

Prosecuting the Innocent "Star Chamber" Tactics Alive and Well

By Curt Chanler
& Jeanne Wollman

One intent of those writing the Constitution and the Bill of Rights was to restrain the judicial branch of government and protect the people. They knew unfettered courts could wreck havoc on our nation. They took into consideration that it was the nature of man to desire money and power so they proceeded with a Constitution intended to protect people from the government. Remembering the inherent evil of England's Star Chamber Court and the nature of man, our forefathers agreed that protection of the rights of

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Old Glory is not Flag-Flap Americans rally against foreign icon

By Ron Lee
Investigative Reporter

Medford, OR - After an investigation, the US~Observer reported that the Oregon Employment Office was flying a Mexican flag inside its office, and that it was being flown higher than the nearby American flag. What ensued was an onslaught of public outcry to remove the flag and, in fact, they did, but they also removed the American flag which brought about another article and further public furor.

Now, it seems as though the Employment offices are enlisting the aid of their local mainstream news media to do a little clean-up in the aftermath of the Mexican flag fiasco.

From making the complainant, Earl Howard, who brought the flag issue to light, appear to be fanatical by asserting he has issue with pencils imported from China, to stating that pictures

Flag picture printed, that according to Joyce Hayford, (supervisor of the Oregon Employment Department in Medford, OR) was circulated among publications which distorted the situation.

used in the articles of "publications" distorted the facts, the Medford Mail Tribune has shown itself as a spokesperson for the establishment and not a voice of the people.

According to Paul Walter of NewsWithViews, "this issue proves mainstream media can not be trusted to report accurately."

Never did the writer, Meg Landers, of the Medford Mail Tribune ask to see the photos, or any correspondence the US~Observer received from the State agency admitting to their indiscretion. Read the Tribune article at mailtribune.com. You may read the articles written by the US~Observer and NewsWithViews on page 16.



See page 16 for more on this story!

Mexican flag flies a full 4 to 6 inches higher than Old Glory

Bid to Oust Sheriff Begins Josephine Co., OR's Daniel on the outs?

By John Taft
Investigative Reporter

When elected to public office, individuals sometimes rise to the level of their responsibilities for the position to which they have been entrusted by the voters. Other times the voters are taken for a breathtaking ride by an incompetent person holding a public office. The incompetents



Sheriff Dave Daniel.

Continued on page 2

Club 71 The place to go for a DULL

By Ron Lee
Investigative Reporter

Sunny Valley, OR - The weekend of the Vagos biker gang rally in Grants Pass, OR found a drastic increase in police to combat the threat of this organization.

With close to 200 officers and almost as many bikers during the weekend, the police were able to shadow every movement of the members of this "outlaw gang" and on Saturday June 4th they led the police to Club 71. Some twenty, or so, members filed into the Club 71 parking lot in taxis, and in one case an RV, only to be met by as many Oregon State Police Officers and undercover agents of unknown affiliation. The Vagos made their way into the

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Blindness and Death with Impunity? Master's Miracle New Formula

By Ron Lee
Investigative Reporter

Minneapolis, MN - Master's Miracle is a multi-level marketing company based out of Maple Grove, MN whose product slogan is, "Natural, Simple Solutions for a Healthier Body and Mind." According to their web site they produce, "safe, nontoxic, natural soaps, skin moisturizer, gel and deodorants" as well as a "Fortified Mineral Neutralizer, which provides essential minerals and helps balance your body's pH." These products were originally sold to Master's Miracle for distribution by Clayton Tedeton the creator of the products. In January, 2004 Master's Miracle decided to manufacture their own similar product line, as it would be more profitable for the company. Unfortunately, they neglected to initially tell their distributors and those buying the products that they were doing this. It wasn't

until April, 2004 that they announced they were making their own products.

Soon after the products' formula s changed in January, 2004 people started complaining of negative effects, as well as of products contaminated with what appeared to be black mold or fungus. While Master's Miracle responded by exchanging tainted products with new ones, they denied any change in formula and withheld the fact of the production change for several months from their own distributors.

One of their key products, The Master's Miracle Fortified Mineral Neutralizer, claims to be

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Destroying Children and Families – DHS Style

By Edward Snook
Investigative Reporter

Multnomah County, OR – In May 2005, we published an article titled "No Due Process! DHS Incompetence, Lies and Abuse?" The article (view at usobserver.com) laid out an overview of how Oregon's

Department of Human Services (DHS) literally stole Shannon Harding's young children, Tate and Kahleah from her.

In March of 2004, Kahleah broke her femur bone (most likely by getting it caught in the frame of her bunk bed) and because there were no witnesses DHS entered the picture and assumed that there was abuse even though Shannon rushed her to the hospital upon discovering the injury. To this very day Kahleah states she doesn't know how it got broke, even after much professional coaching. An investigation into this case, the



Shannon Harding's Children, Tate & Kahleah

family and the extended family shows abuse to be highly unlikely if not impossible. However, DHS doesn't proceed in a legal manner, they steal the children without any investigation and then they attempt to build a manufactured case. They simply snatch the children and it's up to the parent to prove their innocence and even when innocence is proven it is often ignored. In this instance no legal case was brought, the mother proved her innocence via a forced lie detector test and her children were taken anyway by extremely

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are easy to spot; they treat their public office as their personal fiefdom bestowing favors and promotions on their friends, making life difficult for those who see them for what they are, and basking in their new found power. There is a great similarity between these individuals and the king in the comic strip the Wizard of Id. Like the king, a little shrimp of a man, they have tremendous egos, want personal loyalty from their subjects, and would like to send their detractors to the gallows for proper punishment. They will also promise the voters anything to get elected and then renege on those promises they knew they couldn't keep. These are the wheeler dealers, cigar puffing, backroom politicians who will sell their soul to Old Nick and sign their name on the line for seven good years. [1]

Moral authority lost

Sheriff Dave Daniel has been in office for the past six years and five months, and his time is running out. Daniel sits in the chair and wears the badge, but he is really not the sheriff. When a man fails to keep promises he has made to the voters, he becomes an imposter, a straw man with no real moral authority or deserved respect from the voters. Daniel lost his way shortly after becoming sheriff as documented by many articles in the US Observer chronicling his past few years in office.

Sheriff loses voters trust

Daniel has supported several recent ballot measures that would increase property taxes, and the voters have rebuked him severely in several past elections by their vote of rejection for each tax measure. Daniel's credibility was severely dashed in November, 2004 when voters said no to his endorsement of a tax to fund more jail beds. This vote was in part a lack of trust and respect for the sheriff. A sheriff must have the respect and confidence of the people to function effectively in any county. In this article the case will be made why Daniel no longer has that respect and confidence of the people of this county, and why it is time for him to resign his position as sheriff.

Lawsuits cost \$300,000

Recently Josephine County (JoCo) and its insurer paid out over \$300,000 to cover a suit brought by two Josephine County deputies who, according to a mediator, were fired without just cause. Daniel appears to have fired Wayne Dykes and Carol Huffman because of past grudges and their loyalty to the people of the county rather than the sheriff. Daniel's losing of the lawsuit makes an extremely strong case for the unjustified firing of Dykes and Huffman. The \$300,000 loss means insurance rates for the county will increase, and there will be fewer services available for county residents. It is unacceptable that Josephine County residents must pay for lost lawsuits that should never have happened. This powerful issue placed in the voter's pamphlet listing the reasons for a recall would most certainly guarantee a humiliating defeat for Daniel if he declines to resign his position as sheriff.

Former DA had it right

Before Daniel was elected to office, former District Attorney Tim Thompson

had the foresight to realize that Daniel did not have the administrative capabilities to be a sheriff. In a letter to the editor of the Daily Courier Thompson stated his reasons why Daniel shouldn't be elected sheriff. Daniel's response to the letter was to call the former DA a SOB. I asked Daniel if he said that, and he replied that he didn't remember. A witness does remember. Daniel has been unable to form a working relationship with the new county commissioners as well as the previous commissioners. There was a deep personal enmity between Daniel and former Commissioner Jim Brock. Daniel was a leading factor in an attempt to get rid of the commissioner's office and replace it with a county manager and place all public offices under the manager's control except his own. This attempt to change county government was soundly defeated by county voters. Daniel was forced to endure another humiliating defeat. In fact, Daniel has a lawsuit pending against the present board of commissioners, paid for with taxpayer's dollars. He filed the suit because the commissioners refused to approve the extra money to pay for a promotion of the jail commander to become a lieutenant. When Daniel ran for office he said, "The sheriff only gets a certain amount of money. You do the best you can to continue to serve the citizens of Josephine County with that amount of money." [2]

Five deputies and three patrol cars for one clucker

Daniel sent seven deputies to the winter Olympics in 2002, and this was reportedly done by paying other deputies overtime to fill those positions. This was another outrageous use of budgeted funds supposed to be used to protect the residents of Josephine County, not to fulfill one of Daniel's fantasies. Daniel supported the insanity of the great chicken raid at the Nick Gombos ranch in Williams, Oregon. Five deputies, three patrol cars, \$300 in overtime, and the midnight waking of a sleeping Judge Gerald Neufeld to get a signed warrant for a 1:00 AM adventure to recover a chicken named Speckles. Josephine County and Daniel received negative national guffaws for this choice stupidity. In fact, Daniel reportedly got a rubber chicken from the state sheriff's association for laughs. This is the mentality Josephine County has running a multimillion dollar sheriff's office.

The political reward system at work

Daniel's idea of promotions often depends on who is personally loyal to him. How about the promotion of a deputy from a civil Sgt. to a Lieutenant with a nice pay raise to oversee patrol and detectives, even though the man had never worked in either of these areas? It seems that for some deputies in the JoCo sheriff's office the way to get ahead is give your personal loyalty to the sheriff. Promotions often don't go to the best qualified, but are used as a political reward system. Daniel can also be vindictive, as shown by the time he fired a Sergeant one day before his retirement.

Sheriff caught coming out of Wal-Mart

Two major problems in Josephine County are drugs and theft. Burglaries are a hot button with county residents as they are not being investigated. You can

have the theft of thousands of dollars worth of personal property, and no deputy will come to your residence to investigate. Sure, you can talk to a deputy on the phone, but that's as far as the investigation will go. The door is wide open for burglaries in JoCo. This same problem was plaguing the former sheriff Dan Calvert. Daniel saw a weak spot in Calvert's reelection bid and told the public he could solve the problem without asking for more money. Here is what Daniel said he could do, "For the last three years what we have heard from the sheriff's department is I can't respond to your burglary because we don't have the funds. You've heard that I can't answer your telephone calls because we don't have the personnel. We can't come out and take your stolen car report; it's beyond available resources. Well, I think that's unacceptable, unacceptable to me not to respond to your burglaries and thefts. What you have to do, you have to reallocate your resources and do the best job possible with what you have to make it work and protect and serve the citizens of Josephine County. It should have been done three years ago. Could be done today. Will be done when I'm elected." The fact is, Daniel has not kept his campaign promise. The voters were deceived and burglaries are not being investigated as Daniel promised they would be. Daniel still gets his check and perks every month regardless of what he promised. Then Daniel spewed out a mouthful of pickle juice saying, "If you come into the Josephine County Sheriff's Office and you want to visit me and I'm not there, it's not because I'm in Florida (Calvert went to Florida) or it's not because I'm in Las Vegas, it's because I may be in Merlin answering a call or I'm in Murphy takin' a report. That's the reason I'm not there." When was the last time anyone saw Daniel in Murphy or Merlin taking a report? Daniel wasn't in his office recently, and he wasn't in Merlin or Murphy either protecting the public. He was seen brazenly coming out of Wal-Mart (in shorts and a t-shirt) with his wife and they were carrying packages during regular working hours. Remember the sheriff isn't accountable to anyone and he can come and go as he pleases. Could this be why Daniel recently appointed Brian Anderson as the Undersheriff? Now Daniel is in the position where he can actually do nothing and still get paid while going shopping at Wal-Mart during regular working hours. What ever happened to Daniel's election promise that "I'll be in uniform, out on patrol myself."

A dangerous man

The issues are many that show Dave Daniel does not have the administrative ability to oversee 100 employees and a multimillion dollar budget for the sheriff's office. At one time Daniel spent \$20,000 with a firm to show him how to be an administrator, and it was wasted taxpayers' money. Daniel also received a vote of no confidence from the deputies in the sheriff's association, and for good reason. He's like a small boy in a candy shop with a \$20 bill and no one watching him, or so he thinks. Daniel has failed as a sheriff, and it's time for him to tender his resignation for the good of the residents of Josephine County. The mentioned \$300,000 lawsuit that was paid out because of Daniel's bad judgment is just one of many lawsuits that have been settled, and should a recall become necessary to restore confidence in the Sheriff's Office, the cost of a special election is peanuts compared to what continued



Sheriff Daniel and his Dept.'s Mission Statement
"The mission of the Josephine County Sheriff's Office is to provide the

people of Josephine County with the highest quality of services allowed within the resources entrusted to us. All members of the Josephine County Sheriff's Office will strive to achieve this mission in a competent, consistent, ethical and professional manner."

lawsuits created by Daniel's incompetence could cost the county. Just from the point of public liability Daniel is a dangerous man to have acting as sheriff; some might consider Barney Fife a better bet. [3] His track record is that of a loser. He's not a runner, and he's not a good sheriff.

It's decision time

It's time for Daniel to look in the mirror and reflect on the past six years, then take a careful look at himself. Resigning would certainly be a better option than facing a recall. It is unlikely that Daniel would survive a recall; his liabilities far overshadow any assets he has accumulated while in office. If Daniel were to resign, the obvious recommendation is for the commissioners to select Undersheriff Brian Anderson to serve out the remainder of Daniel's term.

Tell Dave Daniel what you think

If you believe that a case has been made against Dave Daniel's competence as an acting sheriff, and that he should immediately resign his position, for the good of the sheriff's office and Josephine County, then please call the sheriff at (541) 474-5123 and/or e-mail jocosheriff@co.josephine.or.us. Send a copy of your e-mail to joconewslines@hotmail.com.

Those interested in a recall and gathering signatures should contact John Taft at (541) 479-0645 or by e-mail at joconewslines@hotmail.com.

[1] *The Devil and Daniel Webster* by Stephen Vincent Benet

[2] *October 1998, Josephine County Courthouse, JCTA*

[3] *The Andy Griffin Show, Mayberry, USA*



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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 countless, 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.

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

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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.

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COMMENTARY

Your Right to Speak Out

“The Wild Hogs of Horse-Shoe Bend”

By J.G. McDaniel, M.D.

I remember, as a small boy in knee britches, going with my father to hear an address given by the Honorable Stephen Pace, then Congressman from the old Georgia 12th District. It was on the banks of the Ocmulgee River. There was a barbecue, and citizens, especially farmers from all the counties, gathered - this was before the second World War.

It seemed that someone in the Congress had introduced a bill that would give the farmers some money provided they did something. The Congressman vigorously opposed it. I have no idea what it was, because I was watching a "dirt dobber" making a ball of mud. The Congressman snapped me back to attention, however, when he said "I'm going to tell you a true story about the wild hogs that once lived about forty miles down river."

"Years ago," the Congressman said, "in the great Horse-Shoe Bend down the river, there lived a drove of wild hogs. Where they came from no one knew, but they survived floods, fires, freezes, droughts and hunters. The greatest compliment a man could pay to a dog was to say that he had fought the hogs in Horse-Shoe Bend and returned alive. Occasionally a pig was killed either by a dog or a gun as a conversation piece for years to come.

Finally, a one-gallused man came by the country store on the river road, and asked the whereabouts of these wild hogs. He drove a one horse wagon, had an axe, some quilts, a lantern, some corn and a single barrel shot gun. He was a slender, slow moving patient man - he chewed his tobacco deliberately and spat very seldom.

Several months later he came back to the same store and asked for help to bring out the wild hogs. He stated that he had them all in a pen over in the swamp.

Bewildered farmers, dubious hunters and store-keepers all gathered in the heart of Horse Shoe Bend to view the captive hogs.

'It was all very simple,' said the one-gallus man, First, I put out some corn. For three weeks they would not eat it. Then, some of the young ones grabbed an ear and ran off into the thicket. Soon, they were all eating it. Then, I commenced building a pen around the corn, a little higher each day. When I noticed that they were all waiting for me to bring the corn and had stopped grubbing for acorns and roots, I built the trap door. Naturally, said the patient man, they raised quite a ruckus when they seen they were trapped, but I can pen any animal on the face of the earth if I can just get him to depend on me for a free hand-out."

We have had patient men in our central government in Washington for years. They are using our own dollars instead of corn. I still think about the trap door and the slender, stooped man who chewed his tobacco deliberately, when he spat and turned to the gathered

citizens many years ago and said, "I can pen any animal on the face of the earth if I can just get him to depend on me for a free hand-out."

• Congressman Pace was born in Terrell County, Ga., near Dawson, March 9, 1891; attended the public schools and Georgia School of Technology at Atlanta; was graduated from the law department of the University of Georgia at Athens in 1914; was admitted to the bar the same year and commenced practice in Americus, Ga.; also engaged in agricultural pursuits; served in the State house of representatives 1917-1920; was a member of the State senate in 1923 and 1924; elected as a Democrat to the Seventy-fifth and to the six succeeding Congresses (January 3, 1937-January 3, 1951); did not seek renomination in 1950; resumed the practice of law in Americus, Ga., and practiced until his death there April 5, 1970.

The Price Of Free Corn

The allegory of the pigs has a serious moral lesson. This story is about federal money and lies (promises) being used to bait, trap and enslave a once free and independent people.

Federal welfare, in its myriad forms, has reduced not only individuals to a state of dependency. State and local governments are also on the fast track to elimination, due to their functions being subverted by the command and control structures of federal "revenue sharing" programs.

Study these links -- "Our Enemy the State" by Albert J. Nock, 1935, His Classic Critique Distinguishing 'Government' from the 'State', written about the same time that Congressman Pace told this story.

And this written 150 years ago defining the process -- "The Law" by Stephen Bastiat, 1850. What he had to tell us then is very much true today.

The Truth, that will set us free, is in knowing that with so-called "free handouts" lies the beginning and end-all of the whole mess in government that we see today . . . but wild hogs will be pigs 'til the end . . . and sheeple are easier to bait and trap . . . don't even have to use corn or money or anything but hot air, myths, half-truths and outright lies . . . and it all began a whole lot longer than 2000 years ago, and has continued ever since.

Think about it, the bacon you save may be your own.

Please copy this page and send it to all your state and local elected leaders and other concerned citizens. Tell them: "Just say NO to federal corn." ■■

It's your contributions that make these and other articles in the US~Observer possible. We thank all our supporters!

"Congress has not unlimited powers to provide for the general welfare but only those specifically enumerated. ... A wise and frugal government...shall not take from the mouth of labor the bread it has earned." --Thomas Jefferson

DECISION TIME FOR U.S. - U.N. RELATIONS

By Henry Lamb
NewsWithViews.com

The United States is approaching the moment of decision in its relationship with the United Nations. Whether the bloated, corrupt world body fades, as did the League of Nations, or emerges as the supreme government of the world, is in the hands of the United States Congress.

The U.N.'s oil-for-food scandal continues to boil, while U.N. peacekeepers' sexcapades exploit victims of civil strife in Africa. Most of the 190 member nations of the U.N. are aligned against U.S. policy - whatever that policy may be - and demand that the U.S. provide "new and additional" funding for a never-ending string of U.N. programs.

The U.N. is teetering on the brink of extinction. The only hope it has of survival - without U.S. financial support - is to acquire the authority to tax. The United States has blocked dozens of U.N. tax proposals in recent years. But pressure is building, again, to grant taxing authority to the U.N.

At the recent G8 summit of Finance Ministers, France and Germany proposed a global tax on airline tickets. Hans Eichel, Germany's finance minister stated, "No one in the G8 [including the U.S.] has said anything against it. It's now on the agenda" [for the G8 heads of state who meet in Scotland in July].

In an effort to block the U.N. tax possibility, Congressman Ron Paul successfully added an amendment to an appropriation bill that prohibits any appropriation from being used to "...develop, publicize, implement or impose any U.N. tax or fee on any U.S. citizen."

With the European Union's constitution faltering, the U.N. is the only hope France, Germany and Russia have to constrain the United States. They will push to get this taxing authority for the U.N. If the U.N. ever gets an independent source of revenue, there will be no way to stop the institution from becoming the world government its supporters want.

Congress, and the American people, realize that the U.N. cannot continue as it has operated in the past. The question is what to do about it. The House of Representatives seems to be coalescing around the idea that the U.N. can be reformed, and has specified 39 specific actions that the U.N. should take, or risk losing 50% of U.S. financial support.

The U.N. is beyond reform. It has clearly demonstrated that its ultimate goal is to become the supreme government authority in the world. Since the publication of Our Global Neighborhood by the Commission on Global Governance, every action by the U.N. has been an implementation of the recommendations of the commission.

