

ELECTION 2006

Josephine Co. Sheriff Election Keep Problems or Start Fresh?

By Edward Snook Investigative Reporter

Volumes have been written about Sheriff Dave Daniel's ludicrous administration, his lies, incompetence, enormous waste of tax dollars, abuses, etc. (conduct a Google search on Dave Daniel or contact the Observer for many such examples). And now Daniel wants to be a Josephine County Commissioner and Daniel's right-hand man, current under-sheriff, Brian Anderson wants to become our Sheriff. For voters to elect either person to any position would be just as much an embarrassment as when Daniel's "Chicken Case" was laughed about by police departments and citizens around America.

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Jackson Co. Sheriff Election

By Curt Chanler and Jeanne Wollman Investigative Reporters

Elections, especially on the local level, are becoming more important each year. Those elected have an enormous impact on the community they serve.



Current Sheriff Mike Winters

The sheriff in any county has a difficult job that demands a strong, knowledgeable leader.

Continued on page 4

Gold Hill Recall Success

Recall Signatures Certified – Election Scheduled

By Edward Snook Investigative Reporter

Gold Hill, Oregon – On January 31, 2006, a recall petition was filed in Jackson County against three conspiring city councilors by Gold Hill resident Scott Baker. Baker took on the effort to recall councilors Gus Wolf, Donna Silva, and Jan Fish out of a much warranted need to clean up city government in Gold Hill.

The petition required that 61 registered voters sign it in order to make a subsequent recall election a reality. Petition gatherers had 90 days to collect the required number of valid signatures.

Signature Gathering Successful

According to Jackson County Clerk Kathy Beckett, by April 20, 2006, the clerk's office had received the required number of signatures on each councilor to

call for a recall election. Beckett has scheduled the election for May 23, 2006, wherein Gold Hill voters will have the opportunity to recall three councilors who have made a complete mockery out of their city government. Gus Wolf, Jan Fish, and Donna Silva will have five days to resign and save the taxpayers hundreds of dollars and further embarrassment for themselves, or they can choose to write a response as to why they shouldn't

be recalled and force an election.

Councilor's Attacks On Police Department Fail

The US~Observer has covered the ongoing turmoil in Gold Hill over the past 4 months. Our investigation has shown that councilors Gus Wolf, Donna Silva, and Jan Fish have made an all out, yet unsuccessful, effort to demonize and demoralize the Gold Hill City Police

Department. City Recorder Mary Goddard, appointed Judge Don Leahan, and lap dog reporter for the Medford Mail Tribune Sanne Specht, have clearly aided and abetted the three rogue city councilors in their underhanded efforts. All complaints against the department have proved groundless and clearly false. A great majority of local residents have openly shown support for their police department and its Chief, Dean Muchow.



Council members faced with being recalled. From left to right: Gus Wolf, Donna Silva, Jan Fish

See, also, the BREAKING Gold Hill story on Page 4, "Mail Tribune Continues Spreading Lies"

Our Lands Are No Longer Safe Mountain lion carnage caused by incompetence

By Cecil Fredi

There was a time a family could enjoy the wide expanses of our western United States being free to hike, explore and camp at will with little or no fear. We can thank our prudent ancestors for this relaxing outdoor freedom we have enjoyed in the past.

Today it's a different story, a different outdoors and a different experience. Today our lands have become dangerous, hostile and unsafe all because of primarily one animal--the mountain lion. For this we can thank the heads of the game departments, the biologists, the brainless Wildlife commissioners and their large following of protectionist preservationists.

What you will see written here are facts—not to scare you but to educate you and your loved ones.

Reno Gazette Journal, April 6, 2006. "Hunter shoots lion that



charged his, son." This man and his son were lucky...he had a gun and had a split second to fire and kill it. In most cases like this the outcome will usually be too gruesome and bloody to write about. But here is what the RGJ printed at the close of the article

This 200+ pound cougar can fit a child's entire head in its mouth.

given to them by the California D.F.G website. Mind you, these are just the bold print topics. "What to do: Do not hike alone! Keep children close to you! Do not approach a lion! Do not run from a lion! Do not crouch down or bend over! Appear larger! Fight back if attacked!" There is one caveat missing here that begs to be added to the list. "Don't leave the safety of your home!" Only this last warning is guaranteed to keep you safe. The other seven are nothing more than false security and lame ideas to keep the public from ever knowing what is really going on out there.

Mountain lion populations not only exploded out of control in recent years, these carnivores are reaching body weights that

Star Automotive Co-Owner Assaults Wife With Loaded Gun and Gets Off

By Ron Lee Investigative Reporter

Grants Pass, OR - According to Sandy Lefeber, co-owner of STARprises Inc., late on January 24th, 2006 she and her husband, James Lefeber, laid in their bed together when she asked him about several bank accounts that she had recently discovered. Sandy had always been "kept out of the loop" about finances and the workings of their company but questions had recently begun to arise in her mind about her husbands dealings so she decided it would be best to ask. For James who, according to Sandy, is ultra controlling of her and of the family, Sandy's questioning must have been absolutely unacceptable and he soon lost complete self control. Grabbing a fully

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US~Observer

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The Grange

Adopted Resolutions for a Stronger America

The National Grange is the nation's oldest national agricultural organization, with grassroots units established in 3,600 local communities in 37 states. Its 300,000 members provide service to agriculture and rural areas on a wide variety of issues, including economic development, education, family endeavors, and legislation designed to assure a strong and viable Rural America. It was formed in the years following the American

professional staff administers policies established annually by democratic Grange processes at local, county, and state levels.

National Grange Headquarters Building • 1616 H St. NW • Washington, DC 20006. Built in 1957 - The original headquarters was located on Lafayette Park.

Each year, a listing of more than 1,400 issues of concern is published and distributed by the National Grange.

Grange Resolutions

The US~Observer will be publishing a series of resolutions that have been adopted by the Oregon State Grange. Starting with "The right of the people to keep and bear arms (below). Unlike many organizations that compromise and sell out their original intentions and goals to special interests, politics and green-backs, the Grange has remained true to its roots.

Since 1956 William "Bill" Waggoner has been a member of the Grange.

The following resolution was drafted by William Waggoner, "Master" and adopted by Deer Creek Grange #371 at its regular meeting held on April 12, 2004. It was subsequently adopted by the Oregon State Grange at its 131st annual session held on June 21-25 at Joseph, Oregon.

Subject (NAFTA) North American Free Trade Agreement, (CAFTA) Central America Free Trade Agreement, and (FTAA) Free Trade of the Americas.

Whereas: Stage 1 of the free trade agreement, known as (NAFTA) was passed by Congress in the year of 1993. We were told this trade agreement would create more jobs and prosperity

for the United States people by removing the trade barriers. It turns out this trade agreement has been disastrous for our farmers and industries, forcing many into bankruptcy.

Whereas: Stage 2 of the free trade agreement is known as (CAFTA). A draft of this trade agreement will expand (NAFTA) to include Guatemala, Honduras, El Salvador, Nicaragua, Costa Rica, and the Dominican Republic. The powers to be are hoping to have ratification of this trade agreement by July, 2005.

Whereas: Stage 3 of the free trade agreements is known as (FTAA). A draft of this agreement is being written for passage by the U.S. Congress in the event (CAFTA) is adopted by Congress. Chapter 11, Article 3, of the (FTAA) agreement states that signatory nations will comply with the rules and disciplines of the World Trade Organization (WTO). The (FTAA) will cover all governments and laws from Alaska to the southern tip of South America.

Whereas: These trade agreements will destroy the family farmers, our manufacturing sector and especially what is left of our textiles industries, through cheap labor, thereby destroying the economy of the U.S.A.

Whereas: These free trade agreements have nothing to do with genuine free trade, but managed trade. They are creating hemispheric governing bodies which will consist of an Executive Committee and other committees, a Secretarial, and a Dispute Settlement body. None of these people will be elected by the people of the U.S.A. Plus, the (WTO) has complete control over the European Union (EU), (NAFTA) and all future U.S. trade agreements.

Whereas: To understand what these free trade agreements are all about is to quote Henry Kissinger, former Secretary of State, "It (NAFTA) will represent the most creative step toward A NEW WORLD ORDER taken by any group of countries since the end of the cold war, and the first step toward an even larger vision of a free-trade zone

for the entire Western Hemisphere... (NAFTA) is not a conventional trade agreement, but the architecture of a new international system... a Western Hemisphere-wide free trade system--- With NAFTA as the first step---would give the Americas a commanding role no matter what happens." End of quote printed in the Los Angeles Times, July 18, 1993.

Whereas: Many people of the U.S.A. can remember that prior to the 1970's, years before trade agreements such as (ITO), (GAFF),(WTO) and (NAFTA) were put in place, the U.S. economy was one of the best in the world. We raised most of our own food, manufactured cars, clothing, etc. All of this was done by American businesses and labor. Today when a person goes to the store, most everything he plans to buy is made in China or some other foreign country. We are becoming a service-sector jobs nation.

Therefore be it resolved: That the Oregon State Grange requests that the United States Congress repeal (NAFTA) and stop the passage of (CAFTA) and (FYAA) because these trade agreements violate Article VI of the U.S. Constitution which is the supreme law of the land, and Article V, which states only an amended process to the U.S. Constitution can change these laws. These trade laws also violate the 10th Amendment of the U.S. Constitution, which describes the state's rights laws. The rejection of these trade agreements will protect our sovereignty as a nation and the American people from a One World Socialist Government.

This resolution adopted by the Deer Creek Grange #371 at its regular meeting held on May 9, 2005.

This resolution was adopted by the Oregon State Grange at its 132nd Annual Session held at Reedsport Oregon, the week of June 20-24, 2005.

Don't miss our next edition wherein we will publish the third resolution in our series. The subject will be marriage, wedlock and matrimony. Find out how the Grange views these all important institutions.

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Grange Headquarters,
Washington, D.C.

Civil War to unite private citizens in improving the economic and social position of the nation's farm population. Over the past 137 years, it has evolved to include non-farm rural families and communities.

The Grange is also a fraternal order known as the Order of Patrons of Husbandry, hence the "P of H" on the organization's logo. Founding members determined that a fraternal organization would be best able to combine loyalty and democratic ideals to provide service to others. The National Grange was one of the first formal groups to admit women to membership on the basis of equality with men. It remains so today.

The 11-story landmark National Grange headquarters building in Washington, D.C. was dedicated by President Dwight D. Eisenhower on June 29, 1960, and is the only private edifice in a federal block across from the White House. It serves as a non-governmental headquarters for agricultural and rural families. A

US~Observer Victim's Assistance Fund

The US~Observer is constantly contacted by individuals and groups who have been wronged and/or falsely accused of crimes. In the majority of cases we are their last recourse for aid in their vindication of these malicious allegations.

Our operating expenses during an investigation are such that we can not help all of those who aren't able to afford our services.

These people need your assistance and through your generous donations we can provide a place of refuge where the innocent aren't prosecuted and the guilty are exposed. For more information call 541-474-7885 or simply send a check to:

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ARE YOU A VICTIM OF FALSE PROSECUTION?

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

You then rush to an attorney, pay him a retainer to cover the usual \$150.00 per hour (if not higher), which he/she charges, to supposedly defend your innocence. The attorney usually files some motions, writes some worthless letters and makes 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.

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

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

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

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

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

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

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Continued from page 1 Jackson Co. Sheriff Election

The two who have filed for sheriff in Jackson County, Oregon are the current Sheriff, Mike Winters, and Medford Police Department's Lt. Tim George.

Sheriff Winters was elected in 2002, on the promise to put more patrols on the road with a faster response time in the rural areas. By instituting 12 hour shifts and some key personnel changes Sheriff Winters was able to patrol and increase protection for those located along the 1000 miles of roads that run through Jackson County. Moving the patrol headquarters to the Medford Airport has increased efficiency and decreased costs.

Another problem that had to be rectified was an out-of-control Community Justice Department. Director Robert Grindstaff had been served with a letter of no confidence and charges of corruption by his staff and other county employees. Then it was discovered Mr. Grindstaff had placed serious offenders at the Star Gulch Ranger Station near Ruche, Oregon rather than the low level offenders purported to be there. Sheriff Winters exposed the deception to the citizens of Ruche by stating he worked for the citizens and he refused to be a part of this deceit. Mr. Grindstaff has since retired and Community Justice is now in the capable hands of Mr. Danny Jordan.

One of Sheriff Winter's many strong points is his commitment to serve the

public. He continually seeks input from not only his department but throughout the county. He demands progressive and proactive leadership from himself and those around him.

Needed improvements in the jail and an increase in inmate housing is a work in progress but much has been accomplished. The addition of state-of-the-art computers in patrol cars has given deputies tools that were only dreamed of a few years ago. Sheriff Winters didn't stop with his department; he has tied other departments to this highly productive technology.

Sheriff Winters implemented a County Child is Missing Alert system which can place up to 1000 calls a minute to homes around the area where a child is missing, which complements the more widespread AmberAlert.

Budget cuts over the years have reduced patrol deputies to a current low of 28 at a time when the number of calls for a deputy have dramatically increased. In the first nine months of 2003, there were 20,497 cases handled by 28 deputies in the 2,801 square miles of Jackson County.

In comparison the Medford Police Department reports that during that same period they responded to 19,983 cases with approximately 100 fulltime officers covering only 22 square miles.

Also running in the sheriff race is Lt. Tim George a 28 year veteran of the Medford, Oregon Police Department (MPD). George, 49, is married and the

father of two. He moved from Portland in 1974, to attend Southern Oregon College and then accepted a position with the Medford Police Department. He was in charge of patrols and his current position is supervisor of detectives. Lt. George also hosts a MPD show, Rules of the Road, on the local RVTVPublic Television station.

As reporters we can say that Sheriff Winters is very accessible to the public and the press. We have found that it is very difficult to meet with Lt. George. It might be noted that Medford Police Department maintains very tight security and little public interaction with citizens. It appears that Lt. George is in agreement with those policies. If it appears that we are short on information regarding George it could be because of his inaccessibility. This is definitely a drawback for George.

As for complaints of corruption, an area the US~Observer specializes in and therefore receives far more calls than mainstream presses, we have had no complaints against Sheriff Mike Winters administration during his first term in office. We have had 36 complaints to-date regarding the Medford Police Department, however only two against George personally, one of which was unfounded.

The US~Observer has recently adopted a policy of not endorsing political candidates. However, having dealt with sheriffs across the country we have not witnessed one where a sheriff



MPD's Lt. Tim George

has been as open to the public as Winters and where a sheriff has actually kept all his election promises. Mike Winters is a first.

One last area of concern for voters regards a sheriff or high level officer actually getting out and working with his deputies, handling cases, etc. In dealing with law enforcement on a daily basis those of us who work at the Observer have witnessed both the need and the positive results when those running any department share personally with law enforcement duties. A close look at Mike Winters record shows that he excels in this category and a close look at Tim George's history shows clearly that he does not.

The US~Observer has brought you, the voter, the important facts you need to make the all-important decision of who to vote for in the upcoming election for sheriff in Jackson County, Oregon. Make that decision wisely, as these days it is a very expensive decision indeed!

