governmental darkness. They have been running a race as to how fast they can manipulate our great nation into a "no going back" strategic position with these other two nations. The president and his cabal of sell-out White House/Congressional turncoats have intentionally kept the American people in a state of confusion (war on terror, etc.) so that organized resistance to this national sovereignty killing plan can not be formulated. Business and banking interests are salivating at the thought of trillions of dollars in "free trade" being exchanged throughout North America.

The cultures of Canada and Mexico are not that of the United States and its citizens. A disaster of Biblical proportions is on its way WHEN this plan is forced upon our nation. It is only one of several scenarios that are nearing completion and will spell the absolute end of the United States as we know it. Some will argue that the USA needs drastic overhauling and that this is the natural result of "planned obsolescence" in American culture. There are huge problems that must be addressed (www.heartlandusaparty.org) now by the American public, or the last opportunity to do so under "open and free" conditions will be lost. There is no more time to talk this sorry state of affairs to death. Decisive and uncompromising action must be taken. Here is what I suggest to my fellow victims:

TAKE THIS BULL BY THE HORNS AND PUT IT ON ITS BACKSIDE

Unless you accept that this country is in its LAST days, you will continue to shake your heads and laugh at all who have written week after week on NewsWithViews.com and others to help you realize just how much will SOON be lost to our nation forever. You will be counted among those who were as responsible as the complicit socialist Washington government for our national demise precisely because you were intentionally ignorant. The power through information written by authors of brilliant and inciteful backgrounds has given a massive amount of data that could have and should have made a difference in your lives, your interest in government actions, and a marvelous treasure chest of debate justifications when you discuss these issues with others.

There is NO TIME LEFT for you to take the luxury of non-involvement. You will face a time when you will give an account to your family as to why you couldn't or wouldn't take the time to educate yourself about your nation's sacred history. You will stand alone as the verdict comes in that you were negligent in NOT preparing to protect and care for your family and friends during military government (Martial Law) because of a "terrorist" attack, financial/stock market collapse or any other number of possibilities real or contrived that gives the government the justification for arrest and indefinite incarceration in detention camps already built for you and your loved ones. **THEY ALREADY EXIST!!** These detention/re-education camps are for those who aren't willing to submit to the new global order that is about to be established.

Precisely because you are uninformed and intentionally ignorant, you will blindly board the truck that takes you to your likely last destination. You will trust the government to help you one last time. Some of you will stumble around the camp looking for your welfare check, prescription drugs or how you can contact the nearest legal defense or ACLU attorney so that you can take the camp commander to court for mistreatment. You, who I have just described, deserve a detention camp. "...may your chains rest lightly upon your wrists."

All of us MUST take responsibility for what is coming. Many of us have adamantly fought against the rising tide of a police state government. We are losing badly. NOT because we don't care, NOT because we haven't tried, and certainly NOT because we haven't committed to resisting this complete sell-out of the Founders dream for this nation and its people. We are failing because YOU have not protested at the school board meetings, the city council chambers, the county commission boards and the state and federal legislatures while you still have freedom of speech. Because, out of indifference or fear, you have not stood up to this criminal neglect and criminal actions against our constitution, these elected sell-outs have sensed your negligence and have had the boldness to give America away to the highest bidder.

You have allowed the Federal Reserve to "regulate" our currency into a mountain of debt and steer the dollar into oblivion. You have allowed Congress to abandon gold and silver and encouraged the mighty international consortium of bankers to call every political policy in Washington. You have allowed presidents and representatives to subvert our constitution to the point of

irrelevance because many of you who were constitutional experts would not challenge these republic killing "laws" at their source or in the courts. Above all, you have allowed yourself to be compromised when serving on the jury, a good example is how a brainwashed jury convicted 2 innocent border agents for shooting an illegal drug smuggler.

Many of you in the medical field have believed your own myth building lifestyle that suggests you are some type of god that sells pharmaceuticals like snake oil to unsuspecting people who can neither understand nor challenge your control of their lives, let alone afford the drugs that they "needed." You have refused to endorse less expensive, natural remedies that could have made the critical difference for some or avoided the pain and expense of chemo "cures" for cancer in others that in most cases only prolonged the agony of those buying in to your version of medicine. There is a movement to ban natural vitamins and you are silent there, too.

You business owners who scammed the public or charged obscene prices for your products, and then squeezed the worker and his family into poverty, take a short second place in shame to America's bankers. The oldest professions in the world are not prostitution or politicians, but bankers. You alone shoulder the responsibility along with the Federal Reserve for bankrupting America's families and our nation's financial system. Jail for individuals mentioned here is kind compared to a hangman's noose in my view.

Regardless of the cause or the effect, America is on her knees. She is a haggard old woman unable to understand who she used to be. No longer are the strong arms of brave young men and women able to help her to her feet. There is no one left who knows this original America or cares.

I appeal to my friends in the law enforcement community.

Whether you are serving now, retired, or were in short of full retirement, the burden has fallen to you. There is no time left to muddle this about. The nation needs you now and will in the near future. When I left law enforcement, I never had to sign a statement giving up my oath. I did not give up that oath to defend America from all enemies—foreign and domestic—when I left the military. I have no intention of abandoning America now, in her time of ultimate peril. I have stood in that great gap. I have been shot at. I have fought for my life along a lonely stretch of highway against tall odds to bring in two or three wanted fugitives. I have tracked the killers through dark fields and deserted farmhouses. I have held the dying and comforted them to the end. I am no hero, just someone dedicated to seeing to it that as many as possible do not have to face a horrible police state America, where those older, traditional police officer—peace officers—big men with big hearts were the ideal of our communities, no longer exist.

All people from all walks of life are invited, encouraged, and desperately needed to attend our two day summit in KC this summer. I believe it to be one of the last best chances to make a real, long lasting difference in our nation. We may fail, but we will surely at least give our very best. I am asking our newly formed "Centurions for America" organization to stand with me and other gallant police officers from all levels of service to come to Kansas City. I am asking these

great men and women to absolutely promise that they will not submit their badge and their oath to a criminal element masquerading as government officials. I ask that all of you help these men and women assume their last great roll call assignment as defenders of their communities against crime and criminal activity from WHATEVER source. If those of you who were trained to serve and protect, fail in this coming confrontation with world-wide forces of evil whose only goal is the destruction of America and her people, then indeed, the fight has been lost.

Winston Churchill said it best when he declared in a speech to the British Parliament in 1943, "you may have to fight knowing that there is absolutely no chance for success and you will surely not survive, but to live on as a slave is a far worse fate." Where will you stand my law enforcement friends? When the government moves against its people to institute martial law or implement a "North American Union," or sign on to the United Nations World Government, will you let our communities and beloved homes be sold to international elites? My heart says NOT EVER!

Let's agree to stand together as necessary and in the manner in which our nation requires us to stand. Not government politics nor embedded traitors dictates, but the needs of our constitution, our Declaration of Independence with its new relevance for our time, and for the dedication of hundreds of thousands of soldiers, sailors, airmen, marines, coast guardsmen, merchant marines and police officers at all levels who have answered the call and given their all so that you and I, our children and grandchildren could be free. It is to them that I humbly say, "yes, sir, I am reporting as needed." Fellow Americans, you are needed NOW. Get involved, NOW. Call these arrogant self-serving, liberal bureaucrats and DEMAND change NOW. Show up at the city and county meetings where your community is being fenced in around an Agenda 21 model that will kill private property usage and ownership. Don't be fooled into accepting an unelected, unaccountable county manager who doesn't represent you, but rather serves the good-ol-boy system. Keep your county commissioners, who are elected and accountable to we, the people.

Don't count on your church leadership to expose evil and save America. They have compromised their principles for money and relationship building and can no longer discern evil. Jesus said when salt loses its savor it is to be trodden underfoot. Pastors have lost their savor, and in the process, have lost their backbone and the love for their fellow man. They fear IRS more than God.

Finally, ask Almighty God to bless your efforts, protect you and your family from the evil, and as Churchill also said in England's darkest hour, "NEVER, NEVER, EVER GIVE UP." America is worth every effort we make fellow lawmen, even unto death. Let's stand together now and win the battle by the force of truth, conviction of a righteous cause, and with the help of our friends and fellow citizens, in a powerful and persuasive show of solidarity in defense of a free and honorable America.

What do cockroaches and evil in people have in common? When exposed they both run for cover. Political Correctness is the cloak that protects evil. And remember that Truth is hate to those who hate the Truth. ■■■

Are You a Victim of False Prosecution?

If you are then you are aware of how the 'justice' industry (racket) in America works. You (**the innocent person**) are falsely charged with a crime. Most of the time you receive a myriad of stacked charges intended for the sole purpose of extracting a "plea bargain" from you.

You then rush to an attorney, pay him a retainer to cover the usual \$150.00 per hour (if not higher), which he/she charges, to supposedly defend your innocence. The attorney usually files some motions, writes some worthless letters and makes many unproductive (unless they pertain to you accepting a plea bargain) phone calls until you are broke. Generally you haven't even started your trial and 99% of the time the attorney hasn't completed any investigation.

All of a sudden your attorney is telling you that you can't win your

case and you should accept the benevolent plea bargain that the almighty district attorney has offered you. "Do you want to take the chance on spending 30-40 years in prison when you can plea bargain for 18 months," your attorney tells you. What happened to: "I think we can win this case, it's a good case." Remember? Isn't that pretty close to what your attorney told you as he/she was relieving you of your money?

You then accept a plea bargain and go to jail or you have a jury trial, you're found guilty (because your attorney hasn't produced enough evidence-if any and because the judge directs the jury to find you guilty) and then you go to jail. When you finally wake up you realize that on top of now being a criminal, you are flat broke and incarcerated. You find that the very person (your attorney) you frantically rushed to retain, became your worst enemy.

Welcome to the Largest racket in history,
the American Justice System.

There is only one way to remedy a false prosecution: Investigate the accusers, the prosecutors, the detectives and then watch the judge very carefully. In other words, complete an in-depth investigation before you are prosecuted and then take the facts into the public arena.

The US~Observer newspaper will not waste your time or your money. This is not a game, it's your life and your freedom. We do not make deals. If you are innocent, then nobody has the right to steal what belongs to you, most of all, your liberty. Nobody! That includes your attorney—as well as your supposed public servants.

Why have a bad day when it's still possible to force justice...right down their throats?

If you are innocent and there is conclusive evidence of your innocence, *The US~Observer* provides a 100% money-back guarantee on criminal cases should we fail to prove your innocence and achieve your total vindication. *The US~Observer* investigates cases for news and therefore we don't print that which can't be resolved. We want to win, just as you want to prove your innocence.

Do not contact us if you are in any way guilty and for justice sake, don't wait until they slam the door behind you before contacting us if you are innocent.

In civil cases the scenario is the same except for the incarceration part. Don't go broke trusting someone who is only concerned with your pocket book!

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Continued from page 1
"There's a New Sheriff ..."



Sheriff Gil Gilbertson

A Working Sheriff

According to Gilbertson he often works double shifts. Days are spent working administration and afternoon and evenings are spent on patrol backing up his deputies, attending public meetings and also community gatherings where he has been the focus of people's frustrations with the past administration. Gilbertson said to this, "The public wants to know that we'll do our jobs. I've heard from many people that it took days for deputies to take reports on burglaries, if at all. The people are frustrated. They want to know that when a report comes in, a deputy is going to get back to them and I'm assuring them that they can contact me personally should they feel nothing is being done."

A New Department Committed to "Excellence in Service"

As part of his plan to revitalize the sheriff's department and give it a needed "face-lift" he wants the public to get more involved and invites them to sign-up for ride-alongs with deputies as well as animal control and also volunteer for search and rescue. Gilbertson stated, "This will allow people to get involved and see first hand what it is we do and what we are faced with. It's a great way to develop a rapport." Gilbertson has already put changes in place raising the cap at the jail without sacrificing safety and has his deputies on patrol in 3 zones to provide adequate coverage for county residents, something that has lacked in previous years.

Gilbertson along with his undersheriff Don Fasching are working toward streamlining the administration and hiring process and they are planning town hall style meetings for further public involvement in the department and their administration. "Hey, I want the public to know that we work for them. That's important to me," Gilbertson said of his desire to be as transparent an agency as he can be. To this end Gilbertson and Fasching are in the process of creating a "blue ribbon" panel made up of knowledgeable community members to hold them

accountable.

Accountability

Both administrators believe that they and their deputies need to be held accountable for any questionable behavior and they are putting a plan together to inform the public on how to file a complaint should anyone in the department act inappropriately. According to a source inside the department who spoke on the condition of anonymity, "There was never one internal affairs investigation done by the previous administration. If someone filed a complaint a statement was taken, but that's where it ended and it was put in a folder and forgotten." While Gilbertson would not comment on what the previous administration did or did not do, he maintains that it is imperative to look into allegations of misconduct whether internal or external to protect the residents, his deputies and department. According to Gilbertson, by not looking into allegations it could open the county up to litigation and would also threaten the relationship he sees so necessary with the public.

Ideas Abound

Gilbertson has ideas on how to be more proactive in raising funds for his department and they include being a very aggressive grant seeker, re-implementing the contracting of work crews, and the formation of a Justice of the Peace. Currently, all but a small amount of each traffic ticket written by a sheriff goes straight to the state. Only by having a Josephine County Justice of the Peace would the bulk of those monies generated stay here locally. As for grants, Gilbertson says he has several volunteers who are writing grants and he welcomes anyone else who would like to put their time in on this effort as well.

This administration is putting it's right foot forward and is making the needed changes to fulfill Gilbertson's promise to give Josephine County the best Sheriff Department possible.

On the Road A personal experience with the sheriff

I walked into the public safety administration offices located on the bottom floor of the Josephine County courthouse, walked up to the sheriff window and asked for Gil Gilbertson. "Is he expecting you?" came the reply. I smiled and said yes.

Soon thereafter Sheriff Gilbertson poked his head out from behind a nearby door, smiled and said, "how you doing Ron?" He was dressed in, what some news publications have a peculiar front-page fascination with, a pieced together uniform that looked nothing less than absolutely professional. He joked how pieces of his uniform were still on order and made a motion for me to sit. "How are things going, Sheriff?" I asked. He kind of chuckled and said, "busy." For the next hour Gilbertson and I talked about the sheriff's department and his plans for its future. One of the main points he wanted to express was how important citizen involvement is and that he'd like to be open to having citizen ride-alongs. I suggested allowing

journalists to ride-along and report on what they experience. To my surprise Gilbertson said he was going on patrol at 4 p.m. that day and he would be happy to have me join him. After the interview I cleared my schedule, picked up a quad vanilla mac. mocha from DB's, and headed back to the courthouse for what was going to be an eventful evening.

I met Gilbertson at his mud-covered patrol vehicle. A city officer approached us and began making fun of the condition of Gilbertson's ride. Gilbertson laughed and turned to me, "I really do need to get it washed. I just haven't had the time." As we set out on the road he went on to say that the vehicle had gotten muddy when he had recently been on a search and rescue call. As we pulled out onto 6th Street he told me we would be patrolling in the Williams area and then we'd head North before going to a meeting off of Jump Off Joe Creek Rd. As we drove we continued the interview, and shared ideas on pilot programs for the department when a call of a two-vehicle accident came in.

In no time we were on the scene and I was recruited to help with directing traffic. Luckily no one had been hurt in the ice-caused two car collision which resulted in cars spinning off into a ditch. Both cars had impacted a local resident's fence and soon the owner of the property came up to get information from the drivers. The property owner came over to me and told me that his fence had been destroyed in an accident the previous year and that he was never contacted by the sheriff's department at that time and subsequently had to pay for the repairs himself, something that should have been covered by the driver's insurance. He was pleasantly surprised to see that it was Gilbertson himself on the call and offered that he had voted for Gilbertson.

After the vehicles were loaded onto tow trucks and the incident was cleared we finally hopped back into the warm sheriff's bronco and headed north. On our way I asked Gilbertson if he had read the recent letter to the editor published in the daily courier written by Dave Daniel the previous sheriff which was less than flattering of Gilbertson. He laughed and said that he didn't want to stoop, so he had no comment.

Driving North on I-5 Gilbertson noticed a vehicle exceeding 80 mph on several occasions and decided to make the stop. I watched as he approached the driver, cautiously, but with a smile. After a few moments of conversation with the driver Gilbertson headed back. When he got in he told me he let the man off with a warning even though the man had initially started arguing with him until he realized he wasn't going to be ticketed. Away we went...

While I've been in this area since 1996 it was my first time in the town of Wolf Creek where we patrolled the local businesses, through the neighborhoods, and drove through the school.

Soon it was time for us to head to a public meeting off Jump Off Joe. Local residents had gathered to talk about recent burglaries in the area, and soon Gilbertson was being asked why deputies never followed-up on past reports, all of which occurred prior to Gilbertson taking office. Gilbertson shared with them his goal for the department and what they could do together to help each other and in all it seemed as if everyone left the meeting feeling better about the state of their county.

As soon as we headed out, a burglary call came across the radio. The home was nearby and Gilbertson parked down



Gilbertson taking a witness statement at the scene of a car crash



Gilbertson talking with driver on a road stop

the street from the home. He told me that he wanted to see how long it would take for the deputy to respond. Within approximately ten minutes of the call being dispatched (within 5 minutes of us getting there), the deputy arrived and he was shocked to see the boss waiting. Gilbertson smiled and said of his sneak inspection, "I have to keep my guys on their toes!" The deputy took a report from the homeowner and was honest and genuine in answering questions and according to Gilbertson the deputy had done a great job handling the situation.

When my ride was done I had spent more than 5 1/2 hours with sheriff Gilbertson and all of it was good leaving me with a want to ride-along again. Hopefully sometime soon. As for the direction Gilbertson is taking the department, he has the want and will to make this a safe place for all residents and I for one don't doubt that he will if we support him.

Calling all Volunteers!

Public involvement in their own protection is a sure way to have a safer community and the sheriff's department has volunteer positions available.

Contact the Josephine County Sheriff's Office Administration at 541-474-5120 to see how you can help.

Edward Snook's Note: Sheriff Dave Daniel made many promises during his campaign - most turned out to be lies. I helped Daniel get elected, in fact on election night he told me couldn't have done it without my help. I deeply regret this mistake and I apologize to taxpayers for believing in Dave's lies. Gil Gilbertson hasn't made too many promises, but those he made he is keeping. To Dave Daniel I say good riddance; to Gil Gilbertson I say good luck. ■■■

Continued from page 1 Dead Bighorn Sheep

thank the above mentioned Wildlife commissioners for this terrible situation.

In the 2001 legislative session, senate bill 30 would have changed the mountain lion status from a big game animal to a predator where it belongs. Who was the person (claiming to be a sportsman) that testified against this bill? Why, none other than Clint Bentley. But Clint Bentley's love of and protection of mountain lions didn't stop there. He must have approved of the lions decimating the sheep and the deer because he cast the deciding negative vote on a petition which would have allowed hunters to harvest more lions.

The petition was a simple matter of having a punch spot on a hunting license. If you were out in the field and saw a lion, you could shoot it and punch out the spot on the hunting license. Next, you would have to take it to NDOW within 72 hours, as it is now, and pay your fee. The quota on lions for the 2005-2006 season was 345. However, only 145 were harvested. It was a good way of harvesting more lions but why did Clint Bentley cast the deciding negative vote? His feeble excuse was that it would have cost NDOW a lot of money.

Let's put a pencil to Clint Bentley's ridiculous statement and prove how bad a Wildlife commissioner he really is. In the 5 year period from 1999 to 2004, the average of resident mountain lion tags sold was 1108 per year. A resident mountain lion tag costs \$29.00 so \$32,132 was realized per year for residents. During the same period, the average number of non-resident tags was 205 per year. A non-resident tag is \$104.00 which produced \$21,320 in revenue. This is a combined total of \$53,452 a year. NDOW is an agency that has a \$26,635,525 annual budget. This was a miniscule amount that Clint Bentley was talking about. Meanwhile, because of Clint Bentley's ignorance along with the ignorance of a few other Wildlife commissioners, NDOW lost millions during fiscal years 2000-2005. Read about this corruption elsewhere in this edition because it's big!

All of the "head in the sand" Wildlife commissioners are just as much to blame as NDOW. It's not like NDOW and the Wildlife commissioners have not been told of our lion problem. The problem is that they haven't been listening! Here is an excerpt presented to the Wildlife Commission on January 20, 1996 by Cecil Fredi, president, HUNTER'S ALERT. "Sportsmen are already the losers in our state because of the Nevada Division of Wildlife. We used to allow 34 sheep permits in the

Sheep Mountain Range. We now allow 4. Again, in the first HUNTER'S ALERT newsletter, NDOW was told about the mountain lion problem in the Sheep Mountain Range. What did they do about it? Absolutely nothing. Well, almost. They did cut the number of tags issued to sheep hunters. We have lost 70% of our deer herds and we are going into the second decade of using the standard old drought excuse. The truth about this loss is attributable to predators, with the chief one being the mountain lion. The statistics will tell you the truth when NDOW will not."