The U.N. reforms now proposed by Kofi Annan's reform committee are based on the commission's recommendations. Among them is the proposal to expand the U.N. Security

Council by adding more permanent members and increasing the number of rotating members. Taxing authority is also a recommendation of the commission. The creation of a U.N. standing army is another.

Sadly, the reform measures contained in the House U.N. reform bill calls for the creation of a "Peacebuilding Commission" which could well be the precursor of the U.N. standing army.

The United States has two options: force the very reforms recommended by the Commission on Global Governance - and hasten the creation of a world government, or, withdraw from the U.N. altogether - and save the world from a central global government that must inevitably fail.

The world government defined in Our Global Neighborhood - as well as the U.N. institution as it now exists - operates on the premise that government is the supreme power that grants or denies freedom to its people.

The U.S. Declaration of Independence, and the government it produced, demonstrate that a far better premise is that people are the supreme power - who grant or deny power to their government.

This idea is beyond the comprehension of most of the people in the world, including many people in the U.S., and, unfortunately, too many people in Congress. If the U.S. chooses the option to reform the U.N., it is simply strengthening the institution, and endorsing its quest to become a world government.

If, on the other hand, the U.S. should choose to withdraw from the U.N. by enacting Ron Paul's American Sovereignty Restoration Act of 2005 (HR1146), world government can be averted.

This option would free the U.S. from many entangling obligations. It would allow the U.S. to affirm its founding principles and explore international relations with sovereign nations without regard to an overarching U.N. authority.

The best, if not the only hope of retaining freedom in America, and expanding freedom in the world in the 21st century is to abandon the failed U.N. institution, and exercise the principles of freedom that have served America so well. ■■

More Commentary on Page 8

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**Continued from page 1
Prosecution of the Innocent ...**

both the alleged criminal and the victim (often times alleged victim) were equally important.

Today however, more than 90% of the time the emphasis of the prosecuting attorney is to enforce a plea bargain rather than to protect the rights of the accused or the victim. The plea bargain eliminates the need for a case to come to trial before the court or a jury. Our government, through statutes, has instituted a system that denies us our constitutional right to jury by trial, which is extremely detrimental for those caught up in that system. America's courts of today rely on and thrive through the use of "case law," which totally circumvents our constitutions more often than not.

The most pre-eminent danger of the plea bargain is that too often the innocent are pressured into a plea out of fear and threats by the police and prosecutors. That results in unequal treatment of crimes and violates the constitutional right to have the case

heard by a jury. Due to this issue some states have prohibited plea bargains, but "informal chats" continue to circumvent this prohibition. These "informal chats" have often convinced an innocent person or one guilty of only a minor crime that it would be better to plead out rather than take a chance in the courtroom. Guilt or innocent has become a roll of the dice outside the purview of the court. Like the Star Chamber, our courts driven by blood lust for money and power, allows the prosecuting attorney to bypass all constitutional safeguards. Countless times circumstantial evidence has replaced **proof**.

To add insult to injury it has been found that those who choose to go to court are often more severely punished than those who "plea out." The prosecuting attorney has deliberately "thrown the book" at a person charged with a crime in order to successfully enact a plea bargain. Then the prosecutor can accept a plea to a lesser or single crime which he enters and routinely is accepted by the court. However, if the defendant prefers to go to court, all the charges manufactured

by the prosecuting attorney may be and usually are entered. The one charged may well suffer far more severely than if the plea bargain had been accepted. This is very reminiscent of the Star Chamber proceedings of old!

As defined by Black's Law Dictionary the Star Chamber Court had broad civil and criminal jurisdiction as directed by the King. This Court was noted for its **secretive**, arbitrary and oppressive procedures, including compulsory self-incrimination, inquisitorial investigation, and the absence of juries. How does this differ from a plea bargain orchestrated by the prosecuting attorney and accepted by the court?

As it is against the law in many states to plea bargain, the District Attorney's offer often comes in the form of an "informal chat" between the prosecutor and the defendant's attorney. This "chat" is off the record and out of sight of the court. It may come after harassment by the police and even time in jail. The accused is offered, in the absence of a judge or a jury, a "deal." This "deal," made out of sight of all legal safeguards for the rights of the accused, can involve forced self-incrimination, and even

forced lying to the court in order to plead a lesser charge agreed upon in the plea bargaining session. How does this differ from Star Chamber confessions or confessions reached in tribunal courts of the old Soviet Russia or even closer to home the Salem Witch trials?

If the accused insists on his rights to a jury trial the prosecutor, the judge and often the defense lawyer are all in too much of a hurry to dispense with the case. They don't have time to defend the very rights they took a Constitutional oath to uphold! This is particularly true if the accused is indigent and requires a court appointed attorney. By court contract the defense attorney can be under severe financial constraints, which facilitates his desire to end the case quickly, and the judge wants a conviction before the money runs out and all too often the prosecutor wants to make a name for himself and rack up another notch on his belt. Next, for whatever reason, information is often withheld or not presented to the jury. Then the jury is told they can only rule on the case and not the law.

Obviously, the accused, due to all of

Continued on page 9

Across

- 3. Josephine County, OR, "Chicken SWAT-Team" leader?
- 5. The US~Observers nemesis, among others
- 10. Sheriff Dave Daniel joins 2 judges, a D.A., and a governor on what US~Observer page?
- 12. JoCo deputy accused of domestic violence
- 13. Guard from danger
- 15. Statute
- 16. Word following small in court.
- 18. Ave. or Rd.
- 19. What you enter in court
- 20. Women do this at Club 71
- 21. Chief US~Observer Investigator
- 23. "Speckles" for one
- 24. Clay Johnson is Josephine County, OR's what?
- 25. What you need to access usobserver.com on the internet (abrv.)
- 27. Behind _____
- 31. Nevada Governor
- 35. Not the truth
- 37. Grants Pass, OR boating festival
- 39. Spacecraft imaging Saturn and moons
- 40. amendment for free press
- 42. Umatilla Judge
- 44. US~Observer writer with presidential name
- 45. New US~Observer column "Verbal _____"
- 48. Formal product of a legislative or judicial body
- 50. Lake County Judge
- 51. Protecting those wrongly _____.
- 52. Statement to the right of Washington on a quarter

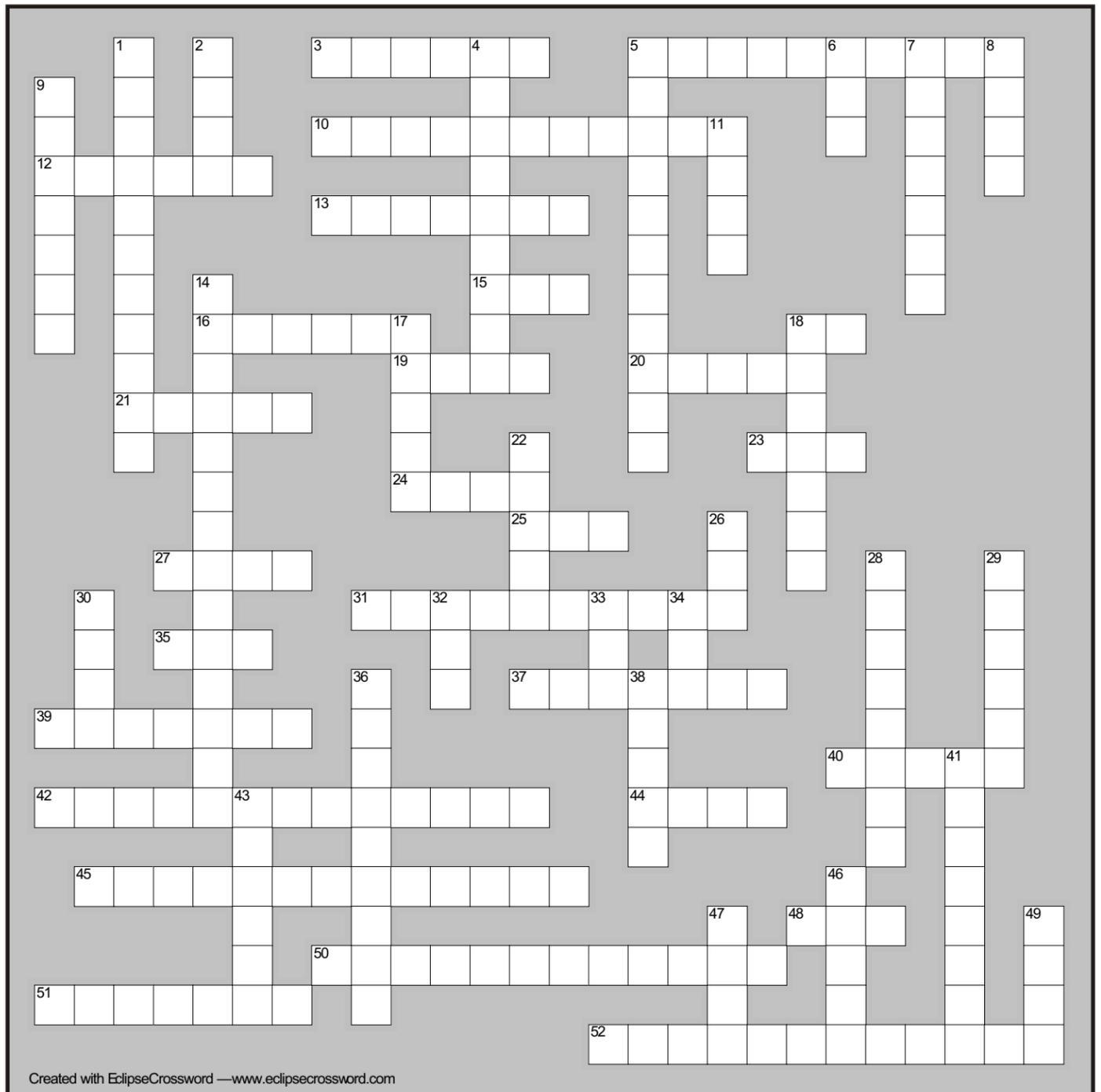
Down

- 1. Predicted by US~Observer, North Korea is about to perform one
- 2. What some US~Observer readers feel after reading about all of the obvious corruption
- 4. To free from blame
- 5. Josephine County DA
- 6. For a cause
- 7. Against the Law
- 8. Nevada's Wildlife Commission abrv.
- 9. Statue in Grants Pass, OR, also high school mascot
- 11. Prepare for publication
- 14. What the US~Observer is demanding
- 17. Done out of ill-will
- 18. When accused "speckles" their was arrested what was he wearing?
- 22. Club 71 Owner
- 26. What the 2nd amendment allows

US~Observer Crossword

Please note that you will find the answers by reading the US~Observer both current and past editions. You can find these at www.usobserver.com. We will also print an answer key in the next edition.

Due to an editorial error there were clues missing in the previous printing of this crossword. We are sorry for any inconvenience and have reprinted the puzzle for your conclusion.



Created with EclipseCrossword — www.eclipsecrossword.com

- you to own
- 28. Newly elected Pope
- 29. Unoccupied
- 30. Even "Christians" do it for health
- 32. Nothing, None, Zero
- 33. Our great country
- 34. Prefix meaning not
- 36. Exonerated Nevada war vet
- 38. Verity
- 41. National Forest, Biscuit Fire site
- 43. Save from danger
- 46. People US~Observer help with what charges?
- 47. Josephine County abrv.
- 49. Sealed document

Oregon News

Church land-use bill passes in Oregon

By Charles E. Beggs
The Associated Press

SALEM, OR — Religious organizations would be exempt from land-use regulations that restrict property uses under a bill passed yesterday by the Oregon House, though even the sponsor said the measure probably is too sweeping.

Republican Rep. Mac Sumner of Molalla introduced the bill to give greater flexibility to churches that want to build houses of worship for expanding congregations. Sumner is an elder at the Molalla Christian Church, which wants to build a church on 10 acres zoned exclusively for farm use near Molalla.

Critics said the bill goes too far and would allow religious groups to put various facilities on property they own, without any regard for land-use rules.

"This would trump all land-use laws," said Rep. Robert Ackerman, D-Eugene.

The measure was sent to the Senate on a 33-24 vote.

Sumner said he wanted the bill to advance in the House and that he would

seek changes in the Senate to narrow its scope. He said he intended that the bill deal just with houses of worship.

Uses of land couldn't be restricted under the measure. It would permit "reasonable regulations concerning the physical characteristics" of a development.

Sumner said that while the church eventually might get permission from planning authorities to build, resistance often develops to putting developments on land zoned for agriculture.

Rep. Mitch Greenlick, D-Portland, said there would be nothing to stop a religious group from putting a halfway house or an amphitheater in a residential neighborhood. Church expansion plans have triggered lawsuits in recent years in Oregon. And controversies around the country led to a federal law, passed in 2000, that prohibits land-use rules, which unduly hinder a church's right to free exercise of religion.

The Oregon Supreme Court last month ruled that the city of West Linn's rejection of a church's plan to build a new meeting place in a residential area didn't violate the federal law. ■■

Methadone blamed in 83 Oregon deaths

By The Associated Press

PORTLAND — Eighty-three Oregonians died last year from methadone, a painkiller and heroin substitute, according to new data from the state Medical Examiner's Office.

That makes the drug Oregon's second-deadliest killer, just behind heroin, which caused 94 deaths, and ahead of methamphetamine, at 78 deaths.

More of the narcotic is consumed per capita in Oregon than in any other state.

Consumption began soaring in the late 1990s, after the Death With Dignity Act legalized physician-assisted suicide. That drew attention to end-of-life care, including pain management.

The data suggest that although methadone deaths have not continued to skyrocket with increased use in recent years, as feared, "it's still clearly a problem," said Dr. Mel Kohn, state epidemiologist.

Deaths in Oregon from the narcotic quadrupled from 23 in 1999 to a high of 103 in 2002, according to a review of medical-examiner records by the state epidemiology office.

More of the deaths are occurring among patients treated for pain than among heroin addicts, said Karen

Gunson, state medical examiner.

Some doctors have called for curbs on the use of methadone as a painkiller.

Methadone is much riskier than other narcotic painkillers despite its effectiveness when used appropriately, said Dr. Stuart Rosenblum, who testified last month before a state Health Resources Commission committee considering changes to the Oregon Health Plan's preferred-drug list.

He said some recent studies have shown methadone may increase the risk of an abnormal heart rhythm, or cardiac arrhythmia.

Rosenblum's concern about methadone's connection with cardiac arrhythmia "raises questions," said Dr. David Labby, medical director of CareOregon, the largest Medicaid health plan administering the Oregon Health Plan.

But, he said, the commission does not have the "evidence we need to change our practice."

The Oregon Board of Medical Examiners requires doctors prescribing methadone to discuss its risks with patients and collect from them a form acknowledging receipt of that information. ■■

Oregon Seeks Input on Wildlife Strategy From the Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife



State fish and wildlife officials today announced they are seeking public comments on the Oregon's first-ever

statewide strategy for conservation of fish and wildlife species and their habitats.

The proposed Comprehensive Wildlife Conservation Strategy is a federally funded project designed to bring a new landscape-wide approach to species and habitat management. It identifies species with the greatest conservation needs, and offers non-regulatory approaches to help conserve those species and their habitats. Ultimately, this proactive approach is expected to help keep species off the state and federal endangered species lists.

"The goal of the program is to identify and address problems early on, so that Oregon can manage its fish and wildlife in a manner that avoids the costly, intensive measures for species recovery that result when a species is listed as threatened or endangered," said Gail McEwen, Director's Assistant for Sustainability.

The draft strategy is open for review through July 4. Topics covered in the strategy include a statewide perspective of key conservation issues, a review of the characteristics of each of Oregon's eight "eco-regions," a list of species and habitats identified as having the greatest conservation needs, a discussion of the voluntary conservation tools that will be available to landowners, and recommendations for monitoring the effects of conservation actions.

Copies of the draft strategy can be found at www.dfw.state.or.us/CWCS/

"ODFW has been working for many months now with a technical review committee and a stakeholder advisory committee to develop the proposed plan," said McEwen. "The draft plan that is now out for review is the result of much time and effort, and reflects the most current scientific knowledge and understanding of Oregon's environment and the many fish and wildlife species that live here."

The technical review committee members include biologists, wildlife managers and ecologists from tribes, universities, conservation groups, private industry and state agencies. The 28-member stakeholder advisory committee includes representatives from agriculture, forest and range lands, conservation organizations, hunting and fishing interests, tourism interests, local governments and groups and organizations that work with landowners on conservation and restoration efforts. ■■

Uneven Enforcement of Measure 37 Property Rights Claims Reported in Oregon

In the first six months since Oregon's loosely worded but voter-approved Measure 37 let property owners seek compensation for land value losses due to zoning and other controls or get exemption from such rules, they filed over 1,000 claims statewide and obtained more than 100 waivers from cash-strapped governments, 34 of them in rural Yamhill County, where two of three commissioners, reports Associated Press writer Brad Cain, support the property-rights movement.

"It's party time for the claimants, and commissioners (Leslie) Lewis and (Kathy) George are only too happy to help them out," observes 1000 Friends of Oregon executive director Bob Stacey, with local planners concerned that the claims affect more than 10,000 acres, potentially opening to development much of the land that now grows the state's excellent pinot noir grape.

On the other hand, Portland officials are being careful and may deny claims against the city's environmental zones if

the restrictions are necessary to protect public health and safety, the writer finds, quoting Commissioner Sam Adams, who dislikes Measure 37 and calls it "poorly written" and "incoherent," thus difficult to interpret and implement.

The measure's chief promoter, property-rights activist Dave Hunicutt, bypasses the issue of its clarity and attributes its uneven application across the state to "foot-dragging" by opponents among city and county officials. Upbeat about prospects of similar legislation elsewhere, he says he spoke in several states where it has been introduced, including Florida, South Carolina, Minnesota and California, adding that Washington state property-rights activists are preparing their initiative for the 2006 ballot.

Smart growth advocates and conservationists, the writer reports, worry that if successful in other states, such measures may indeed hurt anti-sprawl efforts. Measure 37 claims range "from putting an extra house on a farm to building a casino," he notes, citing the case of Helen Garner, 80, who was recently allowed to divide her 134 acres in the Cascade foothills, southern Oregon, into two dozen 5-acre parcels and sell them for housing.

State lawmakers, the writer adds, want to clarify the law, but the Democratic-led Senate failed to win support from groups on both sides of the issue and gave up on a bill that would have precisely defined claimant eligibility, created a compensation fund, and set up a claims process. Now, the Republican-led House is trying to draw up such legislation. ■■

Oregon Resumes Medical Marijuana Program

Associated Press

The state resumed issuing medical marijuana cards Friday based on advice from Attorney General Hardy Myers, the state Human Services Department said.

Myers concluded that a U.S. Supreme Court ruling on June 13 does not invalidate the state's program.

The nation's top court held that federal authorities can prosecute marijuana possession under federal drug laws, even in states where medical use is legal. ■■

Techno-rebels spread wireless network vision throughout Portland, Ore. and beyond Oregon News

By Elizabeth Armstrong Moore
Correspondent of The Christian
Science Monitor

PORTLAND, ORE. - On the surface, it looks like an ordinary weeknight gathering of aimless guys. A dozen men on a back porch chew thick slices of delivered pizza between rat-a-tat banter. One wears a bandanna. Another sports a John Deere T-shirt. Several have counterculture beards.

But beneath the raffish exterior lie some high-watt minds. The talk is about bandwidths and binary codes.

Meet the geeks, a selective handful of Portland's brightest computer science gurus who gather weekly at Node 236 - aka Tom Higgins's house - to discuss all things wireless. They are modern-day freedom fighters trying to encourage people to host wireless connections to the Internet, with the hope of eventually unplugging the entire city.

The idea: If enough people share bandwidth and a spot on their window ledge for a small radio antenna, eventually anyone in the city will be able to go online free. It's a new form of civic activism - driven by computer programmers who want to pool their collective knowledge for the greater good.

"It's not necessarily about giving [Internet access] away for free," says Aaron Baer, the treasurer for Personal Telco. "It's more about trying to build a community, and allowing the local community to build infrastructure for communication."

Wireless fidelity (wi-fi), whether free or not, is a movement that's catching on across the country, but particularly in the Northwest. Seattle, San Francisco, and Portland, Ore., are among the four most "unwired" cities in the country (Austin, Texas, ranks third), according to a recent Intel survey.

Others are well on their way to adopting similar free access alternatives, sometimes with city funding. San Jose, Calif., and Alexandria, Va., for instance, have recently launched small-scale projects that offer up three or four free 'hot spots' (an access point where people can log onto the Internet wirelessly). Philadelphia and Minneapolis have plans to go completely wireless.

Seattle considered blanketing its center with free access, but local residents and businesses already paying for the services have created a de facto patchwork of access points, rendering a formal push for wireless almost moot. Ditto for San Francisco and Portland.