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Mail Tribune Continues Spreading Lies Councilors Lie To City Attorney & What About Judge Leahan?

By Edward Snook
Investigative Reporter

Gold Hill, Oregon - An article published in the Medford Mail Tribune on April 21, 2006, by Sanne Specht (naturally) and titled, "Gold Hill council members to face recall," was arrogant, void of fact, and shows the desperate methods Specht, Wolf, Silva, and Fish (bad councilors and one bad reporter) will go to in an attempt to run the city as they see fit while getting rid of the police department in the process. The Tribune's liability from the slanderous and libelous article(s) written by Sanne Specht over the past few months is mounting.



Writer Sanne Specht

The bad councilors stated agenda in Specht's article is to bring "accountability" to the police department. They have had every opportunity to oversee and look into all issues with the police department. Indeed they did so in August of 2005, when Donna Silva and Gus Wolf questioned Chief Muchow's spending in the construction of the city's new police station. When reading the following facts and the false allegations contained

in the Medford Mail Tribune articles concerning the police chief and how he has handled his budget, be apprised that city auditors just went over the chiefs budget and praised him (in writing) for his handling of the police budget. This is significant especially in light of the fact that gas prices have soared between 100% - 150% during this budget period. It seems that those councilors being recalled have swept this fact under the carpet out of sheer desperation.

Facts About The Police Station

For example; a flooring contractor donated a \$4,700 commercial tile floor to the police station and the chief gave him a \$200 gift certificate in appreciation. That's a \$4,700 value for \$200 dollars. It was all out in the open for anyone to see. Why is that lacking "accountability?" He also bought lunches for people who worked for FREE. In fact, Gus Wolf worked part of one day painting the station. He had no problems accepting the food, beverages, and desserts, provided by Chief Muchow. If it bothered him so much, why has he not paid the city back for the gift?

The chief spent just under \$9.00 for two micro-brews while having dinner at a chief's conference. He reimbursed the city \$10.00. However, Sanne Specht would have a reader believe Chief Muchow spent far more on "alcohol." What a desperate attempt by a political activist who calls herself a reporter.

This issue was resolved when it became obvious Chief Muchow had not misspent any funds at all. In fact, he'd donated a large amount of his own time and money to the project as well. He,



Gus Wolf and Jan Fish

and volunteers, built a police station worth approximately \$150,000 for about a tenth of that. Nevertheless, the chief reimbursed the city \$800 out of his own pocket. The council voted to return it to him in August of 2005. Neither the league of Oregon cities attorney nor the Gold Hill City attorney had any problem with what the chief had spent. Neither did the majority of city councilors at the time. Now the bad councilors are attacking the chief for their decision. Chief Dean Muchow should have received an award for his efforts, not only from building the police station, but for his efforts to save the city on police vehicles and needed repairs on them.



Donna Silva

The fact is Gus Wolf and Donna Silva have never wanted a local police

department. Silva has stated this in open council meetings, but said she "supported it" because the public supported it. Gus Wolf has been actively campaigning to eliminate the local police since before Chief Countryman came to town and more so recently. Jan Fish has been much more cunning in her attempts to decimate the police department than her two very ignorant partners.

All three "recallees" say there is no accountability but cannot say what exactly the department or the chief isn't accountable for. The fact is that Gus Wolf, Jan Fish, and Donna Silva are nothing more or less than three incompetent and hypocritical troublemakers with their own agendas and ulterior motives.

Wolf Slanders Chief and Female Officer out of Panic

Gus Wolf recently told councilor Price (police liaison), and citizens, that Chief Muchow is having an affair with one of his female reserve officers. Wolf didn't realize that the female reserve officer had returned to work and was riding with Chief Muchow as an officer. The US~Observer conducted an in-depth investigation upon hearing this accusation and found it to be completely false, just like every other accusation we have investigated concerning Chief Muchow and his department. It would be wise for Gus Wolf, the Medford Mail Tribune and other conspirators to be a little more concerned with their

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Judicial Corruption Arrogance – Part Three

The Eugene Forte Story

By: R.S. Errol

Monterey County, CA - Eugene Forte's struggle for justice from the Monterey County Superior Court continues for more than five years. Mere mortals would capitulate to the beating and lick their wounds, all the time hating themselves for running from a fight. Forte, apparently, is another breed of cat that in spite of being handed defeat after defeat at the hand of the Monterey Judiciary he seems to gain strength and solace knowing that he is exposing the demons with every adverse ruling. Judge Robert O'Farrell continues to block Forte's every move or seems to be at least instrumental in the orchestration of the cabal against him. An example of this treatment by O'Farrell is James Cook being allowed to ignore the local rule of meeting and conferring with Forte on exhibits because Forte would make further accusations against Cook. Poor baby!

Two months ago we briefly discussed Stephanie Crabb's, of Alain Pinel Realty, complicity in this case as the person representing Gene in the purchase of the Powell property. Due to her alleged malpractice in neglecting to inform Forte of a deadline to release the contingencies in the real estate contract, she provided the Powell's a reason to cancel the deal at the expense of Forte. Gene has proof that Crabb perjured herself and he accused her attorney, Dennis McCarthy with suborning perjury. Larry Lichtenegger tries to convince Gene that he should lose this evidence (taped conversations) because there could be serious repercussions against Forte. In a telephone conversation transcript between the two, Gene refuses to destroy the tapes because they revealed the truth. Forte's question is; why would an attorney suggest to his client to hide to truth, especially since it would help the client? Was Lichtenegger in ex-parte communications with the defense attorney, Dennis McCarthy (Ex Parte according to Black's Law 6th Edition. "On one side only; by or for one party; done for, in behalf of, or on the application of, one party only.")? In addition Lichtenegger refused to subpoena key witnesses including Ms. Crabb in a timely fashion so that her sworn and alleged perjured affidavit could be impeached in the courtroom. Due to this negligence the false affidavit was read into the record as fact. Crabb's role in Gene's story will continue, much to the chagrin of two defense attorneys, James Cook and McCarthy, for many months to come

A year later in March 2002, Forte vs. Loop was scheduled to be heard by Judge Silver after Forte's preemptory Challenge for Cause was denied by Stanislaus Superior Court Judge William Mayhew. When O'Farrell appears on the bench, Forte asked why Judge Silver was absent, but O'Farrell interrupted him and finally stated that if he felt he should recuse himself, he would. Subsequently O'Farrell takes on the persona of the defendants' attorney and argues against Forte's motions that were properly served on the defendants' as per the suggestion of Judge Silver at an earlier hearing. When Gene comments of the uneven playing field due to O'Farrell's bias he is given a contempt warning. How dare a commoner question a man in black

robes.

In November 2002, Forte filed a motion to compel Lichtenegger to testify at a deposition in the Forte vs. Lichtenegger case. Forte was suing Lichtenegger for both nonfeasance and malfeasance stemming from his antics in sabotaging Gene's lawsuit against Powell. The hearing was originally scheduled for September 26, 2002, but was continued twice until November 15th at which time Judge O'Farrell suddenly appeared on the bench once again and denied Forte the motion to compel. It is also peculiar that the assignment of judges and the subsequent changes in presiding judges are without "minute orders" in the files of all of Forte's cases. It is important to remember the key issue in this case is Lichtenegger's leaked confidential information about the conduct of the Monterey County Superior Court. If he is forced to testify at a deposition this information, that must be suppressed, would show up in court records. Thus, it is imperative that Lichtenegger be silenced through chicanery and judicial deception. Judge Silver was also subpoenaed to testify as to his conversation with Gene's ex-attorney Jim Rummonds (listen to Rummonds conversation with Forte) when he said, in Rummonds words, Gene had been, "Victimized by a number of attorneys on a number of occasions." O'Farrell trying to appear neutral assigned this hearing to another judge, but it ended with O'Farrell signing Judge Silver's Motion to Quash. See no evil, speak no evil, and hear no evil seems to be the catch phrase for the hunkering Superior Court.

Lichtenegger files a Motion for Demurrer, thereby hoping to avoid a deposition that could be used by Forte to uncover the abuse that he is being subjected to by the legal establishment as stated above. In early 2003, O'Farrell issued a ruling for the demurrer thereby preventing Lichtenegger from testifying. Very legal and very crafty maneuvering by some cunning scoundrels in robes one would think. Alas, "the best-laid plans of mice and men often go awry" one distinguished Monterey resident, John Steinbeck, once said. Going awry happened in these modern times when Forte filed an appeal in California's Sixth Appellate District and O'Farrell's ruling on the demurrer was overturned on August 30, 2004. The genie was finally out of the bottle.

Due to a clerical error by Lichtenegger's staff a letter written by Lichtenegger to Judge Robert O'Farrell ends up in Forte's documents that were sent to Gene. The opening paragraph is very revealing to the casual observer. "Sometimes integrity can be a fleeting thing. I often think that is the only thing some attorneys have that separates them from what the public often thinks of us...It is one thing to not have the respect of the public, but quite another to lose it to the court." Is Lichtenegger telling us that integrity can be turned on or off to fit the occasion? Is he inferring that kissing up to a judge takes higher precedence over dealing with the truth and protecting the client? Knowing that this attitude exists in the legal profession is daunting at best.

The most blatant example of judicial misconduct in this writer's opinion occurred on December 19, 2003, in no other than, O'Farrell's courtroom. The

hearing was for Forte vs. Albov regarding a lawsuit against Michael Albov for malpractice in providing Gene poor advice in his real estate deal with the Powell's. Up popped Stephanie Crabb's alleged perjury and the need to subpoena her for deposition in that case. Crabb had her attorney file a motion to quash the deposition which was set to be heard on this date. Forte is happy to find that Judge Michael Fields is assigned to hear the case. A few days later Gene is informed that Judge O'Farrell had assigned himself to hear the case instead. When he asked the clerk the reason for the change he is told that he should ask O'Farrell. For the record Judge Fields had not disqualified himself.

Armed with this knowledge Forte prepared and filed a Preemptory Challenge in accordance with California Civil Procedure section 170.6 to disqualify O'Farrell on a belief of bias. When a 170.6 is filed with the clerk or in open court the judge has no other option but to step down and forgo all efforts to influence the case at hand. However, O'Farrell attempted to start the proceeding when Forte politely interrupts him to ensure that O'Farrell is aware of the preemptory challenge. O'Farrell cuts him off time and time again in a transparent attempt to hear the motion and rule against Forte. Due to his insistence on preventing O'Farrell from running roughshod over him, O'Farrell had Gene arrested, handcuffed and taken to a holding cell. The transcript of the hearing is very revealing and may be read here (click).

After Forte is removed from the courtroom O'Farrell in a blatant display

of ex-parte communication tells Crabb's Attorney Dennis McCarthy the following, "It appears he is desirous of filing a 170.6. I assume that will happen. It will have to be reassigned to another judge, the motion itself. That is not going to happen today." Judge O'Farrell then proceeds to bring Forte back into the courtroom and adopts the roles of judge, jury and executioner by sentencing him to jail for eight hours, which on its face deprives Forte of his Sixth Amendment right to counsel. In addition Forte was remanded to jail that same day without the obligatory three judicial days of a petition for extraordinary relief testing the lawfulness of the court's order as provided for under CCP 1209 (c). Gene states the following regarding O'Farrell knowing about the 170.6. "At this point in time, for all intent and purposes of Plaintiff, Judge Robert O'Farrell became Mr. Robert O'Farrell, a private citizen." He did not actually become a private citizen in fact, but his authority over someone who challenged him becomes non existent due to lack of jurisdiction. O'Farrell was obligated to recuse himself and he refused to do so in yet another prejudicial act against Forte.

Now that O'Farrell has openly exposed his hand regarding his bias for Forte, return to this continuing saga next time to hear about Gene's lawsuit against O'Farrell and how the State of California becomes embroiled in Forte's efforts for justice in a very antagonistic and threatening way. Take the time to visit: www.usobserver.com and read the entire series of articles on Gene Forte and his continuing battle for justice in the Monterey Superior Court system. ■

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LIBERTY

How Private Property is being Abolished in America

Oregon News

The Four Candidates & what they want you to know

By Ron Lee
Investigative Reporter

Below you will find an overview of each of the candidates for sheriff and what they wanted the citizens of this county to know about them, their qualifications and what they see as the issues that face the department.

Brian Anderson - Straight from the tape:



Q) Give me some background... where were you born?

A) "I was born up in, actually, Corvallis, Oregon. My parents were at Oregon State and so I grew up in Portland and then I went to school back at Corvallis. I tell everyone when I see they have their beaver stuff or duck stuff on ... I always ask them if they were a true person, did they go to school there?"

My wife is from Grants Pass. Her name is Julie and we have one daughter. She is sixteen. It's interesting when they're a teen.

Q) Why do you want to be Sheriff?

A) I think it's that I enjoy living here doing what I'm doing. I've been in the sheriff's office ... for 22 years and I really think it's going to be critical for someone to have the experience who knows the whole sheriff's office inside and out and has the training and the background to do it. Because I like it here and I think it's important to have the right person at the top. I've worked for 5 sheriffs now and, you know, I've learned something from each one. And I think I can do a good job. I want to do a good job.

Q) And what did you learn from Daniel?

A) Sometimes he makes decisions that, um, he doesn't think them through, but he's pretty straight forward, he'll tell you like it is. And sometimes ... I'm not a fan of fighting a lot of those battles that he fights on the front page of the paper. I don't think that's the way to go about it but that's his style. Just some of his decisions I wish were made differently.

Q) There has been a lot of criticism of this department.

A) Uh-huh.

Q) So how do you feel you are going to be able to change that image?

The Josephine County Sheriff Race Candidates

A) Well it starts at the top and you need the right person at the top. And you need to set a professional image at the top. And you need to hold the people accountable. Good training, you know we try to do a lot of training already. But the more training you do the less time you have on the street. And I think it's important to have the right people next to you in command positions.

Q) Is there anything you want to say to the people of the county? I mean give me your best pitch.

A) Best pitch, huh (laughter), I think you need to ... with the potential loss of O&C funding and if it looks like its going to go ... we need someone with budget experience, who knows how to work with a tight budget ... who works well with others. You know I have a reputation of working well with others and that is going to be important and that's coming down the pipe. Some of these other people who are running don't have budget experience, they're not even certified police officers in Oregon. Takes time to go back and get certified and that's time away from the office. It's going to be critical to have a person with that kind of experience.

Q) What do you feel is the biggest law enforcement challenge this county faces?

A) Funding. Funding. I mean you look at ... we don't have stabilized funding so we end up losing a lot of our officers to other agencies because they might not

have a job next year. And to me you can't fight the meth problem and any of those other issues if you don't have the staff to do it. You need detectives. You need deputies out there handling calls. You need directors for when people call in. You need the jail, a jail that's adequately funded to house people. I think funding is the biggest issue.

Don Fasching:



Don Fasching jumped right into his interview bringing up a point of issue that he has been facing in his campaign

Continued on page 22

Oregon legislators complete special session in 6 hours

SALEM, Ore. (AP) - With much public back-patting, legislators pulled off Oregon's shortest special session in history Thursday April 20th, coming to agreement on five bills in six hours.