At the May 4, 1996 Wildlife Commission meeting, Fredi again testified, "HUNTER'S ALERT believes many more lions need to be harvested and to do so, it has to be made as easy as possible. Let's talk about some of the proposals that the NDOW team has come up with. They want to go in with an initial \$15 fee. This is absolutely wrong. If they are so desperate for money put the fee after the lion has been taken. NDOW is recommending to increase the current fee to harvest a lion. That's not the way you harvest more lions. There is talk about lengthening the season which is fine but basically this will let a guide harvest an additional lion or two. It certainly won't have a major impact on the lion harvest. They are going to allow more than one lion to be harvested. Never in the history of baseball has anyone stolen second base without reaching first. The same is true here. They aren't harvesting the first lion now so again the second lion is not going to have any real impact. When you total these three recommendations, you may increase the lion take by 10% or 19 lions. This simply is not enough to bring our deer herds back or save our sheep."

These two excerpts prove that it doesn't do any good to attend a Wildlife Commission meeting and that is why very few people do. Nothing has changed since those articles were written 11 years ago other than the names of the Wildlife commissioners. They are still the "won't listen, do nothing" Wildlife Commission. Oh, that's right, the Wildlife commissioners have done something. You know, like raise our fees, implement more rules and regulations and permit the slaughter of 1,000 pregnant doe deer. A real standup bunch of guys, huh? By the way, for all those wonderful ideas the Wildlife commissioners came up with to solve our lion problem, here are the results. Sport hunters in 1995-1996 harvested 134 lions. In 2005-2006, it was 116. The HUNTER'S ALERT testimony was right and as usual, the Wildlife commissioners failed to listen.

It's time for everyone who supports

the sheep clubs in Nevada to wake up. If they really cared about sheep, they would be doing something about mountain lions. Legislative bills have been introduced to do something about lion predation but none of these so called sheep guru organizations ever show up to support the bills. It is quite apparent they are only interested in their banquets with warm and fuzzy feel-good intentions, certainly not in the genuine interests of doing something about lion predation on our sheep. Their members need to face the fact that their donations of time and money are non-productive in producing more desert bighorn sheep. Here is the question that HUNTER'S ALERT poses to them: We have more areas to hunt desert bighorn sheep than we have ever had. We have more man-made water projects than we have ever had. Yet why do desert bighorn sheep numbers remain the same? It's time for everyone who thinks the sheep club members are doing something good for the sheep to wake up and face the fact that the lions are wiping out all of their good deeds.

We told you of two of Clint Bentley's many failures to represent the sportsmen as a Wildlife commissioner. But how does someone who is this ignorant on wildlife issues get appointed in the first place? First and foremost, it was a big, fat political donation to Governor Kenny Guinn. It stinks, doesn't it? But here is the real reason. There was an opening for a Wildlife commissioner to be appointed from Clark County. Tommy Ford and John Moran were buddies of Clint Bentley. So, as Wildlife commissioners, they went to the governor to help get Clint Bentley appointed. This doesn't say much for Tommy Ford or John Moran as they chose to sell out the deer, sheep and sportsmen in the entire state of Nevada just to have a buddy at the party when the Wildlife Commission meeting is over. We hope the three mentioned Wildlife commissioners are proud of the slaughter of our deer and sheep because they should take a lot of credit for it. When you see these individuals, be sure to thank them for their selfish acts.

Log on to www.huntersalert.org. ■■■

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Oregon News Wyden, Smith blast Bush budget proposal

Loss of local funds, health care changes targeted

By KTVZ.com sources

Oregon Sens. Ron Wyden and Gordon Smith had problems with the Bush administration budget released Monday, and made their concerns known - though Smith also found things to support.

The FY2008 budget plan slashes funding for the Secure Rural Schools and Community Self-Determination Act. Funding for the successful program-most commonly known as the "county payments" law-was allowed to expire in September 2006, thus forcing rural communities to examine school and law enforcement lay-offs, library closures and other cut backs necessarily to balance their budgets.

Wyden said the president's budget recommends more than a 50% reduction overall in the county payments program with a proposed public land sale scheme, which could include the sale of portions of the Columbia River Gorge National Scenic Area.

"Congress soundly rejected the White House land sell-off idea last year on a bipartisan basis. To now come back with a recycled land sale proposal and offer no real funding for these hurting counties is beyond cynical. This affects, by and large, the very people who have most loyally supported President Bush over the past six years. To the rural families who depend on county government to provide deputy sheriffs, teachers, prosecutors, and decent roads, this is nothing short of a betrayal. I will work around the clock, in a bipartisan fashion, to convince Congress to act honorably and fulfill the Federal obligation to these families and our rural counties." Wyden said.

Over 700 counties in 39 states received funding under the Secure Rural Schools and Community Self Determination Act of 2000. Of Oregon's 36 counties, 33 received payments through the county payments program.

Before passage of the county payments law, Oregon counties were

receiving payments as the result of 1908 and 1937 laws specifying that the government share 25 percent of U.S. Forest Service (USFS) receipts and 50 percent of Bureau of Land Management's (BLM) Oregon and California Railroad Grant Lands receipts with counties in any state that hosts Federal land from which timber is cut. These payments had been used to help finance rural schools and roads. Toward the mid- to late-nineties, however, the principal source of those revenues - federal timber sales - declined by over 70 percent nationwide. Consequently, the corresponding revenues shared with rural counties throughout the country declined precipitously, hurting school and transportation funding.

In 2000, legislation authored by Wyden to provide an alternative source of county funding was enacted into law, establishing a six-year payment formula for counties that receive revenue-sharing payments for USFS and BLM lands. The formula established a stable source of revenue, a safety net or "full payment amount," to be used for education, roads and county services in rural areas. The legislation also provided funding for ecosystem restoration, infrastructure maintenance and stewardship projects on national forests, fostering all-too-rare cooperation between counties, timber interests, and environmentalists. The safety net amount was based on historical timber receipts.

Last month, Wyden and other Western Senators introduced the Secure Rural Schools and Community Self Determination Reauthorization Act of 2007, legislation that would restore funding for the critical "county payments" law by reauthorizing the successful program for seven years.

Meanwhile, Sen. Gordon Smith, R-

Ore., said Bush's Fiscal Year 2008 Budget Proposal will help advance several Oregon projects, while making "alarming" changes to state and federally run health care programs.

"We've got some good and we've got some items that need work," Smith said. "On one hand, a one-year county payments extension and funding for the Northwest Forest Plan is a good thing. On the other hand, I am frustrated with the regulatory tinkering happening to our nation's health care programs. These are alarming proposals to our health care system, many have already been denied by Congress."

President Bush FY 2008 budget proposal makes good on several Oregon initiatives, such as extending the county payment safety net, strengthening the Oregon economy and upgrading equipment for first responders.

The Good, according to Smith:

County Payments - The Administration supports a one-year extension of the county payments safety net at the current funding and formula levels. The extension is critical to Oregon's rural counties.

Northwest Forest Plan - Making good on a ten-year old promise, the Forest Service proposes enough funding to produce 800 million board feet of lumber a year in western and central Oregon

Columbia River Channel Deepening - \$15 million to continue construction deepening the Columbia River shipping lane

First Responders - Increases funding available to states to build the next generation of public safety communications networks that firefighters, police and first responders use during an emergency

Community Health Centers -

Increased funding to \$207 million, creating 220 new safety net clinics and expanding 120 existing sites across the country

Methamphetamine - Targets the methamphetamine epidemic in Indian County through the new Safe Indian Communities Initiative

Tax Relief - Makes room to make recent tax relief permanent. Raising income taxes is a ridiculous idea that would imperil Oregon's economy

Smith said several recommendations made in the budget proposals need work:

Medicaid - Proposes limits on funding that states, like Oregon, can generate from localities and government providers, known as intergovernmental transfers (IGTs), reducing funding nationally by \$5 billion over five years. Reduces Medicaid funding by \$3.65 billion over five years by restricting a school's use of Medicaid to deliver health care and support services to children who qualify for assistance based on the Individuals with Disabilities Act (IDEA).

Children's Health Insurance (SCHIP) - \$4.8 billion increase over 5 years is not enough to cover those currently receiving services and to enroll all the children who are eligible, but not currently participating in the program

Treating HIV/AIDS Domestically - Shows a poor commitment to domestic treatment and prevention of HIV/AIDS. The AIDS Drug Assistance Program (ADAP) is inadequately funded, placing thousands of Americans in danger.

Teen Suicide Prevention - Disappointingly funds the Garrett Lee Smith Memorial Act, which funds state, tribal and college/university youth suicide prevention and intervention programs, below the necessary \$40 million. ■■■

Nationwide Demand For Organic Milk Opens Door For Oregon Dairies

By Salem-News.com

Corvallis, OR - Across the United States consumer demand for organically produced milk regularly exceeds supply -- a shortage has created a financial incentive for dairy farmers to explore organic production in their operations.

Oregon is a nationwide leader in organic milk production, and more farmers are converting to organic production all the time, said Mike Gamroth, an Oregon State University Extension dairy specialist and researcher in the Department of Animal Sciences.

"Dairy has seen unprecedented growth in the organic market, and its success has helped a lot of farmers stay in business," said Gamroth, "In Oregon, one of the few limiting factors on determining an organic dairy's profitability is its ability to grow its own forage."

OSU researchers have developed numerous management guides to help farmers manage their dairies for increased feed production and more productive grazing, resulting in increased milk production, said Gamroth.

Management techniques designed to

extend the grazing season are one way farmers can increase the availability of feed for their animals, said Gamroth.

Using manure as a nitrogen-rich fertilizer in late winter and early spring can increase early plant growth and decrease cost to farmers.

As of last year, there were more than 65 farms in Oregon producing and selling organic cow and goat milk, an increase of almost 50 percent since 2002.

The majority of these farms are relatively small operations, said Gamroth, who added that these farms may stand to benefit more from organic production than larger dairies because of the smaller profit margin associated with them.

For a dairy to be certified organic it must meet guidelines set by the U.S. Department of Agriculture.

Certification requires that cows not be treated with bovine growth hormone, a hormone that stimulates milk production; cows not be treated with antibiotics; cows must have access to pasture; and feed, including grass and grain, must be grown without the use of pesticides and chemical fertilizers.

The requirements sound cut-and-

dried, but there is a lot of confusion surrounding organic certification, Gamroth said, and farmers need to be prepared to make changes in how they operate their farms to be certified.

To help farmers undergoing the process he is working with researchers in OSU's College of Agricultural Sciences and eXtension, a nationwide network of land grant university extension services, to develop a tiered information center focusing on organic certification.

"We want to help make the transition as smooth as possible and keep dairies productive and profitable in Oregon," Gamroth said.

"A large part of ensuring success is making sure farmers have the



information they need when they need it. We're able to take field research and put it on the web where people across the state can access it whenever it's convenient."

On average, farmers receive about 21 cents per pound for organic milk compared to about 14 cents per pound for conventional milk.

The price for organic milk has remained relatively stable compared to the market fluctuations of regular milk, said Gamroth. ■■■

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Global Warming Debate Spurs Ore. Title Tiff

By Vince Patton
KGW Staff

In the face of evidence agreed upon by hundreds of climate scientists, George Taylor holds firm. He does not believe human activities are the main cause of global climate change.

Taylor also holds a unique title: State Climatologist.

Hundreds of scientists last Friday issued the strongest warning yet on global warming saying humans are "very likely" the cause.

"Most of the climate changes we have seen up until now have been a result of natural variations," Taylor asserts.

Taylor has held the title of "state climatologist" since 1991 when the legislature created a state climate office at OSU. The university created the job title, not the state.

His opinions conflict not only with many other scientists, but with the state of Oregon's policies.

So the governor wants to take that title from Taylor and make it a position that he would appoint.

In an exclusive interview with KGW-TV, Governor Ted Kulongoski confirmed he wants to take that title from Taylor. The governor said Taylor's contradictions interfere with the state's stated goals to reduce greenhouse gases, the accepted cause of global warming in the eyes of a vast majority of scientists.

"He is Oregon State University's climatologist. He is not the state of Oregon's climatologist," Kulongoski said.

Taylor declined to comment on the proposal other than to say he was a "bit shocked" by the news. He recently engaged in a debate at O.M.S.I. and repeated his doubts about accepted science.

In an interview he told KGW, "There are a lot of people saying the bulk of the warming of the last 50 years is due to human activities and I don't believe that's true." He believes natural cycles explain most of the changes the earth has seen.

A bill will be introduced in Salem soon on the matter.

Sen. Brad Avakian, (D) Washington County, is sponsoring the bill. He said global warming is so important to state policy it's important to have a climatologist as a consultant to the governor. He denied this is targeted personally at Taylor. "Absolutely not," Avakian said, "I've never met Mr. Taylor and if he's got opinions I hope he comes to the hearing and testifies."

Kulongoski said the state needs a consistent message on reducing greenhouse gases to combat climate change.

The Governor says, "I just think there has to be somebody that says, 'this is the state position on this.'" ■■

PacifiCorp Oregon News wants to keep dams

By JEFF BARNARD
AP environmental writer

GRANTS PASS, Ore. -- PacifiCorp said Wednesday it is willing to spend \$300 million to build fish ladders and other means to get salmon over its Klamath River hydroelectric dams rather than tear them out and build a new generating plant to replace the power.

The Portland-based utility serving 1.6 million customers in six Western states said it already has a shortage of power, and feels it is better to hang onto the 150 megawatts produced by the Klamath dams than to face the unknown costs of managing sediment released by dam removal and rising prices of natural gas to generate replacement power.

Company spokesman Dave Kvamme said dam removal remained on the table in settlement talks with Indian Tribes, commercial fishermen, and conservation groups that want them gone as a way of restoring struggling salmon runs in the Klamath.

Federal fisheries agencies last week required the PacifiCorp to provide for salmon to swim freely over the four dams straddling the Oregon-California border as a condition of obtaining a new license to operate them for the next 30 to 50 years, raising pressure on PacifiCorp to consider the cheaper alternative of dam removal.

The river was once the third-biggest producer of salmon on the West Coast, but last year federal fisheries managers practically shut down commercial salmon fishing after the third straight year of poor returns of wild chinook.

Indian tribes, commercial salmon fishermen and conservation groups campaigning to remove the dams said PacifiCorp appeared to be staking out a stronger negotiating position for settlement talks which serve as an alternative to the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission licensing process.

A report for the California Energy

Commission said PacifiCorp could save \$101 million over the next 30 years by removing the dams and buying replacement power, rather than upgrading the dams and reducing power production to meet modern standards for fish protection.

Craig Tucker, Klamath campaign coordinator for the Karuk Tribe, said it will be up to state public utility commissions to determine if PacifiCorp can pass ladder costs on to customers.

"I guarantee you that if they make Warren Buffett pay for it, he's smart enough to remove the dams," said Tucker.

MidAmerican Energy Holdings Co., a subsidiary of billionaire investor Buffett's Berkshire Hathaway Inc., owns PacifiCorp.

Bill Fehrman, president of PacifiCorp Energy, said in a statement that the utility wanted to keep the dams to support the future addition of wind power, because both neither source releases greenhouse gases.

"The fact that the Klamath project is an emissions-free, renewable resource will make it more valuable to our customers in the future and reduce our overall carbon footprint," Fehrman said in a statement.

Glen Spain of the Pacific Coast Federation of Fishermen's Associations, which represents California salmon fishermen, noted that the dams provide less than 2 percent of PacifiCorp's generating capacity, and while they do not release greenhouse gases, they cause environmental damage to the river and salmon.

Tucker noted that the Oregon Public Utility Commission last month rejected plans by PacifiCorp to build two coal plants in to meet growing energy demands in Utah.

The commission said the proposal was not consistent with previously approved plans relying on short-term market purchases, renewable resources and conservation to meet increased demand.

U.S. - Oregon Man Sought Missile Parts for Iran

By Jim Forsyth

SAN ANTONIO, Texas (Reuters) - U.S. immigration agents have charged an Oregon businessman with trying to buy batteries used in U.S.-built Hawk surface-to-air missiles for shipment to Iran, court documents showed on Thursday.

Robert Caldwell, 56, of Portland, Oregon, is charged with conspiring to export regulated items without a license under rules governing international arms trade. He was freed on \$50,000 bond pending trial.

Caldwell was arrested last week after giving an undercover agent a check for the \$5,000 batteries during a meeting at a hotel across from the historic Alamo mission, U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement Agent Jerry Robinette said.

"There is no way to get a license," Robinette said. "He would not have been able to acquire a license to ship something like that to Iran."

Hawk missiles, which are launched from fixed positions and considered highly lethal, downed dozens of Iraqi Air Force jets at the start of the Gulf War in 1990. They are believed to be among weapons the United States sent to Iran as part of the Iran-Contra weapons-for-

hostages exchange in the 1980s.

But the United States now strictly bans weapons exports to Iran, which it designates as a sponsor of terrorism.

Robinette said Caldwell is an import-export broker in Oregon. He did not say how many batteries Caldwell allegedly attempted to buy. They cost \$5,000 each, officials said.

Caldwell's, Van Hilley, said his client was simply in the wrong place at the wrong time.

"Mr. Caldwell is a broker, and he met this fellow from England and got involved in something that was well beyond his comprehension," Hilley said.

The federal documents show Caldwell is the second person arrested for attempting to buy the batteries. The other suspect is said to have told investigators that the plan was to send the batteries to Iran.

That suspect allegedly fingered Caldwell as a middle man in the scheme, prompting agents to set up the sting in San Antonio.

"Our concern is to make sure that this battery or any other components of a Hawk missile don't make it to Iran," Robinette said. "We want to make sure they never get ... used against our troops or against our allies." ■■

Oklahoma family finds help from Oregon strangers

PORTLAND, OR (AP) - An Oklahoma couple with three children who lost nearly everything they own in a U-Haul truck theft are making a fresh start in Oregon with help from strangers offering whatever they can to a family in need.

One of those strangers was Kimberly Trent-Andersch, heard reports about the Oklahoma family and drove to their motel, where she found Rachel Nicole Bennett, gave her a hug and wrote her a check for \$1,000.

Then she asked if she could do more.

Bennett was overwhelmed Friday by offers of clothes, computers, apartments, food, toys - "anything you can think of" - that came in after people learned of her story. "At the same time, this is the worst and best thing that ever happened," she said.

Last week, Bennett and her boyfriend, Eddie Fagan, left Oklahoma with their three kids and took off for Oregon, all their possessions packed into a moving truck. They crept through storms, often driving slower than 40 mph as they made their way west.

On Monday, they arrived in the

Portland area, parked the rented U-Haul and checked into a motel.

They woke Thursday to find the truck gone. Except for a few changes of clothes, they had almost nothing except their car and a dwindling reserve of money. Clackamas County sheriff's deputies found the truck about 11 p.m. Thursday in Damascus, but it was empty.

Bennett said she and her two children came to Oregon with Fagan and his 12-year-old son after the couple had been laid off from what Bennett described as "mediocre jobs" at a restaurant in Altus, Okla.

Fagan, however, got good news from the Oregon company in suburban Milwaukie where he worked for several years in the 1990s. Pacific/Hoe, Saw and Knife has rehired him, and asked him to report to work right away, said Bob Bradstreet, a company supervisor.

When he got to the job, Fagan was immediately presented with \$5,000 in cash and \$1,000 in gift cards for the family to buy clothes and furnishings.

"I'm speechless," Fagan said. "I know things will work out." ■■



In The Nation



Men jailed for being on public sidewalk

By WorldNetDaily.com

Two men who are members of Gideons International, the Christian organization that is famous for, among other ministries, placing Bibles in motels and giving them to children, have been arrested after trying to hand out Bibles on a public sidewalk in Florida, according to a law firm.

Officials with the Alliance Defense Fund have confirmed they will be representing Anthony Mirto and Ernest Simpson, who were arrested, booked into jail and charged with trespassing.

Jeremy Tedesco, one of the ADF's lawyers on the case, confirmed to WND that the organization's clients were on a public sidewalk when they were handing out Bibles and school officials summoned police.

"The First Amendment protects the right to engage in religious speech on a public sidewalk," ADF Senior Legal Counsel David Cortman said. "Members of the Gideons have been highly respected for decades as peaceful providers of free Bibles to those who want them."

The arrest happened Jan. 19, when Mirto and Simpson were on the sidewalk outside of Key Largo School in Key Largo, Fla., and were distributing copies of the Bible to those interested.