Despite the good intentions, opening wide the gates to high-speed Internet connections at little or no cost to users is drawing complaints from business owners and telecommunication companies who do charge for their service. But these are still the cowboy days of wireless fidelity with few rules and regulations, giving volunteer groups like Portland's Personal Telco and Seattle Wireless ample opportunity to continue building their home-grown empires.

"We're not just building hot spots,

we're building a network across Portland," says Mr. Higgins. "If the Internet ever fell away, this network would still be up."

Becoming your own 'hot spot'

With help from Personal Telco, community members and businesses can become wireless hot spots, or a "node," for a typical fee of \$50 to \$100 a month. Small radio towers are installed on the owner's property that allow anyone with a receiver within a 300-foot radius to log on to the Internet free of charge. At the moment, the group says it has more than 100 active nodes throughout the city.

"The thought is that as we build a community we can say, 'Hey, can we get on your roof and put an antenna up there?'" says Mr. Baer, who is involved with a grant to set up subsidized access points in Portland's less-privileged neighborhoods.

But the free wi-fi movement doesn't always find warm reception. While some see getting everyone online as a community-building venture, others think too much wi-fi could actually have the opposite effect.

Victrola Coffee & Arts cofounder Jen Strongin, one of the first in Seattle to offer free wi-fi a few years ago, has chosen to cut back on the service on weekends, bemoaning a total lack of interaction between cafe goers. On the weekends, she says, most tables are filled with people who camp out with laptops up to eight hours a day without talking to anyone.

Service providers such as Verizon aren't that keen on the idea of sharing access points either. They'd rather have everyone on Tom Higgins's block pay for their own access instead of hitching a ride on his.

'It's like water'

As the concept of free wi-fi spreads, however, fee-based providers are facing the reality that blanket service through a smaller number of nodes may be the future.

"It's like water," says Frank Hanzlik, managing director of WiFi Alliance in Austin, Texas. "Sometimes you drink from the drinking fountain and it's free, sometimes you'd rather pay \$3 for a bottle of water."

Starbucks, for instance, charges its customers around \$9 a day for its T-Mobile wireless access, but it advertises superior security and reliable service. Because free services can be spottier and less secure, Mr. Hanzlik thinks that demand for fee-based services won't disappear anytime soon.

But for now, the thrill of seeking out and sharing free wi-fi appeals to the renegade spirit that pulses through most technophiles. In fact, exploring other people's access points has become known as "wardriving" and leaving a trail of graffiti to mark those points as "warchalking."

In some cities, hot spots can be found in the most unexpected places - bowling

alleys, retirement centers, golf resorts, and retro arcades. But in the Northwest, coverage is so widespread that it can be hard to not stumble into access.

Casey Halverson, a wireless network engineer in Seattle, has taken the possibility of wireless coverage one step further. In order to "telecommute" during his train ride from Tacoma, he created a mobile access point on his laptop, using a small, embedded Linux computer with a cellular and wi-fi card. He pays Sprint \$80 a month for the service.

One day he decided to share his connection, to see if anyone else might try to access it from the train. To his surprise, six users logged on within a matter of minutes. Mr. Halverson decided to turn it into a full-blown service, offering a splash screen, which announces it is OK to use his access, and then a news portal with local weather and 911 feeds.

"I'm a hacker, but I'm not mischievous," says the Wireless Seattle member. "Everything we're doing is 100 percent legal. Because we're doing things that are so cutting edge and new, people are suspicious, but we're just trying to bend what's possible with technology."

Halverson says he's no hero: "We're not entirely crazy, spending all this money just to let other people ride on our Internet service. A lot of people are just saying, 'I have the technical skills to do this, and I can afford the hardware, so what can I do with this?' Frankly, if I was the only person using it it wouldn't be any fun."

Darrin Eden, president of Personal Telco, agrees that part of the allure of his group is a mere byproduct - social interaction. "One of the neatest things for me is that it really brings together a lot of hyper-intelligent people who have a lot of creative ideas they want to get out there and try," he says. "It just attracts a really interesting group of people who are really curious and want to advance the cause as quickly as possible."

In a world where "interconnectedness" says more about local area connections than weekly pizza nights, even the movement's most eager promoters want to meet beyond the reaches of their keyboards.

Top 10 'unwired' US cities

The following cities have been identified as having the most spots where people can connect to the Internet without wires. The 'hot spot' locations range from cafes and hotels to skate parks and gas stations.

1. Seattle-Bellevue-Tacoma, Wash.
2. San Francisco-San Jose, Calif.
3. Austin-San Marcos, Texas
4. Portland, Ore. - Vancouver, Wash.
5. Toledo, Ohio
6. Atlanta, Ga.
7. Denver, Colo.
8. Raleigh-Durham, N.C.
9. Minneapolis-St. Paul, Minn.
10. Orange County, Calif.

source: Intel Corp.

■■■

Resorts could sprout in S. Oregon

MEDFORD, Ore. (AP) — Southern Oregon could soon be home to five new destination resorts like those that now dot Central Oregon after Gov. Ted Kulongoski's recent signoff on a new land-use bill.

The bill eliminated a lengthy land-use review process for counties west of the Cascades trying to map areas for potential destination resorts. The legislation takes effect in January 2006.

Previous legislation had made the development process easier for counties east of the Cascades. Development there has centered in Deschutes, Jefferson and Crook counties.

"It puts us on more of an equal level as regards to Eastern Oregon," Jackson County counsel Steve Rinkle said. "It will make it easier to map these areas and make amendments."

Rinkle said he's been approached by four or five attorneys representing county property owners considering developing destination resorts.

A few projects are already in the works, such as one on an 883-acre property between Gold Hill and Central Point that calls for a golf course, 150-room hotel, a horse arena and 300 luxury homes.

A Sunriver-style resort of 320 acres has been proposed in Merlin, with Jack Nicklaus as the golf course designer.

And Ashland resident Dom Provost said he has fought for almost 20 years to put a 320-acre destination resort on his property just south of town.

Provost said he has more than enough water on his property for an 18-hole golf course, large hotel and more than 100 condominiums and houses.

The project has faced legal challenges since it was first proposed.

Linda Swearingen, the former mayor of Sisters and former Deschutes County commissioner, said even with the new legislation, there are major stumbling blocks to picking a site, including water, road access and potential neighbor concerns.

Some resorts can require up to 1 million gallons of water a day in the summer, much of it for the golf course, she said.

But the benefits from a destination resort to both the developer and community can be enormous, Swearingen said. For instance, she said, the Sunriver Resort in Central Oregon has an assessed valuation of \$1 billion.

■■■

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Verbal Assassination American Demise An Inside Job ...

By Ron Lee
The Verbal Assassin

Okay, where do we draw the line? You know the line, the one that states our government has gone too far, or has stopped too short, to protect our liberties.

Yeah, that line.

The one our forefathers knew all too well that a government system could cross and stipulated in the most renowned political document, our Constitution, that it was each citizen's duty to do something about it should the government ever grow into an oppressive, tax-heavy, republic-free entity.

Am I talking an armed rebellion? No. That would be crazy and besides I wouldn't feel all too safe trumpeting that call in fear of some vehicular accident or (assisted) suicide that would end my existence.

What I am saying is that there needs to be unification and recently both sides of the political mainstream have found themselves agreeing on some key issues that could and should lead to the betterment of the American way. But will it?

In the Terry Schiavo case we found that agreeing doesn't always lead to action. Here was an innocent who our own justice system and government decided to kill, not by any loving peaceful way like we offer our animals in their last days, a simple shot and they "go to sleep." No, they starved / dehydrated her to death. A form of torture I wouldn't wish on my worst enemy. We treat our own death row inmates with more regard by granting their wish of a last meal, of whatever (within reason) they want, before they are executed.

The legalities of the case aren't in question, it's the morality of the order that is. The disregard of the millions of Americans who banded together in their cries of opposition, wanting the feeding tube reinserted was absolutely unethical and immoral of our system to ignore, and once again proved that this is no longer a government of the people, for the people, by the people.

But even as the courts continually ruled to nullify her life, the thousand that gathered around her hospice, with the exception of a few true patriots of righteousness, did nothing but complain that it was unjust and wrong. The labeled "extremist tree-huggers" who block logging roads with their bodies do more to get physically and politically involved in their beliefs. How is it that those thousands of Americans, who are supposed to live for truth and justice, didn't just walk in and say, "No. We won't tolerate this. Put the tube back in."

Are we that afraid of our government and the "justice" system that it spurs us to inaction?

For me personally, yes. If I have to stand it alone I, too, would roll on my morality, but I am not talking about an individual. I'm talking about a unified group who had the power to right a wrong.

Now we have new issues that beg our action. One is the invasion taking place along our southern border states. Ask anyone, of any political affiliation, who legally lives in these places and they will tell you that enough is enough.

Legal immigration is wanted and accepted as a part of our melting-pot culture, but this kowtowing to illegals and acceptance of their cultural ideals and language is not American. Even our Constitution mandates that Congress must act in the face of any invasion, yet they do nothing. Many now, seeing their inaction, are taking matters in their own hands and the "Minute Men" garnered much due respect for protecting the rest of us who do nothing but sit around and complain. Yes, I lump myself in this category to. As a writer, complaining is the nature of the business, but no more ... I want, need, things to change. I have a daughter who will inherit my inaction, and I personally want her to be proud that I honored my own integrity in action and didn't just leave her to pick up the pieces.

The time has come to petition our government to adopt a singular language, English. While this would not ban the speaking of other languages, it would ensure that the American culture isn't subverted and be made to endure bilingual ads, airport announcements in Spanish, and government leaflets and documents. I'm tired of tax dollars being spent toward the printing and production of Spanish language items. I would much rather spend my tax dollars toward naturalized citizens' EFL classes. That's right, English as a First Language. We are not a secondary culture.

We must also stop benefiting illegals by providing free health care. Should anyone be allotted free health care it should be citizens of the United States.

Am I a proponent for a socialized health care system? Well, should it mean the end of free care for free-loading illegals who swarm our hospitals, yes.

C'mon people, let's stand up and let our voices be heard and actually take action! We don't want to be a 3rd world nation! We don't want our American Way destroyed! We don't want our flag, Old Glory, to be flown lower than our neighboring countries, within our borders!

And for me, the most profound issue we face today, the Patriot Act - the perfect guise to remove your and my Constitutionally given rights.

Freedoms are often usurped by a masked effort to protect.

I still remember in the final Town Hall style presidential debate when one American stood in concern to losing his rights by the passing of the Patriot Act. In his Elmer Fuddish way, President Bush responded in surprise that people might feel that liberties were being taken, that in his belief it was designed to protect them.

And now we face the new revised Patriot Act, one that states that if the government decides you are subversive, you will be labeled extremist, radical,

Inside Liberty Watch Today

By Doug French
Liberty Watch Columnist

Governor (Nevada) Kenny Guinn told Jon Ralston on Face-to-Face last week how proud he was of his administration's accomplishments of the past seven years.

Guinn crowed about how much taxpayer dough he funneled into mental health. He even said that he had fixed the DMV, mumbling something about people not having to wait six and half hours anymore. You may remember in one of the Governor's EALERTS he told us: "As you know, improving customer service at the Department of Motor Vehicles has always been a priority for me as your Governor."

So he added 129 positions at the DMV and presto, at the North Las Vegas DMV for instance, customers enjoyed the state's services with an average wait time of a mere 51 minutes, down from 69 minutes a year ago.

Fifty-one minutes, now that's gittin'-r-dun.

Guinn mentioned that he was a Republican during the Ralston interview. Of course, he's never acted like it: proposing a 35 percent budget increase in 2003, and wanting to spend virtually all of the taxpayer money that has been gushing into Carson City the last two years.

Guinn says that he is a "person who cared about the state," which is exactly

right; he did all he could to take money from taxpayers and keep state government fat, dumb and happy. Those people who led opposition to his tax increases he described as "individuals who are not very successful" in life.

What is really keeping Guinn awake at night, is the idea that the next governor might think that the state doesn't need any more money. "I tell you what, I will be very concerned about somebody who would get elected and come to this office and say, well, we don't need any more money," Guinn told Ralston. "I would be scared to death of that happening in this state."

What Ralston was asking Guinn was how the Governor felt about Bob Beers' proposed TABOR amendment similar to Colorado's that limits government spending to increases in population and inflation.

Guinn parrots that same old canard that since Nevada is the fastest growing state in the union, government spending should increase at an even faster pace than population and inflation. Besides, Guinn believes taxpayers have a responsibility to "take care of the less fortunate." Like say: "From each according to his abilities to each according to his needs," ay Comrade Guinn?

What is scary is that a person calling himself a Republican would believe in and legislate this Marxist claptrap.

■■■

and even terrorist, to provide them the ability, without cause or regard of the Constitution, to detain you and violate every form of search and seizure right granted real citizens. Yes, everyone can be put on the government "watch" list.

The American public no longer knows the meaning of personal responsibility, especially when it comes to changing the system. We sue cigarette manufacturers for our own personal choice to smoke. We file suits against coffee companies when we carelessly spill our own coffees on our laps and get burned. And with every instance we

distance ourselves from our own personal obligation to be responsible and take real action.

I implore you ... Take a stand. Unite. Let us be the America of old, and let us put the people back in power.

I call on each of you to write me and tell me your grievance, and while I may not share your view, I will fight for your right to speak your mind and petition for a better way.

Let us finally come together and act! To do otherwise will be the suicide of our American Way.

■■■

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Continued from page 5
Prosecution of the Innocent ...

the above, cannot and will not have his case fairly judged by the jury. Jurors do not have all the evidence nor are they able to say the law is not acceptable in the case before them. Even worse is when the District Attorney forces a plea bargain through scare tactics and coercion. Justice may be blind but it should not be deceptive or unfair.

Our founding fathers envisioned the people who held the title of Prosecutor to be servants of the truth and champions of justice for the victims of crimes against the people. The prosecutor's sword of justice was to be double edged. In the quest for truth and justice the prosecutors were to find and convict the guilty and ensure that the innocent not be wrongly convicted or oppressed. Also they were mandated to protect the victim. Unfortunately today, more often than not, that is not the case.

The courts and others prefer plea bargains because it cuts down on court time and money, and often makes it possible to obtain information on other crimes. Serious offenders often prefer to plea bargain as it can substantially reduce the penalty for their crimes. The victim suffers greatly under this system as they do not receive justice or their day in court.

The twisted evolution and perversion of our judicial system has left us a monster that our founding fathers made every effort to avoid. Our legislators share the blame for giving our prosecuting attorneys the enormous power to plea bargain. Over the years the subversion of our constitutional rights of protection for the people and control of the government has lead to a situation that guarantees the loss of our rights in our court system. Even worse it guarantees control over the people by the courts.

The most obvious recent example of this is the Terry Schaivo case. Although not a criminal case the behind the scene dealings and heavy handedness of the court system was obvious and rampant. There was no justice dealt that day!

As in the Star Chambers of the 15th and early 16th centuries, plea agreements too often gain convictions from the innocent as well as the guilty. These are obtained through:

(1) Prosecutors making charges of a much higher crime that carries a very long sentence knowing they could not prove their case at trial, but also knowing the charges will create high bail and huge attorney fees for the accused.

(2) Prosecutors adding multiple charges that he knows he cannot prove, but also knowing the defendant hasn't the money to defend against.

(3) Prosecutors manufacturing testimony against the defendant and then threatening to prosecute his friends or family if they do not testify against the defendant. Before you say, "He can't do that!" Remember, in the case of *IMBLER v. PACHTMAN*, 424 U.S. 409 (1976) the Supreme Court held that a state prosecutor acting within the scope of his prosecutorial duties was absolutely immune to civil suit for damages even if the allegations of wrongdoing were true.

(4) Prosecutor's using their ability to bring charges against a defendant for a nominal amount compared to what the accused has to pay to defend his case. It must be remembered that the Prosecutor's money comes from the people so the defendant to defend himself must pay twice. Once for the system that prosecutes him and again for his own defense! This may cost him and

Deschutes County, Oregon False Prosecution?

By US~Observer Staff

Deschutes County, Oregon – 72-year-old James L. Six aka James L. Smith is preparing to file a motion in the Deschutes County Circuit Court in Bend, Oregon to have set aside a jury verdict finding him guilty of assaulting Michael Barbosa in 1995. Six says the verdict was taken against him because the state suborned perjured testimony from two state witnesses.

Six states that he was present when the assault occurred, but did not participate in the assault and was in fact trying to stop the attack. Even though Richard Nelson, the assailant, pled guilty in Judge Stephen Tiktin's court on November 13, 1995 and stated he acted alone (see the relevant portions of Nelson's affidavit below) Tiktin allowed the jury trial against Six to continue on November 14, 15, 16, of 1995.

Six alleges that because of the perjured testimony he was convicted and served 94 months and 18 days in the Oregon State Penitentiary. The following is the relevant portion of Nelson's affidavit:

"I, Richard Nelson...being first duly sworn depose and swear the following.

1. I am over the age of eighteen years and competent to testify as to the contents of this affidavit of my own personal knowledge and belief.

2. I, Richard Nelson, committed the crime James L. Smith is in prison for. I plead guilty to the crime of assault before Judge Stephen Tiktin on November 13th, 1995 in Deschutes County. Whereas, James L. Smith was not and/or is in no way involved with the aforementioned crime that I plead guilty to and for which he was convicted and sentenced to prison for.

3. I, Richard Nelson, make this affidavit of my own free will and hereby swear that no one threatened me, intimidated, coerced me into making this affidavit. Further, I am willing to swear in a court of Law under the penalty of perjury to the aforementioned contents of this affidavit."

The affidavit was subscribed and sworn before Julie Seaton, notary public for the State of Oregon on September 15, 1998.

Oregon State Trooper Lorin J. Weilacher investigated the assault and prepared an affidavit which said in part:

"At the request of the Deschutes County District Attorney's office, I interviewed and conducted a polygraph exam of Richard Nelson on November 8, 1995 at the Deschutes County Jail. During the interview Mr. Nelson told me that he was the one who hit Mike Barbosa on the head with a metal pipe. Richard Nelson told me that James L.

Six and Allan Dean were present nearby when he hit Barbosa with the pipe. Nelson said he felt bad because he thought that he may have killed Mike Barbosa and he knew that Six had been arrested for the assault. It is my opinion that Richard Nelson hit Mike Barbosa with the metal pipe while Six stood by. After Six was convicted I was advised that Mark Rose, an inmate at the Deschutes County Jail had witnessed the assault and I interviewed him. Rose said that he never observed Six strike Barbosa with his hand or any object. It is my opinion that Mike Barbosa was assaulted by Richard Nelson. I believe Six was present nearby but did not strike Mr. Barbosa with a pipe"

Was an innocent man convicted in Oregon's justice system? The US~Observer is committed to finding the truth to see that justice is accomplished. The Observer has found wide-spread corruption in the Oregon judicial system and is committed to exposing and eliminating that corruption. We will continue to follow this story to see that James L Six gets a fair hearing on his motion. Any readers having information that may be helpful to Mr. Six in proving his false prosecution and jailing in Deschutes County should contact James L. Six at 503-706-6910. ■■

his family their homes and their life's savings, whether he is guilty or innocent. If using a court appointed attorney, then even more taxpayer dollars are expended on possibly trumped up charges. Then there is the enormous cost to the taxpayers of any imposed jail time.

(5) The prosecutor's use of the media to publicize his side of the case (in the local newspaper), which absolutely prejudices the jury pool in that community against the accused.

Another result of the upgrading of charges from a misdemeanor to a felony by the prosecuting attorney is the loss of the valuable rights to vote and to own a gun if convicted.

All in all, the use of the plea bargain benefits no one but the system. Our Constitution and Bill of Rights was written in order to prevent this Star Chamber mentality from being imposed. However, due to our neglect and lack of attention we have allowed those hungry for power, money and fame to deny the people of a free and open court hearing of all the facts of a case. They have taken us back to the days of torture and self incrimination. It must be remembered that to be coerced into a plea bargain in order to save yourself or your family is a very real form of torture. It too often happens in our courts today and one of the chief participants in this charade is the prosecuting attorney, your local District Attorney.

You have the duty to closely examine the person running for the Office of District Attorney. You have the duty to demand that that person not run time after time unopposed. You have the duty to demand that the prosecuting attorney not act as judge and jury as he implements and forces plea bargains upon the accused rather than a trial in open court before a jury of his peers.

Editor's Note: When your District Attorney brags about having a 90 plus percent win rate, please realize that his office won many of their cases by using the coercive power of the plea bargain...

■■■

Does the Judiciary Need a Watchdog?

Pamela A. MacLean
The National Law Journal

Congressman James Sensenbrenner recently floated the idea of creating an office of inspector general to watchdog the federal judiciary, prompting fears that Congress could carry the authority beyond monitoring the judicial purse.