In rapid-fire succession, lawmakers approved more money for schools, new restrictions on payday lenders and tougher penalties for child sex crimes.

They also managed to spend \$178 million in those six hours, giving \$42 million in unanticipated lottery profits to schools and earmarking \$136 million to close a budget gap in the state's human services programs.

It was a rare episode in collegiality for a body that just two years ago convened for five interminable special sessions, and has been plagued by accusations of partisanship gone wild.

But it also was a testament to the power of an election year, with Democrats eager to appear tough on crime, and Republicans willing to crack down on an industry that critics say has given a lot of consumers a rough ride.

The human services budget gap was the main reason Gov. Ted Kulongoski called this week's special session. The measure that won final passage Thursday calls for using reserve dollars, rather than cutting programs, to wipe out the deficit.

A handful of lawmakers wanted to see the special session's agenda broadened to include topics such as immigration, eliminating the state's corporate "kicker

tax" and expanding bills to help veterans.

But Kulongoski, Senate President Peter Courtney, D-Salem, and House Speaker Karen Minnis, R-Wood Village, said they kept the agenda narrow to avoid an expensive, runaway session in an election year.

"Things worked the way they are supposed to work in special session, and I am grateful to each and every one of you," Courtney told the Senate just before adjournment. The Salem Democrat had admitted he was "sweating rocks" over the session's outcome.

PASSED

If approved by Oregon Gov. Ted Kulongoski, the bills approved Thursday would:

- Dip into state reserves to close a \$136 million budget gap in the state Department of Human Services without cutting services to the poor.

- Send \$42.2 million in unexpected lottery revenue to Oregon's 198 public school districts and let Portland Public Schools restore an expired property tax, expected to raise \$15 million for the district.

- Impose tougher penalties for sex crimes against children.

- Limit interest on payday loans to 36 percent a year.

Mother, son sent to prison for slaying

The Olympian

GRANTS PASS, Ore. - The wife and eldest son of a man described as violently abusive were sentenced to prison Thursday after pleading guilty to a reduced charge of manslaughter for attacking him with a hammer and an ax as he slept.

Josephine County Circuit Judge Michael Newman sentenced Wendy Maldonado, 36, to 10 years and her eldest son, Randall, 17, to more than six

years after the prosecution and defense reached a plea bargain where murder charges were reduced to manslaughter.

Aaron Maldonado was killed May 1, 2005, as he lay in bed in his home outside Grants Pass.

"I saw Aaron hit my mom many times," 13-year-old Tyler Maldonado read from a statement in court. "I also saw him strangle her a lot. He would hit her until it seemed like a human would die from it, but my mom was used to it."

■■■

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Ingram Loses to Weidner in Federal Court **Oregon News**

By US~Observer Staff

Eugene, Oregon - March 15, 2006 - 1998, Oregon Reform Party candidate for Governor Roger Weidner appeared with 25 supporters in the Federal Courtroom of Judge Michael Hogan in Eugene, Oregon. Those present included decorated Marine Corp Colonel Ken Ruesser, political activists Jesse Lott, Wilbur Gaston, Larry Jackson, Yavonne Heinrich, author and historian Des Griffen, business operator Dale Haskins and Lapine, Oregon ranch owner Patricia Wishon.

Weidner, along with Christmas Valley, Oregon property owner Ole Turnbow and the US~Observer had been sued by Lucinda Gunther for Libel, Intentional Infliction of Emotional Duress and Abuse of Process. Gunther was represented by Eugene, Oregon attorney Claud Ingram. The lawsuit followed after the US~Observer published a press release regarding allegations of how Ingram had Gunther allegedly falsely testified in a 2003, lawsuit in Deschutes County, Oregon stating that Turnbow had warranted there were no defects with the gas station she was leasing from him. Turnbow reportedly had made no such representation. Turnbow has a 100 percent service connected hearing disability and because of that hearing disability, and the fact that he had to represent himself (his first attorney quit after Turnbow ran out of money) he was unable to understand or hear the allegededly perjured statements of Gunther and Jerry Aplin. Gunther eventually obtained a \$280,000.00 judgment against Turnbow. With that judgment Ingram had the Lake County Sheriff's Office physically remove Turnbow from his home of 25 years in Christmas Valley, Oregon.

At trial Weidner had all the supporters stay standing until after the judge entered the courtroom. Weidner had filed notice with the court that he was appearing by Special Appearance, challenging the court to declare that the court is a court of "constitutional due process."

When Weidner first spoke he said, "I am here by Special Appearance until informed by this court that I am appearing in an Art. III court of constitutional due process." Judge Hogan sat silent watching Weidner intently as he spoke. Weidner continued, "In the name of We The People of the State of Oregon (as Weidner spoke he turned and pointed to his supporters present), I am hereby declaring this court and all courts in the State of Oregon courts of constitutional due process." The judge and all present then listened intently while Weidner summarized the unprecedented abuse he has been subjected to by the Oregon judicial system for exposing the wide-

spread corruption occurring in Oregon's courts. Weidner continued, "The rights of the people to "equal protection" and "due process" is hereby restored. The on-going abuse of the citizens of this state in having their children, lands and other property taken in sham judicial proceedings, where the outcome is a forgone conclusion (the victim always losing), is over.

Neither Judge Hogan nor Ingram said a word in response to what Weidner had stated. The Judge then told Ingram he could call his first witness. Ingram called Gunther as a witness. She testified she was the mother of three who rented a gas station in Christmas Valley from Ole Turnbow and after operating it for a period of time found the tanks were leaking and contacted attorney Claud Ingram to initiate a lawsuit.

She said that after the US~Observer was circulated in Christmas Valley, carrying the story detailing the alleged fraud of herself, Ingram and witness Jerry Aplin in taking a \$280,000.00 judgment against Turnbow, she could not go anywhere without being questioned and it caused her stress that made it difficult for her to sleep and she had been under a doctors care for stress.

Weidner then began to cross examine her about the times she had met with

Turnbow and the content of her conversations with Turnbow. Gunther became instantly defensive and argumentative with Weidner. Weidner repeatedly asked her to listen to and just answer his questions. Weidner asked her if it wasn't a fact that she quit paying rent to Turnbow after 3 months, but continued to live on the property for 7 months. Even though the statement was true she would not directly answer the question. Weidner then asked her if it wasn't true that she never complained to Turnbow about the pipes leaking before she filed suit against him. Again she refused to directly answer the question, acting as if the statement was true. She even became defensive and argumentative with Judge Hogan who told her to stop talking and listen to what he was saying.

When Gunther finished testifying, Ingram said he was resting his case. Weidner then stood and told the judge he was moving to dismiss the complaint because there had been no credible evidence offered to support the claims. Judge Hogan stated he was suspending the trial while he took the motions under advisement. Ingram, Gunther and another individual quickly left the courtroom while Weidner and his supporters commented on the fact that Ingram was unable to put on any

evidence to support his claims. Susan Detlefson, producer of the TV program Mother Interrupted tried to interview Ingram and Gunther in the parking lot but they intentionally evaded her attempt to conduct the interview.

Attorney Claud Ingram has filed many frivolous lawsuits and it appears as though his days of creating victims out of innocent people are coming to an end.

Ingram Loses Gunther Trial

On March 28, 2006 Federal Judge Michael Hogan ruled against Lucinda Gunther's claims she had brought against Roger Weidner and Ole Turnbow. Gunther, who was represented by Eugene Attorney Claud Ingram "failed to offer evidence to support the essential elements of her claims" according to Hogan.

Ingram had sued on the torts of Libel, Intentional Infliction of Emotional Distress and Wrongful use of Civil Proceedings. In his conclusion Hogan stated, "Accordingly, defendant Weidner's oral motion at the conclusion of plaintiff's case to dismiss those claims is granted and this case is dismissed." ■■■

Cost of gas, labor stunting Central Oregon farmers

By **Chuck Chiang**
The Bulletin

Rising natural gas prices and labor costs pose a serious threat to some growers in Central Oregon's agriculture industry, according to state and local business officials.

Some Oregon trade associations' leaders say costlier natural gas, which is used both in heating greenhouses and producing nitrogen-based fertilizer, is especially damaging to local agricultural businesses. Oregon's high minimum wage compounds the effect, they said.

Flower growers are especially hard hit, an official said.

"The flower industry is in the critical stage now," said Barry Bushue, president of the Oregon Farm Bureau. "To counter high costs, some owners are raising products at cooler temperatures. But that means an increase in production time and labor hours, so it's sort of an either-or situation."

Several business leaders in Oregon said the solution is to increase the overall natural gas supply in the United States, which would contain, if not reduce, costs.

For Oregon agricultural interests, the stakes are high. Oregon farm products exceeded \$4 billion in value for the first time in 2005. Greenhouse and nursery sales, cattle, hay and grass seed are among the state's top agricultural products.

About 70 percent to 90 percent of the cost to produce nitrogen-based fertilizer is directly related to natural gas prices. As such, the cost of such fertilizer has doubled in the last six years, from \$225 to \$550 per ton, Bushue said.

One Central Oregon farmer said he and others have felt the pinch.

"We're squawking-mad because we've got fertilizer costs going double on us,

and we've got diesel costs going double on us," said Gary Harris, a farmer based in Jefferson County. "Very few farmers in Madras will be bragging about how much money they made this year. The future is not bright for agriculture right now."

Harris, whose crops include carrot and onion seeds, said the global market for his products is ripe with international contenders who will step in with lower prices.

"I can't pass on that (natural gas) cost because I can't dictate my prices," he said, pointing to cheap farm goods from countries like India and Australia. "(Farmers) are price-takers, not price-makers."

Gary English, owner of Landsystems Nursery in Bend, said his facility uses propane and hasn't been hurt by rising natural gas prices.

The cost of fertilizer, however, is another story.

"(It has) jumped quite a bit," English said. "And we have to buy it no matter what, so I guess it's just another operational cost increase we have to deal with."

English estimated his nursery uses about six tons of fertilizer a year. Using Bushue's figures, the annual cost would be \$2,700.

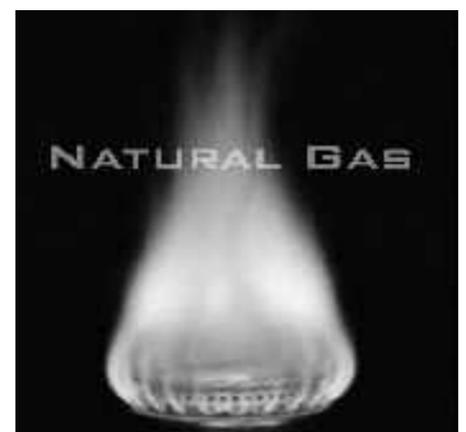
Oregon's minimum wage of \$7.50 per hour doesn't help, English added.

"It's not just the minimum wage that gets driven up," he said. "It drives up labor costs across the board. It's a killer."

Oregon Farm Bureau's Bushue said the combination of labor and natural gas costs is devastating.

"In a state where minimum wage is the second-highest in the country, (natural gas price hikes and labor costs) are basically a double-whammy," he said.

Increasing the domestic natural gas supply would counter the problem of rising costs for agricultural industries,



according to one state business leader.

"The good gas distribution networks in the Northwest mean that a good deal of the natural gas we produce here gets distributed to places like the East Coast and the Midwest," said Richard Butrick, president and CEO of Associated Oregon Industries. "(So) the issue is finding additional supplies in the Gulf of Mexico, where the potential is very high."

Both the Associated Oregon Industries and the Oregon Farm Bureau have joined a coalition of the state's business leaders, launched last week, to pressure the federal government to increase natural gas production in the Gulf of Mexico.

The U.S. Senate is scheduled later this year to debate a measure that would expand gas exploration in the Gulf region. But a moratorium in place since 1981 prevents new offshore drilling along most of the U.S. coast and has significant support in U.S. Congress.

"America needs to increase natural gas production," Butrick said. "Otherwise, we'll fall way behind the (global) competition."

Central Oregon farmer Harris said measures that can be taken to lower natural gas prices should be taken soon. The alternative, he said, would be the gradual disappearance of American farms.

"If our costs keep going up for energy and labor, all of America's food source will soon be coming from overseas," he said. ■■■

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COMMENTARY

Your Right to Speak Out

"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

Earth Day Or Earth Worship?

By Joyce Morrison
NewsWithViews.com

Every year since 1970, Earth Day has been celebrated on April 22. Most people choose that day to pick up litter and plant trees. It is a time to take into consideration that we should take care of, and be thankful for, our earth that is God's gift to us - and this is good.

But to those extremists who fear all people (excluding themselves) are destroying their "Mother Earth" or some may call "her" Gaia. Earth Day is a time to promote their cause to "control" all the water, land and resources in the world with no consideration of property owners or their property.

Ordinary people are unimportant in the scope of their visions of control. There is no room for privately owned property as ordinary people would not know how to "preserve" or care for land they own and pay taxes. You will find animals hold a higher place than man when you research their Wildlands Project. They have planned to stack people together in high density housing called Smart Growth following rural cleaning for the Wildlands project.

In exploring the intent of those who choose to "control" the earth in their form of worship, we are reminded of Romans 1:25 which tells us there will come a time when there will be those who begin to worship the creation and not the creator of the earth.

Larry Gabriel, South Dakota Secretary of Agriculture is a true lover of the use of land and private property ownership. He describes the feeling he gets when he rides his horse in the early morning to check on his cattle, "It is not nature worship, as some city folks believe. It is just being part of the land, by remaining quiet and in awe of creation. There is nothing else like it. I hold onto it."

Originally called "The First National

Environmental Teach-in," Earth Day was modeled after the anti-Vietnam war teach-ins of the late 1960s.

In 1962, Senator Gaylord Nelson from Wisconsin (served 1963-1981) began a seven year journey to draw political consideration to the drastic attention needed to be given the environment. Nelson said his efforts "was the germ of the idea that ultimately flowered into Earth Day."

Nelson saw the enthusiasm used by college students protesting the anti-Vietnam war and decided to capitalize on this method to spread his environmental message.

This type of protest does not require a lot of knowledge about the issue being protested, but it requires a lot of energy and enthusiasm.

This method proved successful. Envirolink reported that the first Earth Day in 1970 rallied over 20 million Americans from around the country and mostly on college campuses to get involved in environmental "teach-ins." For the 20th anniversary in 1990 more than 200 million people in 141 countries participated worldwide

There is no doubt that the clean up in the 1970s was needed. Dangerous toxic pollutants had been allowed to run into waterways. The air was black with industrial pollution. The Environmental Protection Agency enforced needed changes and our world became cleaner and better.

But in the 1990s, we began to see how this environmental effort began shifting gears to achieve socialistic goals that go far beyond a clean earth.

Sustainable Development was introduced when the United States signed on to the Agenda 21 Programme in Rio de Janeiro at the 1992 Earth Summit. Following the Earth Summit, a global effort to take control of private resources was put into place under the

guise of protecting and preserving our environment.