"Neither man entered school grounds," the law firm said. "After the school's principal called police, a Monroe County sheriff's officer asked the men to leave immediately or face trespassing charges. As the men prepared to leave, the officer decided to arrest both individuals."

A hearing is scheduled March 5 in Monroe County Court in the cases, and ADF attorneys are preparing motions to dismiss the charges.

"Officials cannot use fear of arrest as a means of bullying law-abiding

Christians into silence," Cortman said. "These men broke no laws when they decided to communicate their message on a public sidewalk."

Tedesco noted that sometimes school officials have a misconception about whether they can control activities on school grounds and adjacent public sidewalks. But the First Amendment does provide a protection for speech on those parcels of ground that are public, he said.

"There's no reason why they should be put in jail," he said.

In a statement to WND, Becky Herrin, of the public information office in the Monroe County sheriff's office, stated as a fact the point that the defendants in the case clearly are disputing, and which ultimately may have to be decided by a jury.

"A copy of our police report (see attached) ... clearly states that the people in question were arrested for trespassing on school property – not on a public sidewalk... In fact, they were given the opportunity to step off school property and onto public property, and they could have continued with their activities if they had done so. They chose instead to remain, against repeated warnings, on school property so deputies were forced to arrest them," Herrin stated.

The report forwarded to WND, however, reveals the two were arrested while in their truck in a "no parking" zone. The report said that on the complaint from school principal Annette Martinson, when the two defendants were ordered by the deputy to leave an area that included a bike path, "both defendants slowly walked away towards a teal in color pick up truck that was parked in a no parking zone in front of the school."

One suspect then wanted the officer's ID, and, "I then handed Simpson ... my

business card and he continued to walk toward the parked truck," said the police allegation from officer John Perez.

The officer then confirms, "I observed both defendants enter the pick up truck and remain seated inside." He watched for several minutes, then approached the pickup truck, parked in a "no parking" zone, "I asked both defendants why they where (sic) refusing to leave," and "Defendant Simpson III stated, we where (sic) just leaving."

Perez then confirmed that after he got a call from the sheriff's office notifying him that Simpson was complaining "about a deputy at the Key Largo School asking him to leave, I advised Sgt. Mixon I was out with Simpson and he was going to be placed under arrest for trespassing."

"The truck was parked in a no parking zone in front of the school ... not on a public street but on school property. The only 'public street' adjacent to the school is Highway U.S. One and there is no parking on the highway," Herrin added.

The ADF is a legal alliance defending the right to hear and speak the truth, through strategy, training, funding and litigation.

The Gideons, a group founded in the late 1800s, has as its "sole purpose" the goal "to win men, women, boys and girls to a saving knowledge of the Lord Jesus Christ through association for service, personal testimony, and distributing the

Bible in the human traffic lanes and streams of everyday life."

Members of the Gideons, who pay their own expenses so 100 percent of the donations to the group go toward Bible purchases and distributions, have placed the Bible in 181 nations in 82 different languages over the years.

The organization focuses on hotels and motels, hospitals and nursing homes, schools, colleges and universities, the military and law enforcement and prisons and jails.

"The demand for Scriptures in these areas far exceeds our supplies that we are able to purchase through our donations. Much more could be done – if funds were available. However, we are placing and distributing more than 1 million copies of the Word of God, at no cost, every seven days in these areas..." the group said.

The organization only gives away the Bibles with the Gideon logo on the covers, but plain Bibles are available for consumers to purchase at its distribution center at P.O. Box 140800, Nashville, Tenn., 37214-0800. Information about the products is available on the group's website.

The Gideons serve as an extended missionary arm of the Christian church and are the oldest Christian business and professional men's association in the United States.

■ ■ ■

Minn. farmer charged after chasing thief

Cambridge, Minn. (AP) — A farmer accused of chasing down a suspected thief and holding him at gunpoint until authorities arrived now faces a more serious charge than the alleged thief himself.

Kenneth Englund, 74, was charged with second-degree assault, a felony. Englund's target, who the sheriff said admitted stealing about \$5 worth of gasoline from Englund's neighbor, was charged with misdemeanor theft.

Sheriff Mike Ammend said people can't take the law into their own hands, and that Englund's actions were "an invitation to a shootout. There's so many things that could have gone wrong here."

On Oct. 15, Englund pointed a gun at Christian Harris Smith, 28, and a woman at the vacant farm next to Englund's place in Bradford Township, officials said. He then chased their vehicle at speeds of 70 mph, according to the criminal complaint. A 3-year-old child was in the vehicle.

During the chase, Englund used a cellphone to call the sheriff's office and asked if he should "blow them away," according to the complaint. His shotgun turned out to be unloaded.

Englund, a Township Board member for 37 years, pleaded not guilty, was released without having to post bail and is to return to court Feb. 22.

Smith was charged with another theft and was held in the county jail on a felony warrant from another state.

Prosecutor Dan Conlin said no one is looking to put Englund in jail. He said the charge fits the facts, but the case doesn't need to be resolved as a felony.

More than 350 people attended a fundraising dinner for Englund last month and a petition has circulated supporting him.

Bradford Township, about 45 miles north of Minneapolis, does not have a police force, and Englund said criminals can escape by the time a deputy arrives from Cambridge, 15 miles away.

■ ■ ■

Cougar victim recovering, removed from critical care

By Christine Bensen-Messinger

A little more than two weeks after he was attacked by a mountain lion in Prairie Creek Redwoods State Park, Fortuna resident Jim Hamm is recovering well and has been moved out of the critical care unit, doctors say.

Hamm, 70, was attacked on the afternoon of Jan. 24. His wife Nell, 65, fought off the mountain lion with a branch and pen.

"Jim is doing great," Kevin McCormack, media relations manager for the California Pacific Medical Center in San Francisco, where Hamm has been receiving treatment since Jan. 28, stated in an e-mail. "He's up, he's walking around the ward (and) he has taken most of the bandages off. In short, he's doing fine. With luck he'll be going home next week."

Since Hamm has been in the hospital, inquiries about him have been frequent, McCormack said, as are well wishes from people all over the world.

"One rather sweet note to pass on today," McCormack wrote in an e-mail Wednesday, "A local elementary school class was being taught about wild animals when they heard about the attack. They had lots of questions for their teacher and when she answered them, they decided they wanted to write to the Hamms and say how sorry they were to hear about their ordeal. The letters, from kids 8 and 9 years old, are simply wonderful. Sweet and charming



Puma concolor - otherwise known as the mountain lion is closely related to the panther.

and full of the most delightful misspellings ('I hope you are feeling bedr' and 'I hope you are OK in hospedol.') But, my favorite says 'Your wife saved your life so I think you should take her out to dinner when you are well.' Jim agrees, he thinks he should, too."

McCormack said a news conference has been scheduled to take place when Hamm is released; however, at this point in time, he said Jim does not want to be a part of it, but Nell will be there to answer questions.

"All that's left to say is thank you for the warmth and kindness you have shown the Hamms," he said. ■ ■ ■

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COMMENTARY Your Right to Speak Out

The Nonsense of Global Warming

By William Hunt
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Global Warming; Science Trumped by Politics and Activism

The term "Junk Science" has become popular since the turn of the millennium. Much of what is published by the media and even many mainstream scientists can be thought of as junk science. But, what is junk science? As a scientist and engineer, my definition of junk science is this: the publishing or expounding of "science" theories or "science facts" that directly or indirectly contradict established other scientific facts or principles. Global warming, geologic dating techniques, and uniformitarianism all can be considered junk science as much of the physical evidence argues against them.

It's always entertaining to watch scientists go off on tangents. One of the great problems of modern science is that researchers of different disciplines rarely talk with one another. When a paper is published in a field that a scientist is not an expert in, cannot know when the results are biased or false and generally assume that the paper's author was correct in his/her assumptions and methods. Science is too wide a body of knowledge for one to be expert in more than a few fields. The days when a university professor like Newton could be expert in all of the science of his day are long past.

Global warming is an excellent example of this. Scientists and activists alike have jumped on the bandwagon. It's become a fad, a trend, a wave of enthusiasm and the scientists are going along with the fad to get research grants and the media limelight. The various activist groups are going along with it because it supports their socialist agenda of wiping out industry and personal freedoms. Global warming has even hit the big screen with "An Inconvenient Truth," a documentary on Al Gore's campaign to make the issue of global warming a recognized problem worldwide.

So, what is global warming? It is the belief that man has caused the average atmospheric temperatures to increase by his adding of carbon dioxide to the atmosphere by the burning of carbon-based fuels like petroleum, coal and wood. Sounds awful, right? The facts,

such as we can observe and calculate them, do not support the idea of man-made global warming. Natural processes completely eclipse anything that man can accomplish- a minor rainstorm expends energy than a large nuclear explosive releases and the lowest category of hurricane expends more energy than all of the nuclear weapons ever produced in a short time. The 1991 eruption of Mount Pinatubo alone put more pollution into the atmosphere than the entire history of man. Consider that a moment. Most geologists and indeed, most scientists in the U.S. do not accept the idea that global warming resulting from human activities is a viable theory -because most have an appreciation for the kind of power inherent in natural systems. Conversely, most biologists do accept the idea of man-caused global warming and quote scientists in other fields, without understanding those other fields sufficiently to make a logical judgement as to whether the studies were reasonable in their methods and claims. They simply take it on faith that the scientists propounding global warming are correct in their methods and assumptions. Geologists point to a period of much warmer weather prior to the Little Ice Age of 1350-1850 A.D., in which it was possible to farm in most of Scandinavia, Canada and even in Greenland (the name was not a joke). It is too cold to farm in Greenland, northern Canada and all but the southern tip of Scandinavia. Historians speak of times in the distant past when the earth was much warmer than now, such as prior to the fifth century A.D. or the 11th century B.C., when northern Europe was similar to the Mediterranean in overall climate. Imagine shirtsleeve weather in the Baltic in winter.

The activists and the scientists proponing global warming point to increased levels of carbon dioxide in the atmosphere over time. Unfortunately, there are no records of long term monitoring available except at one station in the Hawaiian Islands. While those trying to prove global warming point to the station as proof of increasing carbon dioxide, a crucial error was made in location. In the 1950s, the Scripps Institute thought it would be a good idea to have a carbon dioxide monitor in a place far from other land and possible interference from industry, such as the "Big Island" of Hawaii. A reasonable idea, but their choice of location was very poor. What the Scripps Institute didn't take into account was that volcanoes produce enormous amounts

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Verbal Assassination ON THE BRINK

By Ron Lee
Investigate Journalist

Recently the board members of the Bulletin of the Atomic Scientists who oversee the "Doomsday Clock" pushed us two minutes closer to midnight. According to the Bulletin which includes notables like Professor Stephen Hawking and some 18 Nobel prize winners the reasons behind the panel's decision are plentiful. They cited the recent nuclear test by North Korea and pursuit of nuclear weapon technology by Iran and extremist groups as part of their reasoning. They also noted the lack of security for nuclear materials in Russia, civilian power plants and university research reactors which could be focused on with ease by terrorist organizations. Also contributing is the continued development of nuclear weapons by countries who have yet to ratify the Comprehensive Test Ban Treaty. These countries include the United States, China, India, Pakistan, North Korea and Israel. And according to the panel, "Global warming poses a dire threat to human civilization that is second only to nuclear weapons." With their conclusion we now stand at 5 minutes to the brink of annihilation.

But isn't that where we always are? Hasn't every culture in time faced the possibility that their end was near; that it could be their armageddon; their end times? Isn't that just human nature to think that we, presently, will be the end all?

Of course, but that doesn't change the responsibility we have to safeguard the future for new generations.

It is a more recent sickening era of selfishness that has gripped us and taken us away from truly protecting the possibility of many generations to come. We have indeed lost our way as stewards of what we have been given and what we are to leave. A "if I can't have it, neither can you" mentality has ebbed in as a way to ultimately beat out the Joneses and in the end we are left with nothing except relatives arguing over who gets what and how much after the state has taken its share.

So how do we protect the future? We (that's all of us you pacifists and Democrats who want ignore it) acknowledge the fact that there are a lot of people in this world that want to blow us up! They want to see us wiped off the map. They are NOT misunderstood or confused and their feigns at diplomacy are a ruse. These people actually want to do us harm ... again. Have you already forgotten? Perhaps your peace-pipe is filled with a bit too much loco-weed and

it is effecting your memory.

I don't care what we are told our troops are NOT engaged in war to free Iraq, or to gain oil reserves, or even to expand our sphere of influence. Logic, people ... We are there because it is the only kind of war we know how to wage. After 911 we sought to wage a global war on terror. Unfortunately our military leadership is not versed in terrorism, but rather warfare, and with the quick tumbling of Afganistan we found ourselves needing a new geographic location in which to fight this war ... and guess what, it's been working. Our military are our first shield from attack. Our enemy, the terrorists, are currently much more focused on our military assets than our public ones. Once we lose this shield the terrorist will strike here on our soil.

It is these same terrorists who are trying to acquire biological, chemical and nuclear material for weapons, and it is imperative that we stop them by any means necessary. We have to stand tall and swiftly smite down those who rise up to kill us. Does that sound harsh? Well, look at nature.

On that note, I don't care if global warming exists or not and I don't wish to debate its science one way or the other. To me it is much more simple than anyone makes it out to be. I was taught that garbage belongs in a TRASH can, not in our rivers, forests, neighborhoods, skies or anywhere else selfish, careless beings choose to throw their refuse. The simple fact is that we are indeed polluting our world, just take a look around your neighborhoods people! Check out the signs at the beaches around the country that say "closed" because there are so many pollutants it isn't safe to swim. For heaven's sake, just look at the skies of Los Angeles that are a greenish grey! So all you global-warming-naysayers let me ask you this ... Could we take better care of our world just for the sake of doing it? Or how about inventing new sources of energy because we have a spirit for advancement? Or maybe we could plant a freakin' tree when we cut one down so our kids have one to look at, too! It doesn't have to be BECAUSE of "global warming." To continue littering our world is just plain laziness and shows an absolute disregard for anytime other than the now.

As for the 5 minutes we have left until midnight, I'd rather concentrate on doing and not the reasons why. Maybe that way we will wake up on the dawn of a new day. Now that just might put us on the brink of something wonderful!

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Destruction of a Family ...**

acknowledge that many children are abused by sick people, many of whom are either on drugs or in possession of a criminal mind. DHS has salvaged many of their children; however, they have damaged and in some cases ruined innocent families along the way. In other words they have jumped to often irreversible, wrong conclusions in far too many cases, just as they are doing in the Swann tragedy. Likewise, Doernbeckers Children's Hospital, located in Portland, Oregon has saved or greatly improved the lives of many children. Such is not the case concerning Jessica Swann. They are factually using young Jessica as a Guinea Pig.

Our readership should understand as they read this article that DHS, Doernbeckers and Court Appointed Special Advocates (CASA), much like our justice system, often rush to judgment. This causes situations wherein they have wrongfully taken a child from a family or they have filed false criminal charges. When this occurs and facts later immerge that expose their mistake, they choose to ignore the truth out of sheer self preservation and their all important goal of protecting their phony images.

DHS Starts the Destruction

In February of 2006, acting on obvious

false and retaliatory complaints, DHS employee Mollie Robertson came to Fran's home with three police officers and stole Fran's fragile little Jessica. Shortly thereafter Shane was stolen from her. These police-state kidnappings were conducted right out in the open, under the "color of law," in a country where freedom is spread on a daily basis to a brain dead populace. And get this, neither DHS nor the police who assisted them in carrying out their crime did one ounce of investigating. In all honesty, Americans should choke every time they utter the words, "Land of the Free and Home of the Brave."

Doernbecker Joins the Destruction

Subsequent to her abduction Jessica Swann was taken to Doernbeckers Children's Hospital (DCH) where she was examined by numerous doctors, the main one being Dr. Annie B Terry. According to Oregon Health and Science University Terry is involved in "clinical trials pertaining to the study of children." In other words little Jessica has been taken from a loving and protective mother and handed over to a "scientist" to be used as nothing more or less than a lab rat.

Terry, in concert with DCH didn't like what they saw when they looked at the tiny, 22 pound Jessica so they



Dr. Annie B. Terry

immediately tagged her as being "the most abused child they had ever seen." Again, DCH took this position without any investigation whatsoever. After consulting with Jessica's Pediatrician, Terry ignored his professional information and history regarding Jessica and blundered forward, hand in hand with DHS.

Dr. Terry and her cohorts started right in on their dissection of Jessica. In short order this precious little girl had severe bed sores, diaper rash and arms that resembled a pin cushion. Every inch of her tiny body was invaded without concern for Jessica's emotional state. According to witnesses, "she was so upset she would body slam her body into the bed." Jessica would look at Fran Swann with tears in her eyes and point towards the door. Fran stated, "For the first time in my life I couldn't help my daughter." Jessica was then given medication to calm her down.

DCH forced a feeding tube down

Jessica's throat and bloated her to over 50 pounds. In the process her legs broke due to the excessive weight and they had to place her legs in casts for months. They then decided to place Jessica in an MRI machine. Fran Swann warned them that due to the heavy magnet the machine possessed, Jessica's teeth could be damaged as they were mostly metal (a result of the severe abuse of her before she was adopted by Fran). They ignored Fran, placed Jessica in the machine and when she came out she was missing 4 teeth. Fran kept one tooth and Jessica obviously swallowed the other 3 as the nurse couldn't find them.

It took only a short few months for Dr. Terry and her cohorts to destroy the years of love and nurturing that Jessica received from Fran. It should be considered criminal for Doernbecker and DHS to conduct this witch hunt/science project with no investigation into Jessica's past – they haven't even spoken with most of her doctors or care providers even in light of our last damning article which they are all aware of.

Now for the kicker – Just recently Fran Swann was the recipient of more extortion. Doctors at Doernbecker who have been using Jessica as a pin cushion decided they wanted to start giving her an experimental drug that hasn't received FDA approval. In order to do so they had to acquire Fran's consent. Fran was told that if she didn't sign that she would appear belligerent to the court, so she went ahead and signed. It's amazing

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of steam, carbon dioxide, sulfur dioxide and other gases. Compounding that, the Big Island's volcanic eruptions have increased in recent years to the point where they are causing air pollution on Oahu, some 200 miles away.

The placement of the station next to major carbon dioxide sources like this and then claiming that the entire world's carbon dioxide levels are increasing is similar in principle to putting a sensor next to a steel mill's smokestacks and then saying that the air in the entire U.S. is filled with soot. It's dishonest and misleading. I digress, but Oregon's DEQ did the same thing in the 1980s to prove that the Rogue Valley (southern Oregon) had high levels of carbon monoxide. They placed a carbon monoxide sensor half a city block from an old factory whose inefficient boilers were producing large amounts of carbon monoxide. When the factory closed, the levels of carbon monoxide dropped by half and the DEQ claimed that the levels had dropped for the entire Rogue Valley when most of what the sensor had been measuring was the gas from the factory's boilers. A true measure would have been to have sensors all over the Rogue Valley. Carbon dioxide is the same. To get a true measure of world levels of carbon dioxide, one needs sensors in many places and over a long period of time. We simply don't have the data to indicate that carbon dioxide has decreased or increased over time.

When Science Contradicts Science

When established facts and scientific principles argue against a theory, then that theory must be untrue or partially untrue. A rock can't fall down and fly up at the same time. Part of the scientific method is to test hypotheses again and again and then revise an overall theory on the basis of what the tests indicate. Not so with global warming. For example, the claim has been made that ice cores from Greenland and other areas of "permanent" ice caps indicate increasing carbon dioxide. One must consider the nature of glaciers and carbon dioxide before making such a claim. Glaciers flow because the ice softens and flows at about 150 feet from the surface. Carbon dioxide is inert and since carbon dioxide it's less dense than ice, the carbon dioxide in the ice near the bottom of the ice is going to be squeezed upward in the ice, i.e., the upper ice layers will have more carbon dioxide than lower ice because it moves upward

over time. One can see the same effect in the basalt flows of Oregon, such as that of the Cascades or the Table Rocks. When the lava flows across the surface, gas bubbles move upward as the basalt flows and cools. In light of the movement of carbon dioxide in glacier ice, it is not reasonable to claim that carbon dioxide levels are higher in the newer material near the top of the ice as the result of increasing carbon dioxide levels in the atmosphere. In addition, since the Greenland ice caps that they are drilling cores from didn't exist before the Little Ice Age, how can they believe that they are taking the measure of thousands of years? The oldest ice can be no more than ~600 years old!