Sensenbrenner, a Wisconsin Republican and head of the House Judiciary Committee, told a Stanford University audience on May 9 that his committee "is investigating whether Congress needs to create an office of inspector general for the federal judiciary."

He said further that he did not believe "that creating an IG for the judiciary will violate the separation-of-powers doctrine that promotes the independence of the three branches of government."

The traditional mission of an inspector general, first used by the Continental Congress in 1777 to oversee the functioning of the military, is to investigate potential fraud and waste of tax dollars by agencies of the executive branch.

At a time of high tension between Congress and the judiciary, Sensenbrenner's proposal brought a reaction from Supreme Court Justice Anthony M. Kennedy. He told an 11th Circuit judges' conference in Florida last week that courts should be accountable, but that he sharply rejected the idea of Congress punishing judges for decisions it doesn't like.

"Context is everything," said Charles Geyh, professor at Indiana University School of Law-Bloomington who has written extensively on relations between the courts and Congress.

"In the abstract, there is nothing wrong with judges being accountable for the money they spend," he said. "But the backdrop here is a fairly carnivorous House trying to hold judges accountable

for the decisions they make. This proposal is not made in the context of judges spending lavishly. It is being used as a proxy for their decisions," Geyh said.

"It is pretty thinly veiled at that," he said. Congress is suggesting to judges, "We may look more closely at the [judiciary] budget if we don't like the decisions you make."

Discussions of the proposal are in the early stages. There is no bill in the hopper. Nor are hearings contemplated, said Jeff Lungren, spokesman for Sensenbrenner on the Judiciary Committee.

Lungren indicated that the talking is mostly among staffers on the Republican side. He indicated that the idea has been "well received" among House and Senate staff, but declined to be more specific.

Chief Judge Joel Flaum of the 7th U.S. Circuit Court of Appeals said that the speech lacked specifics. "I really want to see the details because it can run from soup to nuts. We need some fleshing out" because of the separation of powers issues, he said.

Misconduct Reviews

Sensenbrenner's frustration with the court's self-policing to resolve allegations of misconduct is well known. He has expressed displeasure with alleged changes in the process used in the 6th Circuit to select the three-judge panel to hear the Michigan affirmative action case a few years ago, and with controversial testimony on sentencing issues in 2002 by U.S. District Judge James Rosenbaum of Minnesota.

"I think he's long been concerned

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The US~Observer*An informed electorate is the foundation of a Free Society!***Editor/Head of Operations**
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Does the Judiciary ...

about judicial ethics in the broad sense," said Carl Tobias, a professor at the University of Richmond School of Law in Virginia. Sensenbrenner has expressed concern that the discipline system created in a 1980 statute has not been sufficiently rigorous, Tobias said.

Sensenbrenner warned in the Stanford speech that "Congress would step in if the federal judiciary did not do a better job discharging this responsibility."

A review of court statistics for the most recent seven years available, 1997 to 2003, shows very few public or private censures were issued against judges compared with the number of citizen complaints. During that period, chief judges in three circuits issued five public censures and a private one to individual judges, while the number of complaints averaged 759 per year. Those censures came in three circuits, the 6th, 9th and 10th. The remaining circuits had not issued a single reprimand during that period.

"You must understand the overwhelming majority [of complaints] come from disgruntled litigants and do not come within the purview of discipline procedure," said 9th Circuit Chief Judge Mary Schroeder of Phoenix.

The statistical reports confirmed that a high dismissal rate came because the complaints stemmed from a losing party's anger over a ruling, but details of individual cases are not made public.

The 1980 statute contemplates

reprimands for misconduct unrelated to decision-making, such as abusive behavior or sexual harassment.

Asked whether an inspector general might be given authority to review public complaints under the Sensenbrenner plan, Lungren said it is a possibility.

"That would be an implicit linking of judicial decision-making to the budget," Geyh said. "That has never been made before. If an inspector general is told to look at the budget and to look at complaints, the potential for abuse is obvious."

Sensenbrenner specifically pointed out the need to keep congressional obligations of financial oversight separate from political frustration with judges.

"It is one thing for Congress to monitor how the courts are set up; it is quite another thing to tell them how they must author opinions," he said at Stanford.

In response to Sensenbrenner's concerns about judicial self-regulation, Chief Justice William H. Rehnquist appointed a study committee last year to examine how the 1980 statute was implemented, and put Justice Stephen Breyer in charge.

Breyer, who served as counsel to the Senate Judiciary Committee when the statute was enacted, is expected to issue a final report on the committee's findings sometime this summer.

Schroeder of the 9th Circuit said of Sensenbrenner's proposal, "None of us know what may be seriously considered. We hope the judiciary is consulted. I had not heard anything about [an inspector general] until I saw

the speech."

A 1996 proposal to create an inspector general for the judiciary was opposed in the judicial branch "because it poses a serious threat to the independence of judicial decision-making and has serious implications for the separation of powers," a statement issued at the time said, according to Administrative Office of the U.S. Courts spokeswoman Karen Redmond.

Geyh said that at this point it is hard to tell whether Sensenbrenner's proposal is saber rattling or a serious alternative to the more caustic calls by others for impeaching judges and slashing budgets. ■■■

**Message from Executive Director Kevin Starrett**

OFF has one overriding principle, the belief that citizens of Oregon and the United States have the right to own and carry the firearm of their choice for any reason other than to commit a crime.

To that end we have worked to ensure that the rights of gun owners are not compromised by elected officials, anti-gun activists or those who masquerade as gun-rights supporters while they work behind the scenes to erode your liberties.

We oppose any attempt to chip away at your God-given, Constitutionally-guaranteed right to defend yourself and your family.

It is our sincere belief that **any** compromise on these rights will only lead to more attacks on liberty in the future. We believe in personal accountability and responsible gun ownership and we believe those goals are achieved by individuals, not by bureaucratic mandates.

Furthermore we believe that change is effected by grassroots activists and the pressure they can put on elected officials, not by back room deals cut by lobbyists who have no real interest in the issue, only their next paycheck.

As a result of our positions we have angered many politicians who would like people to believe that they support gun rights even when they vote against them, but we are far more concerned with votes than popularity.

As a result of the actions of OFF supporters we have demonstrated that grassroots activism works. "Willamette Week", Portland's "alternative" newspaper said "...the members of OFF are reputed to be particularly venomous and intimidating. When Starrett told his members that state Senator Veral Tarno was wavering on the original gun show bill, the senator received messages so vile and vicious that he blew up at Starrett during a committee hearing. Ultimately however Tarno voted AGAINST THE BILL....."

Vile? Vicious? I doubt it, but there is no question that OFF supporters are committed and passionate. It is that passion and commitment that we rely on to alter the course of legislation in this state.

If you would like to be a part of Oregon's only no compromise gun lobby, we welcome you.

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Health Alert

Continued from page 1
Blindness and Death ...

energized to make the minerals potassium, calcium and magnesium more readily available for cell storage. The Neutralizer is said to bolster the immune system and according to literature out on many distributors web sites, aid in fighting many illnesses including cancer. Prior to Master's Miracle manufacturing the Neutralizer in-house, the product was hailed as miraculous and many success stories poured in spurring the successful business opportunity and exploding growth of the company. When the formula was changed, those who were successfully fighting their ailments allegedly became more ill, and in some purported cases, died.

The allegations of death have not at this point been conclusively linked to the Master's Miracle products, as doctors have been unwilling to give up medical records and documents. The fact remains that these individuals who had been successfully fighting their personal disorders deteriorated rapidly once Master's Miracle changed their formula. As in the case of 79 year old Adie Wickers of Seattle who suffered from advanced arthritis and began using the Master's Miracle products prior to the change in formula. She recalled, "It took away the pain and then they changed it. The pain came back quickly, and it felt like I was going to be crippled." She said she kept asking her up line why she hurt so badly. No one could respond. Shortly thereafter the distributors received notice of the formula change. She realized the degradation of her condition was a direct result of being on the new formula for a period of almost two months before she was told it was a different product. She then found a source for the original product and stopped using Master's Miracle altogether. She proudly exclaims that she is currently pain free and no longer limps.

With many complaints like Adie Wickers' being filed some of the main distributors became quite concerned and launched an investigation of their own. With an administrative insider they were given many fascinating facts of allegedly unethical behavior. For instance, while Master's Miracle purchased its products in 55 gallon drums from Clayton Tedeton and bottled it themselves, workers were ordered to add up to 10 gallons of water to each drum to further monetize the profitability of the products. When the formula was changed, the original product bottles and labels were still used with the new products.

The Distributors became uneasy and questioned Mike Schlegel, founder/CEO of Master's Miracle, and soon they found themselves summarily dismissed and stripped of their downlines (distributors & retail clients in their organization from whom they make money) under the guise that they were cross-recruiting by telling people that the original product was no longer available, and there were serious issues with the current product line.

One such distributor was Dave Greer who had once been presented the coveted Top Sales Award from Master's Miracle. "I told them they needed to do a recall, or I'm out." Schlegel refused and it cost Greer \$40 thousand dollars to walk away from the business. At one point Greer was doing a television show in regard to the Master's Miracle products being reformulated and possibly tainted. Schlegel threatened to sue him. When that didn't work,

Schlegel offered him his downline (revenue stream) back. When Greer wouldn't accept the offer, Jeff Schlegel asked, "How can you walk away from the money?"

What transpired after the distributors were excised from the company was a lengthy legal battle waged by Master's Miracle to keep the ex-distributors muzzled and from contacting any other existing distributors. With affidavits from many active distributors and product users the ex-distributors were victorious and defeated the Master's Miracle preliminary injunction.

But it didn't end there. Master's Miracle filed a new motion citing several inconsistencies in a law quoted by the defendants, as well as, taking evidence of a settlement agreement which according to the ex-distributors was "nothing like we had agreed to in our settlement hearing." On May 17, 2005, with this new "evidence" the Utah Northern Division US District Judge, Dale A. Kimball, reversed his previous decision awarding, "Plaintiff's (Master's Miracle) Motion for Order Enforcing Settlement and Granting Entry of Final Judgment for Permanent Injunction." In his written discussion of the case, Judge Kimball wrote, "...the court orders that the preliminary injunction entered in this case shall be considered and made a permanent injunction, and all pending motions to dismiss claims and counterclaims are denied as moot."

Since the injunction, took effect Master's Miracle has admitted that their own manufactured Neutralizer product line does indeed contain bacteria that could pose a possible risk. But, that risk is down-played in the company health alert. This admission was spurred by the Canadian Government's stern warning to its public that Master's Miracle products are not to be sold in Canada. Health Canada warned:

"... Canadians not to use 'Master's Miracle Fortified Mineral Neutralizer.' Health Canada's analysis of a sample of this product found that the 'Master's Miracle Fortified Mineral Neutralizer' was contaminated with harmful bacteria including *Pseudomonas aeruginosa* and *Enterobacter cloacae*.

Health Canada has been working with the company, which is unable to provide Health Canada with evidence to support the safety of their other health products. As a result, Health Canada cannot be sure that other products by The Master's Miracle do not contain these harmful bacteria.

Using products that contain these harmful bacteria may result in serious adverse reactions or death. Adverse health reactions can include infection of cuts and scrapes, a body rash from topical exposure or respiratory infections if consumed, particularly in people with a weakened immune system from other diseases. Children may be more sensitive to these effects than adults."

To understand the implications of the company's admission to producing tainted products you have to understand the bacteria itself. In Todar's Online Textbook of Bacteriology:

"*Pseudomonas aeruginosa* is an opportunistic pathogen, meaning that it exploits some break in the host defenses to initiate an infection. It causes urinary tract infections, respiratory system infections, dermatitis, soft tissue infections, bacteremia, bone and joint infections, gastrointestinal infections, and a variety of systemic infections, particularly in patients with severe

burns and in cancer and AIDS patients who are immunosuppressed. *Pseudomonas aeruginosa* infection is a serious problem in patients hospitalized with cancer, cystic fibrosis, and burns. **The case fatality rate in these patients is 50 percent.**"

While Health Canada has stepped up and issued a broad alert, the U.S. Food and Drug Administration has not. The US~Observer has obtained information that the FDA has indeed tested the Master's Miracle product and has come to the same conclusion; it does contain the harmful *Pseudomonas aeruginosa* bacteria. But the FDA's only warning has come on their web site in the form of reprinting the Master's Miracle Health Alert:

"The Master's Miracle Issues Nationwide Health Alert Against Applying Their Products to the Eyes

Contact: Steve Manske (763) 493-3200

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE -- Minneapolis, MN -- May 18, 2005 -- The Master's Miracle (TMM) company of Minneapolis, Minn., is alerting the public against applying the company's TMM brand Fortified Mineral Neutralizer and Ultra Fortified Mineral Neutralizer to the eyes because these products may be contaminated with *Pseudomonas aeruginosa*, *Pseudomonas fluorescens/putida* and *Enterobacter cloacae* -- **bacteria that, if applied to the eyes, might lead to serious injury, including possible blindness.** The products are labeled as a Dietary Supplement and distributed nationwide in 8 oz., 20 oz. and one-gallon size containers.

It has come to FDA's attention that certain TMM distributors are actively promoting these products for ophthalmic use (in the eyes), including treatment for cataracts and allergy symptoms. FDA requires that all ophthalmic products be sterile. TMM products are not sterile and should not be applied to the eyes. TMM has agreed with FDA that, in the future, its distributors must use only company-approved marketing materials and claims for product use for its family of products. In addition, TMM will require its distributors to cease distribution or use of, and destroy any and all marketing materials that make claims for ophthalmic use of the Fortified Mineral Neutralizer and Ultra Fortified Mineral Neutralizer products.

TMM's mission is to offer natural, synthetic-free products, and the company's foremost concern is the well-being of its consumers. TMM is working with a well-known, independent laboratory and an expert from the University of Minnesota to identify the source of these bacteria and eliminate them.

Consumers with questions are asked to call The Master's Miracle at (763) 493-3200 for information."

According to the announcement the company claims that, "certain TMM distributors are actively promoting these products for ophthalmic use," but according to evidence gathered by the US~Observer, Master's Miracle's own company marketing literature made those claims and distributors were just passing on the information they were given by the company. In an internal Master's Miracle announcement, "This is to inform you that marketing materials containing eye application usage are being recalled. We are alerting our distributors to not use The Master's Miracle Fortified Mineral Neutralizer and Ultra Fortified Mineral Neutralizer



in the eyes since these products may be contaminated with *Pseudomonas aeruginosa*, *Pseudomonas fluorescens/putida* and *Enterobacter cloacae* bacteria, which if applied to the eyes may lead to serious injury including possible blindness. And, we are requiring our distributors to destroy any inventory of marketing materials that contain statements or any reference to the use of the Neutralizer products in the eyes."

The recall list of the company approved marketing materials is quite extensive and directly invalidates their claim that it was a few certain distributors promoting ophthalmic use.

One of the Master's Miracle Triple Diamond distributors during a live conference call on June 7, 2005 offered the following overview of events for the call-in audience:

"To give you the history of what has happened, about six months ago a top distributor in our company was terminated for misconduct. There were some things done that were against the company by-laws, and he didn't take this very well. We take the position that what was done was done in all fairness to protect the other distributors in this company. We could not go on like that. So he made the comment at the time that he would do anything he could to bring this company down and he's doing a pretty good job. There have been letters sent to the FDA, to Canada Health and the remarks are not truthful, but I can tell you that for the last four months the FDA has watched the Master's Miracle with a magnifying glass because of some accusations and all they are is an accusation ... One thing we want on our calls is factual information that is coming from the company and from real sources and that is why we wanted to bring this information to you tonight."

With various labs all testing the products and coming to the same conclusions, and the company itself alerting people to a potential health risk because it knows of the *Pseudomonas aeruginosa* risk, it sure doesn't lend credence to the company's promotion of a lone, renegade, disgruntled, ex-distributor making waves through accusation. The evidence is there and obvious. There are health risks with Master's Miracle products.

As one MLMer commented, "One thing is for sure, as with all money-making home-based business opportunities it is important to completely do your due-diligence in researching the products you will be representing, especially when the company is issuing its own health alerts for its products and there are claims of illness and death as a result of their use. To me, it sounds like a bad business investment."

Editor's Note: This is an on-going investigation which will turn its focus on the owners of Master's Miracle, their past business dealings and criminal records, further documentation of FDA tests, and medical documentation backing claims that these products should not be marketed to the public. We ask that anyone who may have information to please contact the US~Observer by calling 541-474-7885.

PRIVACY

"BIG BROTHER IN THE FORM OF AN INCREASINGLY POWERFUL GOVERNMENT AND IN AN INCREASINGLY POWERFUL PRIVATE SECTOR WILL FILE THE RECORDS HIGH WITH REASONS WHY PRIVACY SHOULD GIVE WAY TO NATIONAL SECURITY, TO LAW AND ORDER, TO EFFICIENCY OF OPERATION, TO SCIENTIFIC ADVANCEMENT AND THE LIKE." --WILLIAM O. DOUGLAS

Coming Soon: National ID Cards?

By Erik Larkin
Medill News Service

WASHINGTON— Driver's licenses will become national ID cards—and Americans will be at greater risk of identity theft—under a new federal law that passed without significant congressional debate, critics charge.

The Real ID Act will require that states verify every license applicant's identity and residency status, and that they store addresses, names, and driving records in a database that every other state can access. It also mandates anticounterfeiting features for the licenses and a "common machine readable technology." In three years, licenses that don't meet the standards won't be accepted as identification for boarding an airplane, opening a bank account, or satisfying any other federally regulated use.

The law's sponsor, Rep. James Sensenbrenner (R-Wisconsin) said that the law "seeks to prevent another 9/11-type terrorist attack by disrupting terrorist travel." Opponents contend that the act is primarily meant to prevent people who illegally immigrate to the United States from getting licenses.

When he introduced the bill at a press

conference earlier this year, Sensenbrenner referred to a part of the report from the September 11 Commission that read, "Members of al-Qaida clearly valued freedom of movement as critical to their ability to plan and carry out the attacks prior to September 11th.

He said that his proposed legislation would curtail such movement and would tighten the rules for political asylum. In response to questions from reporters, he also suggested that the law was intended to "get a handle on illegal aliens in the United States."

How It Passed

The controversy surrounding the new law relates to the way it was passed as much as to what it does. Because it passed as an amendment to an emergency spending bill providing funding for American troops in Afghanistan and Iraq, the Real ID Act did not come up for a vote on its own—or for full debate—in Congress.

"This really is a national identification card for the United States of America for the first time in our history," said Sen. Lamar Alexander (R-Tennessee) in the Senate the day before the spending bill

passed. "We have never done this before, and we should not be doing it without a full debate."

According to critics, what makes this a national ID—as opposed to another form of classification such as a Social Security card—is the fact that driver's licenses already serve as standard forms of identification for everything from entering a bar to boarding an airplane. Though the Real ID Act doesn't obligate states to follow the new national standards, their licenses and state IDs won't satisfy ID requirements for any purpose under federal jurisdiction unless the states comply.

Alexander and 11 other senators, evenly split between Democrats and Republicans, sent a letter to Senate Majority Leader Bill Frist (R-Tennessee) last month asking him to block the amendment.

Though Alexander strongly opposed passing the Real ID Act without debate, he said he was "reluctantly" in favor of a national ID in the wake of September 11. Other observers remain deeply concerned by the prospect.

Risk of ID Theft

"This is serious business," says Bill

Scannell, a privacy advocate. If you want to board a plane, "you have to show your papers."

Scannell's Web site, UnrealID.com, gathered more than 10,000 comments in 28 hours from people asking their senators to block the amendment the day before the Senate vote. Scannell faxed all those comments to the appropriate senators, but he says that his failed last-minute attempt was "like the charge of the light brigade."

The new law, which takes effect in three years, establishes general requirements, but the Department of Homeland Security will decide how to implement the broad-brush mandates. Anyone with a license from a state that doesn't meet Real ID's standards will have to get a new license before then.

One mandate provides that every state must have a database accessible by all other states and including all of the information printed on a license as well as the person's driving record. The original proposal would have created a single national database, but this provision was changed before the Senate vote.

Nevertheless, "if you link all the databases and you mandate the sharing of the information, you have created one network," says Tim Sparapani, legislative counsel for the American Civil Liberties Union.

Sparapani says that having 51 different databases (one for each state plus Washington, D.C.) could actually be worse than having a single big one. Any computer or network is only as secure as its weakest point—the weakest link in the chain. So if 51 databases are tied together, and 50 of them have great security but one is easy to break into, the entire conglomeration is vulnerable.

"We know that any kind of sophisticated hacker, ID thief, organized criminal, or terrorist will be able to hack into this system," Sparapani says. "There are so many points of entry."

Lack of Privacy Protections

Sparapani says that the network of databases may also eventually hold electronic copies of sensitive personal documents. The law requires that states verify and store electronic copies of a driver's photo ID, birth certificate, and Social Security card, along with documents showing name and address.