New clean water, air and land controls and standards arrived. These new restrictions forced many factories and industries to relocate or close down completely leaving millions of workers without jobs.

Increasing demands by unions and unrealistic environmental restrictions made moving to third world countries where the wage scale was low, and with fewer if any, environmental restrictions -- an attractive option to stockholders of major companies.

Incentive driven Smart Growth and Sustainable Development programs began to saturate the whole United States quickly appearing at the local levels. Although the program names may be different, the plan is the same and very few boards will refuse "free" money in the way of a grant. [to better understand Smart Growth and Sustainable Development see the DVD "Liberty or Sustainable Development"]

This did not happen by accident. It is the plan to redistribute the wealth of the United States to 3rd world nations.

Implementing Sustainable Development means:

- Equity:

Using the law to restructure human nature (That individual human wants, needs, and desires are to be conformed to the views and dictates of planners.)

- Economy:

The international redistribution of wealth and the creation of public-private partnerships. Quoting Maurice Strong of the United Nations: "current lifestyles and consumption patterns of the affluent middle class - involving high meat intake, use of fossil fuels, appliances, use of home and work air conditioning and suburban housing is not sustainable."

- Environment



Nature above man. (It is not really about the environment but it is restructuring the governmental system of all the world's nations so that all the people of the world will be the subjects of a global collective.)

To accomplish the implementation of Sustainable Development, the minds of tomorrow must be molded in our youth today. It is being done through our education system, television and in any sphere that a youth's mind can be reached.

Freedom 21 in Santa Cruz has prepared a booklet Understanding Sustainable Development Agenda 21" with the above information, and they encourage all public officials to read and understand how this global plan is introduced locally in order for them to protect the people they were elected to serve.

Environmentalists have enough money behind their visions that their lofty goals are easily fulfilled into reality. Money and power can accomplish great tasks in promoting an agenda - and environmental groups have both.

But has environmentalism gone a step too far?

Recently in a speech by Dr. Eric R. Pianka at the University of Texas at Arlington before the Texas Academy of Science, he supposedly endorsed the airborne Ebola as an efficient means to

Continued on page 11

From Here to Insanity

By Selwyn Duke
NewsWithViews.com

While art imitates life, it's also true that life imitates art. It's with this in mind that my eyebrows were raised upon hearing about Big Love, a series with which HBO breaks new, albeit not hallowed, ground. It stars Bill Paxton as Salt Lake City businessman Bill Henrickson, a man with two lives and three wives, as he is a polygamist who keeps his families life secret.

Pondering such subject matter, my thoughts meander back almost three decades. It was at that time, in 1977, when the first memorable regular homosexual television character, "Jodie Dallas," was brought into American homes in the hit sitcom Soap. (According to Museum of Television and Radio researcher Barry Monush, the very first regular homosexual character was "Peter Panama" in the short-lived 1972-73 series The Corner Bar.)

For the first time in our history,

millions of Americans tuned in religiously and were amused by the antics surrounding a homosexual character. And from that point forward, we saw a steady increase in the number and prominence of homosexual characters on TV and in movies, a trend that accelerated markedly after the AIDS crisis hit in the early to mid-1980s. Everyday folks watched - be it the camp La Cage aux Folles or the dramatic The Crying Game - and they laughed, empathized, sometimes squirmed and occasionally shed tears. But mostly they laughed.

It seems as if we've understood the power of imagery since the very inception of cinema. Many have lamented the effect of D.W. Griffith's infamous 1915 silent movie The Birth of a Nation, which portrayed the Ku Klux Klan as comprising gallant white-hooded knights who defended womanhood and southern culture from an animalistic black race. Many have decried it, and virtually no one denies its

ability to perpetuate stereotypes. Two decades later, the Nazis capitalized on the propaganda possibilities of film with their camera wielding Svengali Leni Riefenstahl, who crafted masterfully beguiling documentaries with an artistic flair of which Michael Moore could only dream most wistfully. Yes, a picture is worth a thousand words. Even in the case of Moore's clumsy efforts it's valued in the neighborhood of at least a hundred.

Which came first, the chicken or the egg? The widespread acceptance of homosexuality or the favorable portrayal of it on screen? The truth is that it's both, but far more the latter than the former. The fact is that we human beings find happy mediums to be most elusive. Condemn the sin but not the sinner? That's the ideal, but most are infinitely more apt to either condemn both the sin and the sinner or neither the sinner nor the sin. And the latter error prevails in our time, especially where homosexuality is concerned. Moreover,

this is no doubt partially because when you start to laugh at something, you start to cease to be outraged by it. And when you start to identify with a TV character, when you start to like him, there's a natural tendency to accept that which is associated with him. It's... disarming.

So, in 2006, after decades of Hollywood conditioning and a whole degenerating generation weaned on entertainment replete with homosexual characters and content, homosexuality is just another flavor of the day. Do you prefer chocolate, vanilla, or tutti-frutti? Thus, we find ourselves debating what was unthinkable when we slipped on Soap and started down that slippery slope toward Caligula's court: should we legalize what the left has duped us into calling, quite oxymoronically, "homosexual marriages" (I won't use the lexicon of the left, so henceforth I will refer to them as "faux marriages")? Ah,

Continued on page 22

More Commentary on Page 9

More COMMENTARY

Verbal Assassination

Who Should be Sheriff?

The Josephine County Conundrum

By Ron Lee

Dave Daniel has done a bang-up job as Sheriff. Unfortunately, his name isn't on the ballot in this go-around so it makes the decision of who NOT to vote for a lot more difficult. Well, I take that back, he is running for county commissioner, so I get to cross him off early on there, that makes me happy. I mean, really, why would I vote someone into a controlling seat of the county when he has made a car wreck more appealing than the current state of the sheriff's department - my meaning of bang-up job.

I in no way mean to slight the wonderful deputies in the department who above all serve and protect their community with pride. If it were up to me, they'd all get raises - with the exception, of course, to the top-dog behind the desk, that position makes enough already. Being a deputy is a difficult, dangerous job that is, for the most part, disrespected until an officer of the law is needed, and then everyone is glad to see them. For me, I don't get nervous when a police officer or deputy is behind me in traffic or if I see them drive by my house real slow, and if I do see them in passing, I give them a wave - just like I do with every fire engine that rolls by. Why? Because I completely respect them and what they do for us - they put their lives on the line daily, not because it is their job, but because they feel that they should, which is why they have chosen their profession.

Deputies getting harassed and fired, interoffice cover-ups, all just due to a plain lack of true leadership. This has ultimately resulted in a department that isn't trusted by the public and has one of the worst morale issues with deputies being torn between what is right and what is administered, and it is now, thankfully, coming to an end. Because any law enforcement or sheriff's department (administration) that allows criminals to get away with just about anything if they live far enough out to avoid any type of patrol because of a lack of deputies, needs to change for the sake of the public it has sworn to protect. Excuses of under-funding fall on deaf ears when someone has an emergent situation like many in the Illinois Valley area who are forced to fend for themselves because of the current state of the department.

That leads me to the incessant ramble we heard throughout both Daniel terms, "We need more money!" Not an exact quote, but there were so many renditions of this statement I'm sure Dave used this one at some point and it has been this platform of his administration that has

made him an ineffective tool and guide for the department.

So as part of my job as a reporter with the US~Observer I decided it would be best to talk to all of the candidates. Get the low-down on where they are and what they stand for. Engage them in simple talk that would lead them to fill in the blanks for me instead of trying to manipulate their answers with loaded questions (well, I asked a couple of those questions, too ... see the unbiased, non-commentary overview of the candidates on page 6 of this edition) and what I found made me wonder why we don't treat the sheriff's department like the office of the president. You know, you vote for the president and vice-president. The same should be true of sheriff and under-sheriff. Part of my thinking behind this ideology is that I liked several of these guys a lot and I could see where one's weaknesses were covered by the other's strengths and I thought how perfect it would be if I could just get these guys to work together. But that isn't the game of politics, and no matter what any of them say, the political game of getting elected is exactly what they are engaging in.

To be honest, there was only one that I didn't care for. That I felt wouldn't lead us to a better department and a more protected citizenry, and perhaps that came from my personal feeling that if you are not part of the solution you are part of the problem. There have been no solutions in this current administration, just more and more problems, and Brian Anderson has been a key figure in its workings as under-sheriff. And, unfortunately, Anderson is already sounding the same old tired trumpet call of under funding. Sure it is a problem, could even be the biggest problem, but the citizens want to know how you will lead, and by that I don't mean back to the ballot box trying to get more funding from them.

Of the remaining three, Don Fasching, Gil Gilbertson, and Spike Kelly I guess I could say I wish all three of these guys could just get along and work the department together. Each one has great individual assets and levels of experience in different realms of administration and police work. And most importantly, each one is really running to better the county through what they see as the changes they could administer as head of the sheriff's department.

If I were to vote on administrative qualities alone it would be Gil Gilbertson with Don Fasching a close

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Country of Origin Labeling

By Randy Burgess

When most Americans sit down to a meal, the last thing on their mind is where their food comes from. It is a sad fact; many in this country think food comes from the grocery store, and the thought process stops there. Almost all of the fast food chains except for McDonalds, use a percentage of imported beef? What about the package of frozen vegetables you bought at the store; did you realize the produce inside of the bag may come from Mexico or Brazil.?

Country of Origin Labeling, Or COOL as it is often called, has been a hot issue for the past few years. The 2002 farm bill included COOL as a Voluntary only program which applies to red meat products, Seafoods, produce, and peanuts. Mandatory COOL was to begin on September 30, 2004, but law makers approved a two year delay last year. Cool has received opposition from importers and manufactures, focusing on claims of high cost of implementation and unfair trade practices. The producer however is behind the legislation, claiming it will help the consumer to make better choice when buying meat and produce as well as raising income for the producer.

Most Americans purchase their groceries and never question the origin of the product they are buying; many just assume it is raised or grown in the good old USA. In a consumer survey conducted for the International Food Information Council in August 2002, three quarters of consumers Polled stated they required no additional information on food labels. This survey has been used as ammunition against the COOL legislation. Would the consumers polled have made this statement, if they realized the meat and vegetables in there can of soup come from Argentina?

Steve Kay, Publisher of Cattle Buyers weekly, claims COOL will be an administrative nightmare. It will require extensive record keeping from the producer as well as for livestock markets, feedlots, and U.S. beef plants. At least where the producer is concerned, this is a very weak argument. Every producer, right down to the Mom and Pop 100 acre operations, already keep records on their livestock. Record keeping is a must to keep track of productive breeding and producing animals. A new program is on the horizon to help with record keeping. This was fueled by the recent terrorist concerns, as well as Mad Cow disease. Microchips, like the ones that can be put into your pet, will soon be placed in live stock by the producer for about the same cost as maintaining the current ear tag system in use today. Scanners will record the information from the animal to the computer, and records will be downloaded to a national data base. Tracking the animal will be possible from the producer to the packing house. The problem really lies with the packing houses and the meat plants refusal to implement simple programs to track the meat once it reaches their facility.

According to the web site Competitivemarkets.com, eight states in America already require Country of Origin Labeling on many products. Florida, for example has required COOL on all

produce for the last 20 years. According to the Florida Department of Agriculture, it cost less than one cent per household per week to maintain their tracking system. Louisiana, North Dakota, and Wyoming have programs which require tracking and COOL on all meat entering the state.

Many of the countries the US currently trades with, to include Mexico, Canada, and Japan, require Country of Origin Labeling on all produce and meat imported to their country. According to the USDA's 1998 Country of Origin Labeling Survey, the United States is among only six of 37 reporting countries that does not require Country of Origin Labeling on imported meat and produce. Many importers to the US oppose COOL Legislation. They claim it is a protectionist stance to raise cost and ultimately turn US consumers against imported meat and produce. I guess Country of Origin Labeling is only considered fair when it is applied to our exports, and not our imports.

Most Americans go to the grocery store on a budget. Imported products often times offer a lower cost option when compared to American products. With this understood, you as the consumer have a right to know where you food comes from. Shouldnt you have the option to choose to buy a package of hamburger that is 50% Australian and 50% American, or the 100% American beef package for 10 cents more a pound? When you purchase vegetables, would you like to know if you are supporting an American farmer or one in Brazil? It seems odd that we know where our t-shirts and underwear are made by simply reading the label, yet we do not know where the beef we are eating was raised.

Last year it was announced that McDonalds was to begin using imported beef along with US beef in its American restaurants. Most Americans did not realize McDonalds was the last fast food chain to use 100% American beef. McDonalds sales began to fall almost immediately when the announcement was made. McDonalds quickly returned to using only US beef in its American restaurants. International Food Information Council claims three quarters of the consumers polled do not require anymore information on their labels. I say, the consumer is just uninformed. ■■■



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**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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Our Lands Are No Longer ...**

exceed anything in recorded history. Shown here are three lions killed in the last few months in Arizona and Oregon with body weights of approximately 220 pounds. Hey people! They don't get this big eating Alpo and the largest ever known was 250 pounds, killed in recent years. No wonder there are no deer, elk and sheep left. What do you want, lots of wildlife or lots of lions? What do you want, a safe enjoyable outdoor experience or confinement inside your home where your children are being denied the privilege of the outdoor experience? With more lions, this is what we have to look forward to.

In eastern Oregon, lions kill bighorn sheep faster than Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife can fly the new transplants into the mountains. It's such a terrifying experience for these sheep that after several have been killed by lions the rest "flee" the mountain range within days with no trace of where they went. Over and over again, ODFW keeps repeating this same carnage---feeding sheep to already out of control lions using sportsmen's dollars to do it. This is called game management?

Bud Sonnentag wrote in the last Observer newspaper that a tagged lion traveled 700 miles. Huh! That's nothing. The current issue of "Western Houndsman" magazine demonstrates how far lions will travel. A female lion was G.P.S. collared and tracked over a nine month period beginning in southwestern Utah, through Wyoming,



over a 10,000 foot mountain range, then back to Utah and was killed in Colorado, an astounding distance of 830 miles which is unheard of for females. Take notice that this information came to you in a magazine and not a scientific biological wildlife journal or a national TV news bulletin or from a game department, which it should have to keep you informed. There are only two things discernible in a lion's mind—sex and food with no room in there for much else; except to travel in search of both.

Being familiar with the lawsuit against Oregon's Department of Fish and Wildlife, my Nevada associates and I know that repealing measure 18 will not even begin to solve Oregon's wildlife problems. The mountain lion must be put in a predator unprotected class in Oregon as well as every western state or this problem will never go away. It has always been legal to use dogs to hunt lions in Nevada, yet Nevada still has a severe mountain lion problem, decimating its once famous mule deer

herd. Nevada has a quota of 340 lions a year and only about half of that quota is filled. Texas offers no protection to lions and they still have a serious mountain lion problem.

From researching human encounters with mountain lions, HUNTER'S ALERT seriously recommends avoiding these areas when choosing places in the western states for any outdoor camping or recreation, especially with children. Cuyamaca Rancho State Park, California, any of the lands of California along the coastal mountains, Vancouver Island to include all of lower British Columbia, Big Bend National Park, Texas and last but not least, all federal and state lands where mountain lions receive any protection whatsoever, particularly in national parks. Beware!