Unfortunately, most activists and many scientists will simply discount information like that as it directly contradicts their idea. In effect, they are saying, "It must be true, so these contradicting facts must themselves be in error." Thus, we have global warming, geologic dating, evolution, string theory and several other scientific dogmas that must somehow be true, but do not fit the evidence or physical laws as observed. I don't have that kind of faith. I can't believe in "science" that is contradicted by other science. Something either fits the evidence consistently or it doesn't. Simply wanting something to be true doesn't make it true, today's postmodern culture notwithstanding. If I hit my hand with a hammer while driving a nail, it's going to hurt and it is a fact that my hand was hit. Convincing myself that I didn't hit my hand might make me feel better, but it doesn't change the objective reality that my hand was struck and a bruise is now forming.

So, what does temperature data indicate? Temperature data that indicates cooling, such as the winters of 2003-2004 and 2004-2005, in which the U.S. east of the Rockies had unseasonably cold weather for several months, are completely ignored in order to make the case that the earth is warming. One hears the media scream about the warmest years in history, but is this accurate? Temperatures in rural areas of the U.S. have dropped slightly in the last few decades. More than a hundred years of temperature records in the U.S. confirm this. Urban temperatures have increased, but this is a phenomenon local only to urban areas-brought about by asphalt and concrete absorbing more heat than the prior ground cover. For example Bend, Oregon is now warmer on average than Redmond, Oregon and ten years ago this

was not the case. The population doubled in Bend during this period and with that population increase came a dramatic increase in the amount of asphalt and concrete replacing the native ground cover. The larger area surrounding Bend, however, is still colder than Redmond. In the same way, urban temperatures are not an indicator for the world's temperatures in general.

A 2002 NOAA study claimed the "certainty" of global warming by comparing seawater temperatures from 50 years ago with the present, yielding an "increase" of 0.5 degrees. This is not a sound analysis of the information that they had to work with. The movements of ocean water are very complex. Current locations and temperatures vary from year to year. Temperature measurements are far more consistent in method, more accurate and much more widespread than 50 years ago. The current system of fixed and moving buoys in multiple locations around the globe providing constant temperature data didn't exist 50 years ago and instruments are now much more precise. One half of a degree falls within the error of the instruments available 50 years ago and thus cannot be used to prove a warming trend.

Astrophysicists state that Mars and the other planets have warmed up considerably in the last decade. All of the planets share the same heat source-and the sun is not constant in its output, varying from year to year. For example, carbon 14 studies of bristlecone pine tree rings in California and Nevada indicate that there is considerable variability in solar irradiation. Venus used to be used as an example of the "greenhouse effect", until other scientists pointed out that Venus receives twice as much energy from the sun as the Earth does, has little water, no life, no plate tectonics and it's atmosphere is very different.

Every climate model from the 1980s on that indicated warming was proven wrong in its predictions. Most models indicated 3 to 6 degree temperature rise in the upper latitudes. This has not happened. The problem with computer modeling is that only a tiny percentage of the literally millions of variables involved can be written into a program. It's currently impossible for us to accurately model Earth's climate and we are not aware of all of the variables yet. For example, only recently has it been discovered that the solar wind, sunspots and coronal mass ejections from the sun affect weather patterns.

If global warming were to occur, there would be several indicators. The first would be the increase in seawater temperature. This has not happened that we know of. The second would be a dramatic increase in precipitation in essentially all parts of the world, not just a few. With warmer sea temps, there would be greater evaporation and thus more rain and snow, everywhere. Deserts would become steppes. Steppes would become forest. Boreal forests would become rainforest. This hasn't happened in the centuries since the industrial revolution began.

These examples illustrate the basic problem of modern science: there is no field of science in which this same type of error does not take place. This is compounded by activists who want their ideas to be true, regardless of the actual facts, by scientists craving media attention and a media that thrives on sensationalism.

For over a decade, we have had the UN and the Democrats trying to restrict carbon dioxide emissions in the U.S. on the basis of global warming, despite that it would severely damage the economy and restrict personal freedoms. Wishful thinking by some scientists and environmental activism are no basis for making public policy. ■■



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Questions Surround Reid Land Deal

From NewsMax

New Senate Majority Leader Harry Reid bought undeveloped land in Arizona far below its assessed value, then introduced legislation that could have aided the seller of the property.

Revelations about the land deal follow last year's reports that Reid, a Nevada Democrat, had collected a \$1.1 million windfall on a Las Vegas land sale even though he hadn't personally owned the property for three years.

In the newly disclosed land deal - uncovered during an investigation by the Los Angeles Times - Reid paid \$10,000 to gain control of a 160-acre parcel in Bullhead City, Ariz., in 2002.

The money was paid to a pension fund controlled by Clair Haycock, a Los Vegas lubricants distributor and Reid's friend for 50 years. The deal gave Reid - who had already owned a five-eighths interest in the property, equivalent to 120 of the 160 acres - full control of the parcel.

The purchase price for the remaining three-eighths, or 60 acres, breaks down to just \$166 an acre, less than one-tenth of the value an assessor had placed on it at the time, according to the Times.

Six months after the deal closed, Reid introduced legislation that sought to protect lubricants distributors from

abrupt cancellations by their suppliers.

The Haycock family had lost business in 1994 when Mobil Oil Co. canceled the family's distributorship of lubricants.

The Times noted: "It is a potential violation of congressional ethics for a member to accept anything of value - including a real estate discount - from a person with interests before Congress."

But Reid's spokesman, Jon Summers, insisted that the transaction was not a gift and the Senator paid a fair price for the pension fund's minority interest.

And Clair Haycock told the Times that Reid "has never taken any official action to provide personal financial benefit to me, and I would never have asked him to."

Nevertheless, Prof. Crocker H. Liu, chair of real estate at Arizona State's University W.P. Carey School of Business, told the Times that the price Reid paid to gain control of the parcel "strikes me as low. But I don't know what other considerations - valuable or otherwise - were part of this transaction. Usually when a purchase price is that low, there is other juice in the deal."

Footnote: Since taking full control of the property, Reid has urged federal funding for a new bridge over the Colorado River - a few miles from his Arizona property. ■■

States Challenge Nat'l Driver's License

By Leslie Miller

WASHINGTON (AP) - A revolt against a national driver's license, begun in Maine last month, is quickly spreading to other states.

The Maine Legislature on Jan. 26 overwhelmingly passed a resolution objecting to the Real ID Act of 2005. The federal law sets a national standard for driver's licenses and requires states to link their record-keeping systems to national databases.

Within a week of Maine's action, lawmakers in Georgia, Wyoming, Montana, New Mexico, Vermont and Washington state also balked at Real ID. They are expected soon to pass laws or adopt resolutions declining to participate in the federal identification network.

"It's the whole privacy thing," said Matt Sundeen, a transportation analyst for the National Conference of State Legislatures. "A lot of legislators are concerned about privacy issues and the cost. It's an estimated \$11 billion

implementation cost."

The law's supporters say it is needed to prevent terrorists and illegal immigrants from getting fake identification cards.

States will have to comply by May 2008. If they do not, driver's licenses that fall short of Real ID's standards cannot be used to board an airplane or enter a federal building or open some bank accounts.

About a dozen states have active legislation against Real ID, including Arizona, Georgia, Hawaii, Massachusetts, Missouri, New Hampshire, Oklahoma, Utah and Wyoming.

Missouri state Rep. James Guest, a Republican, formed a coalition of lawmakers from 34 states to file bills that oppose or protest Real ID.

Though most states oppose the law, some such as Indiana and Maryland are looking to comply with Real ID, Sundeen said.

The issue may be moot for states if Congress takes action.

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that these worthless humans can sleep at night.

DHS Extortion and Attorney Malpractice

Extortion is a widely used practice among corrupt district attorneys, lawyers and agencies across this country. Extortion as defined: To compel or coerce by means that overcome one's power to resist. After stealing her children DHS immediately stripped Fran of her Day Care license even though between thirty and forty parents praise Fran Swann for the excellent and loving care she has given their children. These people and others were around Fran for a majority of the time that she spent raising Jessica and Shane. Nobody questioned one of them. As a result of losing her license, Fran has been forced to take every dime of equity out of her home in order to pay bills, including mounting attorney fees.

The deceitful and two-faced CASA Judith Spargo is now recommending to Judge Lindi Baker that Fran's children be removed from her permanently even in light of the fact that Fran was the caregiver for one of Spargo's "children" in the past. Spargo has been in Fran's home on many occasions and she has stated numerous times in prior years that she was impressed with the fine job Fran was doing with the children whose lives Ms. Swann literally saved. What an absolute hypocrite. Again, no

investigation, only lies and assumptions.

Shortly after the Swann children were abducted Fran rushed to hire a local attorney. She ended up with Matthew Galli, who, according to Fran's present lawyer extorted a false confession out of her. According to Swann, "Mr. Galli told me that if I didn't take responsibility for Jessica's condition that I would never get my kids back." Swann continued, "DHS told us that they would come up with a plan to return my children and I was willing to do anything to get them back." In a recent hearing before Judge Lindi Baker, Swann's attorney Morgain Megahy openly indicted Galli and informed the court that she was going after him. Currently Swann is in the process of filing a much warranted complaint with the Oregon State Bar against Galli. Our readership should recall that Galli is the same attorney who recently attempted to have Stanley Strange accept a plea agreement on false criminal charges even though he had three affidavits from eye witnesses in his hand that totally exonerated Strange. In both the Swann and the Strange case Galli did no investigation; however, he didn't have any problem relieving his clients of their cash.

The Facts About Fran Swann's Care

Remembering that DHS stole the Swann children and the fact that they extorted a responsibility statement from Fran for not giving them the proper care

(with the help of Fran's attorney Matt Galli), let's examine the truth about her care.

Since Jessica came to Fran as a twisted and destroyed little girl she has been to the following Doctors and medical facilities: Dr. Yung for seizures, Ear Nose and Throat Associates of Grants Pass, Dr. Kho for a gastrointestinal study, Three Rivers Community Hospital - Dimmick Campus, Rogue Valley Medical Center Feeding Clinic, Dr. Treasure Wheeler for a vision analysis, Dr. Marc Legras for a heart murmur, Dr. Robert Sampson for tooth disease, Oregon Health and Science University (OHSU) Genetics Clinic, OHSU/Dr. Braner - Intensive Care Unit for blood loss and respiratory and orthopedic issues, Carol Shaw for speech therapy, Shriners Hospital for physical therapy and nutrition and dietary evaluation, Alanna McLean once a week for six years for physical therapy, Rogue Valley Medical Center for an EEG, Dr. Narus for seizures, Dr. Lees for Cario-myopathy, Child Development rehabilitation Clinic (CDRC) for an ECG and an EEG - plus two follow up visits, Dr. Shimishock for seizures, Southern Oregon Audiology for hearing loss and get this one, Doernbeckers Children's Hospital. Jessica saw Dr. Peter Lax at DCH for dental treatments and Dr. Silverbach for her heart murmur. Jessica's pediatrician has had many consultations about Jessica with other Dr.' and labs. Jessica has attended the Shriner's Hospital outreach program every six months during the last 5 years - missing the appointment only twice. Sounds like one hell of an abusive mother doesn't it? In light of the myriad of professionals providing health care for Jessica, monitoring her and the care she received from Fran, it is incomprehensible what DHS/Doernbeckers, CASA and others are doing. According to Dr. Donald Berwick, founder of the Institute for Health Care Improvement, "an

estimated 98,000 deaths are caused by medical errors each year." Hopefully Jessica won't become a member of this statistic.

Not one of these entities or Doctors ever told Fran she was doing anything wrong, while most praised her for the excellent care she gave Jessica. Michelle Smith with the "feeding clinic" in Medford, Oregon told Fran in 2000 that she needed to cut Jessica's calorie intake from 1800 to 1300 calories per day. Smith told Swann to keep up what she was doing - just cut the calories. The many health care providers who have witnessed Jessica over the years have realized that her weak little frame could not support a lot of weight - those seeking to dissect Jessica don't care...

The absolute fact is that Fran Swann has taken exceptional care of her children. While Shane Swann hasn't had all the severe medical conditions like his sister has, he has had his own issues with ADHD and Fetal Alcohol Syndrome. Fran has been denied visits (including phone calls) with Shane since December 22, 2006.

DHS/Doernbeckers and CASA Judith Spargo are going to be featured in this newspaper for as long as it takes to force them to stop their abuse. If you are a concerned reader, please call Oregon's Governor Ted Kulongoski at 503-378-4582 and demand that he stops his out of control agency from committing further criminal acts against Fran Swann and her children. Next, call DHS Director Bruce Goldberg at 503-945-5944 and demand that he fire everyone in his department who has taken part in this tragedy.

People in Oregon certainly need to wake up to the fact that our tax dollars are funding the outrageous action depicted in this article, including Anne Terry's experiments. In our next edition we expose more of the players involved in this destruction.

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Don't Be a Victim! Call 541-474-7885
or e-mail editor@usobserver.com

Nuclear terrorism risk seen growing

By Mark Trevelyan
Security Correspondent

LONDON (Reuters) - Western governments must take seriously the possibility of terrorists exploding a nuclear bomb as the necessary materials and know-how become easier to acquire, security analysts argue in two new reports.

"The threat of terrorists acquiring nuclear weapons is real ... moreover, the likelihood of terrorists acquiring such weapons is growing as more states aggressively pursue their own nuclear ambitions," the EastWest Institute said in a study.

It said the first nuclear terrorist may turn out to be an American or European, reflecting a likely evolution in security threats over the next 10-15 years and a possible shift away from al Qaeda-style Islamist militancy toward eco-terrorism.

In a separate report, London's influential Chatham House think-tank said it was feasible that terrorists could acquire an atomic bomb, build one themselves, create an "improvised nuclear device" or blow up a nuclear power station.

Another risk was the collapse of government control over civil and military nuclear facilities and materials in countries like Pakistan or North Korea.

The design, materials and engineering for a bomb "have all become commodities, more or less available to those determined enough to acquire them," said Paul Cornish, head of the international security program at Chatham House.

He said the science and engineering challenges were very difficult but not insurmountable.

IMPROVISED BOMB

Rather than aiming to build a military-grade atomic weapon, terrorists might settle for a cruder improvised device that would require more uranium but a lesser degree of enrichment, thereby reducing one of the key technical barriers.

"The device might then 'fizzle' rather than detonate its entire mass instantly and efficiently. But if the resulting explosion were to be equivalent to just one or a few kilotons of TNT rather than tens of kilotons, terrorists could still find this option attractive," Cornish wrote.

He stressed that such a scenario was just one of a range of chemical,



biological, radiological and nuclear (CBRN) threats which were all appealing options for terrorist groups.

Security analysts see a CBRN attack as a logical escalation for groups such as al Qaeda, which in the past has frequently varied its strikes and sought to increase their scale -- notably with the September 11, 2001 attacks that killed nearly 3,000 people.

Eliza Manningham-Buller, head of Britain's domestic intelligence agency MI5, said in November that future threats "may include the use of chemicals, bacteriological agents, radioactive materials and even nuclear technology."

Ken Berry, author of the EastWest Institute report, said the rise of environmental militants would bring "an even bigger prospect that scientific personnel from the richest countries will aid eco-terrorist use of nuclear weapons or materials."

Some security analysts believe the effects of global warming will exacerbate the world's rich-poor divide, intensify conflicts over land, water and other resources and help to radicalize populations and fan terrorism.

The study highlighted the recent poisoning of former Russian agent Alexander Litvinenko in London, apparently with radioactive polonium smuggled in from Russia, as proof that the international community lacks proper controls on nuclear materials that could be used by terrorists.

Greg Austin, a Brussels-based analyst for the institute, said the episode showed that secular Europeans were not averse to using nuclear substances as weapons. "We need to deal with the prospect that the first nuclear terrorist is in fact more likely to be American or European," he said. ■■

Alleged fake cop had own 'police station'

By Frank Eltman
Associated Press Writer

HEMPSTEAD, N.Y. - Henry Terry had all the right accessories to impersonate a police officer, prosecutors say: authentic-looking uniforms, a car with lights and sirens, a pair of handcuffs. But Terry took it a step further, setting up a personal police station where he kept records of possible crimes and sometimes interrogated "suspects" who were handcuffed to a chair, said Suffolk County District Attorney Thomas Spota.

Following the 24-year-old's arraignment earlier this week on charges of grand larceny and impersonating a police officer, the dingy fourth-floor office where he ran his operation was empty Friday except for some computer discs, a few papers on the floor, a pair of black dress shoes and a nameplate on a shelf: "Cpl. H. Terry, Unit Supervisor."

On the building directory downstairs, the space is listed as the "New York Enforcement Asset Recovery Bureau's District 2 Operations."

The office, now frigid because of broken windows, was also used for a time for the Holbrook resident's security company, and investigators were unsure when Terry started his alleged police impersonation.

"We have reason to believe the defendant has been posing as a police officer for some time," Spota said in a statement.

To convince civilians he was a police officer, Terry bought badges, uniforms, handcuffs and other law enforcement paraphernalia from catalogs and the Internet, Spota said. He would stop motorists, ostensibly for traffic



Henry Terry

violations, and before his interrogations he would photocopy each "suspect's" ID, just as real police do.

Terry pleaded not guilty and his attorney, George Dazzo, said Terry didn't attempt to "harm or threaten" anyone. But prosecutors said he asked some victims for cash in exchange for their release. They were never taken to a real police station.

The grand larceny charge stems from an incident in which Terry is accused of convincing the owner of a sport utility vehicle to give him the SUV to use in a supposed undercover investigation. Terry is accused of swapping the driver's vehicle for another one and \$600 cash, the district attorney said.

In 2002 Terry was arrested for reckless endangerment and sentenced to five years of probation. He violated those terms in May 2004 when he was arrested on a charge of criminal impersonation in Nassau County. He was sent to prison, but was freed on parole again in December 2004.

Terry's next court date is March 12. ■■

How To: Foil Wiretaps at Home

By Annalee Newitz

(WIRED) - Think the Feds might be jacked into your home line? Well, there's no need to skulk down to the corner pay phone to conduct your business. All you need is a C note. University of Pennsylvania computer science professor Matt Blaze dissected the wiretap equipment commonly used by law enforcement and found a few, um, bugs. Spies, it turns out, don't like to record dead air, so they turn the system off by playing a special C-pitched tone when the target phone is hung up. As a result, anyone with an MP3 player and a recorded C can prevent eavesdroppers from snooping on their private chatter. It doesn't work with all listening devices, though, so there's no guarantee the NSA won't come calling.

1. You're starting to get the creepy feeling you're being ... listened to.
2. Download Blaze's C tone (www.crypto.com/papers/wiretapping) and broadcast it continuously during phone calls. You can play the tone at low volume so it just seems like ambient room noise.
3. Don't stop there - befuddle your foes. Play the C for a second in the middle of a call, then without hanging up, dial another number. Analog wiretap systems will interpret this as a new call. You may be chatting with a friend, but now the spooks think you're talking to Domino's.

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Nevada News & Commentary

Predation, Water, Wildlife, and the Stewards of our Lands

By Scott Raine

Nevada - What goals should biologists be working towards? Nevada Department Of Wildlife (NDOW) Biologists need to work towards the goal of enhancing wildlife, not towards the goal of making work for themselves. Biologists do not need to be studying that which every biologist has studied since the beginning of time. The effects of predators on their prey are not in doubt. Every biologist does not need to re-invent the wheel. Lions, Coyotes,

don't need tags.

Reducing predators to a manageable level, and keeping their level reduced, encouraging water development throughout the State, and reducing the threats of wildfires while enhancing the responsible use of our lands through increases in grazing should be the focus of our department of wildlife.

Allies in the battle to increase a healthy game population: Ranchers, cattlemen, sheepherders, politicians, BLM...



Guzzlers such as these provide vital water sources in areas in which wildlife could otherwise not exist in the hot summer months. While guzzlers are vital water sources, without aggressive predator management they become "Cat Feeders", funneling big game animals to make the decision of dying or thirst or getting their throats torn out at the only drinking hole for dozens of miles around.

Ravens, Magpies, and all other predators hunt and kill every animal they can, including those yet to be born. Those Fangs and Claws are made for killing, and that's just what they will do. Studies to determine the age of the predator population and attempts to harvest the "older more experienced killers" who many NDOW biologists blame for a greater part of predation are irrelevant and not useful. Perhaps it may be true that older predators kill more of some population than younger ones, but so what? The next generation is in training and is killing something. They are eating, and they will be the new experienced killers in the length of time it takes to complete a study.

How many studies does it take? How many Bachelors, Masters, and Doctoral degrees does it take to figure out what every hunter and woodsman has known since the beginning of time?

The path of NDOW should be clear and simple: Who is going to hunt our big game? Someone or something is going to be killing our Big Game animals, it is simply up to us to decide who or what. If we leave the predators alone, they will be doing our hunting for us. If we remove the predators and don't hunt game animals ourselves then famine and disease will do the killing. We don't get to decide WHAT happens to our wildlife, we only get to determine WHO or what does it.