The ACLU wants those documents to be stored separately from the network of driver's license databases, Sparapani says, but "it's not administratively efficient."

"States will do whatever is easiest and cheapest," he says.

The new law neither requires nor forbids that the documents be part of the same database.

"There were ample opportunities for the sponsors of the bill to build in privacy protections, and they chose not to," Sparapani says.

Machine Readable = RFID?

The requirement that licenses incorporate a "machine-readable technology" is similarly vague. Already, 47 states—all but Alaska, Oklahoma, and Wyoming—have a bar code or a magnetic stripe. Either one would satisfy the law's mandate, as would radio frequency ID (RFID), a broadcast technology planned for upcoming

May I See Your Voice, Please?

By Olga Kharif
Business Week

As speech-related biometric technology joins the fight against identity theft, your credit card may start asking you to speak louder

Most consumers, at one point or another, have thought about how easy it would be to steal an identity, particularly over the phone: You call your bank. To verify that you are who you say you are, a clerk asks for a Social Security number, address, date of birth, or account number. Fact is, a thief can get all that data by stealing a bank statement and talking to your friends. Then, he might order a credit card in your name or make money transfers out of your account. Advertisement

Today's mainstream biometric identification devices can't prevent such mishaps. Few people have fingerprint detectors lying around the house. Ditto for face scanners, iris identifiers, and palm readers. Your birth date and Social Security number stand as your personal vault's only guards -- and not very good ones at that.

Fortunately, they'll soon get some assistance. A number of companies, including IBM (IBM), Microsoft (MSFT), and Hewlett-Packard (HPQ), have recently developed new biometric software and devices designed specifically with the phone in mind. Their solutions to the phone-security conundrum range from embedding detectors such as fingerprint scanners right into mobile phones and personal digital assistants to using a promising new biometric technique called voice verification.

En-masse deployment of voice-verification technology could happen within a year, with sales of related software and devices expected to rise from \$45.9 million last year, to \$224.6 million in 2008, according to researchers at International Biometrics

Group, an independent industry researcher. That could turn out to be a conservative estimate. "Today, the market for voice verification is smaller than [the \$3.5 billion market] for voice recognition, but that could be changing," says Alex Acero, a senior researcher with Microsoft's speech technology group in Redmond, Wash. "There's a lot more emphasis on security."

With good reason. Over-the-phone fraud already affects 12% of all banks offering e-payment services, according to the American Bankers Assn. And the problem could worsen as consumers do more banking and shopping on the phone and online. To facilitate such transactions, cell phones and PDAs will likely contain more crucial personal information, such as credit- and debit-card numbers. With mobiles doubling as electronic wallets, the implications of losing them grow increasingly serious.

Enter voice verification. The technology comes in two flavors, one requiring additional hardware and the other dispensing with it. Los Angeles-based Beepcard, which makes the hardware-driven type, expects a major U.S. credit-card association to roll it out by the first quarter of 2006, says CEO Moshe Cohen.

Here's how it works: A special sensor on the credit card stores its owner's previously recorded voiceprint in digital form. When the owner receives a new card, he or she speaks a password into the sensor on the card. If the voiceprint matches, the card is activated. Cohen is currently in discussions with several consumer-electronics companies that are considering adding this same voice detector to devices like phones, to make them unusable to thieves.

Many telecommunications companies and banks are also looking at the other kind of voice verification, which requires no alterations to a phone. Caller-identification technology that

software maker Nuance (NUAN) unveiled a year ago is already used by Canadian telcom Telus and is being tested by several U.S.-based banks and credit-card companies, says Nuance CEO Chuck Berger. It works on a simple premise: Customers make a short voice recording. The next time they call, the technology compares their live voice's range and speed with the recording.

The Nuance approach can save money for call centers. It costs about \$5 for a live agent to ask those personal ID questions. Voice software can verify an identity in less time, for between 10 cents and 15 cents per call, says Berger.

The technology's reliability is improving. IBM Research recently developed special software that makes an ID by analyzing everything from the modulation of a speaker's voice to conversational word choices. That's a new wrinkle, because most of today's voice-verification technology requires a speaker to repeat a particular phrase. A 20-second recording collected using this new method, which is awaiting commercialization, could identify customers with what developers hope will be nearly unfailing accuracy, says IBM researcher Ganesh Ramaswamy.

On the hardware side, embedding biometric readers into mobile devices has finally become feasible as well, since biometric equipment prices have fallen by as much as 50% in the past five years as volume has increased. A simple finger scanner can cost as little as several dollars. LG Electronics already sells a cell phone with a fingerprint sensor in Asia. HP introduced a \$549 version of an iPAQ PDA with a fingerprint sensor last fall.

Within the next few years, biometric identification related to phone transactions could go from a nice-to-have to a necessity. Fortunately, new technology available on the cheap has a chance to meet the ID problem head-on.

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National ID Cards ...

PRIVACY

electronic U.S. passports.

The broad language of the new law "really allows for many possibilities," says Neville Pattinson, director of technology and government affairs at the U.S. headquarters in Austin, Texas, of the European company Axalto, which makes smart cards. A small computer chip in each card stores information and may include features such as encryption. Axalto makes both contactless chips, which use RFID, and contact chips, which must be touched to be read. The company is bidding to supply the contactless chips for the new passports.

Many privacy and travel groups have strongly protested against using chips with RFID in passports because they can be read from a distance. Broadcasting such passport data could make targets of American travelers, they say.

The Smart Card Alliance, an industry group that includes Axalto, is pushing to use smart-card technology in driver's licenses. Pattinson says contact chips would be more appropriate, but contactless chips with RFID would also satisfy the law's requirements.

A Department of Homeland Security spokesperson, Jared Eagan, says he is not aware of any discussions regarding the technology that might be used.

Privacy Concerns Overblown?

The American Association of Motor Vehicle Administrators is "eager to work with DHS to fashion those provisions," says spokesperson Jason King. The 72-year-old organization represents state and provincial officials in the United States and Canada who administer and enforce motor vehicle laws, according to its Web site. King says that the department has not yet contacted the association.

"The driver's license framework is broken and in dire need of repair," King says. The Real ID Act "represents the first time in the history of driver's licenses that we will have consistency from state to state in how the driver's license is administered." The AAMVA favors that standardization, according to King.

"State motor vehicle administrators are very concerned about privacy," King says, but he sees the privacy concerns of the ACLU and other critics as overblown. For instance, he points out that driving records are already available online. In King's view, a provision in the law requiring security clearance for anyone who produces driver's licenses will help protect privacy.

Fear of government abuse or misuse of privacy under the new laws is misplaced, King believes. "Quite frankly, today, corporate America knows much more than [the] DMV does or ever will," he says. "We have no idea where you shop, nor do we care."

The States Weigh In

Deciding whether and how privacy concerns should be addressed is now up to DHS, with consultation from the Department of Transportation. The task of implementing those decisions, though, will fall squarely on the states.

"States are going to make their best effort with this," says Chye Calvo, transportation committee director for the National Conference of State Legislatures. "They're not happy about it, but they're going to try to do it."

Calvo says that the new law could cost

the states as much as \$1 billion. In addition to purchasing new machines and technology, state DMVs will have to hire new people to scan and verify documents, he says. Virginia alone estimates that it will have to spend \$237 million, according to Calvo.

The additional time required for verification could mean the end of being able to go to a DMV and get a license in the same day, Calvo says. States must verify the "issuance, validity, and completeness of each document" under the new law. Even if states streamline contacts with utility companies, hospitals, and other organizations that might supply documents, adding even 10 minutes to the time required for each of the millions of licenses involved would translate into a huge new time and manpower burden.

State Protections Removed

Calvo sees the privacy and civil liberty concerns about the new law as serious. Aside from issues involving linked databases and stored documents, he notes that the new federal law will invalidate existing state laws meant to protect judges, police, and victims of domestic violence.

For instance, some states currently allow battered women to use the address of the state attorney general's office instead of their real address on their license. But there are no exceptions to the Real ID Act's requirement that people's home address appear on their licenses.

There is a legitimate need to revise driver's license laws to prevent situations such as having licenses in two states at the same time, Calvo says. But

he thinks that the issue of securing driver's licenses was taken care of in December when Congress passed the Intelligence Reform Act, which called for the Department of Transportation to revise laws in consultation with the states. Now, however, those provisions have been superseded by the Real ID Act, which was written without input from the states.

Calvo says that the flaws in the new law stem largely from its having skipped the normal process of debate in Congress. "This is why you have a deliberative process; this is why you have hearings," he says.

Adding a controversial bill like the Real ID Act to a "must-pass" bill like the emergency military spending authorization doesn't happen very often, Calvo says. "In this case it was passed for political reasons." ■■■

Want to use the Web? Your fingerprint, please.

By Amanda Paulson
Staff writer
The Christian Science Monitor

CHICAGO — Soon, patrons of the Naperville Public Library - at least those wanting to use the Internet - will need more than a library card. They'll give a fingerprint.

It sounds like something out of a Philip K. Dick novel, but the new requirement is in many ways unsurprising.

The library, like other Internet providers nationwide, has realized computer users aren't always who they say they are. And the technology it will use to check up on them is fairly simple - patrons will press a glass-topped scanner.

In Naperville, the identity swapping consists largely of kids trying to circumvent their parents' Internet-filter rules. But in today's wireless world, users' purposes can be much more sinister: sending spam, looking up child pornography, or, increasingly, trolling for personal information like bank-account numbers and passwords - all under a cloak of anonymity.

The Internet may have changed our intellectual landscape by opening doors to vast amounts of knowledge, but it's also made that landscape increasingly treacherous. Meanwhile, efforts to improve security - whether scanning for fingerprints or requiring more personal information for access to wireless networks - raise questions about how to keep a valuable resource open to all without letting it be abused, and whether it's possible to balance security with privacy.

"I used to be the guy saying we have to have anonymity on the Internet, but now I think it's far more important for us to have an orderly space," says William Murray, a computer-security consultant at CyberTrust.

Not everyone agrees, and moves like Naperville's have some worried that online privacy is endangered. The library says it's doing everything it can to protect patrons. It deletes its log-in files on a daily basis, and doesn't spy on the sites users visit. While deputy director Mark West acknowledges that some may be wary of the fingerprint technology, he hopes a public-education campaign will help explain how it's used and, most important, its limits.

"You can't compare it to an FBI database or anything like that," says Mr.

West.

While the Naperville library has had a couple of encounters with the law over Internet use - once when someone was apparently sending threatening e-mails to a local journalist, and once when a man was charged with committing an act of public indecency while viewing a porn site - the fingerprint decision was prompted by the more mundane realization that patrons, especially children, were swapping library cards to sign on to the Internet. Like a number of libraries, Naperville requires a library card and ID to go online, and it allows parents to limit children's Internet access with a filtering system. To bypass filters, kids simply used their friends' cards.

Still, the move worries some privacy advocates, including the American Library Association (ALA). Just the idea of requiring computer users to identify themselves is troublesome, says Judith Krug, director of the ALA's Office for Intellectual Freedom. "They say they destroy the records.... The problem is that while you can delete them from your mail, you have several layers under there," says Ms. Krug. "I understand the question [of Internet abuse] and I'm sympathetic to it, but I don't know how to deal with it. Where do you draw the line?"

That question is becoming even tougher to answer with the proliferation of wireless technology, which has made

the Internet more widely available even as it increases the ways people can mask their identities.

Some become "wardrivers," cruising neighborhoods for unprotected wireless signals. Tapping into them can help protect people engaging in illegal activity from being caught. Worse, some hack into wireless networks to read their owners' e-mail or find passwords and bank information.

The proliferation of wireless Internet access in cafés, airports, and cities can also shield identities. "One of the biggest concerns is that people will be able to use these commodity networks in order to do things that they aren't intended for," says Wade Trappe of the Wireless Information Network Laboratory at Rutgers University.

He and others say that public education is critical: Internet users should know never to respond to e-mails asking for log-in and password information, even if they seem to be from a bank, and home wireless networks should be secured.

While most agree on the need for security, the answer doesn't always have to involve trading a name or e-mail address for Internet access. "Both goals are important - we don't want less security or less privacy," says Marc Rotenberg, director of the Electronic Privacy Information Center. "Have better security protocols, but don't impose ID requirements on users." ■■■

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Stairway to Nowhere, No Whites Allowed

By Scott Norvell
FOX News

A high school student who painted an image that kinda sorta looks like a stairway to heaven had to change it after some folks complained about the religious imagery, reports the Napa Valley Register.

The student, who carries a Bible and has earned the nickname Pastor K., said he didn't want to offend anyone and immediately changed the image on a painting outside the Napa High School art room.

Stairs previously leading to a castle in the sky now lead to a sunspot in the sky, and the castle is moored to the ground instead of planted in clouds. "I don't want to cause anyone to get upset," said the student, Kyle Trudelle.

Some observant students wonder, however, why no one has complained about a nearby mural depicting the Virgin Mary. It was explained that that painting is about Hispanic heritage, so it's OK.

Indeed

KGET-TV in California reports that a white social worker who wanted to attend a meeting of the National Association of Black Social Workers was told he was not welcome because of his skin pigment.

Bakersfield, Calif., social worker Brain Parnell wanted to attend the New Orleans meeting along with five of his colleagues because he often works with minority children. When he tried to enter, however, he was turned away.

"I approached the registration table and was greeted by a very friendly fellow who looked me in the eye and said, 'Are you black?'" said Parnell. "I told him that I'm not and he told me that the conference was only for people who were black and so I wasn't able to register to attend the conference."

"I was shocked," said Parnell. "I was surprised that in 2005, I could be singled out because of the color of my skin."

Stop the Presses

A Dallas-area parent is demanding that her child's preschool change its logo because it features only a Caucasian child, reports WFAA-TV.

Leslie Moore, a teacher in McKinney, Texas, whose child is in the preschool program, says the logo is racist.

"It sends the wrong message," she said. "It's telling me that every other ethnic race other than Caucasian is inferior to the Caucasian race."

Even though T-shirts and bags are already being printed, along with letterhead, school officials have stopped everything and will meet with Moore to discuss trading the offensive image for another logo that depicts the gorgeous mosaic of ethnicities that is the McKinney school district.

What Part of Illegal ...?

A New Hampshire police chief is under attack from immigrant-rights activists for charging illegal aliens with criminal trespass after federal

authorities refused to enforce the law, according to The Associated Press.

Members of the AFL-CIO and some 30 other protesters gathered outside the New Ipswich police department to complain about Police Chief Garrett Chamberlain's efforts to curb illegal immigration. Theo Amani of a group called Africa Initiative said illegal immigrants should feel safe when they need or meet a police officer.

He and others, carrying signs reading, "You Can't Trespass on Public Property" and "No Human Is Illegal," said Chamberlain's efforts could lead to racial profiling. But Chamberlain — who charged an illegal immigrant under a state statute after federal authorities refused to take him into custody — says race has nothing to do with it. "Please do not try to portray this as a race issue," he said. "It is not; it's legal versus illegal."

Your Tax Money at Work

A school district in North Carolina is spending nearly \$50,000 a year to have its teachers berated as racists in the name of diversity and anti-racism training, reports the Greensboro News Record.

Officials in Guilford County are requiring some 300 teachers in the district to sit through seminars by Chicago's Crossroads Ministry. Participants, according to the paper, "are taught that history is written from the perspective of whites and that laws and policies benefit whites while putting minorities at an immediate disadvantage."

The paper provided no details about the seminars.

The Crossroads Ministry makes no bones about its belief that "U.S. racial and cultural imperialism abroad are fundamentally based on white supremacy at home, founded on the belief that only White Europeans and White Euro-Americans should set the world's agenda and control and distribute the world's resources."

The ministry also insists that whites are like alcoholics who are unaware of their racism and how they "benefit from and even depend on the sufferings of others for their happiness." Coincidentally — we're sure — one of the Guilford County school board members trying to make sure there is plenty set aside in next year's half-a-million dollar training budget for Crossroads is Deena Hayes, who the paper describes as a trainer in institutional racism for the People's Institute which frequently partners with Crossroads.



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Terrorist Cell in CA No Surprise At All,

Says Nation's Top Counterterrorism Expert

Los Angeles, CA (PRWEB) -- "The sleeping terrorist cell in California is not a surprise at all," according to Elsa Lee, the nation's top counterterrorism expert.

"Terrorists can go undetected in a small city more than a larger one relatively easy," said Lee, CEO and founder of Advantage SCI, in El Segundo, Calif. "I learned this back in 1980 when I first became a counterintelligence agent in the US Army. I was shocked back then to learn that sleeper cells were living amongst us in the US in both small and large cities. As long as they didn't commit any crimes, they were able to enjoy life undisturbed."

Lee's comments follow the FBI's arrest of a father and son, believed to have set up an al-Qaeda cell in Lodi, Calif., on terrorism-related charges. The son was reportedly trained in Pakistan, and had allegedly accepted a mission to return to the United States to kill Americans. More arrests are expected.

Lee was asked why anyone would settle in a small town (Lodi, CA) of 57,000+ people. "Small cities generally don't have the level of crime and high number of crime fighters that large cities have," she explained. "If you mind your own business, people tend to leave you alone and you can keep a low profile. If we had stronger public or community education programs, I'm sure we would have more people capable of detecting and reporting suspicious acts, thus leading to better monitoring, tracking and arrests."

"Some of these cell members have assimilated and become loyal US citizens, others were activated and called upon to serve logistical and support roles such as -- identifying potential targets, performing reconnaissance, assessing our security weaknesses, observing and reporting on our preparedness and response capabilities, and getting employment in places that enable their targeting and collection efforts," explained Lee.

Lee said terrorists generally go undetected because citizens and

businesses are not trained or educated on what to look for or how recognize suspicious acts — "otherwise we'd see more reports across the nation. We don't have an integrated approach to terrorism because as a nation, we still don't have government, business, and citizens working together to address terrorism. The fact that we haven't witnessed a terrorist attack in this country since 9/11, tends to make people complacent about security and vigilance," Lee noted.

Hamid Hayat, 22, and his father, Umer, 47, were arrested Sunday on charges of lying to the FBI, less than a week after the younger man was first detained aboard a San Francisco-bound plane when authorities discovered he was on a "no-fly" list of suspected extremists, according to published reports.

An FBI affidavit said, "Hamid Hayat, after failing a lie-detector test" admitted having spent six months in a Pakistani camp where he was trained to "kill Americans," using the images of high-ranking U.S. officials, including President Bush, as target practice. When asked where he wanted to carry out his attacks, he reportedly said he chose the United States.

As your next door neighbor, a member of a terrorist cell may not do much at home that would arouse suspicion. "The only time they're likely to come up on anyone's radar is if they are on a watch list, or they get caught conducting surveillance of a potential target and acting suspicious. Additionally, Al Qaeda's recruitment efforts in recent years have been effective in recruiting Americans. That being the case, we may not be expecting to see an American involved in terrorist activities and will miss the behavioral indicators," Lee said.

To prepare against any possible attack, everyone has to perform their role. Citizens must know what to look for. Businesses must have trained employees, and government needs to promote stronger awareness. ■■

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Continued from page 1 Destroying Children and ...

corrupted people, who are protected by misguided and completely controlled "law enforcement officers" wearing badges and carrying guns.

Shannon's children unfortunately have different fathers and while her choice of men leaves much to be desired, her parenting skills and devotion to her children were admirable and obvious to all who know her. It should be noted that Shannon didn't stay with these undesirable fathers and she has supported her beloved children 100%, on her own, while they resided with her and before they were stolen! How in the world has our society degraded itself to the position where an accident can occur, an unfounded accusation be made and the subject of the accusation is then sentenced without ever having her day in court. Without the existence of any criminal charges or even proof of wrongdoing a mother loses her children to the state and then is required by an agency from the pit of hell to go through parenting classes etc., with perverts, drug users and low lives if she wants her children returned.

According to DHS the fathers have compiled a much different profile. "Both fathers have reported history of domestic violence, both fathers have participated in extensive drug abuse, both fathers have participated in drug dealing, neither father has paid any child support to Shannon since the day the children were born, neither father is employed nor do they keep a job longer than a month of two if they happen to become employed, neither father has a driver's license or vehicle and both

fathers live with women who support them."

It has been stated on several occasions by Judge David Knoefler who is presiding over this case and by DHS that neither of the children's fathers were proving themselves to be responsible parents; DHS has even had conversations with the fathers wherein both admitted they were "ready to give up parental rights" to their children.