Like me, you're not an expert but you can surely see what the hell is going on. A renowned houndsman who hunted lions throughout the west, documented that he killed about 1,500 of them in his career...1,100 in the Kaibab area of northwestern Arizona alone. Currently, in this very same area, Arizona wants to kill ten, yes 10 mountain lions to stop the slaughter of desert bighorn sheep. The lions have brought the sheep herd down 60 percent from approximately 2,000 to fewer than 1,000. Hoorah for the readership's good old common sense which has never been a consideration in wise management by wildlife biologists.

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**Continued from page 1
Josephine Co. Sheriff ...**

The US~Observer has conducted an interview of all sheriff candidates on page 6 of this edition. Please keep in mind when you vote at the next election for sheriff that we have endured a number of years with an administration that has wrongfully fired officers, costing tax payers hundreds of thousands of dollars. This same administration has factually used sheriff's office clout to damage good citizens in both the political and private arenas. In other words, Sheriff Dave Daniel has used his position and some of his deputies to hurt honest individuals in an attempt to further their political position. Under-Sheriff Brian Anderson was part of these corrupt blunders and it is reported that Anderson admitted that he took part in the wrongful firings at a recent sheriff's candidate forum.

From a hands-on perspective the US~Observer knows that Josephine County needs a fresh start concerning our Sheriff's Department. Any candidate besides Brian Anderson would offer that start as Anderson is the only candidate who took part as a key administrator in the Sheriff's Office waste and abuse during the Daniel administration. The Observer urges voters to choose wisely when they vote for a new Sheriff in the upcoming election. It is imperative that we elect a candidate capable of fixing our badly damaged and broken Sheriff's Office.

As head of Investigations for the US~Observer I felt a civic duty to file the following complaint with the Secretary of States Office on April 11, 2006. Just like other abuses Anderson has taken part in, he is continuing to conduct himself in the same manner as he has while assisting Daniel to run a very sorry department. In my opinion Brian Anderson is clearly breaking Oregon's election laws when he displays his badge bearing the State of Oregon seal on his election signs, flyers, etc. This implies to many that the state is endorsing Anderson, an edge which his opponents don't have. On April 18, 2006 the US~Observer was informed by the Secretary of State's Office that the complaint has been sent to Executive Department for investigation.

Elections Complaint

April 11, 2006

Dear Secretary of State:

I am formally filing a complaint regarding what I consider to be election law violations occurring in Josephine County, Oregon by the campaign to elect Brian Anderson for sheriff.

Where is the equality in an election where one candidate takes unfair advantage of the State election laws? Brian Anderson, one of the candidates running for Josephine County Sheriff is deliberately using the Oregon State seal in campaign literature and signs posted throughout the county. Oregon law

clearly defines improper conduct during elections.

ORS 186.023 – *Improper use of state seal: (2) No person shall use any reproduction of the seal of the State of Oregon: (a) In any manner falsely implying official endorsement or sponsorship by the State of Oregon...*

ORS 260.432 - *Restrictions on political campaigning by public employee: Paragraph (3) Use of facilities and property, sub Paragraph 11 – "Elected officials are entitled to use the state seal in their official capacity, but not in their capacity as candidates for public office. The state seal may not be used in connection with an individual or organization if its use implies endorsement or sponsorship of the State of Oregon."*

According to the law, a civil penalty is imposed for this violation. Or, are we to believe the State of Oregon endorsed one particular candidate for sheriff?

I am asking that you investigate these violations. Attached you will find a copy of one of Anderson's mailers and one yard sign. Please note that the Oregon State seal is clearly visible on both and will surely be construed by many voters as an endorsement of Anderson by the State of Oregon.

On February 1, 2006, Brian Anderson appeared at a Chamber of Commerce meeting, in uniform and announced he was a candidate for sheriff. I believe if your investigator would check records at the Josephine County Sheriff's Office he/she will find that Anderson was being paid with public money at that time.

During a Monday morning briefing at the Josephine County Sheriff's Office Brian Anderson asked deputies to write letters to the Grants Pass Daily Courier in retaliation against a letter which was written by Scott Calhoun (letters attached). Several personnel also advised that Anderson photo-copied the letter written by Calhoun (attached) using office equipment and distributed it to the working employees. This political activity clearly was conducted while Anderson was on duty and his political activity obviously helped his campaign as some deputies wrote the letters they were asked to write.

Anderson has, without question used his business phone to plan, schedule or promote political events. A check of his phone records will substantiate this fact.

There are several current Josephine County sheriff deputies who have approached us on the condition of anonymity who have stated they would be willing to come forward and participate in an investigation by your office regarding the improprieties of the Anderson campaign within the operations of the department.

Time is of the essence concerning these complaints as the up-coming election is rapidly approaching. At the very least the State of Oregon should take the appropriate action to make the Brian Anderson for Sheriff campaign remove any signs and campaign materials wherein the use of the state seal is being displayed in clear violation of state law.

Complainant:
Edward Snook

...

**Continued from page 8
Earth Day or Earth Worship?**

eliminate 90 percent of the world's population. According to reports, this speech was received with "enthusiastic and prolonged standing ovation."

Reportedly, Pianka received more applause from a banquet hall filled with more than 400 people when the president of the Texas Academy of Science presented him with a plaque naming him 2006 Distinguished Texas Scientist.

Pianka and the other left leaning scientists have declared what must be done to save "their Earth." Is it only a matter of time until one of these scientists will go over the edge and become the "mad scientist" who has access to bio-chemicals and viruses and will decide it is time to rid the earth of its destructive population?

It has been reported that England's Prince Philip made the statement "In the event that I am reincarnated, I would like to return as a deadly virus, in order to contribute something to solve overpopulation."

Was the Terri Shiavo case a test for population control? Has Roe vs. Wade legislation assisted the depopulation cause with the killing of well over 40 million children. By promoting homosexuality in the minds of our youth, are their goals of preventing procreation succeeding?

These ways are morbid enough, but have we reached a new level of earth preservation by turning to global mass killing by releasing pandemic diseases?

"The Environmentalist's Dream is an Egalitarian Society based on: rejection

of economic growth, a smaller population, eating lower on the food chain, consuming a lot less, and sharing a much lower level of resources much more equally." Author Aaron Wildavsky

Apparently God does not have a problem with population as He must have believed he had provided enough resources on earth to care for His people. His promise to Abraham was:

"I shall bless you abundantly and make your descendants as numerous as the stars in the sky or the grains of sand on the seashore."—Genesis 22:17,

Environmentalism is often compared to Communism. Ironically, April 22, 1970, the first Earth Day, also marked the 100th Anniversary of Vladimir Ilyich Lenin's birth.

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Joyce Morrison attempts to educate the public regarding the dangers coming to their local communities through Sustainable Development and Agenda 21 programs which are designed to gradually take control of all private property through undue regulations.

Morrison writes for NewsWithViews, Range Magazine, SOWER magazine as well as numerous other publications. She is a weekly participant on the teleconference of the Illinois Policy Institute, a conservative think tank and is a pro-life, pro-family activist.

She is a chapter leader for Concerned Women for America as well as Secretary to the Board of Directors of Rural Restoration/ADOPT Mission, a national farm ministry located in Sikeston, MO.

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Comparing statements by two Arizona biologists illuminates the underlying motives of our state and federal fish and game agencies to deliberately deceive the public today. In the Las Vegas Sun newspaper, an article appeared on April 7, 2006 entitled, "Mountain lions in Arizona's line of fire." Arizona Game and Fish Department biologist Jim deVos makes this statement. "Not every lion is killing sheep. We're trying to focus on known kills and trying to remove that lion that is killing sheep." Wake up, Mr. de Vos. All lions kill sheep if there are sheep in the area. You cannot guarantee that other lions will not replace the ten you intend to remove. Once again, this is a band-aid approach to a serious problem by biologists. Compare this statement to the following statement and you be the judge. At the Mountain lion Workshop, January 13 and 14, 1976, page 118, John Phelps said, "The data we have indicates there's no such thing as a stock killer. All lions kill stock when the opportunity comes."

Step up in front of the public, Jim deVos, and drink your cup of swill, you earned it.

The cure for the lion problem is not being implemented by the people who have the power to do so. Let's start with the department heads of the fish and game agencies. If this person truly wanted something done about lions, he would say to the biologists, you formulate a program to bring back our deer or you are history! If the biologists wanted to do something about lions, their reports and studies would offer recommendations to solve the problem. And finally, the brainless Wildlife commissioners would say to the department heads, if you don't bring back our deer, I'm going to the governor with a vote of "no confidence" in your ability and you will be history.

Of course, in Nevada, wildlife commissioners are not appointed for their wildlife knowledge. It is the big fat political donation that gets them appointed. So being brainless about wildlife issues is the standard in Nevada. To prove this, in the 2001 legislative



session there was a bill which would have removed the mountain lion from the (false) big game status. Who testified against the bill? A person who is now on the Wildlife Commission. That person is none other than Clint Bentley, a so called sportsmen's representative. There was a petition which would have increased harvest numbers (not quota) on mountain lions. Clint Bentley cast the deciding vote against this. His reasoning was that he thought the Nevada Department of Wildlife might lose a few dollars from the sale of mountain lion

tags. Because of lions we are losing millions of dollars on the loss of our deer but Clint Bentley is more concerned about the miniscule loss of revenue on lion tags. Now do you see why I called them brainless wildlife commissioners? By now you should realize that nothing good is going to happen from the people in charge. It is going to take a concentrated effort from many sportsmen and concerned citizens to make the necessary change.

Cecil Fredi can be reached at huntersalert@huntersalert.org. ■■



Cougar Lawsuit Press Release Update From ORCAS (Oregon Rural Citizens Against Subterfuge)



We filed our lawsuit on April 4, 2006, one day later than our original target date due to circumstances that we have to live with. The State Attorney General was served on April 4th, and the ODFW on April 6th. What happens now is that 20 days after the 6th of April we will file a motion for Summary Judgment, which will outline our legal authority, case law, arguments, and prayer for relief. What that means is we will present why Measure 18, despite being voted on twice by the voters of the State of Oregon, should not have been implemented as it is unconstitutional. Article 1 Section 18 reads as follows, "Private property shall not be taken for public use, nor the particular services of any man be demanded, without just compensation; nor except in the case of the state, without such compensation first assessed and tendered; provided that the use of all roads, ways and waterways necessary to promote the transportation of the raw products of mine or farm or forest or water for beneficial use or drainage is necessary for the development and welfare of the state and is declared for public use." What this means is under *Hawkins v City of La Grande* 843 P2d 400 OR 1992, the Court of Appeals ruled the

killing of Livestock and the Destruction of Crops by any Governmentally instituted Action (Measure 18) shall be considered Permanently "Taken" for the purposes of taking under Article 1 Section 18 of the Constitution of Oregon. This very clearly defines our legal standing and the fact that despite twice being voted on by the voters of Oregon Measure 18 violated the Constitutional rights of private property owners and goes bye, bye.

Our other argument goes a step further in asserting our rights. 76% of Rural Citizens voted against Measure 18. It only passed due to the overwhelming majority of Urban Citizens who are privileged and immune from the effects of increased Cougar and Bear Predation and the damages they cause livestock and property. Article 1 Section 20 reads as follows; NO LAW shall be passed granting to any citizen or group of citizens privileges, or immunities, which upon the same terms, shall not EQUALLY belong to all citizens. Now, reading that and looking closely at the Supreme Court's decision on Measure 37 where the court found that the measure created the class of property owners and therefore there was no protected class. And, if they class

claiming lack of privilege or immunity could change their circumstances, in our case moving from rural communities to Urban. Aside from being impractical, it would be virtually impossible due to restrictions and space available in Urban areas to farm, grow trees, a lot of crops, hay, etc.

What does all this mean, well folks it means that the Rural Citizens of Oregon are claiming that they are and should be declared a protected class such that their concerns, privilege and immunity should be equal under the law with those of Urban Citizens. Now, if say Portland were to import 3,000 cougars and 12,000 black bears and turn them loose in their city on their citizens, and Salem some 1,800 cougar and 8,000 black bear, and Eugene/Springfield were to take 984 cougar and 4,200 black bear into their midst then things might be a little more equal and they would not be so privileged and immune (Just a thought that would be an option for the court to consider as an order to make things constitutional under Article Section 20). As you can see folks it really doesn't matter what anyone thinks or feels is right. Is it Constitutional or Not: that is the real issue. Over the years we have put our Constitutions at the back of the

law, but they were the beginning inception for all laws we have today. Article 1 is our Bill of Rights and the highest law in the land under which all others have been decided and made. I hope this clarifies our position and that we are not just trophy hunters, or dog hunters. We are Citizens of Oregon taking back our laws and way of life and even our voice to insure that all citizens share equally in our way of life. We are asking in the relief that not only Measure 18 be struck down and goes away but that Cougar and Bear populations are returned to pre-1994 levels and that the over 6 million deer and elk slaughtered by mismanagement, by ODFW sitting on their butts collecting our fees are replaced at any expense and cost.

Thank you for your support and assistance which so many of you have given in the past and I hope that you will continue to support our many future causes giving back the voice of Rural Citizens of Oregon.

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Wildlife Biologists Savors or Vitiators?

By Bud Sonnentag

The majority of our states' fish and game agencies are under the control and direction of biologists. They alone make every rule and regulation concerning the management of all wildlife in the North American continent, including Canada. Every man, woman, and child is directly impacted by the power they wield through their management plans and decisions they make from day to day regarding wildlife, especially mountain lions. Make no mistake...biologists are the vitiators of all our wildlife problems and not our commissioners, legislators, or hunter sportsmen as you might think. If I thought for a second that biologists were saviors, I would never have called them eco-terrorists. Commissioners and legislators are involved in politics to formulate and institute the laws that biologists concoct in the name of science...rightly or wrongly. Biologists learn quickly to guard what they say publicly or risk getting crosswise with administration policy and being excommunicated by their state or federal agencies. You can bet what biologists do say publicly on television or in news print will be disguised as science but calculated to be propaganda to move public sentiment in a favorable direction to benefit their agency. Our state and federal fish and game agencies have no shortage of bunny huggers and tree lovers willing to support them. Mother earth and her wildlife have become a cult religion with hundreds of animal societies jockeying to be the "Pope"—biologists weaseling their way in as high priests and the hunter sportsman trying to get all of them in his sights.