It seems to this author that it is a lot easier to manage game and maintain optimal game levels when the hunters have to purchase their tags. The other killers - predators, disease, and famine-

Ranchers, cattlemen, sheepherders, and related groups of people are those who should be the greatest allies of wildlife within the State. The long-term development of all our living resources benefit from the same basic tenants of good stewardship.

Our groups both benefit from water developments, predator control, and good grazing practices. One example of this that has come to the forefront in recent years is wildfires, and the old maxim stands: If you don't graze it, you will burn it. Grazing is perhaps our best tool to use in the prevention of wildfires. One of the poorest practices that is being exercised right now is the concept of letting the land "rest" after a fire. Scientific research done by the University of Nevada has shown that this "rest" from grazing has no benefit to the land. These studies are ignored for political reasons.

What prohibiting grazing after a fire clearly does do is let the grasses grow so heavily that the area will easily burn again.

Land that has had mild to moderate amounts of grazing will burn far more slowly and any fires will be far easier to contain than those on un-grazed land.

Grasses and young forbs are the "transition fuels" that allow wildfires to travel along between brush and larger fuels. By reducing the concentrations of these transition fuels, fire spread rates are greatly reduced.

The use of old-style crested wheat seeding creates lands that are both

Continued on page 18

Nevada Department of Wildlife violates the law

By Gerald Lent

President, Nevada Hunters Assoc.

Presented to the Nevada Wildlife Commission February 10, 2007:

My name is Gerald Lent and I represent Nevada Hunters Association. This audit is a complete embarrassment to you as a Commission and the Department of Wildlife.

This agency is a financial disaster: almost 2 million dollars of sportsmen's money went to waste and you failed to do anything about it. Money was being diverted without regard to the law, the Aquatic Education Program exceeded their budget by nearly \$178,000 or 53%, the Hunter Education Program exceeded their budget by more than \$209,000 or 52%, Game Management grant expenditures exceeded their budget by over \$258,000 or 18%, the Statewide Technical Guidance for Wildlife Restoration exceeded their budget by more than \$158,000 or 16%.

You failed to regulate this agency and do your lawful duties for which you were appointed, especially you 5 sportsmen's representatives. NRS 501.181 defines your duties to protect and manage wildlife in this state. How can you do that if you don't oversee how they spend the public's money? Your duties also are to establish policies and direction and to make sure all laws are followed.

NRS 501.115 Acceptance of federal aid in projects for restoration of wildlife: "The State of Nevada hereby assents to the provisions of that certain Act of Congress commonly known and referred to as the Pittman-Robertson Act approved September 2, 1937 and also designated as 16 U.S.C., providing federal aid to states in wildlife restoration projects." "The Commission shall do any and all things necessary to obtain for the State of Nevada the benefits provided in the Act of Congress." How can you say you did this?

If you commissioners really intensely reviewed the budget for 5 to 6 months as Bradley testified at the Legislative Assembly Committee on Natural Resources, Agriculture, and Mining, the Commission would have seen where the department lost approximately \$3 million and should have caught the misuse and unlawful use of restricted funds! Who is lying? Either you commissioners are not doing your job or this is a big cover-up.

I think you Commissioners broke the law because you didn't do all things necessary! You let Director Crawforth deceive and misrepresent the budget and his expenditures. You let Director Crawforth break the law and divert obligated funds into his Wildlife Account.

NRS 501.354: receipt, deposit, and expenditure of money: "The Department shall receive, deposit, and expend all money...and in accordance with the Commission's policy."

Your duty again!

NRS 502.242: Habitat conservation fee: must be accounted for separately and only used for the purposes of wildlife habitat rehabilitation and restoration.

NRS 502.294: Upland game bird fee: must be used for projects approved by

the Commission for the protection and propagation of upland game birds and for the acquisition, development, and preservation of the habitats of upland game birds in the State.

NRS 502.310: Duck stamps: must be used for projects approved by the Commission for the protection and propagation of migratory birds and for the acquisition, development, and preservation of wetlands in Nevada.

NRS 502.250: Elk Damage: must be used for the prevention and mitigation of damage caused by elk or game mammals not native to this State. These funds were inappropriately used and I consider illegally diverted to fund other programs unless, of course, the Commission approved them.

Isn't it a crime to violate any NRS? If I violated NRS 502.010: License required for hunting—would I be prosecuted? You bet I would, so why not you and the director?

NRS 281.360: Failure by a public officer or employee to perform duty—this should apply here! I stood here time and time again when the director said this agency is going down the drain because it has no funding and told you to look at his budget and see where the money was going. You refused and just raised sportsmen's fees, thinking this is the answer. Perhaps if your review of the budget was better, maybe the fees wouldn't have needed to be raised.

• We told you we had a serious predator problem in this state 12 years ago—you failed to listen. We passed a predator bill to force you to take action.

• You opposed us when we wanted to take one sportsman off the Commission and replace him with someone who has an accounting background.

• In 2005, you didn't want an audit under the guise of cost. We forced an audit to prove our point. Bill Bradley, chair of the Commission, Larry Johnson of the Coalition, Fred Church of the Nevada Bow Hunters, Rick Elmore, director of NBU all opposed this audit saying "We're concerned that it's going to have a detrimental impact on the Department." My answer: "You bet it will!"

FOUR SOLUTIONS

1. You must get an administrative officer3 (ASO3) minimum, who has experience in budgets, finance, federal grants, and internal controls. And don't tell me what you can and cannot do with this agency!

2. You Commissioners patronize the director and Department way too much, like going camping together, social events together, in the past, drinking in bars together, etc. Your authority over them is now compromised and you can't fairly regulate the agency because now you are just old buddies. It's like dating your secretary and expecting to get work out of her now.

3. Look at all these feel-good committees—you don't need them all. What you do need is a permanent Finance Committee and also a permanent Audit Committee to keep abreast of all audit recommendations and follow-up compliance. These should help the new director when he

Continued on page 21

Continued from page 1 Nevada Wildlife ...

program called guzzlers. While juggling the books using special interest group's donations with no records of it, Crawforth mixed these donations with \$536,000 dollars of restricted federal and state money. Nevada Bighorn sheep societies annually donate huge sums of money to NDOW to build guzzlers exclusively for desert bighorn sheep with no accountability of where their money is going. These wild sheep societies' mission statement says: Every dollar donated to them by supporters will be used to build and maintain guzzlers. NDOW's mission statement and responsibility on page 24 of the audit report however, states in plain English that they alone have the sole responsibility of building and maintaining guzzlers and on top of that they haven't kept detailed records of how this private money was being used. It is not lawful for special interest groups to have contact or control of wild sheep or guzzlers at any time without NDOW's presence. Only NDOW has this grave responsibility. Partnerships never give the private sector influence or control over wild animals. Because of NDOW's lame excuse of no money they relinquished control of management to this special interest group. By mixing private, state and federal money in this fashion, discourages sound wildlife management and only encourages corruption (and disasters) on a grand scale where all parties benefit some way, except of course "all Nevada Sportsmen."

NDOW and the sheep societies passing responsibility back and forth recently caused the death of millions of dollars worth of prized bighorns by guzzler water being shut off and neither outfit taking the blame. Sheep society members Pribyl and McDaniels should have been arrested and prosecuted for tampering with state property under current laws that are in place to manage wildlife (please refer to Hunters Alert web site at huntersalert.org, summer issue of 2006 news letter).

Obviously, unmistakable collusion by state, federal and private groups who attempt to downplay the seriousness of this audit only goes to show their intent to continue with the same status quo system of Nevada wildlife management in the future.

I go on record asking our newly elected Governor Jim Gibbons to intervene on behalf of "all" Nevada sportsmen (who were undeniably instrumental in electing him to office) to initiate a state inquest and a federal investigation of NDOW, the Wildlife Commission, the Bighorn Sheep Societies and the United States Fish and Wildlife Service (USF&WS). The focus of these proceedings is to uncover racketeering which clearly is warranted in the audit report of NDOW. Furthermore, it's in the best interest of Governor Gibbons to do so for four reasons.

(1) Because it is necessary to lay the blame for this illegal activity exposed by the audit in the right place and not allow it to be covered up for another 40 years.

(2) The sportsmen of Nevada are counting on Jim to make changes for them and their beleaguered game animals.

(3) To rid his pristine administration of people who will most assuredly cause him public embarrassment in the future. I refer to out going Governor Guinn's Oct 11th firing of NDOW Acting Director Doug Hunt.

(4) Governor Gibbons has a perfect opportunity to appoint a new NDOW

director as well as an all new 9 member Wildlife Commission if and when he so chooses.

Based on one statement by Wildlife Commissioner Chairman Bill Bradley on Feb. 21, 2005, testifying to a legislature committee meeting before Chairman Claborn, a collusive lie is exposed. Bradley says: If that's where it would have stopped, then I would feel embarrassed or chagrined up here to say the Wildlife Commission isn't keeping an eye on this budget. But that's not where it stopped, because we had the charge to review and recommend. I want you to know that this is not an agency (NDOW) that is going without any oversight. We take our charge from the Governors Office very seriously. We believe we have absolute accountability to both the Governor's Office and this Legislature.

Based on this obvious double talk and the dirty audit report, I ask on behalf of all Nevada sportsmen for the immediate resignation of all 9 Wildlife Commissioners. As Assemblyman Joe Hogan so aptly put it, "So everybody gets a clean slate established for them."

I limit this testimony out of respect but I've attached a further detailed account of my assessments of the inner workings and dealings of these people and their agencies. Following the meeting, copies will be left on the table for everyone. A copy is also being published in a national news paper and mailed to thousands in Nevada.

NDOW Audit – Black Or White?

To better understand audits being performed on state or federal agencies it's a great help to know that auditors work for their own government agencies and can be replaced by power politics. This puts their jobs in a double bind situation. They are required to follow certain protocol as not to blow their own agencies they audit clear out of the water by their choice of words in their final reports. Audits are monetary windows that allow us to see the performance of an agency through auditors carefully choosing their words while the auditor does his best to stay "middle of the road" and not blow himself out of the water. As is the case with a dirty audit such as NDOW's, we have both numbers and words to examine carefully. Under pressure to "please," Nevada State Auditor Paul Townsend can tell you he walks this tight-rope often. Paul is professional, no doubt! The following facts are straight out of the NDOW audit report. You make the call (parenthesis are mine to replace a euphemism).

Page 24: First, controls did not ensure expenditures funded with restricted revenue were in accordance with state law. Since fiscal year 2000, expenditures totaling approximately \$800,000 have been inappropriately (unlawfully) funded with restricted revenues. **Page 25:** Per NRS (Nevada Revised Statutes), the use of most of these funds is very restrictive (Italics are mine). **Page 24:** Although the use of these funds is restricted, they have been inappropriately (illegally) used to fund more than \$536,000 of Water Development program expenditures. The Water Development program is responsible for the construction, maintenance, and repair of devices known as guzzlers. According to Department officials [in this case Terry Crawforth], donations and federal grants are the funding sources for the Water Development program. However,

the Department's records indicate the only funding source since fiscal year 2000, has been federal grants. This audit report excerpt is the keyhole to see how NDOW, Wildlife Commissioners, Special interest groups and USF&WS are joined at the hip.

To express this hip connection even more I've listed the names of the people in Nevada and their affiliations showing where they stand on this audit that was born in Assemblyman Claborn's Feb. 21, 2005 committee meeting. The following people supported the audit from its inception: Cecil Fredi - Hunters Alert, Bud Sonnentag - Member of Friends of Nevada Deer Herd, Assemblyman Claborn, Dr. Gerald Lent - Nevada Hunters Association, Dennis Dunn - Professional guide and rancher, Carl Worthington - sportsman, Ron Jones - sportsman, Bob Eddy - Lobster man Listed next are the persons who vehemently opposed the audit: Terry Crawforth - NDOW Director since 1998, Bill Bradley - 2005 Chairman of Wildlife Commission, Larry Johnson - NBU Official and President of the Coalition of Nevada Wildlife, Tina Nappe - ex-Wildlife Commissioner, environmental busybody and NDOW stool-pigeon, Fred Church - President of the Nevada Bow Hunters Association, Joe Johnson - President of the Toiyabe Chapter of the Sierra Club and Rick Elmore - recent President of Nevada Bighorns Unlimited.

Listed now are the opposer's incriminating recorded statements of Feb. 21, 2005, attempting to head off this foreseeable dirty audit. Like I said, you make the call? **Director Terry Crawforth:** "I've heard it said, that there are two great lies about audits" (this says volumes about Crawforth's aversion to audits and rightly so from looking at the audit outcome). Crawforth continues, "Just about every year the USF&WS audits our federal funds, which is 40% of our revenues every 5 years" (Crawforth seriously implicates and condemns the USF&WS in this statement for the Service taking no action against him when these audits would've shown that he was illegally juggling federal funds).

Bill Bradley: Previously stated in the article but also said: In terms of an audit, I agree with what Mr. Johnson said.

Larry Johnson: My reason for being in opposition to Assembly Bill 3 is.... Rather than bore you I'll condense Johnson's testimony. He tried to convince everyone the audit cost would be prohibitively expensive to NDOW, the sportsmen and the Bighorn Sheep societies, throwing wildlife management in Nevada in total disarray.

Fred Church: We do not support having an audit, as this one requested, coming out of line.

Joe Johnson: Generally speaking, we would support sound fiscal policy and we have no reason to believe that the Department does not practice that.

Rick Elmore: Much of what I was going to say to you has been covered by Mr. Bradley and Mr. Johnson (Larry).

Tina Nappe: Let me first state that this woman is so mealy-mouthed it's difficult to pin her down unless you're Willie Molini. She says, Auditors, being accountants, love to demand more accounting systems in which invariably reduced funds for other purposes (in short, she agrees with Larry Johnson's camp).

United States Fish & Wildlife Service

NDOW draws much needed support from the USF&WS. If the USF&WS says or does nothing about NDOW's illegal activities, NDOW's home free. It's up to the USF&WS to prosecute but when they won't, it becomes racketeering. I've already pointed out earlier in the article one of two reasons why I listed the USF&WS's involvement in Nevada wildlife as racketeering; (Crawforth's Feb 21st 2005 testimony). I'll even back this up with a better second reason by using a statement made on record Feb. 21, 2005, by Nevada State Auditor Paul Townsend. Paul says, "We will review things, do a preliminary survey, make sure everything looks - if we've got any concerns in a particular area that could involve federal funds, we may look at them there as well. If we did have findings in that area we would pass those findings along to federal agencies." Knowing Mr. Townsend's professionalism, I'm quite confident he passed these findings on to the USF&WS. The big (racketeering) question is....What has the USF&WS done about Terry Crawforth's using over a period of 6 years, \$800,000 of illegal, restricted Pittman/Robertson federal funds when they've known about it since mid-summer of 2006, if not for 6 years? Is this racketeering or not? Just as I originally thought, it turns out the whole bunch of them were deserters because they knew the audit was dirty.

Please call the Governor's Office and the Attorney Generals Office of the State of Nevada and let them know. Their phone numbers are:

Governor - 775-684-5670

Attorney General - 775-684-1100 ▪

Nevada Wildlife in Critical Crisis

The wildlife of Nevada is in danger of extinction by the lack of action of the Nevada Department of Wildlife (NDOW) and the Nevada Wildlife Commissioners who were appointed as managers of our valued wildlife resources. The great hunting tradition of Nevada, its economic benefits and social values are in grave jeopardy. Many states across this country are experiencing similar circumstances created by apathy and incompetence of wildlife management agencies and wildlife commissioners. Is this scenario playing out in your state? The FRIENDS OF THE NEVADA DEER HERD and the entire sporting class of Nevada need your help at this crucial turning point in Nevada's wildlife future. Please support us by calling our new Governor Jim Gibbons at 775-684-5670 or his Deputy Chief of Staff Steve Robinson at 775-684-5643 and demand they put an end to this crisis.

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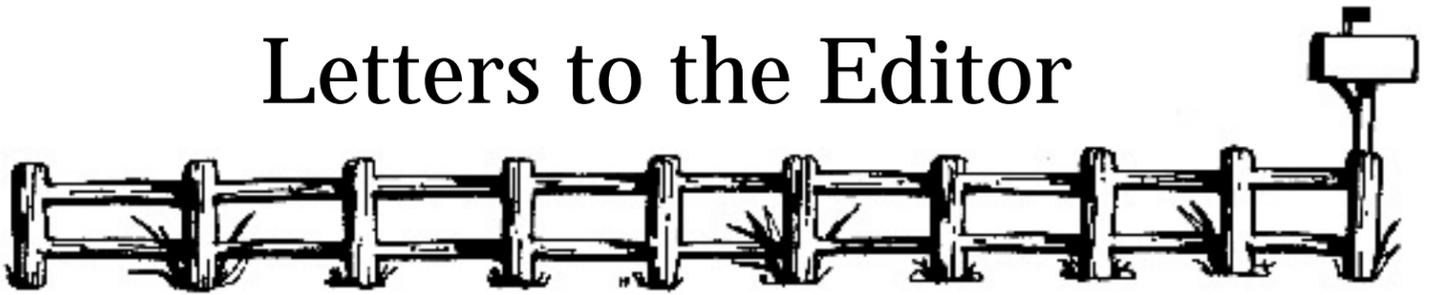
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Letters to the Editor



Feminism and Judges

Dear Editor:

In your article about unfit judges in Josephine County, you asked why Judge Lindi Baker would appoint an incompetent person such as Victory Walker as a Judge.

Ever since the radical feminist movement began in the 60s these women have been determined to gain positions of power and authority and to quickly elevate others to key government positions. With stealthful, intimidating skills, these Amazon armies against men have been able to co-opt the media having placed many of their own in key positions in that profession not to mention Hollywood. Remember the Donald Trump - vs- self-proclaimed lesbian Rosie O'Donnell in their playground antics? Even sophisticated Barbara Walters was forced with other gals to “hang together” with Rosie.

The general public knows very little about organized feminism but well-trained activists knew the choice of words could influence the minds of those who used them – a Marxist tactic. News stories were generated about the alleged “gender gap” myth – a media bogeywoman - followed by discrimination claims, Comparable Worth, No Fault Divorce, Affirmative Action, Unisex Insurance, Equal Pay, Day Care, homosexual legislation, abortions and probably some I've forgotten. The Feminist Press receives thousands of dollars from the U.S. Department of Education in grants. Mildred Persinger, U.N. Representative of the YWCA National Board of the U.S.A. at an opening session of the Colorado International Year of the Women conference said, “Feminism is the first federally-funded revolution.” (1)

Women's lib swept over us the past four to five decades like a war zone leaving behind the carnage of broken and battered lives and angry men. These superwomen wanted dazzling careers, husbands and remarkable well-adjusted children. However, divorce is at an all-time high even among Christians. Children have been sacrificed on the altar of careers and they have rebelled. Ezekial 32:2 in the Living Bible says, “You think of yourself as a strong young lion... but you are merely a crocodile along the banks of the Nile making bubbles and muddying the stream.” The socialist experiment continues to be a failure but their political agenda is thriving.

In 1973, there were 11 crocks in the Oregon legislature. The only Republican was Norma Paulus. Norma was the poster girl for the feminist

movement and the GOP and she once boasted to a group of college women how 11 feminists “hung together irregardless

of party” to fulfill the feminist agenda in the Oregon legislature. Norma was a RINO. She never lost a race until she ran for governor against Neil Goldschmidt in 1986. In fact, in the 80s these women had their eye on all six highest elected offices in Oregon but today the only woman is the Superintendent of Schools – a Democrat. Twenty years later I can still see Norma's dejected picture in the newspaper after she lost to Goldschmidt but when duty called in 1990, she became Superintendent of Schools until 1999. Old politicians never die, they just change government jobs.

In 1973, the House Speaker was Democrat Richard Eymann who was very supportive of feminist issues and bent the rules to make sure five of these women were appointed to the nine-member House Energy and Environment committee chaired by Democratic Representative Nancie Fadeley. He made sure all “civil rights” bills were sent to this committee assuring quick passage and when they got to the House and Senate chambers, emasculated male legislators filled with guilt appeased these women. Until recently, the tax-funded Governor's Commission on Women operated under Republican Governor Vic Atiyeh's Executive Order 79-08. Those who say appease, appease are hung by those they tried to please. Go to newswithviews.com/Betty/Freauf4.htm it is all about appeasement.

Eymann's daughter Katy is married to Secretary of State Bill Bradbury and his other daughter, Ramona Kennedy, is still House Clerk at the Oregon legislature. She and Vera Katz were overheard bragging how they ran the legislature when Vera was House Speaker.

Katz later followed a bartender by the name of Bud Clark to become Portland, Oregon mayor. Both had great support from the homosexual community. Vice President Al Gore at the dedication of Portland's light rail said (9/12/1998), “A lot of ideas are started here. They are tested here (in Oregon and Portland). Vera's other “experiment,” Outcome Based Education (OBE) that passed with the blessing of the Republican-controlled House in 1991, has been another expensive failure and the new Superintendent is recommending it be eliminated.