As soon as it was known that Truman Harding (Tate's father) was not willing to comply with DHS' requirements, the rest of the Harding family began pushing very hard to get Tate adopted by Matthew and Michelle Perkins who are family members in Tennessee. Truman later stated that he would sign over his parental rights on the condition that the Perkins would be adopting Tate. DHS advised him that in giving up his parental rights he was also giving up his rights to place conditions on anything regarding Tate. So what does this worthless father do; He assists his mother Darcy Harding in attempting an end-run around the system and what is best for Tate by initiating an attempt to challenge the termination of his parental rights, so the grandmother Darcy Harding could gain control of young Tate and separate him from his sister. And DHS enabled him by allowing Tate to visit Truman's relatives in Tennessee with his grandmother Darcy Harding. This has occurred even in light of a finding by Kinship House in Portland, Oregon, that separating Tate and Kahleah would be damaging to both children. Even though DHS contracted with Kinship House to do the evaluation, now DHS is ignoring the

results, according to our source. These facts alone are more than sufficient to show Judge Knoefler the truth of this case; Truman Harding is simply attempting to gain custody of Tate because of the pressure applied by his mother Darcy Harding. If successful in his attempt young Tate will most likely end up in Tennessee, Truman will continue his drug infested irresponsible life being supported by women (including his mother) he is able to con and Tate and Kahleah will suffer greatly.

Any prudent person would realize that separating a brother and sister after they have spent their entire lives bonding with each other would be devastating. It wasn't until the Harding's learned that the Perkins' would not be considered as an adoptive resource that Truman made any attempts to complete the DHS required services. Information provided to the Observer shows that Truman is failing miserably at his efforts. It is crystal clear that the attempts to obtain custody of Tate is being orchestrated solely by Darcy Harding with no consideration for the best interests of eight-year-old Tate and his sister, four-year-old Kahleah.

Shannon's children were originally placed with her exemplary parents Dave and Shirley Rowland in March of 2004, where they have been thriving ever since DHS confiscated them. Both children have been well cared for according to professionals in the areas of health, welfare, etc., so why separate the two? If it wasn't bad enough to take the children in the first place, now DHS and according to a DHS employee, Judge Knoefler, plan on separating the two. Apparently Tate's attorney Tawnya Stile-Johnson and CASA representative Jeff Krow have been swayed by DHS and namely caseworker Marina MacMichael. This is standard procedure as most attorneys and CASA are too busy kissing the backside of Oregon's most corrupted agency (DHS) to do their jobs in an ethical and honest manner.

A hearing has been scheduled for July



Tate, Kahleah, and Shannon Harding in a family photo

25, 2005 at Multnomah County Juvenile Court. According to caseworker Marina MacMichael the judge and DHS are expected to drop their attempts to terminate Truman Harding's parental rights and turn young Tate over to him. This will obviously cause irreparable harm to both children and the US~Observer promises DHS, caseworker Marina MacMichael, Darcy Harding and Truman Harding that there will be hell to pay if this occurs. Instead of destroying two young children DHS and Judge Knoefler have the chance to do what is right and return both children to their mother Shannon Harding or at least leave the children where they are at, where they have been excelling and quit interfering with their young, and innocent lives.

DHS and Judge Knoefler should do what they are being paid to do: "That which is in the best interest of the children." The best interests are obvious and both DHS and the Judge have the same evidence that we possess. After doing what is right they should then contact law enforcement and place Brian Cooper (Kahleah's father) and Truman Harding (Tate's father) in jail for criminal non-support.

Further, If you are outraged that a corrupted state agency was able to steal Shannon Harding's children in direct violation of her constitutional rights to due process and equal protection then call caseworker Marina MacMichael's supervisor Mary Eldridge at 503-731-3336, ext: 2312 and let her know what you think of DHS's criminal actions. Ms. Eldridge can also be reached via email at mary.eldridge@state.or.us.

Editor's Note: In all fairness to Judge Knoefler, we realize he hasn't made any final decision in this case and the information regarding his intent that was received by the Observer came from a DHS employee. ■■■

Continued from page 1 Club 71 ...

only Josephine County strip club and according to many there, "didn't have that great of a time."

Obviously this was due in part to the strong police presence as well as that of the Sunny Valley Action Group protesting the club. According to several of the protestors owner Larry Lacey would come out and tell them, "You know those Vagos guys are talkin' a lot of trash about you." And he would get frustrated when the protestors wouldn't react to his taunts.

"One thing the Vagos Rally did was call the attention of the club (71) to the Oregon State Police who have jurisdiction over Oregon's Highways," said one protestor who wanted to remain anonymous.

According to many this is going to heighten patrols along the highway near Club 71 in hopes to curb the amount of drunken drivers coming out of the club, and the US~Observer has learned that there will, in fact, be a concerted effort to enforce the Oregon State drinking and driving laws in that area.

According to Jerry Franklin, one of the Sunny Valley residents who is protesting, "Had this upcoming effort been put in place prior to April 22nd, perhaps no one would have gotten hurt in that horrible accident which involved one of Club 71's dancer's husband and

an intoxicated club patron, both of whom were transported to the hospital for their injuries."

The US~Observer has credible information that both involved parties plan to file suit against Club 71 for the over-serving of Timothy Little, the driver who had been drinking at the establishment prior to the accident.

With the effort to curb drinking and driving in the area, if you don't want a DUII you shouldn't drink then drive from Club 71. Or as one of the protestors stated, "Just don't go to Club 71 at all."



Larry Lacey and Counsel

Editor's Note: We have recently received information that Club 71 owner Richard Larry Lacey will be facing charges of Reckless Endangerment. One evening as Lacey was driving his vehicle past the protestors that gather in front of his establishment, he swerved toward several of them, knocking a sign out of one man's hands and frightening several. ■■■

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Placing the Mexican Flag above “Old Glory”

Oregon Employment Office Flies Foreign Colors ...

A NewsWithViews.com & US~Observer.com Report

By Ron Lee

Medford, OR - Walking into the Oregon State Employment Office at 119 N. Oakdale Ave. in Medford, Oregon can already be a daunting experience for many who are looking for work or have to file a claim. To many it can be a stressful occasion. Being met by a Mexican flag hoisted above the Stars and Stripes on the back wall of this state-run office is for many, like Earl Howard of Shady Cove, OR, "downright un-American."

Mr. Howard had been told by a friend who had been utilizing the services at the office about the

flag's prominence. According to Howard, a licensed electrician, he couldn't believe that a government agency would do such a thing. On the grounds that it might be an oversight Mr. Howard headed to the employment office to see for himself and asked to speak with the manager, Jean Work.

Ms. Work was not there on that occasion and a woman whom Howard could only recall as "Judy" came forward to assist him. "I told her it was treason ..." he said in regard to the flag's presence and placement.

At that time, the representative informed Mr. Howard that it would be taken care of and the Mexican flag was removed, but not permanently...

Having been informed of the Mexican flag's replacement, Howard went back to the office to check. Seeing that they had in fact put the flag back up, he immediately called Oregon State Representative Dennis Richardson, and Representative Greg Walden's offices to inform them of the issue. According to

Howard, one clerk for Walden stated that there is a law pertaining to the flying of foreign flags in and around federal buildings, but the staffer wasn't certain about state agencies.

Finding no real assistance, other than promises that it would be looked into, Mr. Howard then contacted Paul Walter with NewsWithViews.com and set about to publicize the obvious, to him, violation of one of our most sacred symbols; "Old Glory." In turn,



Earl Howard in front of the Employment Department Office.

NewsWithViews contacted the US~Observer and the investigation began.

An attempt to reach Ms. Work in the office by NewsWithViews and US~Observer staff was met with the same response, "she's not here but a representative will be with you shortly." And soon thereafter Chris Rahn, an Employment Division employee, came out asking if he could be of any assistance, but when asked about the flag, he simply said, "I can't comment on anything." However when he was asked about the Federal law restricting such activity and if it were in fact legal he said, "We checked."

But according to Federal Law it is illegal as outlined in the United States Code, Title 36, Chapter 10:

"§175. *Position and manner of display:*

(c) No other flag or pennant should be placed above or, if on the same level, to the right of the flag of the United States of America, except during church

services conducted by naval chaplains at sea, when the church pennant may be flown above the flag during church services for the personnel of the Navy. No person shall display the flag of the United Nations or any other national or international flag equal, above, or in a position of superior prominence or honor to, or in place of, the flag of the United States at any place within the United States or any Territory or possession thereof."

Even in Oregon the claim can be made that it is in violation of its own revised statutes:

"166.075 *Abuse of venerated objects.* (1) *A person commits the crime of abuse of venerated objects if the person intentionally abuses a public monument or structure, a place of worship or the national or state flag.*

(2) *As used in this section and ORS 166.085, "abuse" means to deface, damage, defile or otherwise physically mistreat in a manner likely to outrage public sensibilities.*

(3) *Abuse of venerated objects is a Class C misdemeanor. [1971 c.743 §224; 1995 c.261 §2]"*

According to Thomas Fuller, the Oregon Employment Offices Communications Manager, when asked about the Mexican flag, "We go by the Department of Administrative Services ... and there is no prohibition against a staff member displaying a flag in his cubicle."

While the flag is located above a desk it is in clear view of the public and is placed to the right of, and higher than, the American flag which is just several feet away and as Mr. Howard put it, "can easily be interpreted as a move sanctioned by the state, as it is clearly visible."

Mr. Howard sees the flying of the Mexican flag in the state office as a symbol of change in our government, one that favors Mexican nationals.

"You only have to go into a government office once to see that all of the Spanish language pamphlets are outnumbering English ones," said Lorraine Tillman a Josephine County, OR resident speaking out on the



governments move toward, what some feel to be, an almost mandatory bilingual community.

When told about the flag and shown pamphlets from the Employment Office a Grants Pass, Oregon resident who'd only give his first name as Dave simply said, "Man, that just makes me feel weird. This is America."

Editor's Note: We asked people to e-mail us their view on this article by asking the simple question, "Should 'Old Glory' be flown below the Mexican National flag?" We have received over four thousand responses, some of which we have included in our special Flag Letters to the Editor on page 20 in this edition. Of the thousands of responses we only received one letter where the respondent said simply, "Yes" in answer to the question.

Because of this article, the amount of public opinion, and the photographs included, we received a response from the main public relations officer of the Oregon Employment Office that the flag had been removed. But what we didn't know, at first, is that the American flag had been removed as well, prompting our follow-up article on the following page.

Should anyone have information regarding further abuses of "Old Glory" please write us: editor@usobserver.com

We believe in our country, our constitution, and the public right to adequate representation.

The US~Observer is designed to keep the innocent free, the public informed, and our form of government controlled by the people.

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◀ This photo was taken from the public area in the Medford Oregon Employment Office. It was clearly visible to the public. The Mexican flag is being flown higher than the American flag, just look at the placement on the wall. The flags were stated by the Employment Office manager as being only 9 inches. Please see photo on the following page that shows no more flags and use the size of the fan for reference of the size of the flags. They are clearly much larger than stated by Joyce Hayford.

American Flag Taken Down In Order "Not To Offend"

A NewsWithViews.com &
US~Observer.com Report

By Ron Lee

In March 1945, American heroes died to raise the stars and strips over a little island in the Pacific, called Iwo Jima. In May 2005, sixty-years later this honored flag, this symbol of America's past, present, and future has been voluntarily removed from a public building in Medford, Oregon. This was done to appease those who hate and despise this flag so they won't be offended by its presence. For these publicly paid government officials this is a flag of shame, and has been deliberately relegated to the ash heap of sensitivity. They have dishonored all those who have served, fought, and died to preserve the freedoms our nation enjoys today. --John Taft

Medford, OR - Due to intense public pressure brought on by outraged U.S. citizens over the display of a Mexican flag, the Oregon Employment Department removed the flag from its 119 N. Oakdale Ave. offices in Medford, Oregon, but that isn't the only thing that has been taken down from its walls.

Just hours after the story "Placing the Mexican Flag above 'Old Glory'" was published on-line, the US~Observer received the response below from Thomas Fuller the Employment Department's Statewide Communications Manager:

"I finally got a chance to see the article you wrote - and especially the picture. Clearly this display was inappropriate and we have had the flag removed.

As I mentioned to you on the phone, there is no policy prohibiting a staff member from displaying a flag in their cubicle - but this was way beyond that. I just wish I'd seen the photo earlier.

As a state agency we have to abide by polices set forth by our Department of Administrative Services but must also weigh public perception. Please be assured that this situation has been dealt with and the flag will no longer be visible to any members of the public."

In an e-mail received by NewsWithViews.com from Monte Muirhead of KOBV TV who went to the Oregon Employment Department to report on the Mexican flag, it was confirmed that the Mexican flag had been taken down, but also that the American flag, which was being flown below and to the left of the Mexican flag, had been removed as well; Muirhead couldn't locate either flag.

Following up on this report NewsWithViews.com headed back to the employment department to investigate. When asked why the American Flag was removed along with the Mexican flag, Jean Work, the Office Manager for the Medford Oregon Employment Department replied, "It was removed in order not to offend." But when asked who it would offend she stated, "Well, I'd rather not use the word offend. It was removed in order to conform with the rest of the staff who have their flags on their desks."

Edward Snook, Editor in Chief of the US~Observer, stated when hearing of Ms. Work's comment, "What is this, a U.N. department? It sure sounds like the employment office is making it a point to employ foreign nationals if they each have their own flag on their desk, and it



The wall where the flags were placed and then removed (See front page picture)

isn't an American flag. It's completely anti-American that 'Old Glory' was taken down and that patriotic citizens are paying those who committed this atrocity with their hard earned tax dollars. It shows me that officials like Jean Work and Thomas Fuller, at the employment offices haven't been reading the volumes of e-mail that our last story generated calling out to them to take down the Mexican flag and that the American flag should be honored. I for one am going to start demanding, and will continue for as long as it takes, that these people be removed from their positions and that the American flag be returned to its proper position."

According to Craig Spivey, a public information representative of the Oregon Employment Department, there are currently 37 employees in their Medford office. When asked how many of these individuals were displaying their flag on their desks and are these individuals American Citizens he replied, "Personal information about our employees is considered confidential by the department, and therefore can not be shared with the media."

In a meeting between Paul Walter, one of the editors of NewsWithViews.com, and Edward Snook, discussing this case Walter stated, "The appearance that it gave to me after the Mexican flag was removed is that the American flag had to be removed in order not to offend the Mexican employees and all for the sake of political correctness."

Snook shaking his head, "I agree that's why they did it. But where is this political correctness going to end? You're either an American and here legally because you recognize America is where you want to be, or you are not an American."

Walter, an immigrant himself, agreed, "I left Yugoslavia to be an American, because it's the greatest country in the world. Why would I hold onto a political symbol of a country I chose to no longer be a part of?"

Whatever the reasoning behind the

lowering of the Stars and Stripes, the public is already enflamed by the Employment Department's - and ultimately the Department of Administrative Services - move to allow the display of the Mexican flag in a state-run office in the first place. According to the majority of the approximated 2,000 e-mails received, the hostility they feel for such an action is tied directly to illegal immigration and this current administrations lack of action in the face of what some call an invasion. Many fear that our country is being eroded away into a multi-lingual, multi-culturalist, separatist, alien haven, rather than being the melting pot that our forefathers envisioned.

Snook, as many Americans, has strong feelings when it comes to the flag and this country. He believes, "They have treated 'Old Glory' with the same disrespect as before, when they flew the Mexican flag above it, by removing it now in order not to 'offend' the Mexican workers in their office. I strongly urge everyone to help me right this terrible injustice and join with the US~Observer and NewsWithViews to do whatever it takes to make sure all those responsible for this whole issue are removed from their jobs. Everyone, including their contacts who were outraged over the Mexican flag flying above our American flag need to join me, now! I would ask all citizens to please e-mail me with your sentiments. Please send those same sentiments to Oregon's Governor Kulongoski and President Bush by calling them, faxing them. Whatever it takes, it shouldn't stop until there is real action, real accountability."

Editor's Note: The US~Observer would ask our readership to call Oregon's Governor Ted Kulongoski at (503) 378-3111 or (503) 378-4582 and tell him to get his disrespectful agency in order. We should all require the governor to take action on the flag issue to insure that the disrespect of Old Glory doesn't reoccur. Further, we need to demand that our Flag be returned to the now empty wall. ■■■

Flag Letters

Thank you for this article. As a resident of Salinas, CA I see this kind of crap all the time. A perfect example is "Transportation Plaza" in the center of Monterey Ca. Where not only the Mexican flag fly's at equal height as the US, but so does the flag of Spain. To these nitwit libs it's just OK and fine. I too have espoused my discontent and quoted the Federal flag code to no avail.

Here in Salinas when the fourth of July comes you'd never know it. However let the "El Grito" come and the city closes off streets and you would think your living in Mexico. Mexican flags every where. the local politicians are forever trying to get extra give a ways for illegals. Even getting a US mail carrier that speaks English fluently is a challenge. Looks to me like Bush wants to give the west coast back to Mexico.

Personally I've had it with this crap and am not the only one. It makes my blood boil. Thank you again for the article.

Regards,
Dave Bradford
Salinas, CA

●●●

In regard to your article on the above I have several solutions:

1. Relocate the office to Mexico
2. Let Mexico pay the employees wages
3. Find someone in the office with the guts to raise the American flag higher than all others.

David R. Stevens
Naples, FL

●●●

I support your view on the U.S. Flag 100%. I am sick and tired of Americans having to always bend over backwards to be "politically correct" while every other nationality in the world burns our flag and desecrates every thing we hold dear.

Bud Higdon
MGySgt USMC (Ret'd)

Continued on page 20

The US~Observer's

HALL OF SHAME

For Corrupt and/or Incompetent Judges, Attorneys & Public Officials

Continued from page 1

Circuit Court Judge Gary S. Thompson representing Crook County, Oregon is our newest member of the US~Observer Hall of Shame (page 18).

On February 7, 2005 an arrogant Judge Thompson sentenced former gubernatorial candidate Roger Weidner to ten days in jail for contempt of court.

A US~Observer investigation has shown that Mr. Weidner was merely attempting to ask the judge a simple question prior to the hearing that Weidner was appearing for.

Our investigation concurs with Weidner's position that Thompson was set to have Weidner arrested before hand.

The Observer has received numerous complaints over the years on this judge who clearly violated his judicial canons when he incarcerated Weidner. According to

witnesses, Weidner had just a few words out when Thompson ordered him arrested.

To the right is an excerpt from a letter that Roger Weidner wrote to Judge Thompson subsequent to his wrongful arrest. Judge Thompson,

I was stunned when you abruptly ordered my arrest, in front of a room full of my shocked supporters and Sheriff Deputies, moments after you appeared in court on February 7, 2005. I had asked your clerk several times before the hearing started if she had word from you whether the request I had made, on behalf of TV talk show host Susan Detlefsen, to video the proceedings had been granted. When you entered the courtroom and ordered me to take a seat behind the bar I started to respond by asking if the request to video the proceedings had been granted. Before I could say more than a few words you, still standing, angrily ordered me arrested and summarily sentenced me to 10 days in jail for contempt.

Then you had the guards threaten my supporters by telling them that anyone speaking up would also be arrested.

Your heavy-handed "police state" type treatment of me is consistent with the pattern of outrageous judicial abuse I have been subjected to for the past 16-plus-years for exposing the corruption in the Oregon court system. That ongoing abuse is detailed in the documents attached to this letter. It was obvious to all the supporters that your ordering of my immediate arrest upon entering the courtroom

was carried out according to a prearranged plan to keep me from again speaking openly and truthfully in court about the ongoing corruption problem in the Oregon court system.

Roger Weidner

Editors Note: Anyone wanting to read related articles on Weidner and his involvement with the Patricia Wishon case, or the Ole Turnbow case should go to www.usobserver.com, or usoregonobserver.com. ■■■



**CROOK COUNTY
Judge Gary S. Thompson**



**JOSEPHINE COUNTY, OREGON
Sheriff Dave Daniel**



**JOSEPHINE COUNTY, OREGON
D.A. Clay Johnson**



**UMATILLA, OREGON
Judge Garry Reynolds**



**NEVADA STATE
Governor Kenny Guinn**



**LAKE COUNTY, OREGON
Judge Lane W. Simpson**

Anywhere, USA All too often today innocent people are convicted or wrong rulings are handed down from incompetent or corrupt judges, in concert with incompetent or corrupt attorneys, which literally ruin the lives of those on the receiving end of the injustice.

The US~Observer has a "Hall of Shame" for the corrupt or incompetent. This section of the newspaper will be permanent, meaning that once a corrupt or incompetent official, judge or attorney is listed, they will remain there until they reverse their corrupt or incompetent acts and write a sincere letter of apology to their victim. This is unlikely to ever occur, so those listed can look forward to the public seeing their picture in each future edition under the "Hall of Shame" heading.

Our first inductee was Judge Lane W. Simpson of Lake County, Oregon. Judge Simpson issues false findings of fact from his office in Lakeview, Oregon. Our most recent inductee is Circuit Court Judge Gary S. Thompson who represents Crook County, Oregon.

We could literally fill the entire paper with pictures and stories based on accusations. This won't happen. Our readership should (as always) know that we are speaking first hand and factually when they see an Observer reporter's name attached to the by-line.