Just 25% of the nation has a college or university degree of some sort or another. That means the other 75% of our nation hold a high school diploma or less. In order to be employed as a biologist by any state or federal wildlife agency, one must have a BS degree.... the minimum to qualify and the lowest degree offered in the collegiate system. This excludes everyone with a high school education who relies on experience and a common sense approach to wildlife management. This time proven method has been handed down from father to son for generations and was the cause, thinking and underpinnings for the creation of the famous

Pittman Robertson Act. P.R. was not instituted by diploma carrying biologists. Today, young people come out of our colleges to enter wildlife agencies as mere children having been indoctrinated by very liberal professors in liberal colleges who promote protectionism, environmentalism and preservationism and not necessarily conservation. Many of these neophytes do not understand the concept of predation management the way older hunter sportsmen do through hands on experience and a high school diploma. These new recruits enter an atmosphere where the direction of wildlife has been preordained by cronies 50 years before they got there and are quickly informed not to buck the system or say anything that will make waves...or else! All of this is done under the guise of science by people who hold nothing more than a Bachelor of Science degree. By the sacred cow called education we glorify these four year graduates as scientists and experts who have no experience and we elevate them above ourselves. They are now ready to work their way up through a stiff necked system the way everyone did before them. The past system guarantees there will be NO present or future apostates in their wildlife administration. This explains why you never see any change in wildlife management throughout our state and federal agencies. Change is condemned not encouraged. Criticism smacks of their predecessors being wrong which is not thinkable. Winston Churchill was on the right track when he said "Anyone who is not a liberal in his youth has no heart: Anyone who remains so as he matures has no brains." Touché! This sort of wildlife management in our state and federal agencies sets up a revolving chain of protectionism and not conservation by this stifling system and can be traced directly to biologist's mentality.

I've never had these problems pointed out as clearly as I did on April 9, 2006. A biologist by the name of Carl Lackey from Nevada Department of Wildlife (NDOW) was called to investigate a mountain lion sighting and serious disturbance at my friend's ranch in Genoa, Nevada. This would not have been so ludicrous except that this biologist is considered the Nevada "expert" in bear and mountain lion matters and personifies everything I

have written. Upon arriving at the ranch Carl Lackey said to my friend; "I am not allowed to speak on any matters of the mountain lion that might involve the department in any controversy." NDOW'S image be damned—there was a dead calf here. Carl Lackey didn't dare answer my friend's piercing questions with the truth because that didn't fit 60 years of state and federal research and furthermore runs counter to NDOW policy. All this happened in the presence of several witnesses. This is an on-going daily recurrence throughout the western states wildlife agencies. My own 24 year old son endured the same stupidity by a California biologist on March 28, 2006. After seeing mountain lions far too frequently around his house, he called a California game biologist to discuss the urgency of the matter. He got the same response as my Genoa friend. Can you believe my son lives in Burbank, California of all places and well within sight of all the movie studios? Needless to say my son "mauled" the biologist good and proper with the facts and truth about mountain lions.... bless his soul. We permit these biologists to get away with this behavior because of the lack of education on our part. When they realize we are informed about mountain lions and stand up to them, they're spooked. They instantly become aware that if you keep pressing them with facts you're going to force them to lie or go against administration policy. I personally have lost all respect for biologists of this kind.

All sciences follow empirical laws and all sciences encourage examination, debate and free thinking. All strive for the facts—the truth. Just by these criteria alone it is easy to see that wildlife management fails the science test and is nothing more than a pseudo science at best. It attains its elevated status by attaching itself to biology and biologists. That's about as close as wildlife management will ever come to being a science. From there it gravitates to such things as duplicity, confusion, distortion of facts and even lying. Because biologists have the diploma and we don't, they convince the nation that their guess is better than our experience and common sense. Education, which we have glorified, has come full circle and knifes us all in the back. With this type of wildlife management, everyone, anti's and



conservationists alike come out losers. Like my mother told me—you can't have your cake and eat it too. We can have lots of mountain lions or lots of "wildlife"—but not both. With mountain lions we are guaranteed lots of deaths and carnage with never any rest or peace. If you worship mountain lions, I ask you to look at your child or grandchild pensively and view them as "mountain lion food" or God forbid—"Scat." As I said—I have no respect for people like this, especially biologists who have led this country into such a morass. Most of them knew better but did nothing to stop it or head it off. The height of stupidity in wildlife management came when the U.S. F. & W.S. chose on their own to reintroduce the wolf to Montana and Wyoming. Wildlife management policies in our Fish & Game agencies will not permit or encourage open debate, policy examination, criticism and God forbid beneficial change. Unless "we" change it, we can expect to remain under this yoke of oligarchy forever. I believe in an informed, educated public and a democratic government. In other words...Our American dream. Thank heavens the U.S. Observer thinks the same way.

Bud Sonnentag can be reached at PO Box 72, Gabbs, Nevada 89409 or huntersalert@huntersalert.org

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Cougar that attacked boy in Colorado killed

BOULDER, Colo. (AP) - A wildlife officer on Sunday shot and killed a female mountain lion that attacked a 7-year-old boy hiking with his family.

The 80-pound cat had bitten the boy's head. The child also suffered puncture wounds and scrapes on his legs, likely from the animal's claws, Division of Wildlife spokesman Tyler Baskfield said.

Boulder County sheriff's officials said the boy's injuries were not life-threatening. He was hospitalized at The Children's Hospital, where officials would not release his condition.

The boy was apparently the last in a single-file line of seven other people taking a short hike Saturday at a scenic area of Flagstaff Mountain,

Baskfield said.

"The father turned and saw the cat had a hold of the young boy," he said. The group began screaming at the cat and throwing rocks and was able to free the boy, he said.

The group was 50 yards from a parking lot when the cat attacked, Baskfield said.

The officer shot the cat in the same area of the attack, Baskfield said. It was killed in the interest of public safety, he said.

A necropsy was planned to try to determine whether the animal was diseased or had another reason to attack, he said.

Baskfield said the mountain is prime habitat for the cats, and there had been several recent sightings ...

■■■

6-Year-Old Girl Dies in Tenn. Bear Attack

The Associated Press
Friday, April 14, 2006

BENTON, Tenn. -- A bear attacked a family at a camp site in the Cherokee National Forest on Thursday, killing a 6-year-old girl and injuring her 2-year-old brother and mother, authorities said.

The attack took place near a pool of water on Chilhowee Mountain, said Dan Hicks, spokesman for the Tennessee Wildlife Resources Agency.

Witnesses described the bear picking up the boy in its mouth while the mother and other visitors tried to fend it off with sticks and rocks, Hicks said. The mother was injured before the bear was chased away.

The girl ran away during that attack, but was found dead a short time later

with the bear nearby. A park ranger fired at least one shot at the bear before it bolted off.

The woman and her son were flown by helicopter to Erlanger Medical Center in Chattanooga, where both were being treated for wounds consistent with a bear attack, Hicks said.

Hospital officials did not immediately return calls for comment, but Hicks said the boy was listed in critical condition. The victims' names were not released.

Forest Service employees, TWRA game agents and several hunters were searching for the bear in an area spanning several thousand acres.

The 640,000-acre park runs along the southeastern Tennessee border with North Carolina, southwest of Great Smoky Mountains National Park. ■■■

Continued from page 1
Star Automotive Co-Owner ...

automatic Glock 9 mm with a laser scope, which was usually locked away, he placed it to his own head. Yelling at her, "You don't own me!" Shocked and in fear for her husband, but also afraid of what James might do to her, Sandy got up from the bed and moved away, and said, "No, I don't own you. We're married." She went on to tell him that if he didn't want to talk about it that was fine. But James was becoming more agitated and kept repeating and yelling that she didn't own him and Sandy was getting more afraid with each passing moment, so she ran. Sandy bolted from the room and headed for their security system to hit the panic button, grabbing the phone as she went. James wasn't far behind and turned the gun on her, targeting her with the laser's ominous red dot. When she made it to the wall mounted system she hit the buttons, but nothing happened. It had been disabled. So she dialed 911. He was upon her then, still yelling at her that she didn't own him. He would point the gun at her and then back to his own head and Sandy was starting to panic. Seeing Sandy on the phone James started to strike her with the gun and finally hit her hard on the wrist sending the phone to the floor disconnecting the call. Sandy recalled, "There he was naked, yelling that I didn't own him. And all I could think is that I didn't want my daughter to come out of her room." Sandy made her way toward the front door trying to get outside but James grabbed her and shoved her hard against the door and thrust the Glock into her abdomen with such force Sandy recalls that she felt like she was being lifted off the ground. Sandy was in so much pain and fear at this point that her body relieved itself. For a moment she caught her breath and asked James, "What about the kids?" He let her go then. Immediately she went outside and redialed 911. It wasn't long after that he emerged from the home, now fully clothed and armed with a second handgun (which was pointed at her), and he snapped at her, "I'm divorcing you." Sandy saw that he was getting ready to leave and she asked him not to go and to put the guns down but James got in the car and drove away. Fortunately, James was apprehended at gun-point by Josephine County Sheriff's Deputies, his guns still with him, and he was taken to jail where he was booked on three felony charges and one misdemeanor.

In telling, it seems this ordeal was over quickly but in actuality Sandy was in fear for her life, James' life, and the life of her daughter who overheard everything from her room, for more than a half an hour, lasting into the early morning of the 25th.



Time card by James Lefeber.

Throughout their 13 year marriage James was so controlling that he even

made up time allotment cards which he would give Sandy on her birthday that would state, "You have my time Sandy" and would list a minute value and expiration date. He wouldn't give her access to any of the family's financials other than the "allowance" account he set up for her and that he would make deposits into. He wouldn't allow her to work, other than in and around her home - which he would reward her with certificates of appreciation if she did a good job, perhaps even entitling her to a night out or even a vacation. He even kept all of his business moves a secret from her even though she is a partner, co-owner, vice-president, and stock holder in the main corporation. He would even take credit cards out in her name and use them to pay off company debt, something she didn't know about until after that night.

His involvement with his wife was minimal, at best, as he would stay at the office until late in the evenings, something she had grown used to. And this event wasn't the first time he had been physically abusive toward her.

It wasn't until after the January 24th - 25th event that Sandy realized something was drastically wrong, that James' treatment of her wasn't that of a loving husband, but was in reality a vehicle which he used for his own agenda. Finding out, that just prior to his arrest, he cancelled her life insurance policy cemented these feelings. So, with help from the few friends she was allowed to have, she started digging - pulling every document she could get her hands on. What she found frightened her even more. Sandy sadly finally admitted, "I don't know Jim. I guess I never have. I thought we were married but what he has done to me isn't marriage."

James soon filed for divorce and what was supposed to be a restraining order hearing quickly became a pre-divorce case where the Judge ruled that James should pay \$200.00 per week child support for their daughter and also ruled that he should pay an immediate \$6,000.00 to Sandy for living expenses and bills. At this point Sandy, taking what little money she had, and borrowing some more, retained Richard Lane as her attorney for the amount of \$4,500.00. They successfully filed a property restraining order in an effort to protect the community property from being disposed of. During another hearing Judge Newman dropped the \$6,000.00 amount in favor of James just paying the bills as they came in, which according to Sandy, the home finance company from whom she received a foreclosure notice from, and the electric company who sent her a notice she was past due, he has not been doing - even though according to Lane he had been delivering these bills to James' attorney as per court instructions.

Finding that Judge Newman frequently had his car serviced at Star Automotive, the US-Observer placed a call to his office, soon thereafter James' attorney Lynn Myrick filed for the removal of Judge Newman, which was granted. This is noteworthy as there was obvious communication between the Judge and James' attorney for there to ever have been a question about the Judge's bias in the case.

Having had several in-office meetings at Myrick's office Lane soon stepped down as Sandy's attorney, leaving her without legal counsel just prior to a show cause hearing in regard to child custody and support. He also billed her in the amount of \$1,900.00 but didn't account for all of the \$4,500.00 retainer she paid him.

On March 31st, 2006 James Lefeber appeared at the Josephine County court house for sentencing on the four charges associated with the January 24th-25th event. Sandy Lefeber, along with her 18 year-old son, Sean, and 12 year-old daughter attended, all of whom have been irreparably damaged by James' actions that night, throughout the marriage and in subsequent wrongdoings obviously motivated by James' need to attack Sandy and anyone that doesn't stand by him. James stood and spoke in the court room about how he realized he had frightened his family and apologized for his actions. He actually stood there and admitted to the act, never denying anything in the case! Even still the presiding Judge, Pat Wolke who, having all of the information regarding the assault before him and having heard James' own admission of wrong-doing, chose to accept a plea agreement made by the district attorney's office, who never went so far as to do a victim's impact study, dropping the three felony counts and finding him guilty of misdemeanor menacing for which James was sentenced to three years of probation. He was also to attend counseling for anger management, but his right to brutally bear arms against an unarmed individual was kept intact. James was further ordered to maintain his no-contact with the victim and agreed to be a law abiding citizen. And on his way out of the court room Judge Wolke offered James kind words for a good future.

Instantly Sandy's mouth widened, "What? What just happened?" Sandy, and her children's beliefs in the justice system were destroyed.

Leaving the court house they watched as James hopped into the passenger side of his attorney's vehicle and drove away, a free man. They had no idea what was in store for them.

Sandy's son went to get the Suburban they had come to the court house in and bring it around to pick it up the rest of the family but it was gone, taken while everyone was in court.

Walking back to the court house where Sandy and her daughter were talking with Observer investigators Sandy's son simply said, "He took the Suburban."

Trying to file a stolen vehicle report with the police department, they were informed that if the SUV was community property, James had every right to take it. Evidently there is no database for police or deputies to review records on valid property restraining orders as Sandy's clearly stated that removal of property from one to the other was a violation. Just moments before the car was taken (or even at the same time as he had an outside party take the vehicle) James Lefeber professed to Judge Wolke that he'd be a law abiding citizen. I guess that didn't take in to account court orders.

Since they weren't allowed to file a stolen vehicle report, Sean wanted to file a report of stolen goods as he had over \$3,000.00 worth of his personal possessions in the vehicle when it was taken. Instead of taking a report, the city police clerk called and talked to James, and all of a sudden Sandy's son Sean became the criminal. Sean was told by the police clerk that James had said Sean was driving a vehicle without a valid license or insurance and the clerk asked to see proof of these. He immediately presented them, which she then took away and photo copied. The clerk was even told by James that Sean wouldn't get his things back until he (Sean) talked to him but when she was asked if he had just admitted to having the stolen items she stammered and said that he hadn't.



James Lefeber

But when Sean still persisted in wanting to file a report the clerk said, "look, we won't be used as a go between." Still, Sean demanded action, as some of the items he had in the vehicle weren't even his, they were left there by a friend. Finally, he was able to see a police officer who said that only after a personal letter was written asking for the items back was denied, or terms not met, would they file a stolen property report.

Sean is a whole other story. Having worked as a mechanic for James at Star Automotive, Sean was recently dismissed, a truck he had at the shop which he was working on with James started getting charged a \$25 "storage fee" for being there and Sean was told not to call him Dad anymore, to call him Mr. Lefeber.

Sean was finally able to move the truck and found all of his belongings that were left in the Suburban carelessly thrown into the back of it, some damaged beyond use.

As for Sandy, through the help of some friends she was able to retain another attorney and is in the process of moving forward with the divorce case, one in which James is trying to take everything, even their daughter, who maintains she doesn't want to see her dad and that what he did, and is still doing, is wrong.