Like Victory Walker, Norma Paulus got elected because she also had connections. She married Bill Paulus, an attorney with a well-known family name in the Salem/Marion County area. One of her husband's relatives told my husband once this is the reason for Norma's success and she in turn helped other feminists along the way. She said on a KATU interview in September

1986, when she was running for Governor, “I concluded about 18 years ago that we could put ‘god’ herself at the head of the Department of Human Resources, (created in 1971) and SHE couldn't get a handle on it.”

There are women who have come up through the ranks in the private sector on their merits, not with a political left agenda. However, it's rare now that we hear from these Oregon radical women who have done so much to destroy our families (a plank in the Communist Manifesto) but the media insists on resurrecting them occasionally. An October 2005, Statesman Journal editorial praised leaders like Paulus and former Governor Barbara Roberts (D), suggesting we must keep their ideals alive and referred to them as female trailblazers who have contributed mightily to Oregon. Long-time Portland Democratic Senator Frank, was the husband of Barbara Roberts. Her step-daughter Wendy was elected Labor Commissioner in 1978 and her mother, Betty Roberts, was appointed to the Oregon Supreme Court in 1982. Would Isaiah 3:12 agree? Is America ripe for judgment? Where are the men who would dare stand up to the likes of Nancy Pelosi and Hillary Clinton? “So many women, so much power” was the title of a show on Good Morning America in January. They've achieved their goals.

Respectfully submitted,

Betty Freauf
Salem, Oregon

(1) *Globalism: America's Demise* by William M. Bowen, Jr. P. 31 ©1874

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DHS Abuse

To the Editor,

My name is Katie Sykes, I have just finished reading the article that you wrote about my Aunt, Fran Swann. I want you to know more about this very special woman.

My mother, Fran's sister, was not abusive, but because she had no self confidence she was unable to nurture this in her children. After her divorce, my mother was left with five children and no income. To say the least we had very little. My Aunt Fran was always there for us, not just with monetary help, but more importantly with emotional support. She taught me how to be a loving, caring and supportive parent. She also taught me that there was NOTHING I could not achieve if I was willing to work hard for it and believed in myself. I now manage a Shopping Center in California, because my Aunt taught me to believe in myself and to work hard for what I want to achieve, I

Continued on page 17



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Letters to the Editor continued



am now teaching this to my daughters.

As far as I am concerned this woman, my wonderful Aunt, is nothing short of a Saint. I don't know what is wrong with my cousins, other than their heads are firmly planted where the sun doesn't shine. Obviously they have forgotten that their mother was always there for them, she was a stay at home mom. I remember when my Aunt converted their garage to a playroom for her daughters and I thought that it was the coolest place. She was always doing arts & crafts and playing games with her daughters.

My Aunt is the epitome of a GREAT mother.

Thank you, so very much for taking on the cause of the great lady!!!!

Sincerely,

Katie Sykes

•••

Illegal Immigrants & Five Steps to Consider

To the Editor;

20 million illegal Mexicans don't need passports because they are granted amnesty. Talk to me about passports when our dysfunctional government gets this straightened out... Talk to me about passports when our government starts protecting our borders the way our Constitution intended. Article 1 Section 8 of the Constitution requires Congress to repel invasion, amongst other duties. Article 4 Section 4 states the United States SHALL guarantee the states against invasion.

The American language is English and all of our founding documents are written in English. We need to officially recognize English as our language here in Oregon and prohibit the use of any other language in any publication produced by the state via our hard earned tax dollars \$\$.

Ask your Representatives, Senators, all executive and jurisdictional officers if they are willing to help with these issues and while asking them remind them that they swore an oath to uphold

our Constitution – Article 6 Section 3. If they don't show any interest then consider joining the Constitutional Party. This political party is asking for help to pass an initiative petition to address these very important issues. They propose the way to do that is to amend our or your state Constitution by such an initiative petition.

3,000 and counting of our American kids have been killed in the Iraq war. Don't we owe it to them and the veterans of past wars to take care of this severe problem? Will you personally help with this initiative petition if your Governor, Senators and Representatives refuse to?

According to the US-Observer 20 million illegal immigrants are killing 12 American citizens each day – or 4,380 per year or 21,900 since 9-11-01. Don't you think it's about time we stop this insanity? Maybe the Observer is really telling us that it is safer in Iraq that right here in the USA.

Wake Up America – Read Your Constitution!

From Lyle Woodcock -
a 50 Year Ex-Republican
Josephine County, Oregon

•••

Non-PC as can be

Editor;

I don't think being a minority makes you a victim of anything except numbers. The only things I can think of that are truly discriminatory are things like the United Negro College Fund, Jet Magazine, Black Entertainment Television, and Miss Black America. Try to have things like the United Caucasian College Fund, Cloud Magazine, White Entertainment Television, or Miss White America; and see what happens...Jesse Jackson will be knocking down your door.

Guns do not make you a killer. I think killing makes you a killer. You can kill someone with a baseball bat or a car, but no one is trying to ban you from driving to the ball game.

I believe they are called the Boy Scouts for a reason, that is why there are no girls allowed. Girls belong in the Girl Scouts! ARE YOU LISTENING MARTHA BURKE?

I think that if you feel homosexuality is

wrong, it is not a phobia, it is an opinion.

I have the right "NOT" to be tolerant of others because they are different, weird, or tick me off.

When 70% of the people who get arrested are black, in cities where 70% of the population is black, that is not racial profiling, it is the Law of Probability.

I believe that if you are selling me a milkshake, a pack of cigarettes, a newspaper or a hotel room, you must do it in English! As a matter of fact, if you want to be an American citizen, you should have to speak English!

My father and grandfather didn't die in vain so you can leave the countries you were born in to come over and disrespect ours.

I think the police should have every right to shoot your sorry ass if you threaten them after they tell you to stop. If you can't understand the word "freeze" or "stop" in English, see the above lines

I don't think just because you were not born in this country, you are qualified for any special loan programs, government sponsored bank loans or tax breaks, etc., so you can open a hotel, coffee shop, trinket store, or any other business.

We did not go to the aid of certain foreign countries and risk our lives in wars to defend their freedoms, so that decades later they could come over here and tell us our constitution is a living document; and open to their interpretations!

I don't hate the rich I don't pity the poor.

I know pro wrestling is fake, but so are movies and television. That doesn't stop you from watching them.

I think Bill Gates has every right to keep every penny he made and continue to make more. If it ticks you off, go and invent the next operating system that's better, and put your name on the building.

It doesn't take a whole village to raise a child right, but it does take a parent to stand up to the kid; and smack their little behinds when necessary, and say "NO!"

I think tattoos and piercing are fine if you want them, but please don't pretend they are a political statement. And, please, stay home until that new lip ring heals. I don't want to look at your ugly infected mouth as you serve me French fries!

I am sick of "Political Correctness." I know a lot of black people, and not a single one of them was born in Africa; so how can they be "African-Americans"? Besides, Africa is a continent. I don't go around saying I am a European-American because my great, great, great, great, great, great grandfather was from Europe. I am proud to be from America and nowhere else

And if you don't like my point of view, tough...

I PLEDGE ALLEGIANCE TO THE FLAG, OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA, AND TO THE REPUBLIC, FOR WHICH IT STANDS, ONE NATION UNDER GOD, INDIVISIBLE, WITH LIBERTY AND JUSTICE FOR ALL!

Anonymous

•••

Horrorified by DHS

Edward Snook,

After reading your article regarding Fran Swann I called. After speaking with you I continued to read the paper and once again I was moved by your article regarding Pastor Ryan Wonderly. I was/am horrified!

Thank you for all you do to expose a failed system; a system that constantly allows so many innocent people to be falsely charged with crimes. Edward, your hunger for truth and justice is what our system is lacking. Keep up the good fight, as you do so well; you're a natural!

In conclusion, I want to thank the US-Observer on behalf of its readers for your constant fight for truth and our constitutional rights that are constantly being attacked.

Sincerely,

Sheela Barden
Cave Junction, Oregon

•••

To the Editor:

My husband and I are concerned with the talk of a new levy to support criminal justice here in Josephine County. We have learned to read your articles for direction, because they have always been factual and correct, so please inform us on this issue.

The Andersons
Josephine County

Editor's Note: We will detail this issue in our April edition. •••

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Continued from page 14 Predation, Water ...

higher quality grazing lands and more fire resistant areas than those seeded with most of the seed mixes that have come into vogue within the past decade.

Mountain Springs, wildlife, and grazers

In a desert climate water is life. In many areas of Nevada, water, not feed, is the limiting factor for wildlife throughout much of the year.

Many mountain ranges and valleys in Nevada are covered in feed that is never touched by animals, but wildlife is very limited. The reason is obvious, it is a desert, it can be many miles or tens of miles between the nearest permanent water sources.

The greatest boon to water development for the direct benefit of wildlife throughout the State of Nevada over the last century and a half has been our ranchers and herders.

NDOW and several hunters organizations build and maintain many "guzzlers" throughout the State to benefit wildlife and give them the water they need to make it through the dry periods. For every guzzler that NDOW has installed there are many dozens of other water developments that have been made and maintained throughout the State over the years. These other water developments were for the most part installed by ranchers and sheepherders to the mutual benefit of their herds and the local wildlife. The many thousands of water troughs, spring boxes, water tanks, and other water developments installed by ranchers never cost the taxpayer anything, and yet our wildlife has flourished as a direct result of these efforts.

Another major benefit of water

developments installed by ranchers over the guzzlers installed by the government and private groups is that in many cases where ranchers develop the water, they have developed it in multiple locations throughout an area, usually no more than five miles apart, as opposed to the usual single guzzler within a large area. For ranches this makes sense, as it allows the use of a large portion of the range while minimizing weight-losing travel for their animals to water.

Why is this important, one may ask? Deer and bighorn commonly travel miles to water. Simply put, installing a single water source in an area with no alternatives creates a perfect environment for predators, especially mountain lions. Many guzzlers installed throughout the State have become "Cat Feeders" during the hot summer months when the wildlife face the decision of either dying from thirst or getting their throats torn out at the only water source for 10 miles. All the lions do is hang around the guzzlers and wait for lunch to come to them. Ranchers and grazers with predation problems either eliminated the predators or went broke.

The majority of old water developments and "spring boxes" were all installed by ranchers over the years. In modern days with the reduced grazing allotments, and a negative attitude towards grazers by the government, many of these water improvements are not being repaired or maintained and are going dry. All over the northern, central, and southern deserts there are dry tanks and troughs where once water was funneled into tanks during spring runoff, or pumped with windmills or gas pumps. These old wells are dry, and wildlife are going thirsty. When the ranchers leave, the water dries up and the deer and the antelope either go elsewhere or die.

Increases in grazing and cooperative



A ten year old ram killed by a lion

efforts by NDOW to encourage grazers to develop the water resources in their areas are far more efficient and effective ways of increasing and maintaining our water resources than attempting to use taxpayer funds to finance these water development projects.

Any hunter who has spent a lot of time in the mountains can attest to the great number of springs that have been destroyed by feral horses and the large number of dry reservoirs and water tanks to be found throughout the State. By encouraging, and cooperating with, ranchers in developing and enhancing these springs and water catchments, including assuring that ranchers can legally bring in the resources they need to do a proper job of spring and well enhancement without a mountain of red tape, we can greatly increase new water sources in remote locations, as well as preserve those that still exist, with minimal or no taxpayer expense.

Remember, Nevada is the driest state in the Union and water is "gold."

The Greatest Allies of Wildlife

Cattle, sheep, and wildlife go hand in hand. Where the land is improved for the use of domesticated animals, it is almost always improved for the use of wildlife. Those that live on the land are the greatest potential allies of wildlife and should be treated by NDOW, the BLM, and all governmental organizations with the greatest possible respect. They should be given the widest possible latitude and encouragement to do what they need to do to enhance their stewardship of the lands around them, whether it be water development or predator control, especially on those federal and State lands that they graze by permit.

■ ■ ■

Corruption continues at NDOW

By Cecil Fredi

In the 2005 legislative session, HUNTER'S ALERT and Nevada Hunters Association sponsored a bill to audit a very small part of Nevada Department of Wildlife (NDOW). The bill passed with the help of Assemblyman Jerry Claborn. Jerry realized how badly NDOW was being mismanaged for many years. Getting the bill passed was not easy as NDOW had their favorite puppet, Larry Johnson there testifying against the bill. Larry's feeble excuse was that NDOW couldn't afford the audit. As usual, Larry didn't know what he was talking about as there was no additional cost to perform this audit. Larry failed to realize that if you don't stand up for what is right, you are wrong.

This audit will prove that former NDOW administrator Terry Crawford ran the agency in a very corrupt manner. The opening page of the audit stated that the purpose of legislative audits is to improve state government. This is exactly what HUNTER'S ALERT and Nevada Hunters Association have been wanting for a long time, but not Larry Johnson and the Coalition for Nevada's Wildlife. Now let's review the auditor's findings along with HUNTER'S ALERT comments.

Page 1: Audit states that the Wildlife Commission is responsible for reviewing NDOW's budgets.

HA: The Wildlife commissioners

failed to do their job costing the sportsmen millions of dollars. Every commissioner but Dan Swanson should immediately resign. Mr. Swanson was not a commissioner when this corruption was taking place.

Page 1: Although revenues have increased, license unit sales have been decreasing. In addition to declining license sales, Department records indicate more hunters are competing for fewer game tags.

HA: This proves what we have been saying for years. Because of NDOW sportsmen have lost the majority of our deer herds and the millions in revenues that go with it. The Wildlife Commission doesn't have a clue as to what it will take to bring back our once famous deer herds. The commissioners' answer to this loss of revenue is to continually try to raise fees.

Page 2: The audit focused on revenues and expenditures for fiscal year 2000 through fiscal year 2005.

HA: How much worse would the end result have been if the auditors had done a complete audit of NDOW bureau by bureau?

Page 2: One objective of the audit was the adequacy of controls over restricted revenues and certain expenditures.

HA: This is extremely important as NDOW, by law, cannot use restricted funds for anything they desire. But they did on numerous occasions and that is what the audit stated.

Page 2: We estimate that NDOW could

have collected approximately 1.6 million dollars in additional federal receipts during fiscal years 2004 and 2005.

HA: How's that for openers and we're only on the second page!

Page 2: This loss of revenue can be attributed to an inefficient and incomplete grant monitoring system.

HA: This is a polite way of saying the agency was mismanaged, something we have been saying for 18 years.

Page 2: Since fiscal year 2000, expenditures totaling approximately \$800,000 have been inappropriately funded with restricted revenues.

HA: See how nice the auditors are using the word inappropriately. They could have just as well used the word illegal as that is exactly what it is.

Page 3: Indirect costs were not included in fiscal year 2004. Grant budgets and costs totaling more than 1.2 million dollars were not reimbursed. Not all grants were amended to include indirect costs. Therefore indirect costs totaling more than \$210,000 were not reimbursed.

HA: On that one page alone, there is \$1,410,000 that NDOW lost because of their mismanagement and the failure of the Wildlife commissioners to do their job.

Page 5: In addition to not recovering indirect costs, NDOW's inadequate grant monitoring system has resulted in grant costs exceeding budgets. As a result, grant expenditures totaling more

than \$441,000 were not reimbursed during fiscal years 2004-2005.

HA: How many different ways can you say "mismanagement"?

Page 5: NDOW maintains separate accounting records for various revenues that must be recorded in the Wildlife Obligated Reserve Account. Although the use of these funds is restricted for specific projects, they have been inappropriately used to fund more than \$536,000 of water development program expenditures since fiscal year 2000.

HA: Once again, illegal acts. On numerous occasions, NDOW broke the law under Terry Crawford's direction with the Wildlife commissioners' approval because they didn't do anything about it. By the way, are you going to seek prosecution for Terry Crawford's illegal acts? I rather doubt it because it's easier for you to just cover it up. Oh, but if someone violates a fish and game law, let's hang him high! You must approve of a double set of standards of justice.

Page 6: Funds from other restricted programs have been used to cover the defect.

HA: NDOW was using obligated or restricted funds like a slush fund which again is illegal. It was Crawford's style of robbing Peter to pay Paul type of accounting. No wonder he retired. Had the Wildlife Commission done its job, he wouldn't have had the chance to retire but would have resigned in shame.

Continued on page 19

**Continued from page 18
Corruption Continues ...**

Page 16: We estimate NDOW could have collected approximately \$1.6 million in additional federal receipts during fiscal years 2004-2005. The Department lost more than \$1.4 million in federal reimbursements from July 1, 2003 through June 30, 2005.

HA: According to the audit, NDOW lost \$3 million on this page alone. Now the commissioners have the gall to ask for consumer price index to increase fees, higher license and tag fees and more money from the General Fund and you expect the sportsmen to pay for your failures. You are indeed a sorry bunch.

Page 20: In fiscal year 2005, payroll was 61% of operating costs but was not budgeted. As a result, budget control for payroll costs is not available.

HA: Can you believe this? The biggest expenditure in NDOW and they have no budget for this! This is truly an agency in complete disarray.

Page 23: The effectiveness of NDOW's grant monitoring system was impacted by the absence of the chief fiscal officer, lack of procedures and insufficient communication between program and fiscal staff. From January 1, 2002 through September 1, 2005 the chief financial officer was on leave over 60% of the time, which was mostly military leave.

HA: HUNTER'S ALERT will tell you what the auditors didn't say as this was one of Terry Crawford's worst pieces of corruption. A payroll audit in fiscal years 2001-2002 revealed an NDOW employee worked 1100 hours in one

year of overtime. The commissioners knew about this and as they have done so many times before, they put their heads in the sand. The facts of this blatant example of mismanagement are: Steve Bremer was the chief financial officer for NDOW. He was called into full time National Guard duty. Terry Crawford kept him on the payroll stating that he was working at home. Mr. Bremer accumulated 1100 hours of overtime in one year.

Let's put this into perspective. Mr. Bremer works eight hours in the National Guard. In order to receive overtime from NDOW, he must put in an additional eight hours. We are now up to sixteen hours a day without overtime. In order to receive 1100 hours of overtime in one year, he must work four plus hours in overtime. We now have an employee who is working twenty plus hours a day for a full year. Does anybody believe this is possible? Well, it wasn't possible and didn't happen. As usual, the Wildlife Commission failed to do anything about it.

This was not a mistake on Terry Crawford's part. It was not a clerical error or oversight. This was a planned act on Mr. Crawford's part and it cost the sportsmen millions of dollars. You can't have it both ways. Terry Crawford saying the chief fiscal officer was working at home and the audit saying that there was basically no chief financial officer. The truth is that Terry kept him on the payroll and there was no work being done for NDOW. The audit proves that. The Wildlife Commission chose to believe in Terry Crawford.

That doesn't say much for their knowledge or judgment of character.

When commissioners are appointed, they immediately adopt the mentality, that being "don't tell me anything because I know everything about everything". The Commission failed to listen about the damage predators are doing. They failed to listen about Terry's mismanagement in NDOW. Had the Commission listened to HUNTER'S ALERT years ago, they would not have to take the blame for the results of this audit.

You are not the only ones who should bear the blame for this inexcusable audit full of corruption. Yes, Terry Crawford was the leader of the pack. It was because of his dirty deeds that we are here today but how about Governor Kenny Guinn? On numerous occasions while running for the office, he stated he was going to straighten out NDOW. So much for Kenny Guinn's failed promise to straighten out NDOW. Remember all the glowing accolades he bestowed upon Terry Crawford when he retired? It doesn't say much for Kenny Guinn supporting a department head that mismanaged a state agency for 8 years.

In addition to Kenny Guinn, let's add former commissioners Bill Bradley, Tommy Ford and John Moran to the list. By never questioning Terry Crawford's corrupt way of running NDOW, they must have approved of it. They certainly did nothing to prevent this. The Commission should hang its head in shame for what you did or in this case, what you didn't do. But you won't. You have no conscience and could care less.

You will always believe that you are the only people who know anything about wildlife issues.

In many of our newsletters, we told you how sleazy Terry Crawford was and as usual, you failed to listen. Where do you think we got our information? It was from NDOW employees, something that you were too good to do. The Commission chose to believe everything Terry Crawford told them. So much for your governing ability. After this meeting, you will be at the cocktail party, slapping each other on the back, praising each other for doing a good job. A good job to you means not listening to the people who truly care about the direction of NDOW.