In Oregon a defendant can have a judge recuse him/herself for the simple reason that the defendant believes he/she can't receive a fair and impartial hearing from the judge appointed to their case. If a judge or attorney is listed in our "Hall of Shame," don't dare use them. They are there for a valid reason and therefore should be shamed instead of paid. If a politician is listed, don't vote for them and be sure that you inform as many voters as possible that the politician is corrupt and/or incompetent.

If a corrupt or incompetent judge or attorney has damaged you, please send their name and picture along with the proof of their corrupt or incompetent acts against you and we will do everything possible to see that they receive "Hall of Shame" status.

Ballot Tampering

Motorcycle Madness

Dear Edward,

More and more reports are emerging of the extent to which Democrats were willing to go to try to influence the 2004 election.

Well, their tactics worked in Washington State.

Our Republican candidate for Governor, Dino Rossi, actually won the election. Then he won the recount.

Then Democrat-controlled King County "found" 566 new votes just in time for the second recount, enough to overturn the results of Election Day and the first recount.

The new result? Dino Rossi "lost" by 129 votes. But consider the following facts in Washington state;

- 943 felons illegally voted
- 49 dead people voted
- 3 people voted in Washington and another state
- 2 illegal aliens voted
- 12 people voted multiple times

- 174 provisional votes were counted but later found to be cast people who had already voted or were unregistered

Also, at least another 1,600 ballots are still in question:

- 875 more absentee votes were cast in King County than there were absentee voters
- 95 more ballots in King County and 50 ballots in Whitman County were "found" after both recounts, and have never been counted
- At least 660 provisional ballots were improperly counted in King County.

Dino Rossi is fighting, and voters of good conscience from across this country should stand with him. **For more info on Dino Rossi and his ongoing fight, please go to www.dinorossi.com.**

Sincerely,
Michael DuHaime
RNC Political Director

Somehow the system has become our parents as "Big Brother" monitors and controls our every move. We get punished rather severely if we slip up or step out of line.

Once upon a time people in this country chose for themselves, and had a thing called freedom. Men have fought and died for the right to pursue their lives as they chose. We've had freedom to be happy and enjoy our lives as we lived in the United States. We paid the price and we've loved, unconditionally, this beautiful country. Now it seems in this all-American city, Grants Pass, Oregon, has begun to act more like a dictatorship. Similar to a place in time, not so long ago, in a country called Germany. Now, that should turn on a light for you!

Haley Davidson is a motorcycle that symbolizes the spirit of our country. Like our country, it has had a rough life. It was kicked to the gutter and came back stronger than ever. This

motorcycle is the flagship of America and the American way of life. We love this machine. When you ride one, you feel pride and loyalty to our country. It's the All-American motorcycle and you love it as you should.

There is a war on our country called the "patriot act," the killer of our constitution and the rape of our bill of rights, should it be called as it is, or at least as it appears to be. This weekend the people of Grants Pass received a preview of things to come. It was in the disguise of protectors of the public from the outlaw motorcycle group called the "Vagos" and every other rider on a Harley. In reality those who rode, drove, or participated in this function were severely sanctioned by the policing agencies. Anyone riding a Harley in Josephine County received more than their share of trouble in the form of unjust tickets, being photographed and recorded by video and audio surveillance by at least a 6 to 1 ratio of

Continued on page 23

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Citizens who have founded and support it believe in the Bill of Rights and Article 1, Section 1, of the Oregon Constitution which states:

“We declare that all men, when they form a social compact are equal in right; that all power is inherent in the people, and all free governments are founded on their authority, and instituted for their peace, safety, and happiness and they have at all times a right to alter, reform, or abolish the government in such a manner they think proper. This enumeration of rights, and privileges shall not be construed to impair or deny others retained by the people.”

On the Internet:

www.usobserver.com



Dear Editor,

Thank you for posting the article that exposed the fact that employees of the Medford Oregon employment office are ashamed of the American flag and tremble in fear of offending Mexicans by displaying it prominently like other state offices in America do. My question of you is when are you going to post the story where Medford seceded from the union? As I said to Governor Kulongoski, I wasn't aware that the U.S. surrendered to Mexico, in fact, I was taught that we defeated them in the Mexican-American war and that they subsequently signed a treaty with the U.S. This story started with the Mexican flag being flown on American soil at a state employment office and ends with the American flag being taken down. There is only one word that adequately and accurately expresses this despicable series of events and that is "cowardice." No amount of PR or spin can refute that glaring indictment because this is the United States sovereign soil, not Mexican, yet spineless Americans pander their loyalty to Mexico not once but twice. Cowardice such as that I class as treason, for they have symbolized surrender, first when they ran the Mexican flag up a pole, and again when they brought down the American flag. This is the same sort of cowardice that brings 10,000 illegal aliens per day into the United States. If these people had an ounce of courage they would remain at home and fight for reform in their own countries, and if those efforts failed, they could revolt. Now that poverty is on the rise in the U.S. I fight for reform, once civil war erupts, I will fight to repel or defeat illegal aliens, politicians who seek their uninformed votes, and corrupt businesses who hire them. Sadly, I feel that a civil war is necessary (and inevitable) to get the government's attention, as it is clear that the supposedly servant government no longer serves the People. What is the difference between me and the invasion of illegal aliens? Courage. I chose to fight while they chose to run.

While I sympathize with those who want to come to America, it is not my responsibility to care for them which is exactly what I must do through socialist government hand outs. As foreigners, they are not entitled to a better life in America, and in light of the fact that each new illegal alien diminishes my and my fellow American's quality of life, I feel it is within my rights (as well as being my civic duty) to personally take action. Mexican citizens, for example, are the responsibility of Mexico, not the U.S. Once they illegally penetrate our sovereign soil, they are by definition, criminals.

Due to the volume of illegal aliens penetrating our border (est. 10,000 per day) the appropriate word is "invasion." Since the Mexican government

encourages this behavior by giving instructions in the form of comic books, these people are defacto soldiers in an unorganized militia operating as agents of the Mexican government which has the effect of creating a defacto state of war between the United States and Mexico. The time has come to confront their militia with our own.

As for what is happening in Medford, what is needed is a petition to terminate the employment of everyone in that office who had a hand in what happened from the office manager to the peon who raised the Mexican flag and lowered the American flag. I want to know who authorized the surrender to Mexico which is exactly what removal of the American flag symbolized. If I had my way they would be tried as traitors and given a choice between deportation to Mexico or death by hanging, an appropriate penalty for treason during a time of war.

This is the United States and no foreigner has any say in how we conduct domestic business in this nation, including the militarizing of our borders which should include authorizing deadly force for anyone attempting to breach the border and enter the U.S. illegally.

**Tom Cougar
American Patriot**

To whom it may concern:

Regarding the removal of the Flag of the United States of America in Oregon and its being displayed below the flag of a foreign country; the U.S. flag subsequently removed as to "not offend."

My father, the son of immigrants, defended the United States of America during the attack on Pearl Harbor. My son's grandfather, also the son of immigrants, was injured during the Battle of the Bulge. My cousin a Marine, my brother a Sailor, both served in Vietnam. My son fought in the Liberation of Iraq with the Army 82nd Special Ops and my son-in-law with the Army 101st Airborne. The tie that binds these generations together is their love of this country and their commitment to the flag they carried into battle. My father taught me how to salute the flag of these United States. We stood together, hand over heart, many times during the playing of our National Anthem. And I taught my son; my son will teach his son.

The "political correctness" going on in Oregon must immediately stop as it dishonors the men and women that have sacrificed to keep this country free. All those associated with this disgrace in Oregon must be held accountable. They must either lose their jobs or, at minimum, they should commit themselves to community service at any nearby Veteran's Center to learn firsthand from the veterans themselves the meaning of service, duty, and honor.

I propose that anyone that is "offended" by 'Old Glory' should not be in these great United States. Perhaps they would be happier in another country - one that shares in their disgrace.

Respectfully,
**Dr. David Waterman
Leominster, MA**

•••

To the Editor,

I was upset about reading this article, and the precious one, about the Mexican flag being raised above the American flag, up there in Oregon...

I'm also sad that in my very own bank, here in Southern California, there is a huge wall, entirely covered with Mexican background pictures and Mexican words very obviously written all over it.

I asked a "big wheel" in the bank, why Mexican, instead of American? The first time I asked him, he just kind of pointed to another employee area (perhaps a Mexican employee), I did not actually SEE this person. The next time I asked the "big wheel", the same one, he told me that this bank had dealt with Mexico in business terms at some points in the past...it's just DISGUSTING...I know how you feel...

Here in Los Angeles, California, I feel that lots of people feel like it is too late...and by contrast, a lot of people still are almost unaware (the wealthier ones); I guess they don't make time to read the internet, or they don't read the newspapers; OR THEY ARE IN DENIAL.

This was once a LUXURIOUS AND GORGEOUS COUNTY (L.A.), and if you are very well-off, perhaps you really do not understand as much as someone like I do...but actually, just living here most of my life it is hard for me to understand how there can be so many people just "letting this invasion happen." Los Angeles County is in TROUBLE WITH VILLARAIGOSA JUST ELECTED FOR MAYOR HERE. (He's all about La Raza and those horrible organizations)...oh no, OH YES.

Thanks for asking us all to E-Mail you. I, too, e-mail my Congressmen and Senators occasionally.

Anonymous

•••

Sir,

You have my appreciation for taking this stand. It is beyond political correctness...it is now political stupidity, and I am not going to stand still for this. NO ONE disrespects my flag if I can help it.

I will be writing the President and our goofy governor directly expressing my sincere disgust and anger over this breach of patriotism within my own country.

Continued on page 21

DIAMOND



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Letters to the Editor



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Letter to the Editor!
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If the Mexicans don't like it here, they can go somewhere else. AMERICA: LOVE IT OR LEAVE IT. Maybe that way, I'll have a few more of my hard-earned dollars in my own hand to retire on.

Thank you for your efforts. KEEP UP THE FIGHT. THIS SHOULD NOT BE GOTTEN AWAY WITH.

Sincerely,
**Ree Belinsky
Clackamas, OR**

●●●

Dear Mr. Lee;

I am no longer surprised at any thing that undermines the dignity always shown to our flag & our country. Respect & dignity from our citizens but also from people around the world was once common. (Is this one of the many 1st/changes we are seeing?) Where can the disrespect shown our laws & our flag lead? I live in Hendersonville, NC. It is not unusual to see the Mexican flag hung from a review mirror. The American flag is to be flown higher than any other flag, including state flags. A used car dealer here flies the Mexican flag at the same height as the American flag, no one is outraged. Why? If you speak up you are called a bigot or racist. If you don't.....what are you?

We have laws concerning the employment of illegals. Who will enforce them? Why do state offices hire people here illegally? Can they claim they were unaware when they were undocumented (illegal) when they were applying for the job?

I will be writing my congressmen about this & a number of other things.

Sincerely,
Mrs. Rae H. Clore

●●●

Ed:

I am with you all the way. Enough with political correctness, this is the U.S. and our flag is number one.

To hell with offending these people and if they don't like it, pack up and get out of town and go to work in Mexico and fly their flag.

Also, round up the illegal aliens and ship 'em back where they came from.

I have written my U.S. Senators and Congressional Rep. through the www.numbersusa.com website, and also called their offices through the Capitol switchboard 202 224-3121.

Sincerely,
**Robert Steiner
www.keycross.com**

●●●

Firing those people who took the Flag down is too good for them. Here is the email I tried to send:

I learned the Pledge of Allegiance in the first grade and the school day started with that Pledge all through grammar school. By the third grade we knew, by heart, the Preamble and knew what the words meant

I am an ex combat infantryman served in the ETO - and almost everyone in my platoon carried a small American Flag. I remember the thrill back at rest camps to see the flag displayed in front of Company Headquarters.

That aside, I could hardly believe your report. Officials in charge of a

government operation ordered Old Glory removed so as not to offend someone. It is love my country or leave it. I consider termination too simple a solution. They showed overt disrespect, contempt, scorn and put foreign nationals [legal or illegal] concerns ahead of my country. Incidentally, was it entirely their decision or did some foreign national employee ask for the removal of Our Flag. That aside I think firing them is letting them off too easy. They should be exiled, their passports canceled and all ports notified not to admit them on any other passport. Let them remember what they lost each day.

**Leo T Downey Jr,
God Bless All Who Read This**

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Since this agency of the STATE OF OREGON has struck colors (lowered the U.S. ensign) does that indicate it has seceded from the union? They appear to have decided they have no allegiance to anyone, I do not see even their own (state) flag. Is there any one in charge there? Do they exist? Is an individual going to need a passport to travel through the geographic area previously known as Oregon?

Though the questions are mostly rhetorical, they are intended to provoke thought, and I really do wonder what the consequences are.

**Louis Oberbeck
32°46'41"N 094°30'32"W**

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I am 100% American, used to say that I was "Heinz 57" varieties because I am mix of Irish, English, German and unknown origin German speakers plus perhaps a little Scottish ..I also served the United States for over 25 years, both as an active/reserve member of the military and as a civilian employee of the Department of Defense mainly supporting the "Silent Service" and the special mission subs whose exploits are recounted in "Blind Man's Bluff".

I agree that the Mexican flag displayed in that manner was inappropriate, not because it was a smidgen higher than the American flag, but because it was a state office building; I also believe that the American flag being displayed in one employee's cubicle like that was also inappropriate. I displayed the "Don't Tread on Me" flag on my desk and after 9/11, my computer's wallpaper was the hanging of the huge American Flag on the side of the Pentagon next to the gaping hole. I did not display a large flag over the top of my cubicle; I would not have thought that appropriate.

**Roger W Helbig
Lt Col, USAF Res (ret)
DoD Civ (ret)
Richmond, CA**

PS .. the Fire Marshall also would have concerns about the display as shown in the photos; flags displayed that way in each cubicle (and if you let one do it, you let everyone do it) constitute a fire hazard.

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If the story I just read is true, I'm am appalled. If they are offended by the American flag, by all means GO HOME where ever that is. They CHOOSE to be

in America. Then they should not be offended by our flag. Personally, I love Mexico and the Mexican flag. I've never met a Hispanic or Mexican I didn't like. I cherished the flag flying in Ensanada when I visited there. But, when they are LIVING on our soil by choice, taking our jobs and government benefits, they should speak our language and cherish our flag. They should be thankful that folks like me have worked for 25 years here in the good ole USA to give them benefits that I can't have and they can't get in their home country. I am disabled and my disability payments are too much for me to obtain Medicaid. Therefore I go without needed medical care, dental care and medication on a regular basis because I can't even afford the 20% after Medicare. I get NO help with dental or medications. I am headed toward having a stroke & have teeth rotting out in my head. But, these people can come over here and get benefits that I can't. Benefits that I've worked for 25 years to give them. Benefits that I should have and not them. And, now we can't even fly our flag at a government office for fear of offending them. Give me a break.

I say GO HOME.
**Lavon Wilson
Crosby, TX**

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Dear Sir,

I am what political correctness would refer to as third generation Mexican American. Yet I myself am appalled at such an accusation. I was born an American. I consider my self an American, not a Mexican American. I do not speak or understand Spanish, I live in America and was born in America and I speak and converse in English, not Spanish. To remain a sovereign country I believe we need to maintain what our forefathers inherited to us. I was a registered Republican, but no longer am because the line of main stream political parties has become so obscured and there is not much difference between the two, except who controls the ship. We need to become once again the "Republic" our forefathers entrusted to us. There remains legal means for any individual to become an American citizen, with the understanding that the individual agrees with what the Constitution conveys, not with what the individual wants to bring from his or her country, their government and traditions that are theirs not ours.

Mr. Alan D. Barba

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In my opinion the Mexican flag has no place to be flown on any public property be it State or Federal, unless Mexico is contributing FINANCIALLY to the services provided. Sending millions of unemployed Mexicans does not justify flying the Mexican flag.

Further, I think the USA needs to send Vicente Fox a bill for the services and supplements his Mexican People are

bilking from American Taxpayers.

The removal of the American flag in order not to offend Mexicans in the USA is infuriating and UN-American.

Thank you for doing the piece, and I am sending comments to my Governor, Warner, as well as the White House.

Sincerely,
**S. Cooper
Washington, D.C.**

●●●

Mr. Snook,

We are at war. California is lost, Oregon next. No counter attack on the horizon.

Mexican invaders, soldiers, pour across our borders without uniforms to rendezvous in places like Medford and Salem. They infect our water, infect our food, sh-t in our hamburger in the kitchens at eating places all over the country, rape our women, bludgeon our elderly, machete-kill and maim our children, pay for this carnage with their drugs, and give their illegal votes to their fellow Mexican countrymen ensconced in political positions at all levels of our government.

Mexican soldiers are cowards, surpassed only by one-hundred-fifty million, (75% of the population of Oregon) all of whom are Vichey, Tories, loyal to the monarch and Mexico.

Solzhenitsyn said that man, "Will do anything to live one more minute."

We've got 30 seconds. Some, even in Oregon, will resist.

Yours in Liberty,
Semper Fi

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Editor,

I am outraged that a state office, in Oregon, on US soil has the gall to cater to the illegals and [their] so called "offends". The political correctness of these bureaucrats has reached a point beyond ill will. Walter, an immigrant himself, agreed, "I left Yugoslavia to be an American, because it's the greatest country in the world. Why would I hold onto a political symbol of a country I chose to no longer be a part of?" Very well stated. This is NOT the UN it is the United States! ...

Up here in the NW corner of WA we have the Canadian flag flying next to Old Glory in many locations. The Canadians have no problem with this although I have heard others asking why do we need to display their flag.

As for me, I am no longer a federal employee, I do not run a city or state office yet I keep my Stars & Stripes up 24/7. Come and just try to take it down.

Thanks for this article, I'll pass it on.
Sincerely,
**Don Finlayson
Bellingham, WA**

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I hope we can turn this situation around. I am a 59 year old male who loves this country, or the country it could

Continued on page 22

Immigration MEXICANIZATION OF AMERICA



By Frosty Wooldridge
NewsWithViews.com

An arrogant billboard exploded on the Los Angeles skyline a few weeks ago by a local TV station: "Los Angeles, Mexico: Your Town, Your Community."

It was spelled out in Spanish. CA was crossed out with a red X and replaced by the word 'MEXICO'. Two smiling Latinos representing over two million illegal aliens in the City of Angels smiled from their anchor desks. Behind them stood the LA skyline replete with skyscrapers. Most disconcerting was a statue, also in the billboard picture, that stands in the middle of Mexico City.

The Mexicanization of America, races, with total support from George Bush and his Congress, full speed across our country. La Raza, the most racist organization in the world, licks its chops as sheer numbers of illegal aliens have taken over Los Angeles. They've run Americans out of countless cities and communities. They've trashed school systems and bankrupted 86 hospitals. They've thrown trash throughout the park systems. They defy laws by not carrying car insurance, driver's licenses, work off the books paying no taxes, brutalize our schools with their language, spread drugs, and more terrifying are the thousands of cases of TB and hepatitis they spread into Los Angeles. In other words, they're bringing their Third World into our world.

La Raza's motto is, "For the Latino race, everything; for anyone outside the

race, nothing!" What is their prime directive? It is the 'Reconquista of Aztlan' or the retaking of our four border states back into the umbrella of Mexico.

You want to know something?

They succeed at blinding speed. Last year, 800,000 California citizens fled that state. The year before that, 800,000 others fled. Where are they going? Into the interior of America! They flee to Idaho, Montana, Washington, Oregon, South Dakota, Colorado and Nevada. Imagine Americans fleeing to safer places in their own country because of a foreign nation's citizens invading our country! But the problem is, illegal aliens reside in every state of the Union—even Alaska. They're exploding and expanding.

What are the consequences? Last week, one 19 year old illegal alien, Raoul Garcia Gomez, in cold blood, shot two Denver, Colorado police officers in the back without provocation. He walked away leaving Officer Donald Young dead and his partner wounded. He ran back to Mexico where he is safe from prosecution.

What makes Gomez's situation more horrific stems from the fact that Mayor Hickenlooper of Denver runs restaurants that hire illegal aliens and Gomez was one of his hired workers. More sobering, Governor Bill Owens was discovered this year endorsing a booklet aiding illegal aliens coming into Colorado. In that booklet, he showed them how to access schools, medical services and even how NOT to get caught and how to evade immigration agents. Note that he is a sitting governor of a state in our nation.

Recently, this journalist testified at the Colorado Capitol. Six liberal legislators

had a chance to pass a bill denying benefits to illegal aliens and add an amendment to go after employers who hire them. Representatives Carroll, Todd, Weismann, Ragsdale, Gallegos and Todd heard 28 speakers to five in favor of the amendment, but voted it down. Ironically, Fran Coleman was the most vocal opponent of the bill and Officer Young was gunned down in her district. Coloradans haven't heard a peep from these six legislators who put the needs of illegal aliens before Colorado Citizens.