During our cursory investigation the US-Observer has found that James has most likely misrepresented himself to the IRS; used his wife's identity to secure credit cards in her name and used those cards for personal and/or company expenses; fell victim, himself, to an inheritance scam giving international criminals his personal information; and has sold, transferred or otherwise removed community property including, but not limited to, Sandy's IRA, the children's IRAs, stocks, and other assets otherwise not owned by him exclusively - a violation of the property restraining order. While we have only scratched the surface the US-Observer will be keeping a watchful eye on James and his business dealings.

This investigation will be continued in the next edition of the US-Observer.

Editor's Note: The recent ruling to dismiss James Lefeber's felony criminal charges reeks of back-door dealings. You can be assured that if this were someone other than a prominent business owner they would be sent to prison. We live in a world where murder-suicide rates are rising. These crimes are often perpetrated by individuals without criminal histories and are some of the most horrific acts of violence. To treat an assault and threat of this kind as what ORS 163.190 defines as menacing is a travesty and the District Attorney's office should be held accountable for such an injustice.

ORS 163.190: A person commits the crime of menacing if by word or conduct the person intentionally attempts to place another person in fear of imminent serious physical injury.

Should you have any information regarding James Lefeber, Star Automotive, STARprises, Inc., or have heard him say anything degrading his wife Sandy, please call us at 541-474-7885. ■■■

Pope condemns geneticists 'who play at being God'

By Ruth Gledhill
Religion Correspondent, The Times

The Pope will deliver a blistering attack on the "satanic" mores of modern society today, warning against an "inane apologia of evil" that is in danger of destroying humanity.

In a series of Good Friday meditations that he will lead in Rome, the Pope will say that society is in the grip of a kind of "anti-Genesis" described as "a diabolical pride aimed at eliminating the family". He will pray for society to be cleansed of the "filth" that surrounds it and be restored to purity, freed from "decadent narcissism".

Particular condemnation is reserved for scientific advances in the field of genetic manipulation. Warning against the move to "modify the very grammar of life as planned and willed by God", the Pope will lead prayers against "insane, risky and dangerous" ventures in attempting "to take God's place without being God".

The Pope has not actually composed the prayers for the traditional Way of the Cross, but is certain to have given his blessing to the Good Friday meditations at the Colosseum.

Their author is Archbishop Angelo Comastri, Vicar General at Vatican City. The tone of the meditations is striking in its contrast to the contemporary fashion for feel-good religion.

While some will regard their emphasis on sin and the dark side of human nature as retrograde, others will welcome them as a sign of the strong and conservative leadership that Pope Benedict XVI was elected to provide. All Roman Catholic churches and many others, including Anglican churches in the Anglo-Catholic tradition, celebrate a liturgy around the Stations of the Cross on Good Friday.

The 14 stations begin with Jesus's condemnation to death, take Christians through meditations of the "Way of the Cross" and the Crucifixion and end with the laying of Jesus's body in the tomb. The Pope wrote the meditations himself for last year's Way of the Cross in Rome. But today's Catholic prayers, published in Italian this week and in English on the Zenit website yesterday, go further than most in their thorough denunciation of contemporary culture.

At the Third Station of the Cross, where Jesus falls for the first time, Archbishop Comastri has written:

"Lord, we have lost our sense of sin. Today a slick campaign of propaganda is spreading an inane apologia of evil, a senseless cult of Satan, a mindless desire for transgression, a dishonest and frivolous freedom, exalting impulsiveness, immorality and selfishness as if they were new heights of sophistication."

At the Fourth Station, where Jesus is helped by Simon the Cyrene to carry the cross, Pope Benedict and his followers will pray: "Lord Jesus, our affluence is making us less human, our entertainment has become a drug, a source of alienation, and our society's incessant, tedious message is an invitation to die of selfishness."

One of the strongest meditations warns against the attack on the family. "Today we seem to be witnessing a kind of anti-Genesis, a counter-plan, a diabolical pride aimed at eliminating the family."

There is a moving meditation for the Eighth Station, where Jesus meets the women of Jerusalem, describing the "River of tears shed by mothers, mothers of the crucified, mothers of



murderers, mothers of drug addicts, mothers of terrorists, mothers of rapists, mothers of psychopaths, but mothers all the same".

The Pope will also confront the question of evil in the world in a meditation that asks: "Where is Jesus in the agony of our own time, in the division of our world into belts of prosperity and belts of poverty... in one room they are concerned about obesity, in the other, they are begging for charity?" ■■■

Continued from page 9 Who Should Be Sheriff? ...

second. Both have the hardcore budgetary and personnel experience that is needed for the office.

If I was to vote on my feeling of who is the most easily likeable and can handle interoffice personnel issues, that would be Spike Kelly hands down. He has such a natural best friend approach that it is very endearing, and he, too, is also quite experienced and has shown his integrity by standing up for other deputies who were being mistreated both ethically and legally during this current administration. He is an incredible asset to the department, without question, and I have nothing but respect for him, but I do not feel he is right for the position of sheriff. I just don't think he has a strong enough administrative background.

I mean really, I want someone in the office who will squeeze blood out of a turnip and knows how to deal with a large workforce. Someone who isn't afraid of paperwork and knows every aspect of training... I want a sheriff that is honestly the best of the best!

Don Fasching has a great deal of experience and is also very likeable, not to mention, suave and well worded. He has much to offer and even though he is the most recent of the Josephine County residents, it doesn't mean to say that he believes in the county's safety or well being any less than the next candidate. Does he have what it takes to be sheriff?

Sure. Absolutely. Do I think he should be? No. Why? Because, in my opinion, he simply isn't the most qualified for the position.

Like I said, I want the best of the best, and anyone who could walk into a war-torn country that is rife with political and social upheaval, economic insecurity, and crime rates through the roof, be assigned a precinct and turn his area around within two years so that his station is no longer needed is my kind of guy for the job. With glowing letters of recommendation from a US Ambassador and an Army General who both praise his accomplishments and acknowledge his leadership abilities, it's about time we got such an outstanding candidate as Gil Gilbertson. While his kind personality shines through in the more intimate setting of a small group or one-on-one than it does when he is faced by a larger group like that of a political rally or forum, he is a man who is all business and luckily for us he has chosen that business to be that of being our next sheriff.

One thing is for certain, should Gil, Don, or Spike get into office I am sure you will see positive changes in the department.

This election is, I feel, one of the most important decisions local voters face in this round of public governmental participation. No matter who you vote for, just know that your vote does count. Don't just sit there and roll the dice. ■■■

5 Reasons to Vote



Hundreds of People Say...
A Complete Administration
Change is Needed



Trends show...

Crime is Up

Far more felons are being released from the county jail than should be.*

* See Gilbertson Position Paper for details

Emergency Response Times are Longer

Endangering lives & loss of property throughout the county

Gil is Involved in the Community

- A Josephine County Resident Since 1991
- Josephine County Sheriff Office Search & Rescue Dive Team
- Executive Board of Directors, Friends of the K-9, Josephine County



Gilbertson has Essential Administrative Experience:

- 1975-1991 Patrol Officer, Bomb Squad, Tactical Team, Recovery Diver, Jailer - Waterloo, Iowa Police Dept.
- 1992-2005 National & International Law Enforcement Instructor
- 1996-2004 US Dept. of State in Kosovo & Bosnia
- 2005 Iraq Advisor & Hurricane Katrina Tactical Team

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The goal of US~Observer is to ensure “due process” and “equal protection under the law.”

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.”

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Letters to the Editor

Short and Sweet

Dear Editor:

Dave Daniel has been a total failure as Sheriff. Brian Anderson is his under-sheriff and has assisted him with all the abuses. Either Spike Kelly or Gil Gilbertson would be a breath of fresh air and they would eliminate the huge financial burden placed on tax payers by the Daniel/Anderson regime.

Sincerely,

Dave Myer
Josephine County

Insurance Companies and Bad Attorneys

To the Editor:

Personal injury attorneys are needed to protect individuals from being taken by the bad insurance companies and others.

Some insurance companies will do everything possible to cheat the injured parties out of due compensation. Some insurance companies are forthright and will do the right thing. Personal injury attorneys will NEVER admit this as they want their clients to believe all insurance companies are the bad guys, thus justifying their fees. The more money they can force insurance companies to pay, the more money they will make from their percentage of the reward. Ever wonder why insurance premiums are so high? Few personal injury attorneys choose their occupation as a means to protect the injured parties from unjust compensation. Most are in it for the money and will do everything possible to convince their clients they are simply looking out for you. Their motivation is greed and they pass the greed mentality on to their clients.

The less scrupulous attorneys, often referred to as ambulance chasers, will delay settlements, keeping their clients from receiving the reasonable compensation they are due, solely as a ploy to increase the reward.

Be aware...

Jim Jay
Josephine County, Oregon

A Good Sheriff For a Change

To the Editor:

As a life-time resident of Josephine

County I have observed first-hand many law enforcement personnel come and go.

Through the years the Oregon State Police have consistently been an honorable agency of highly trained officers who are respectful and courteous to the public.

Many citizens now have a negative opinion of some police agencies. This poor public perception is the result of a few disrespectful, arrogant and sometimes physically abusive cops on a power trip with a badge and gun. It is also the result of JoCo's current sheriff who has lied to the public and totally mismanaged our tax dollars.

The most important asset that a police officer must possess is honesty. If the citizens do not trust or respect or are afraid of law enforcement because of the abuse and disrespect of a few officers, the whole police force is crippled.

The most powerful law enforcement officer is the county sheriff. Because he is elected by the people he has the authority to arrest any state or federal employee who violates the constitutional rights of the citizens of his county. I want a sheriff who will uphold his oath of office and defend the citizens of his county against any unlawful encroachment by outside forces, while maintaining an honest and respectful group of deputies dedicated to public service. Sheriff Dave Daniel has not been that man and his under-sheriff Brian Anderson has not been either.

Gil Gilbertson is the most highly qualified and experienced law enforcement officer to ever run for sheriff in Josephine County. He is also a man of deep moral convictions and integrity and he is a strong supporter of the second amendment. We are fortunate to have a man of his caliber running for sheriff in our county.

C. R. Pearce
Josephine County

Wildlife Control Through Public Sentiment

Dear Editor:

Those who voted for Measure 18, which prohibited the only valid control of mountain lions by the use of dogs in actuality voted for a completely uncontrolled and unrestrained lion population.

The lion population is now out of control and is decimating the deer and elk herds in many areas. Because of our growing population and the decline of natural prey species the incidents of attacks on humans is increasing every year.

If those who voted for Measure 18 are serious about not killing any lions or having any real control of lions then the following plan could be made into law and the cougar management problem will be solved.

When wolves were re-introduced into Idaho the ranchers were allowed to receive compensation for damage and loss of livestock to wolf predation. Why shouldn't the same program be implemented for damage and/or loss of life of a person by a mountain lion? After all, human life is of much more value than a sheep, cow, horse, etc. At least it is to those who would lose a precious member of their family.

If the government feels it is responsible for the loss of livestock because of their management program of wolves then those legislators or agencies who drafted and voted for Measure 18 and all who voted for it should be held accountable in the event that a cougar kills or damages someone.

I don't know what value most people place on their loved ones but I don't believe any of mine are worth less than fifty million dollars for starters.

Except for the loss of quite a few children, some adults and the complete decimation of deer, elk, turkeys, etc., I believe this would be a workable program.

Sincerely,

Jack Abernathy
Sunny Valley, Oregon

Bogus Daily Courier Cougar Editorial

To the Editor:

Dennis Roler's editorial published in the April 15th edition of the Daily Courier needed to be radically edited by someone able to tell the truth about the cougar issue. Roler sits in an office most of the time and is reported to have never hunted cougar... Where does he get off offering unfounded, sympathetic dribble to the eager masses?

Roler's bias and bitter sarcasm against hunters was all too obvious. Quote – “Voters thought it unsportsmanlike for the majestic animals to be chased and treed by a pack of yapping dogs, then blasted from their shelter in the limbs by man.” Anyone who knows the least bit about cougars (that leaves out Roler) knows that the only successful way to harvest the serious over-population of cougars is with the use of hounds. When Roler's so called “majestic animals” are treed and shot they are killed quickly and humanly, a far cry from the vicious, terrifying, unprovoked attack and

Continued on page 17

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Letters to the Editor



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killing of a human by a lion.

Cougar attacks on humans were almost unheard of years ago because the lion was not allowed to over populate their normal mountain habitat and food supply. Roler states that not one person has been attacked by a cougar in Oregon. Apart from this statement being a false assumption on Rolers part, does he really believe the cougars that attack humans in Colorado and California are somehow different than those in Oregon? The fact is people have been stalked and attacked in Oregon and it's only a matter of time before the media gets a hold of such an event and makes it public. It's also just a matter of time before a child or even an adult is attacked and killed in Oregon, if it hasn't already occurred. Numerous children and even adults have disappeared in Oregon's wilderness areas and predation in many cases is almost a certainty.

The deer population in Oregon isn't 20% of what it was many years ago. Just ask any hunter who has lived and hunted here for the past 50 or 60 years. When the lions have finished off what's left of the deer, elk and wild turkey populations, then Roler's majestic mountain lions will be real hungry. If Roler has any children or grandchildren, would he trade one of them for all the lions in Oregon? Maybe he would!

The stockholders of a major corporation are not allowed to tell the corporate managers how to run their business because they are not professionals. The average Oregon voter has little or knowledge of wildlife management or predator control and it's appearing that ODFW is falling into this same category. The important issue of wildlife management should be under the control of professionals who are trained and educated in true wildlife management instead of being controlled by the general public who have no understanding or knowledge of the

issues.

Sincerely,

**Erwin Lee Ruby
Josephine County, Oregon**

JoCo Sheriff's Office – Wasted Tax Dollars

To the Editor:

I have seen articles in other papers recently where Sheriff candidate Brian Anderson proudly touted the OAA accreditation of the Sheriff's Office as a good thing. I beg to differ. As stated, Josephine County is "one of only three sheriff departments to be accredited" and there is a reason for that! Why do you suppose none of the larger counties in Oregon have bothered with the process? Accreditation is a huge waste of time and resources on an already strained budget. All accreditation shows is that an agency has a policy to cover its list of requirements...not what that policy consists of. It can be a lousy policy, as long as it is written down and kept in a binder somewhere. Employees don't have to agree with, or comply with, these policies...they just need to know where the binders are kept.

Two different lieutenants (one of them Brian Anderson pre-Undersheriff days) were assigned full time to this process for three years...while they continued to receive full pay & benefits. A waste of over \$180,000. The annual fees are over \$2000, plus assessment fees while being reviewed were also in the thousands.

Ultimately it comes down to bragging rights and a photo op for Dave Daniel. It is all smoke and mirrors. It gave an embattled Sheriff a small opportunity to

get some "feel-good" press. Just like another of the three accredited Sheriff's Offices in Oregon...Deschutes County.

Deschutes is a prime example of accreditation being only as good as the paper it's written on. According to The Bend Bulletin (reporter Lisa Rosetta), since 2001 seven Sheriff's Office employees have either been charged and convicted of crimes or are currently under criminal investigation. The charges run from trespass and embezzlement to assault, sex abuse and drug crimes. Current Deschutes Sheriff Les Stiles has admitted that his predecessor had a history of failing to address issues. He says, "The concept of 'sweep it under the carpet' comes to mind, or just ignoring it." Doesn't this sound familiar Josephine County?