In summary, sportsmen have lost 8 years of changing the direction of a mismanaged state agency. This happened because Kenny Guinn, Tommy Ford, John Moran, Bill Bradley and this Commission supported a corrupt department head. The audit proves that. There needs to be some resignations from the Wildlife commissioners. They didn't listen to the sportsmen nor did they do the job they were appointed to do. If reviewing the budget requires too much time, then resign and let someone who has the time take your place. The bottom line is this, your dismal failure has cost the sportsmen of Nevada millions of dollars. I'm sure you're very proud of this.

I am requesting my testimony in its entirety be included in the minutes of this meeting. Thank you for the time allotted to me to speak. ■■■

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NDOW Audit: Merely incompetence or a crime?

By Ira Hansen

Reprinted from the Sparks Tribune

I'm not sure under Nevada law when incompetency crosses over into criminality. When millions of dollars are basically lost by a government agency, while at the same time the agency is down at the legislature pleading for tax increases for funding needs, is that a crime? Or purely an almost unbelievable level of negligence?

And what if the person directly responsible for the oversight, the "Chief Financial Officer," is gone from the job more than 60 percent of the time? A crime against the taxpayers, or incompetence?

For our new governor, Jim Gibbons, the legislative audit, made public early in January, of the Nevada Department of Wildlife (NDOW) should make his blood boil and heads roll. What the auditors found is truly remarkable.

In a nutshell, the auditors uncovered that NDOW failed to do all sorts of pretty basic bookkeeping that allowed several millions of dollars to slip through their hands, especially federal monies. These millions were available and even allocated in advance—all NDOW had to do was submit the proper

paperwork.

They found "inadequate grant monitoring," costs exceeding budgets," "funds...restricted for specific projects...have been inappropriately used," "lack of procedures," "insufficient communication between program and fiscal staff," and more, all of which caused losses between three and four million dollars at least.

When you consider the NDOW budget totals about 23 to 25 million a year, this kind of loss is huge. Equally bizarre is the revealed fact NDOW operated in the red, with deficits totaling \$724,114 in fiscal year 2002, \$757,767 in 2003, and \$673,353 in 2004, most or all of which could have been wiped away with proper paperwork for already earmarked federal funds.

The legislature, alarmed by these mounting piles of red ink, granted large fee and tax increases for NDOW—but did so prior to having NDOW properly audited; certainly a mistake not to be repeated.

Both the Chief Financial Officer and the NDOW boss during this time frame, Terry Crawforth, have retired, so the Governor unfortunately cannot do the right thing and fire them.

But others are also responsible to one

degree or another, including several major sportsmen's groups—or at least a tiny fraction of their leadership who are well known NDOW bootlickers—that actively campaigned at the Legislature to delay or even block having an audit. Ironically, they did so based on supposed concerns over the costs associated with the audit—which is in reality a tiny pittance.

Truth is, good sycophants that they are, their opposition was because NDOW detractors use these audits to attack the agency. In hindsight, the audit has largely vindicated the at times relentless critics of NDOW. As they have claimed, the audit exposes a high level of fiscal incompetency in the agency.

Exactly where the Governor appointed State Wildlife Commission fits into this ugly picture and what level of responsibility they share, is unclear. They have budget oversight responsibility but, lacking an accountant or an auditor, discovering these errors is probably beyond reasonable expectations.

Paradoxically, the "critics" of NDOW recommended having an accountant position added to the Wildlife Commission, but that was dismissed out

of hand as a crackpot idea. Once again, the critics have been exonerated. And those on the Wildlife Commission who accepted budget oversight responsibility but rejected the accountant position idea should now accept the millions of lost dollar consequences and be held accountable.

The soon to be appointed new Director for NDOW, ideally Nevada native Stan Stiver, will undoubtedly implement immediately all of the changes mandated by the audit. To insure never a repeat, Governor Gibbons need to reconsider the accountant on the Commission idea, and should seriously consider asking for the resignation of certain members of the current Guinn appointed Commission as well. Additionally, the AG's office should review the audit results for possible criminal malfeasance.

Last but not least: Sportsmen's groups, one of which I am a lifetime member of (Nevada Bighorns Unlimited), should muzzle their out of control NDOW worshippers and poll their memberships for direction rather than allowing the butt-kissing elements to make fools out of them when audits reveal just how incredibly wrong they are.

■ ■ ■

Predators - Mule Deer & Desert Sheep Populations

By James "Mike" Laughlin

Nevada - In 1867, D.C. Wheeler trailed a band of domestic sheep from Oregon to western Nevada. Since that time, there has been some type of predator control conducted in and around sheep herds in Nevada. In 1927, there were reported to be 1,200,000 sheep and 400,000 beef cattle in the state. Each stockman or groups of stockmen fought their own predator problems. After World War One, the federal government took over the predator program. Under the Biological Survey, professional hunters were hired to pursue coyotes, bobcats, and mountain lions state wide. In 1939, 93,000 coyotes were reported killed throughout the state of Nevada. Counties also paid bounties on coyotes and lions. The longhair fur industry

became profitable and private fur trappers harvested many coyotes and bobcats.

In 1946, the federal government began to use sodium monofluoroacetate, a toxicant-called 1080. This poison was tasteless, odorless, and colorless and highly selective to canines. It proved to be the single most effective tool ever used to suppress coyote numbers. 1080 was injected into sheep or horse meat. These baits were placed in coyote runways. Also, about this time, the cyanide getter was used to a real advantage taking large numbers of coyotes. Steel traps and head snares were also used. Deer numbers were very high statewide and deer tags could be purchased over the counter. There were also lots of upland game birds.

In 1962, Rachel Carson published the book "Silent Spring" which brought worldwide attention to the use of pesticides. Starting from the publication of this book, the environmental movement was launched throughout the world.

In 1972, President Nixon banned the use of all toxicants (poisons) by executive order. He was soliciting the support of environmentally concerned voters. With the loss of toxicants in the Animal Damage Control program, coyote numbers began to increase dramatically. Coyote predation upon newborn range calves became a real problem in many areas of Nevada. Cattlemen, along with sheep men, backed the predator control efforts in the state.

The federal government launched into a non-toxic predator program. A large amount of federal money was appropriated and spent in an attempt to prove that the use of non-toxic control tools could replace 1080, cyanide getters, etc. The use of helicopters to shoot coyotes from the air was initiated in Elko, Nevada. About this same time, use of fixed-wing aircraft, which had been used before to hunt coyotes, was also increased. Longhaired fur prices went sky high and fur trappers were out

in force after coyotes & bobcats. The Animal Damage Program also employed 3 to 4 mountain lion hunters with dogs, who pursued mountain lions statewide, year around. Most of the mountain lion depredation calls occurred on or near domestic sheep ranges. With the removal of many coyotes and mountain lions by the Animal Damage Control program and private fur trappers, mule deer numbers began to rise dramatically.

In the late 1970s, the predator control program shifted from Department of Interior to the Department of Agriculture. Federal funding began to dry up. The BLM and U.S. Forest Service began to clamp down on predator control activities on lands they administered. Law suites by environmental groups filed against grazing allotments and Federal and State agencies were initiated throughout Nevada. The Nevada Department of Fish & Game became concerned about the environmental community and about lion numbers and implemented a quota system by hunting units.

Domestic range sheep numbers, in the late 70s, began a decline statewide and therefore predator control activities declined. Consequently, mule deer population numbers began to go down.

I feel that, through all of this, the Nevada Department of Wildlife, for about \$30,000 a year, got virtually a free ride in the predator program administrated by the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service and their cooperators. Since this time when domestic sheep numbers fell and predator control activities diminished, mule deer numbers have steadily decreased.

The Nevada Department of Wildlife has attributed the decline of deer herds with such factors as over-grazing by livestock, drought, over-winter mortality, fire, longhair fur prices, gas prices going up, etc. Never once did I ever hear a statement by a Nevada Department of Wildlife biologist to the fact that predators may have made a big impact upon Mule deer and Desert

Sheep populations.

It is my prediction that mule deer and desert bighorn sheep numbers may never come back to the levels of the "good old days" because predators have a free roll in Nevada today. The Nevada Department of Wildlife continues to be "in denial" concerning the impact of predation on Nevada Mule Deer and Desert Sheep populations throughout the state.

James "Mike" Laughlin is a (Retired) Supervisory Wildlife Biologist for the U.S. Department of Agriculture & U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service. He has a Bachelor of Science Degree in Wildlife Biology from Arizona State University. He worked for 31 years in 9 Western states, Mexico, and Provinces of Canada. You can reach him at: mikelaughlin@hotmail.com

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ATTENTION EVERYONE!

Two radio stations in Nevada will be airing Jim Slinsky's nationally syndicated radio show called the OUTDOOR TALK NETWORK starting in February 2007. This is a talk show designed especially for our sporting class, our ranchers, our farmers and freedom-loving Americans. Jim Slinsky has committed substantial air time to expose Nevada's wildlife problems this state has suffered for years. Jim wants his Network of over 50 stations to know what is going on in Nevada. Hopefully, additional Nevada radio stations will follow in the immediate future.

The Elko station: AM1340 KTSN;
6 to 8:00 a.m. - every Sunday.
The Carson City station: FM99.1;
6 to 8 a.m. - day unknown.

If you know a station in your area who would like to carry this show, please send an e-mail to editor@usobserver.com.

Hunting Suits - A Matter of Discretion

By Jim Slinsky

It was all the rage for a few days, but the dismissal of the Unified Sportsmen of PA's lawsuit against the PGC seems to have been drowned out by a plethora of new controversies. The hunting license increase boiled to the top within days of the court's ruling. The upcoming PGC Commissioner meeting and the 2007 doe allocations are now on everyone's mind and lips. The scientific mountain lion permit to Dr. Dennis Wydra was again denied by the PGC. I suppose we can say the beat goes on.

In any event, there was a major lesson to be learned from the Unified court case and it centers on the issue of discretion. Unified originally went to an attorney focused on the issue of accuracy and credibility. We never had 1.6 million deer and Unified believed this should be the focal point of the litigation. The attorney advised "mandamus" should be the legal strategy to provide a path to depositions and the discovery of the truth. Unified deferred to the discretion of the attorney.

Mandamus is Latin for "we command". In essence, the legal approach was to command the PGC to honor Title 34 and its provision to "provide a reasonable opportunity to hunt". Unified believed the opportunity to hunt includes a reasonable expectation of success; otherwise, hunting would merely be taking your

gun for a walk.

Unfortunately, the judges didn't agree with the presentation of the mandamus approach and used their discretion to dismiss the suit. The case was over before it began. This is the risk of litigation. One rolls the dice when they go to court, as they say. We are all aware that sometimes the guilty go free and the innocent go to prison.

Toward the end of the judges' written ruling there is some language discussing the problematic issue of discretion. If Unified had succeeded past the initial phase of presenting the case, discretion may have ultimately decided the case. If Unified or any entity sues a government agency for not operating in an acceptable manner, agency discretion will probably become the issue. Courts tend to defer discretion to the agency as the perceived experts in the debate. Suits are supposed to focus on violation of the law.

There is statewide talk amongst our sporting class of suing the Department of Conservation and Natural Resources (DCNR) for their veneer timbering practices and forest certification program. There is no doubt that DCNR has been a driving political force in the deer reduction effort. There is even less doubt that their efforts have dramatically affected our rural economies. Without discovering and putting forth the proof that DCNR is violating the law, hunters will find

themselves fighting the discretion issue once again. No matter how abusive to our forest ecosystems and our wildlife veneer timbering may be, without discovering specific violations, discretion will probably be the deciding factor.

However, I do see an interesting conflict developing. If DCNR's primary mission is resource extraction and DCNR argues the deer must die to comply with forest certification, how does the PGC promote and preserve the tradition of hunting? Can we allow the mission of one agency to destroy the mission of another? Furthermore, DCNR's second mission is recreation and hunting is the most popular recreational activity on State Forest Lands. Is it acceptable for DCNR to destroy hunting on State Forest Lands in pursuit of forest certification? Without creating balance are they not in violation

of their own second primary mission?

While all of the above creates intriguing cocktail party banter, the tradition and future of hunting is in grave jeopardy. I understand Penn State is reviewing the possibility of the PGC obtaining forest certification for our State Game Lands. This should be interesting.

Our only hope is our legislators are paying close attention. It is time for them to become involved. At this point, we need our legislators to use their discretion and remove some discretion from the agencies before our deer herd reaches the point of no return.

Jim Slinsky is the host and producer of the "Outdoor Talk Network", a nationally syndicated, outdoor-talk radio program. For a station near you or to contact Jim, visit his website at www.outdoortalknetwork.com.

■■■

EDITORS NOTE:

News Media wishing to interview any authors of Nevada articles in this issue, please contact the US-Observer. We'd be happy to furnish you with phone numbers or email addresses. Call

541-474-7885

or email request to editor@usobserver.com

Bush Seizes Control Over State Militias

By Kavan Peterson

A little-noticed change in federal law packs an important change in who is in charge the next time a state is devastated by a disaster such as Hurricane Katrina.

To the dismay of the nation's governors, the White House now will be empowered to go over a governor's head and call up National Guard troops to aid a state in time of natural disasters or other public emergencies. Up to now, governors were the sole commanders in chief of citizen soldiers in local Guard units during emergencies within the state.

A conflict over who should control Guard units arose in the days after Hurricane Katrina in 2005. President Bush sought to federalize control of Guardsmen in Louisiana in the chaos after the hurricane, but Gov. Kathleen Blanco (D) refused to relinquish command.

Over objections from all 50 governors, Congress in October changed the 200-year-old Insurrection Act to empower the hand of the president in future stateside emergencies. In a letter to Congress, the governors called the change "a dramatic expansion of federal authority during natural disasters that could cause confusion in the command-and-control of the National Guard and interfere with states' ability to respond to natural disasters within their borders."

The change adds to tensions between governors and the White House after more than four years of heavy federal deployment of state-based Guard forces to fight in Iraq and Afghanistan. Since the 2001 terrorist attacks, four out of five guardsmen have been sent overseas in the largest deployment of the National Guard since World War II. Shortage of the Guard's military equipment -- such as helicopters to drop hay to snow-stranded cattle in Colorado -- also is a

nagging issue as much of units' heavy equipment is left overseas and unavailable in case of a natural disaster at home.

A bipartisan majority of both chambers of Congress adopted the change as part of the budget-busting, 439-page, \$538 billion 2007 so-called Defense Authorization Bill signed into law last October.

The nation's governors through the National Governors Association (NGA) successfully lobbied to defeat a broader proposal to give the president power to federalize Guard troops even without invoking the Insurrection Act. But the passage that became law also "disappointed" governors because it expands federal power and could cause confusion between state and federal authorities trying to respond to an emergency situation, said David Quam, an NGA homeland security advisor.

"Governors need to be focused on assisting their citizens during an emergency instead of looking over their shoulders to see if the federal government is going to step in," Quam said.

Under the U.S. Constitution, each state's National Guard unit is controlled by the governor in time of peace but can be called up for federal duty by the president. The National Guard employs 444,000 part-time soldiers between its two branches: the Army and Air National Guards.

The Posse Comitatus Act of 1878 forbids U.S. troops from being deployed on American soil for law enforcement. The one exception is provided by the Insurrection Act of 1807, which lets the president use the military only for the purpose of putting down rebellions or enforcing constitutional rights if state authorities fail to do so. Under that law, the president can declare an insurrection and call in the armed forces. The act has

been invoked several times in the past 50 years, including in 1957 to desegregate schools and in 1992 during riots in south central Los Angeles after the acquittal of police who were caught on videotape beating Rodney King.

Congress changed the Insurrection Act to list "natural disaster, epidemic, or other serious public health emergency, terrorist attack or incident" as conditions under which the president can deploy U.S. armed forces and federalize state Guard troops if he determines that "authorities of the state or possession are

incapable of maintaining public order."

Mark Smith, spokesperson for the Louisiana Governor's Office of Homeland Security and Emergency Preparedness, said local and state emergency responders know what their communities need during a crisis better than officials in Washington.

"The president should not be able to step in and take control of the National Guard without a governor's consent. The Guard belongs to the states, has always belonged to the states and should remain a function of the states," Smith said. ■■■

Continued from page 14 Nevada Department of ...

has any problems.

4. Quit listening to feel-good groups so much. Let them do wildlife projects for you which in most instances are good, but try to listen a little to Nevada Hunters Association and HUNTER'S ALERT. Many good ideas come from these groups. Nevada Bighorns Unlimited and the Coalition for Nevada's Wildlife, both run by Larry Johnson, have a policy of not being publicly critical of NDOW, without questioning anyone's honesty or integrity, which is counter productive. To me this is cowardice unless you want to get NDOW to award your auction tags.

Unlike these other groups, we are not afraid to speak out and carve out new

ideas. Some organizations are not leaders but followers and should step aside and let the leaders lead. They claim to work within the system--well, the system ain't working so we work outside the system to try to improve the system!

Has anyone heard of the Boston Tea Party? If our forefathers didn't work outside the system, we would all probably be British citizens now!

If any Commissioner read the audit--then I'm sure you must have a plan. As a member of the public, I demand to hear your plan. If you fail or refuse to do your lawful duties--then you should resign!

Nevada Hunters Association
PO Box 50757
Reno, NV 89513

■■■



Thought Police Strike Again

PRIVACY

Newest 'Hate Crime' Bill Violates Constitution: Attempts End-Run Around Free Speech

Constitution Party Press Release

Lancaster, PA - The Constitution Party, the country's third largest political party in terms of voter registration, warns Americans that the latest federal 'hate-crime' bill introduced in the House of Representatives is a dangerous threat to Constitutionally protected rights.

H.R. 254, introduced by Rep. Sheila Jackson-Lee, D-Texas, is another version of proposed legislation passed by the House in 2005 and the Senate in 2004. Only strong public outcry and a Republican controlled Congress kept this type of legislation from becoming law. Now that Democrats are in charge there's a tough fight ahead to keep this dangerous bill from passing. H.R. 254 would make certain types of speech a federal offense. So-called 'hate crimes' legislation is dangerous for a number of reasons, not the least of which is the blatant unconstitutionality of such laws. 'Hate crime' laws would allow federal

"thought police" to interfere in the law enforcement authority of states and localities - something our founders were clear was NOT to be allowed.

H.R. 254 would require every state to pass and enforce 'anti-hate' laws. It would outlaw stating a "bias" against certain 'federally protected' groups such as homosexuals.

Constitution Party National Chairman Jim Clymer warned "So-called 'hate crime' laws could mean the Bible would be considered 'hate literature' and preaching from it would be 'hate speech' because of references to religious teachings on homosexuality or other behaviors. The Orwellian implications of these types of laws mean Bible-believing Christians could become criminals simply because they spoke out about their beliefs."

Citing a 2004 case in Philadelphia, where 11 Christians were charged under a 'hate-crimes' statute for peacefully protesting at a gay rights rally, Mr.

Clymer, a practicing attorney, said "Law-abiding Americans became criminals because they exercised a right our forebears fought and died for".

"By introducing the Anti-Defamation League's (ADL) federal 'hate crime' bill into Congress for the second time, Rep. Jackson-Lee shows she's bound and determined to stifle your First Amendment Rights no matter how many times she has to make a run at it", noted Constitution Party Communication Director Mary Starrett who added: "The Constitution Party condemns H.R. 254 as an affront to our liberty. Today, ADL-inspired 'thought crime' laws are stripping nations of free speech."

"In Canada and many European countries, it is a crime to use the internet to criticize 'federally protected' groups, such as homosexuals and Muslims. In England, two men who called Islam 'wicked' were indicted under Britain's 'hate crime' law and now face seven

years in prison. Those horrors do not belong in America!"

Referring to the group behind this bill, Clymer noted: "Congresswoman Jackson-Lee's H.R. 254 is being pushed by the same group, ADL, responsible for the British law that says truth cannot be used as a defense in court, only the complaints by members of specially protected groups who say their feelings have been hurt are being allowed. The reality of what these types of laws are doing and have done to people across the world should be a chilling reminder to Americans to oppose these laws while we still can" warned Clymer.

To interview Constitution Party National Chairman Jim Clymer on 'hate crime' legislation and other issues of vital importance to Americans, contact:

*Mary Starrett,
Communications Director
(602) 315-6195*

mstarrett@constitutionparty.com ■

The Brain Scan That Can Read People's Intentions Call for Ethical Debate Over Possible Use of New Technology in Interrogation



**By Ian Sample
Guardian Science Correspondent**

(Guardian) - A team of world-leading neuroscientists has developed a powerful technique that allows them to look deep inside a person's brain and read their intentions before they act.

The research breaks controversial new ground in scientists' ability to probe people's minds and eavesdrop on their thoughts, and raises serious ethical issues over how brain-reading technology may be used in the future.

The team used high-resolution brain scans to identify patterns of activity before translating them into meaningful thoughts, revealing what a person planned to do in the near future. It is the first time scientists have succeeded in reading intentions in this way.