It doesn't end there. David Marsh, a cop from LA, was killed two years ago by an illegal that is still at large in Mexico. Eight women in Boulder, Colorado were raped by eight illegals a year ago and all rapists save one fled to Mexico. A New York woman a week ago was attacked and killed by an illegal.

The Mexicanization of America races unimpeded by our own elected officials. In the last election, George Bush featured a web site for Mexicans in America with the Mexican flag promoted—not the Stars and Stripes. So did Kerry!

How many Mexicans? Over 10 million illegal Mexicans overwhelm us, kills us, rape us, rape our welfare and hospitals, steal jobs from our poorest Americans and destroy our schools with their language which they refuse to relinquish. Even while they detest us, break our laws and invade our country—they send \$15 billion in cash back to their broken down, corrupt country each year. Thousands of Mexicans in LA feature a bumper sticker that reads, "F**K YOU! THIS IS MEXICO." Isn't that a wonderful welcome to the City of Angels?

More insulting stems from the 56 Mexican consulates built in major cities across our country. Do you get the feeling we're being colonized by a failed Third World country like Mexico? You would be correct. President Fox refuses to employ and create opportunity for his own citizens. He represents what all Third World leaders stand for—the high, privileged classes and the poor are damned.

Do you want to talk about crime in Mexico? The entire political system is super corrupt. Army generals run drugs for Fox. Mail carriers bribe patrons or won't deliver their mail. It's coming to America with a vengeance. About 60 percent of the 20,000 members of the "18th Street Drug Distribution Gang" in Los Angeles is composed of illegal aliens from Mexico. In the latest report, 95 percent of all felony warrants are made out to illegal aliens. Hundreds of thousands of illegals drive without licenses or insurance. They run from accident scenes. An officer in Denver, Colorado on the Mike Rosen Show, May 11, 2005, said that eight out of 10 traffic stops include illegal aliens. They drive drunk and virtually ignore red lights. This year, two Hispanic agents in the DMV of Colorado gave out Commercial Driver's Licenses to hundreds of illegal aliens who promptly drove their 18-wheelers into 26 horrific accidents on the Front Range. Third World Momentum accelerates in all aspects of the Mexicanization of America.

How do we stop America from becoming a failed country like Mexico? You and millions of Americans who have joined numbersusa.com and become faxers or phone callers weekly. You and millions joining teamamericapac.org to vote out the deadwood and vote in Americans to the Congress who will work for America in 2006. You and millions of Americans supporting the Chris Simcox at www.civilhomelanddefense.us and Jim Gilchrist with minutemanproject.com. Also, minutemanparty.com. Go to my website for more top sites where you can get involved in your state.

Write for that 28-point action letter to stop this nation-destroying madness. For you West Coast night owls, every Thursday you can catch yours truly in Las Vegas, Nevada on Mark Edwards' "Wake Up America" talk show on 50,000watt KDWN-Am-720 10:00 PM to midnight PT.

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Flag Letters Continued ... In a recent poll 80% of Americans feel the flag needs to be protected.

be if we were to get back to the melting pot rather than the multi culture program.

People use to come here to be Americans as well as take advantage of the opportunities. Today they want the opportunities only and still be Spanish, Italian or what ever to include there culture and if that culture has aspects that do not conform to our laws and values(i.e. cock fights etc) that is to bad it is our culture, our ways and should not be stopped. One day we may find ourselves in the same boat as say Iraq which it's different sects and at each others throats.

Out of Many, One. This country will always be strong and vibrant if with our many or diverse people we would be of one mind about where we want to go as AMERICANS, not African-American, Iranian-American, or Italian-American. We are AMERICANS period, going in the same direction, for ourselves and our children and our children's children. We keep asking GOD to bless America. We should be asking America to bless GOD and He will bless us.

So with all that said, I pray we can get

our flag back in place at Medford's employment agency.

ROY OAKS
Frankfort, OH

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The notion that the American flag could be treated with disrespect because it might offend an immigrant working on a public American payroll is outrageous. Do these employees speak English? Are they citizens? Are their clothes still soaking wet?

Various reports indicate that Mexico-America has been planned to be extended from California through Oregon under the Aztlan Plan. So, this behavior by this specific office will not be an isolated event, but it will rather be part of an overall design approved by Washington. There are not enough Mr. Snook's to prevent this. Both existing and new laws will be implemented to control and suppress his behavior and that of like-minded individuals as matters escalate. It's going to get very nasty.

The planned economic/financial destruction of the US by those acting as

Bush's brain has been clearly described on the Net and is well under way. Along with that will be the destruction of the traditional American society with something that can only be described as social anarchy, a complete riotous mess.

Time for the gringos to take Spanish lessons!

Bob Alford

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The American flag should be the ONLY flag flown, this IS America! The only other flag that should be permitted in a public building should be the State flag and THAT should be flown below the American flag, not the flag of an invading country or any other country!!!

Tori L. Stordahl
San Bernardino, CA

●●●

Born and educated in these United States and severed in the Army during the Korean War period - I object to our flag being the second class citizen and for that matter there should be NO OTHER flag present. And if the people that want to fly their flags here, I would

tell them to go back where they came from and mount their flags wherever they want. I'll bet they will not even have an American Flag in their country.

I think our open door policies should become more restrictive and in the case of the illegal population a closed door policy. Or else we will not be The United States Of America - but in fact the rest of the world basking in the freedom of America and taking from this freedom what they want and giving back nothing. And refusing to blend here in OUR COUNTRY by maintaining their foreign cultures and language.

Once we had a common language in the United States - but that's because the people coming to this country took the time to learn to speak what was then a common language and adopted our way of life and added to this life improving on it over the many years.

We have heroes from all over the world who have added to the foundation of this country and in one way or another gave it all back.

Richard Ingle

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Motorcycle Madness Continued from page 19

police. I personally received two tickets in less than a 2 hour period. One for 50 mph in a 35 mph zone, where the posted speed was 45 mph and my actual speed was 43 mph, and the police car was behind me as we were coming up to a red light. As I got within 50 feet of the light it changed to green and this is when I noticed the reds and blues behind me. I pulled over and was in the company of at least 6 law enforcement officers. I was questioned as to who and what I was, photographed, video and audio recorded, as was my motorcycle, then I was given a bogus ticket.

The next encounter was while riding with friends through a quiet neighborhood at approximately 20 mph, and I was again followed and stopped. This time it was for failure to use turn signals. In this state it is not required to use turn signals on motorcycles until after dark. They must have chosen to ignore seeing my hand signal, so I received another ticket along with the harassment, pictures, and all. That was the end of my evening, I went home after ticket number two.

The next day the Vagos were having a poker run, hardly anyone participated do to the fear of more tickets and harassment. The poker run is done to raise money for, in this case, the local substance abuse organization. So, since the poker run didn't go over very well, that needy agency lost out on money.

I am not now, nor have I ever been a member or affiliated with any group. I support their right to freedom as I would anyone. I believe in human rights, and having said that let me tell you what happened the next day. I mounted my video camera on the back of my motorcycle in obvious plain sight to document and record the festivities and other activities around town. I road through town and then to Schroeder Park. While socializing, and complaining about my two tickets ... a member of the Christian Motorcycle group the "Sons of God," informed me that he had received nine tickets so far. One of which was for endangerment because his passenger was not wearing a DOT approved helmet. After listening to his tale of wow, I decided to leave and followed two police cars to the exit, where they parked in the road blocking my exit. I went around them, then stopped and put my feet down, and then proceeded onto the roadway at, again, 20 miles per hour. They followed me, pulled me over, and then arrested me for illegally recording with an audio device. They confiscated my camera and proceeded to take me to jail. They came to my camera, my "device," it did not go to them.

Police Cars have a saying on them. Have you noticed it reads "to protect and serve"? Well, I just received a good dose of what is being served here! I have lived and worked in this community for the past twenty-some-odd years. I am not proud to be a part of it any longer. Thank you for reading this.

Richard Anthony
Grants Pass, OR

...

Laughter's Link to Health May Be in the Blood

By Rob Stein
Washington Post Staff Writer

According to the Bible, "a merry heart doeth good like a medicine." Now, modern science may be validating that Old Testament proverb -- a good laugh may actually help fend off heart attacks and strokes.

"We believe laughing is good for your health," said Michael Miller of the University of Maryland School of Medicine in Baltimore, who led the research. "And we think we have evidence to show why that's the case."

A growing body of other evidence has suggested that negative emotions, particularly depression and stress, can be harmful, making people more prone to illness, more likely to experience suffering from their ailments and less likely to recover as quickly, or at all. One recent study even found sudden emotional shock can trigger life-threatening heart symptoms that many doctors mistake for a classic heart attack. Miller himself, along with his colleagues, had done a study that found people who have a negative reaction to social situations tend to be more prone to heart disease.

But far less has been done to examine whether positive emotions can reduce the risk and complications of illness.

"The focus is always on the negative aspects," he said. "We thought, 'Why not look at the opposite?'"

So they decided to examine the ability of blood vessels to expand -- known as vasodilation. Poor vasodilation can increase the risk of heart attacks and strokes by making the passageways prone to being blocked, cutting off vital blood flow.

The researchers asked 20 healthy men and women to watch clips of two movies -- either the violent opening battle scene in the 1998 film "Saving Private Ryan" or a humorous scene from a comedy, such as the 1996 "Kingpin."

The researchers tested the subjects' vasodilation, before and after the movie, by constricting and releasing an artery in their arms with a blood pressure cuff and then using ultrasound to measure how the blood vessels were functioning.

The researchers discovered striking differences depending on which movie the volunteers had watched. Blood flow was significantly reduced in 14 of the 20 volunteers who saw the stressful film. In contrast, blood flow markedly increased in 19 of the 20 volunteers after watching the funny movie, the researchers reported last week at a meeting of the American College of Cardiology in Orlando.

Overall, blood flow decreased by about 35 percent after experiencing stress but increased 22 percent after laughter -- an improvement equivalent to that produced by a 15- to 30-minute workout.

"It was a pretty dramatic difference," Miller said.

Previous research has indicated that stress hormones may be the primary culprit by which negative emotions harm health. When a person is under stress, the body pumps out hormones such as adrenalin and cortisol. That is designed to prime the body for a fight or a flight, but the hormones can have

detrimental effects on the body, including suppressing the immune system and constricting blood vessels.

Miller and his colleagues hypothesize that laughter may have a contrasting effect, causing the body to release other natural chemicals known as endorphins -- pleasure-producing agents best known for producing the "runner's high" -- that may counteract the effects of stress hormones and cause blood vessels to dilate.

The researchers acknowledge they are still a long way from proving their hypothesis or fully understanding the process, but they say the theory makes sense.

"Conceivably, when you laugh you send a signal to the brain to release these endorphins, and these may activate receptors to release other chemicals, perhaps including nitric oxide, which is known to enhance blood vessel dilation," Miller said.

Laughter may also use similar mechanisms to help boost the immune system and reduce the amount of inflammation in the body, which has been linked to an increased risk of a host of health problems, said Lee Berk, an associate professor of health promotion and education who studies laughter at Loma Linda University in California.

"Laughter is not dissimilar from exercise," Berk said. "It's not going to cure someone from stage three cancer, but in terms of prevention it does make sense. In a sense, we have our own apothecary on our shoulders. Positive emotions such as laughter affect your biology."

Other researchers said the findings add new insight into the interplay of emotions and health.

"This is just the latest example of the importance of the mind-body relationship," said Herbert Benson, who studies emotions and health at Harvard Medical School. "This shows that we have to look not only towards how to reduce stress but how we can elicit positive feelings, as well."

Heart specialists agreed.

"We've known that there's an association between state of mind and cardiovascular health," said Stuart Seides, associate director of cardiology at Washington Hospital Center. "This type of study gives us a peek into the mechanism."

Robert Provine, a University of Maryland psychologist who also studies laughter, was somewhat more cautious. It remains unclear whether the act of



laughter was really at work in the movie-watching volunteers, since the researchers did not actually measure how much they laughed, he said.

"The results could be the result of just the act of watching the movie. Or maybe it's just the act of engaging in something interesting that doesn't cause stress," Provine said.

Miller acknowledged he has no way to know for sure that laughing per se produced the effect he measured.

"Is it laughing or just feeling good? We don't know at this time. But clearly laughter is an active process, and probably a good belly laugh will be better than just smiling. I think this active process helps release endorphins," he said.

Provine, despite his doubts about the study, is all for laughter.

"I strongly recommend laughter, based on the fact that a life of laughter is better than one without it," Provine said. "It feels better when you do it."

Miller envisions a time when doctors might recommend that everyone get 15 to 20 minutes of laughter a day in the same way they recommend at least 30 minutes of daily exercise.

"Wouldn't it be ironic if it turns out that laughing 15 to 20 minutes a day would be added as part of overall good health habits, like running?" Miller asked.

He added that he would not recommend that people replace their daily trips to the gym with a Marx Brothers movie, but they could consider adding activities that make them laugh.

"There's no downside that I know of to laughing," Miller said. "Based on these results, I am happy to recommend laughing to my patients."

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US~Observer *Demanding Accountability*

Oregon Man Ordered to Pay Support For Another's Child

By Edward Snook
Investigative Reporter

Sedgwick County, Kansas - Jack Richardson of Grants Pass, Oregon has been ignoring a child support order out of Kansas for years, believing the child concerned was not his. Richardson had a relationship, over 20 years ago with Diane Baker of Wichita, Kansas. The two split-up and Richardson moved out west where he entered into another relationship which produced two daughters. Subsequent to Richardson leaving Kansas Ms. Baker gave birth to a son and Richardson was presumed by the government there to be the father. He has raised and supported his own daughters with no help from their mother these past 18 years and never had the time or money to clear up his Kansas support problem. The justice system finally caught up with Richardson this past year and began garnishing his wages. They also confiscated his tax return. Richardson, who has never had an abundance of money finally got in touch with Ms. Baker and she assured him the child was not his. Richardson and Baker were informed that they needed to get a DNA test done and that would take care of the problem. They then contacted DNA Diagnostics Center (DNA) and Richardson paid over \$500.00 for a test on himself, Diane Baker and her son William Baker. DNA found, "the alleged father is excluded as the biological father of the child (William Baker) named above. This conclusion is based on the non-matching alleles observed at the loci listed above with a PI equal to zero. The alleged father lacks the genetic markers that must be contributed to the child by the biological father. The probability of paternity is 0%." Diane Baker filed a motion with the Sedgwick County District Court on May 18, 2005. The case was heard on June 1, 2005 before Hearings Officer Lawrence Hollis. Hollis denied the motion and in a reported conversation with court personnel after the hearing he stated, "some one is going to pay this bill." After hearing of Hollis' decision Richardson contacted an attorney in Wichita who informed him it would cost a great deal of money to fight the case and that he probably wouldn't prevail because of the length of time. At this juncture Richardson contacted the US~Observer and we agreed to attempt to help. We in turn attempted to contact Judge Eric Yost who is the Presiding Family Law Judge of the 18 Judicial District Court located in Wichita. The judge's clerk informed us we should email the judge and describe the problem and that he would answer our email. We haven't heard from Judge Yost, so we can only assume that he doesn't intend on providing us with an answer. Judge Yost is Hollis' superior and as such he should easily see that Hollis' ruling is clearly a miscarriage of justice, which should be corrected. If you are outraged at this court's response and lack of response please call the court and urge them to do the right thing and correct their unjust finding against Jack Richardson. The court can be reached at 316-660-5800.

Constitutional Income: Do you have any?

By Devvy Kidd
NewsWithViews.com

My involvement in the 'take back America' movement fifteen years ago did not originate over the issue of the federal income tax. As a matter of fact, there really wasn't a "take back America" movement back in 1991, although it was poised to take off like a rocket ship following the alleged election of Bill Clinton. What piqued my interest was one paragraph in a book which I just happened to read one day at a big book convention in LA. How strange that of all the books in that building, I was handed this one book, flipped it open to the chapter on the Federal Reserve and here I am today. What I read did not match what I had been taught and what most of the American people have been told about the "FED." Because of the difference in what I read and what I had believed, I decided I would have to solve this puzzle, and, I did.

While I have drawn a considerable amount of criticism over my comments about the "tax movement," my opinion hasn't changed. The so-called tax movement is nothing more than a cottage industry filled with cons and charlatans out there selling poison to desperate Americans looking for any kind of relief. These unsuspecting Americans are snared by so-called 'tax guru's' who, despite being given the exact legal reasons why their bogus legal theories are garbage, continue to peddle their poison. The state and federal prisons are full of their former clients. While there are a number of individuals who are on point and approaching the problem the right way, they are far outnumbered by shysters.

For years I have recommended people visit Larry Becraft's legal web site to educate themselves on why the current favorite 'patriot' issue is not legally sound and will get people into trouble - especially the dangerous "straw man" or "redemption" nonsense being sold around this country. The usual response I get from those selling this stench is no one knows what they're talking about, only they are right. The judges are crooked and then the personal attacks from these "business men" calling me an ugly old hag and similar comments. There is no question all federal judges are compromised on the income tax issue, none at all. However, that excuse doesn't wash for all these insane and stupid "get the IRS out of your life" packages being sold or ridiculous lawsuits eating huge amounts of money, but never amount to anything except more pitches for donations.

There are only a limited number of ways to get rid of the income tax:

1. Vote out this corrupt, compromised Congress and replace them with constitutionalists who understand the issue. With vote fraud and tens of millions of Americans with their hands out to Congress, it will take a miracle to see that happen. But, every one of them that we can replace in 2006 is critical. The same holds true for state legislatures - we must get the bad ones out of office in 2006.

2. Via the states adopting one of Dr. Edwin Vieira's money bills. Samples are contained in his master piece, *Pieces of Eight*. This will only happen after Americans get fully educated about where their income tax money goes and why a direct income tax is not necessary to fund the federal government. This is also crucial. 95% of the American people don't have a clue about the money trail, so we need to get them educated.

3. Changing public opinion about the income tax through education. This is what I have been doing for the past fifteen years. Without cooperation from the media and popular "conservative" talk show hosts who apparently are concerned only with their multi million dollar paychecks, it has been a long, difficult road. Couple that with all the disinformation out there from all these cons and charlatans making money off the desperate, what has been offered to the American people is confusion and who do you believe?

Phil Hart is one of the most intelligent individuals I have had the pleasure of knowing. Phil was elected to the Idaho State Legislature last year and has just finished his first term in office. His "other" job is running his own engineering firm in Idaho. Phil Hart's book, *Constitutional Income: Do You Have Any?* is one of the most important sources of information on the income tax next to Edwin's books on the central bank. *Constitutional Income: Do You Have Any* is different from other very, very fine publications like *Creature From Jekyll Island* and *Secrets of the Federal Reserve*.

What makes Phil's book so unique and so very important is that so much of the information in his book is taken directly from the Congressional Record, court case opinions and court files. It is by far and away the single most comprehensive compilation of information and documents on the 16th Amendment and its ramifications available in this country. Bill Benson's, *The Law That Never Was* is irrefutable proof the 16th Amendment was never ratified. Phil's book is the premier tool in reading exactly what went on at the time of the ratification, before and after, what members of Congress were saying and the true intent of the amendment. When I say true intent, you will be shocked by reading official historical documents compared to the bilge spewed by your Congress critter or some liar from the IRS.

Due to the deliberate dumbing down of America's children over the past forty years and the blatant propaganda churned out by the IRS, how many Americans have even a rudimentary understanding of a direct tax vs an indirect tax? Phil's book covers this in a historical context that few have ever seen. Based on Phil's intense research, he filed a lawsuit which was predictably, rejected by the federal judges (parasites) who will never cross their host (Congress). In the October 2001 term, Phil filed a Petition for Writ of Certiorari to the Supreme Court of the United States. It is nothing short of brilliant and again, as predicted, the U.S. Supreme Court didn't have the courage or integrity to take on this issue. The U.S. Supreme Court is pathetic and they shame the very integrity that our legal system was built upon.

For the sake of full disclosure, I do not receive any compensation for recommending Phil's book, even though he is a cherished friend. Knowledge is power and education is everything. We need to get Americans on the same sheet of music in getting accurate, fully documented information on the income tax and "Federal" Reserve (central bank) issues. We don't need to see more and more Americans filling up federal prisons because they bought into junk "legal" arguments from some guru on the income tax issue.

By changing public opinion on a mass scale, we will see a surge of our fellow Americans who will "throw out the bums" and bring about change and the end of this tyrannical, progressive, communist oriented income tax. I strongly recommend you purchase Phil's book and read it. Buy a copy for a friend, your accountant, your lawyer and anyone you know in law enforcement. People are always asking me what they can do, here is something everyone can do that will produce results. It takes time because we have no support from the media, but every single person we reach with the truth is one more freedom fighter.

"One man with courage makes a majority." President Andy Jackson. Believe it. Live it. Stay the course.