"Using the scanner, we could look around the brain for this information and read out something that from the outside there's no way you could possibly tell is in there. It's like shining a torch around, looking for writing on a wall," said John-Dylan Haynes at the Max Planck Institute for Human Cognitive and Brain Sciences in Germany, who led the study with colleagues at University College London and Oxford University.

The research builds on a series of recent studies in which brain imaging has been used to identify tell-tale activity linked to lying, violent behaviour and racial prejudice.

The latest work reveals the dramatic pace at which neuroscience is progressing, prompting the researchers

to call for an urgent debate into the ethical issues surrounding future uses for the technology. If brain-reading can be refined, it could quickly be adopted to assist interrogations of criminals and terrorists, and even usher in a "Minority Report" era (as portrayed in the Steven Spielberg science fiction film of that name), where judgments are handed down before the law is broken on the strength of an incriminating brain scan.

"These techniques are emerging and we need an ethical debate about the implications, so that one day we're not surprised and overwhelmed and caught on the wrong foot by what they can do. These things are going to come to us in the next few years and we should really be prepared," Professor Haynes told the Guardian.

The use of brain scanners to judge whether people are likely to commit crimes is a contentious issue that society should tackle now, according to Prof Haynes. "We see the danger that this might become compulsory one day, but we have to be aware that if we prohibit it, we are also denying people who aren't going to commit any crime the possibility of proving their innocence."

During the study, the researchers asked volunteers to decide whether to add or subtract two numbers they were later shown on a screen.

Before the numbers flashed up, they were given a brain scan using a technique called functional magnetic imaging resonance. The researchers then used a software that had been designed to spot subtle differences in brain activity to predict the person's intentions with 70% accuracy.

The study revealed signatures of activity in a marble-sized part of the brain called the medial prefrontal cortex that changed when a person intended to add the numbers or subtract them.

Because brains differ so much, the scientists need a good idea of what a person's brain activity looks like when they are thinking something to be able to spot it in a scan, but researchers are

already devising ways of deducing what patterns are associated with different thoughts.

Barbara Sahakian, a professor of neuro-psychology at Cambridge University, said the rapid advances in neuroscience had forced scientists in the field to set up their own neuroethics society late last year to consider the ramifications of their research.

"Do we want to become a 'Minority Report' society where we're preventing crimes that might not happen?," she asked. "For some of these techniques, it's just a matter of time. It is just another new technology that society has to come to terms with and use for the good, but we should discuss and debate it now because what we don't want is for it to leak into use in court willy nilly without people having thought about the consequences."

"A lot of neuroscientists in the field are very cautious and say we can't talk about reading individuals' minds, and right now that is very true, but we're moving ahead so rapidly, it's not going to be that long before we will be able to tell whether someone's making up a story, or whether someone intended to do a crime with a certain degree of certainty."

Professor Colin Blakemore, a neuroscientist and director of the Medical Research Council, said: "We shouldn't go overboard about the power of these techniques at the moment, but what you can be absolutely sure of is that these will continue to roll out and we will have more and more ability to probe people's intentions, minds, background thoughts, hopes and emotions."

"Some of that is extremely desirable, because it will help with diagnosis, education and so on, but we need to be thinking the ethical issues through. It adds a whole new gloss to personal medical data and how it might be used."

The technology could also drive advances in brain-controlled computers and machinery to boost the quality of life for disabled people. Being able to read thoughts as they arise in a person's

mind could lead to computers that allow people to operate email and the internet using thought alone, and write with word processors that can predict which word or sentence you want to type. The technology is also expected to lead to improvements in thought-controlled wheelchairs and artificial limbs that respond when a person imagines moving.

"You can imagine how tedious it is if you want to write a letter by using a cursor to pick out letters on a screen," said Prof Haynes. "It would be much better if you thought, 'I want to reply to this email', or, 'I'm thinking this word', and the computer can read that and understand what you want to do."

FAQ: Mind reading

• What have the scientists developed?

They have devised a system that analyses brain activity to work out a person's intentions before they have acted on them. More advanced versions may be able to read complex thoughts and even pick them up before the person is conscious of them.

• How does it work?

The computer learns unique patterns of brain activity or signatures that correspond to different thoughts. It then scans the brain to look for these signatures and predicts what the person is thinking.

• How could it be used?

It is expected to drive advances in brain-controlled computers, leading to artificial limbs and machinery that respond to thoughts. More advanced versions could be used to help interrogate criminals and assess prisoners before they are released. Controversially, they may be able to spot people who plan to commit crimes before they break the law.

• What is next?

The researchers are honing the technique to distinguish between passing thoughts and genuine intentions. ■■

Texas Gov. Orders Anti-Cancer Vaccine

Austin, TX (AP) - Bypassing the Legislature altogether, Republican Gov. Rick Perry issued an order Friday making Texas the first state to require that schoolgirls get vaccinated against the sexually transmitted virus that causes cervical cancer.

By employing an executive order, Perry sidestepped opposition in the Legislature from conservatives and parents' rights groups who fear such a requirement would condone premarital sex and interfere with the way Texans raise their children.

Beginning in September 2008, girls entering the sixth grade — meaning, generally, girls ages 11 and 12 — will have to receive Gardasil, Merck & Co.'s new vaccine against strains of the human papillomavirus, or HPV.

Perry also directed state health authorities to make the vaccine available free to girls 9 to 18 who are uninsured or whose insurance does not cover vaccines. In addition, he ordered that Medicaid offer Gardasil to women ages 19 to 21.

Perry, a conservative Christian who

opposes abortion and stem-cell research using embryonic cells, counts on the religious right for his political base. But he has said the cervical cancer vaccine is no different from the one that protects children against polio.

"The HPV vaccine provides us with an incredible opportunity to effectively target and prevent cervical cancer," Perry said.

Merck is bankrolling efforts to pass state laws across the country mandating Gardasil for girls as young as 11 or 12. It doubled its lobbying budget in Texas and has funneled money through Women in Government, an advocacy group made up of female state legislators around the country.

Perry has ties to Merck and Women in Government. One of the drug company's three lobbyists in Texas is Mike Toomey, Perry's former chief of staff. His current chief of staff's mother-in-law, Texas Republican state Rep. Dianne White Delisi, is a state director for Women in Government.

The governor also received \$6,000 from Merck's political action committee

during his re-election campaign.

The order is effective until Perry or a successor changes it, and the Legislature has no authority to repeal it, said Perry spokeswoman Krista Moody. Moody said the Texas Constitution permits the governor, as head of the executive branch, to order other members of the executive branch to adopt rules like this one.

Legislative aides said they are looking for ways around the order for parents who oppose it.

"He's circumventing the will of the people," said Dawn Richardson, president of Parents Requesting Open Vaccine Education, a citizens group that fought for the right to opt out of other vaccine requirements. "There are bills filed. There's no emergency except in the boardrooms of Merck, where this is failing to gain the support that they had expected."

Texas allows parents to opt out of inoculations by filing an affidavit objecting to the vaccine on religious or philosophical reasons. Even with such provisions, however, conservative

groups say such requirements interfere with parents' rights to make medical decisions for their children.

The federal government approved Gardasil in June, and a government advisory panel has recommended that all girls get the shots at 11 and 12, before they are likely to be sexually active.

The New Jersey-based drug company could generate billions in sales if Gardasil — at \$360 for the three-shot regimen — were made mandatory across the country. Most insurance companies now cover the vaccine, which has been shown to have no serious side effects.

Merck spokeswoman Janet Skidmore would not say how much the company is spending on lobbyists or how much it has donated to Women in Government. Susan Crosby, the group's president, also declined to specify how much the drug company gave.

A top official from Merck's vaccine division sits on Women in Government's business council, and many of the bills around the country have been introduced by members of Women in Government. ■■

Binge eating is major health problem: study

By Jason Szep

BOSTON (Reuters) - Out-of-control binge eating is the biggest eating disorder in the United States, more common than anorexia and bulimia combined and contributing to a rise in obesity, researchers said on Thursday.

Binge eating afflicts 3.5 percent of U.S. women and 2 percent of men at some point in their lives, according to a study by psychiatric researchers at Harvard University Medical School and its affiliate, McLean Psychiatric Hospital.

"I suspect that the connection that we have drawn in this study is just the tip of the iceberg of the problem of out-of-control eating and its relationship to obesity," Dr. James Hudson, the study's lead author, told Reuters.

He said binge eating — where people cannot stop from eating well beyond the point of being full at least twice a week — is a chronic and persistent condition in the United States that is under-reported and under-diagnosed.

"The most striking finding of the study is the emergence of binge eating as a major public-health problem," Hudson said.

The researchers surveyed more than 9,000 people from 2001 to 2003 in the first national survey of eating disorders.

It said about 0.9 percent of women and 0.3 percent of men reported suffering at some point from anorexia nervosa — a disorder characterized by refusing to eat

and an obsessive desire to be thin. It said 1.5 percent of women and 0.5 percent of men reported the condition of bulimia, in which binge eating is followed by attempts to compensate by methods such as self-induced vomiting or excessive laxative use or exercise.

It also found a "surprisingly high" proportion of men with anorexia and bulimia — at one-fourth of the reported cases for each of those disorders.

'ASHAMED'

"We believe that the estimates for binge-eating disorder are really under-estimates. That people are often very ashamed of this behavior, and for everyone who is willing to talk about it in a face-to-face interview there are others who don't bring it up or don't elaborate," Hudson said.

Health risks include obesity, diabetes, heart disease, high blood pressure and stroke, the researchers said.

"I felt that I could never recover," said Johanna Kandel, 28, who was anorexic as a teenager before developing into a binge eater at age 18, a condition that lasted about three years.

"You can't think anymore, you can't function, you can't laugh. It just steals everything away from you. It makes it very hard to concentrate and hold relationships," said Kandel, who founded the nonprofit Alliance for Eating Disorders.

"It was the first thing I thought about in the morning and the last thing I thought about at night," she said.

There was no scientific explanation for binge eating, although genes and easy access to food could play a role, said Hudson. A typical binge eater might follow dinner with a quart of ice cream and bag of chips without being able to stop.

Anorexia typically lasts 1.7 years, compared with 8.3 years for bulimia and 8.1 years for binge eating, the study said. ■■

Scientists Get Closer to Depression's DNA

By Amanda Gardner
HealthDay Reporter

(HealthDay News) - Depression may spring, at least in part, from genes on a specific region of chromosome 15, according to new findings from a team of U.S. researchers.

The findings, appearing in two papers, are being made available to other researchers around the world in the hopes of spurring more investigation and, eventually, therapies that might fight depression.

"We should be able to hone more finely into the gene," said Myrna Weissman, co-author of one of the papers and a professor of psychiatry and epidemiology at Columbia University and head of clinical and genetic epidemiology at New York State Psychiatric Institute, both in New York City. "Then, we can see mutations and develop treatments," she said.

The research is being published in the February issue of the *American Journal of Psychiatry* and was led by scientists at Stanford University.

According to background information in the papers, about 10 percent to 15 percent of people suffer from severe depression at some point in their lives, and 3 percent to 5 percent have recurrent episodes. Women are twice as likely as men to become depressed.

Studies of families and twins have also revealed that depression is partly a disease of genetics, although no one gene is thought to be responsible. Instead, several genes may be interacting to increase a person's risk. Environmental factors, including psychological trauma, may then tip a person over the edge, so to speak.

Finding specific genes involved in the process is critical, because then, researchers could decipher exactly what the genes do and how they're involved in depression. Therein may lie important

clues for treatment.

This would also help scientists understand the environmental factors that can trigger depression, they said.

In one study, researchers examined 631 families in which at least two members had had repeated episodes of severe depression that began in childhood or early adulthood.

"Based on extensive data that shows that the most familial form of depression is that which begins before the age of 30, and which involves recurrent episodes, we went after a sample of people where at least one family member had this kind of a depression, and they had a sibling who had a similar depression," Weissman explained.

Participants were recruited from all over the country, and were primarily of European ancestry.

The first study involved a scan of the entire genome to look for "linkages" between depression and DNA markers. This effort identified several chromosome regions that looked promising for more research.

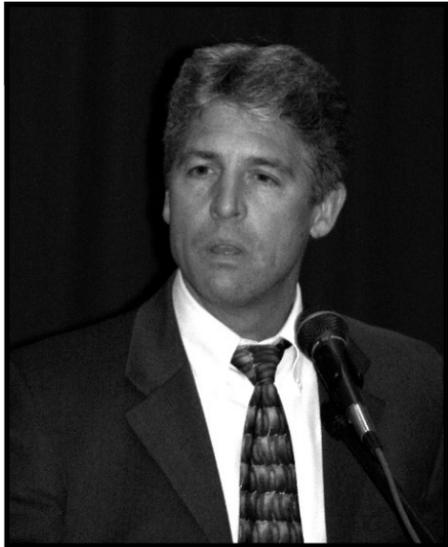
The second study involved a more in-depth analysis of the most "suspicious" of these regions (on chromosome 15). All told, 94 DNA markers were studied (in both papers) and revealed significant evidence for linkage to depression.

"This is a very significant finding. This is a more refined map of earlier findings from this group," said Dr. Ma-Li Wong, a professor of psychiatry and vice chairwoman for translational research at the University of Miami Miller School of Medicine. "Susceptibility to depression seems to be related to this chromosome, and we don't know which genes will be implicated, but hopefully through the continuation of this line of work, we will find out."

The next phase of the research will delve even more deeply into the genetics of 2,000 individuals, the researchers said. ■■

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DA Stephen "Nifong" Campbell

DA Stephen "Nifong" Campbell

Wastes Tax Dollars on False Prosecutions

eyewitnesses as he continues to press his false charges against Stanley Strange, Louie Pombo and Glen Seybold, all of Cave Junction, Oregon.

Give Me More Money So I Can Prosecute More False Charges

While Campbell has been out attempting to persuade the taxpayers to give him more money during recent public meetings, he has continued to squander the tax dollars he currently has on false prosecutions. This is pure hypocrisy and without question, attempted deception against Josephine County tax payers. Campbell is like many attorneys who can't see the "forest for the trees." These legalistic monarchs think they are heads above those who pay them – this is unacceptable and it has to stop in Josephine County, Oregon. During my first meeting with Campbell he informed me in so many words that he thought the world of his predecessor DA Clay Johnson. When I told him point blank of some of the corruption Johnson had been involved in, he simply paid no attention. It was reported by Paul Walters of NewsWithViews.com that Campbell informed Walters he "needed to ask his permission before speaking to him." These actions are unacceptable and this writer for one will not stand for them. Campbell also reportedly commented that he believed Durham County, North Carolina District Attorney Mike Nifong wasn't doing anything wrong in his false prosecution of Duke University Lacrosse players who were factually, falsely charged with serious sexual assault charges. The NC State Bar has filed ethics complaints against DA Nifong and an affidavit was

filed in court on Friday charging Nifong with "willful misconduct in office – a complaint that mirrors charges brought against him by the North Carolina State Bar." There is really no difference between the Duke false prosecution and the false prosecution of bikers in this case – in the Duke case we find DNA evidence and in the "Biker" case we find eye witness testimony.

Upcoming Josephine County Criminal Justice Systems Levy

In May Josephine County voters will be asked to pass a levy to keep the justice system afloat, however, US Senator Gordon Smith has pledged to filibuster the Federal Funding Bill if the O&C money isn't provided to Oregon counties for another year. This may or may not occur. If it does the levy would be a moot issue for the time being. It is apparent though that federal funding, even if provided for the upcoming year, will disappear in the not too distant future. This means that Josephine County taxpayers are going to be forced to step up to the plate and fund our criminal justice system. If we don't it is highly likely that the state would step in and force excessive taxes on property owners.

New Sheriff Needs Funding

Newly elected Sheriff Gil Gilbertson has already shown he intends to keep his campaign promises, much unlike the incompetent Sheriff Dave Daniel who he replaced. What a dilemma – we finally have elected a Sheriff who will do his job without squandering our tax dollars, yet we have a District Attorney

who will continue to file false charges such as this biker case, highly questionable ones and even ridiculous cases like the infamous "Chicken Case." It is a given that Gilbertson will do everything in his power not to take a false charge to DA Campbell, but we still have the Grants Pass Police Department and the Oregon State Police to contend with. This biker case was brought to DA Campbell by the Oregon State Police who failed to do an adequate investigation – in fact justice would have been far better served had they not even responded to Stanley Strange's 911 call.

This dilemma we face can only be solved in one manner – we must properly fund our Sheriff's Department and our county commissioners must cut back funding from District Attorney Stephen Campbell. This will be somewhat of a headache for Gilbertson because some of the cases he brings won't be prosecuted, but until we can rid ourselves of Campbell and get an ethical District Attorney who possesses some sort of a conscience we have to protect the citizens in our county who could be targeted with false criminal charges. As always, the "buck" stops on the doorstep of our county commissioners. From all appearances, our current commissioners appear to be headed in the right direction, however, if they fail to reign-in District Attorney Stephen "Nifong" Campbell and his patented false prosecutions the blame will be theirs.

Note: If the upcoming levy fails, we all have one person to thank/blame...

Anyone with information on DA Stephen Campbell is urged to contact Edward Snook at 541-474-7885. ■■

By Edward Snook
Investigative Reporter

Josephine County, Oregon – In our last edition we published an article titled, "To Hate Bikers," wherein we described many details regarding false charges that were filed against three motorcycle riders on October 6, 2006 (read the article for background at www.usobserver.com). Near the end of that article I stated, "Our hopes for Campbell have been that he wouldn't follow the same practice of filing false charges as did his corrupt predecessor DA Clay Johnson, however, our hopes are fading fast..." Our hopes have now faded.

In the midst of the financial crisis facing our criminal justice system here in Josephine County due to the loss of our O&C funding, DA Campbell has exposed himself as a prosecutor void of both common sense and justice. Campbell was handed affidavits from three eye witnesses in the biker case months ago. The eyewitness testimony completely vindicates the motorcyclists of any wrongdoing just as it indicts their accusers. Campbell hasn't even taken the time to question any of the

Opponent wants prosecutor in Duke case out

Raleigh, NC (AP) - A political opponent of the prosecutor who brought sexual assault charges against three Duke lacrosse players filed an affidavit seeking to remove him from office.

Beth Brewer, who led a pre-election campaign against Durham County District Attorney Mike Nifong, filed the affidavit Friday accusing him of committing "willful misconduct in office" - a complaint that mirrors accusations brought against him by the North Carolina State Bar.

"Obviously the person who filed this affidavit is someone who tried unsuccessfully to defeat me in the political process," Nifong told The Associated Press in an interview Friday. "Now that the voters have chosen someone other than who she wanted, she's trying to remove me from office in this manner."

Brewer declined to comment.

The affidavit is the latest problem for

Nifong to stem from his handling of the lacrosse case. Last month, Nifong asked the state attorney general's office to take over the troubled prosecution of three lacrosse players charged with attacking a stripper at a team party last spring.

Nifong dropped charges of rape after the 28-year-old woman changed a key detail of her account of the March 13 party. The athletes still face charges of sexual offense and kidnapping and have consistently maintained their innocence.

The North Carolina State Bar has accused him of violating professional conduct rules by making misleading and inflammatory comments about the athletes under suspicion. Last month, it added more serious charges, including withholding evidence from the defense and lying to both the court and bar investigators. Legal experts have said if convicted, Nifong could be disbarred. ... more on usobserver.com. ■■

California Piracy Suit Headed for Federal Court

By US~Observer Staff

Michigan resident Eugene Isaacson is in the process of preparing a "title 18" lawsuit to be filed Federal District Court in Sacramento, CA (read our background of the Courtland Docks dispute at www.usobserver.com). Isaacson informs us that the suit will be against Shawn Berrigan, Diane House, Edward Bauman, Robert McDaris (owner of Cliff's Marina), Thomas Decker, Jay Coakley and Sheriff's Deputy Don Hyatt. Isaacson expects the suit to be filed before the end of February.

In his suit Isaacson is claiming that the above defendants organized a conspiracy to pirate his boat, a "Federally Documented Vessel" and to commit offence or defraud the United States and to attack, to plunder a U.S. vessel. Isaacson is also claiming that the above named defendants "conspired to

collect an unlawful debt." Isaacson states that he will also be suing Deputy Hyatt for "deprivation of rights under color of law." Further Isaacson is suing Berrigan, House and Coakley under "title 33 U.S.C." in that he claims they constructed docks and pilings on navigatable waters without authorization of the Secretary of the Army.

The US~Observer has been informed that the CA Attorney General's Office has been looking into Isaacson's complaints and that they have started taking the depositions of those involved in the Courtland Docks controversy.

The Observer will keep our readership informed of Isaacson's lawsuit and its journey through the CA Federal Court system. Anyone with information on the Courtland Docks controversy can call Edward Snook or Curt Chanler at 541-474-7885. ■■