Brian Anderson has been an integral part of all major decisions at the Josephine County Sheriff's Office for the past eight years. At a speech in Cave Junction last month he openly took credit for complete control over the budget for the past eight years. So why have we been paying Dave Daniel's wage all these years? He and Daniel have functioned as one unit...corrupt and incompetent. On May 16th I'll be voting for Spike Kelly for Sheriff. He knows all about the waste and dishonesty and is fighting to change it! Vote Kelly for a better Sheriff's Office.

**Christa Damron
Grants Pass, OR**

Our Votes Don't Count

Editor,

The State Fish and Wildlife Commission's approval on Thursday to

overturn the voter approved Measure 18 (twice approved) was reflective of the importance that we, the voters, have in this state. This measure had made it illegal for hunters to use dogs or bait in hunting bears and cougars, for humane reasons. Both the dogs and the prey can get mauled, besides being very unsportsmanlike.

ODFW states that there are too many cougars now and that they pose a danger to domestic animals and people but there has not been one single report of an attack to a person in Oregon. In the present law it is allowed to kill, using bait and/or dogs, an animal which has attacked or killed livestock. Why do we need to allow hunters with dogs to go after them for trophies?

In the 1970s when they stopped paying bounties for cougars the cats were on the verge of extinction. Now the cats have a healthy population. The figure of 5100 cougars is only an educated estimate and the figure of 3000 is the MINIMUM of cougars they think should be allowed. So why kill 2000?

Could there have been pressure (and donations) from hunting club and livestock lobbyists which influenced this decision? This measure should be put on the ballot so the people can decide.

**John and Carol Ahlf
Sunny Valley, Oregon**

Edward Snook's Note: I humbly ask our readership to please excuse the above letter as it was written by two friends of mine after they had inadvertently fell off a pumpkin truck just before their writing. We had been out looking for cougar tracks with hounds and the terrible fall apparently jarred something loose in their usually clear minds. We wish John and Carol a speedy recovery and look forward to future cougar hunts with them.

■■■

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News With Views.com
WHERE REALITY SHATTERS ILLUSION

Continued from page 4
Mail Tribune Continues ...

damaging false accusations, which will certainly bring forth legal actions against them. We are informed that their day of accountability in a courtroom is not far off.

Gold Hill Police Shine Amidst Attacks

The police department has continued to deliver its fine service to the people of Gold Hill and the community in spite of the almost daily landmines provided by Wolf, Fish, and Silva. It is amazing to this writer how Chief Dean Muchow and his officers can continue to deliver their quality service as they face false accusations on a daily basis by desperate and despicable individuals. Muchow recently and single-handedly arrested a dangerous rapist in Gold Hill. His effort garnered him a letter of commendation signed by 29 local businesses.

Bad Councilors Caught Conspiring at Public Meeting

At the April 3, 2006, Gold Hill City Council meeting, Gus Wolf, Jan Fish and Donna Silva got caught publicly attempting to conduct one of their not-so-well contrived conspiracies. Wolf added the topic of replacing councilor Tom Daly to the meeting agenda. According to Daly, Wolf contacted him a week prior to the council meeting, seeking his support to get rid of the police department. An ethical Councilor Tom Daly refused to conspire with Wolf. At this juncture Wolf and company decided to attempt to get rid of Daly, thereby giving the three a majority vote and control of the city council. Wolf made the motion to replace Daly due to a clause in the city charter that states any person who is appointed to the council must run for re-election at the next general election. The council however, had appointed Daly to complete the term of his predecessor which meant he would serve until December 31st of 2009. Daly told the council he had this in writing, but the three councilors aggressively continued their attack. Their more than obvious conspiracy incited Mayor Sherry Young, the media and citizens in attendance, to come to Daly's aid. After an unsuccessful, yet all out assault by the three bad councilors, Wolf withdrew his motion. Mayor Young stated she wanted to seek advice from the city attorney before acting on the issue, which was the prudent and ethical thing to do. Knowing that they were most likely going to be re-called, the logical explanation for Wolf and company to attempt to replace Daly would be to stack the council and appoint another pre-determined person to help them appoint Wolf as city administrator. They would appoint him for a period of time where the council could not remove him and give him power over the police department. In this position he could simply eliminate the police department, thereby completing their agenda to get rid of a chief who can not be bought or controlled by those infected with the

god-syndrome. Gold Hill residents should commend Mayor Young and citizens in attendance for their stand against three terribly dangerous city councilors.

The Mary Goddard Jury Back From Deliberation



Gold Hill City Recorder Mary Goddard

In our last edition we stated that the jury was still out on Gold Hill City Recorder Mary Goddard as to whether or not she was right in the middle of the bad councilor's actions. The jury is in and Mary Goddard is guilty. After the April 3rd assault on Daly, Goddard called Daly and told him that if he was relying on the councils meeting minutes in August of 2005, to support his statement that he had it in writing that he was appointed for the full term, it wouldn't work as Donna Silva had retracted that part of the minutes. How stupid does Mary Goddard think Daly is? Donna Silva, alone, can not retract anything that is voted on by the council as a whole. With this obvious attempt to swindle Daly into thinking anything other than the truth, Mary Goddard has been caught red-handed. After a close review of the history regarding all the attacks on the police department we find that you have also conspired with the bad councilors and lap-dog reporter and political activist wanna-be Sanne Specht. Once Gold Hill obtains a clean city council they should immediately send Goddard packing. This will certainly occur if Gold Hill voters look at the facts and then vote to recall Jan Fish, Donna Silva, and Gus Wolf.

Other Lies Contained in Specht's Mail Tribune Article

Specht states, "Muchow was indicted in September of 2004 on misdemeanor charges including official misconduct and theft after resigning as chief of police in Union." This is a blatant lie. Muchow was not indicted and he cannot control the actions of a rogue district attorney (DA) from Union County, however if Specht knew step one about investigating she would find that the DA's attempt to indict was unsuccessful.

Read the US~Observer Sanne and save yourself great liability. That DA has now announced his resignation and we are informed he will soon be facing an investigation by the Attorney General's office for prosecutorial misconduct. Gus Wolf wanted Chief Muchow fired for past articles by Specht that contained these same false and misleading charges. Gold Hill residents can thank their city attorney and this writer for saving them a mountain of liability by finding and presenting the truth about these false allegations to those decent council members concerned with representing Gold Hill's interests.

Jan Fish was supposed to be helping Chief Muchow on the levy but she states the Chief "dropped the ball." In fact, Fish had not helped at all and the council agreed to wait until a levy could be presented at a general election, therefore not costing the city any money. If the levy passes there will be no gap in coverage as she states. Where was Jan Fish and company when they were needed? They were obviously conspiring on how to get rid of the Gold Hill Police Department instead of how they could properly fund this fine department.

Bad Councilors Lie to City Attorney

On April 15, 2006, councilors Jan Fish, Donna Silva and Gus Wolf sent an email to the Gold Hill City Attorney that contained yet another vicious lie. The email stated, "*Scott Jorgenson, of the Rogue River Press, stated later (after the April 3rd council meeting) that Mayor Young told him that she would not ever have let the Councilors vote and if they had tried to she would have adjourned the meeting. She said that she was prepared to have Chief Muchow escort the Councilors from the chambers, again, in clear violation of Oregon State law.*" During an April 22, 2006, phone interview with Scott Jorgenson he stated, "**This is a completely blatant lie. I never told them anything and Mayor Young never told me any of this.**" How will the bad councilors get around this one? They can't. They are factually attempting to sway the city attorney through the use of absolute lies as they struggle to both destroy others

and achieve their own survival. In short, these three have proven they are capable of doing just about anything to deceive their professional advisors and ultimately their constituents.

What About Judge Don Leahan?

Municipal Judge, Don Leahan, attacked the Gold Hill police publicly and with Sanne Specht's full cooperation some months ago. He implied the police were acting illegally and without integrity over the city's increase in citations. The bad councilors backed the judge in order to scuttle the police, but finally had to admit there was no provision to support a third officer by citation revenue as purported by Leahan. The city attorney implored them to go into executive session at a prior council meeting so he could tell them about the liabilities regarding what the judge was doing. However, Wolf, Silva, and Fish, did not want to go there. Acting on their attorney's advice would have quelled yet one more of their childish conspiracies. During our ongoing investigation of Judge Don Leahan we have been informed that while acting as presiding judge over the Gold Hill Municipal Court he was charged with DUII (8-26-01) and later plead guilty. He also was reportedly the recipient of several speeding and seatbelt charges while acting as Gold Hill's judge. Could this possibly be the reason for his groundless attacks on the Gold Hill Police Department? Armed with this knowledge, Gold Hill citizens should demand that their city council immediately get rid of this law breaking judge.

Editor's Note: Don't miss our next edition wherein we will fully disclose Leahan's criminal record...and much more about this tainted individual. By the way; where has Sanne Specht been? Specht is supposed to be providing real news to Gold Hill residents, but obviously she has been to busy stalking excellent police officers to get to the real news. Wouldn't the headline, Gold Hill Municipal Judge arrested for Drunken Driving be more appropriate than headlines factually containing deceptive lies?

■ ■ ■



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PRIVACY

Video surveillance at work OK'd Supreme Judicial Court says privacy can't be expected

By Michael Levenson
Boston Globe Staff

A receptionist who sued Salem State College after learning that there was a security camera hidden in her office, videotaping as she changed clothes, had no "objectively reasonable expectation of privacy" in her workplace, the state's high court said yesterday.

The ruling was blasted by the American Civil Liberties Union of Massachusetts, which said the Supreme Judicial Court had "opened the door to secret video surveillance in the workplace."

"It is certainly a significant setback for privacy in the workplace," John Reinstein, legal director for the ACLU,

said in a statement.

Jeff Feuer, a lawyer at Goldstein & Feuer who aided in the case, said, "Throughout our history, the courts have interpreted the right to privacy to protect people, not places. This decision flies in the face of that principle."

The case began in the summer of 1995, when the receptionist, Gail Nelson, was recovering from a bad sunburn. Several times a day, she left her desk at the college's Small Business Development Center and went to the back of the office, where she unbuttoned her blouse and applied a prescription ointment. Several times, she also changed her clothes, taking advantage of moments when no one else was on the floor and no visitors were expected.

Unknown to Nelson, her boss, Frederick Young, had installed a security camera in the office, which was set to record 24 hours a day. He did so after learning that a former client at the center, who was under investigation for criminal activity, had previously gained unauthorized access to the office after closing hours. When Nelson found out about the camera, she sued Young, alleging he had violated her right to privacy.

Yesterday, the justices ruled unanimously in favor of the college. In a nine-page decision, the court said it reviewed the design of Nelson's workplace and the access that employees had to it, ruling that, "The office was public."

The place where Nelson changed, behind two partitions, lacked a door and had an opening in it about the width of a desk, wrote Justice Roderick L. Ireland. It was located near the stairs, which employees and visitors used to get to the bathroom. "Anyone in the center" could enter Nelson's changing place "at any time" and "without prior notice," Ireland wrote.

"Despite all of the plaintiff's efforts to discreetly conduct acts of a very personal and private nature in the office, in this case there was no objectively reasonable expectation of privacy," the court said.

Officials at Salem State College could not be reached for comment.

■ ■ ■

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Immigration

Governor Signs Strict Immigration Bill With Some of the Toughest Rules in the Country

By Shannon McCaffrey

ATLANTA (AP) - Georgia's governor signed a sweeping immigration bill Monday that supporters and critics say gives the state some of the toughest measures against illegal immigrants in the nation.

"I want to make this clear: we are not, Georgia's government is not, and this bill is not, anti-immigrant," Gov. Sunny Perdue said at the signing.

"We simply believe that everyone who lives in our state needs to abide by our laws."

The law requires verification that adults seeking many state-administered benefits are in the country legally. It sanctions employers who knowingly hire illegal immigrants and mandates that companies with state contracts check the immigration status of

employees.

The law also requires police to check the immigration status of people they arrest.

The measure is believed to be the first comprehensive immigration package to make it through a statehouse this session, according to the National Conference of State Legislatures.

Many of the new law's provisions will not take effect until July 1, 2007.

The bill drew protests at Georgia's state Capitol and prompted a daylong work stoppage by thousands of immigrants.

Tisha Tallman, regional counsel for the Mexican American Legal Defense and Education Fund, said she was studying potential legal challenges to the bill.

The new law will not affect emergency

medical care and educational benefits for those in kindergarten through 12th grade, which federal courts have said must be provided regardless of immigration status.

Exemptions were also added for some other services like prenatal care and the treatment of communicable diseases.

The move to tighten rules in Georgia comes as lawmakers in Washington wrestle with competing proposals to shore up controls at the border, create a guest worker program and create a path to citizenship for illegal immigrants already in the United States.

Outside the Capitol on Monday, a few hundred supporters of the legislation applauded loudly when word came that Perdue was signing the proposal.

The crowd waved American flags and

cheered as state Rep. Melvin Everson, one of the Georgia House's two black Republicans, denounced illegal immigration as a cancer and proclaimed: "The last time I checked, America was the land of English not Spanish."

And they hollered as Republican state Sen. Chip Rogers, the bill's author, called it "the strongest single bill in America dealing with illegal immigration bar none."

At the bill signing, Rogers said he has been approached by lawmakers from South Carolina and Colorado who were interested in crafting similar proposals for their states.

Associated Press Writer Greg Bluestein contributed to this report.

Senate Bill 529 can be found on the internet at: <http://www.legis.ga.gov/> ■■

A Look Behind America's Immigration Nightmare

By Steven Yates
NewsWithViews.com

On April 7, the United States of America narrowly averted—or at least delayed—a disaster. Congress recessed without passing an immigration bill that would have provided a track to U.S. citizenship for well over 12 million illegal aliens. Whether Congress will cave in to the increasingly vocal illegal alien protest movement when they reconvene remains, as of this writing, to be seen. Among the factors holding back the Senate that day were hundreds of angry phone calls to Senators. For a change, middle America spoke loudly and clearly: we do not want amnesty-for-lawbreakers! Maybe our Senators are keeping in mind that they do face the voters this November, and if they sell this country out further, Election 2006 will be a bloodbath. We The People will send incumbents packing in record numbers. (Well, one can always hope!)

Unfortunately, stopping bad immigration bills is only part of the battle. Possibly not even the largest part. The real question: what, precisely, are we going to do with between 12 and 25 million illegal aliens? What are we to do when they are being openly encouraged by their own government, via Mexican President Vicente Fox, and not exactly being discouraged by our political and corporate establishment?

Trying to round them up and send them back to Mexico would create more problems than it would solve. Given the marches by illegals we've seen so far, we ought not kid ourselves into thinking they would go quietly.

I have occasionally heard the argument, "Let's penalize those who hire illegal aliens with stiff federal fines." Won't happen. Corporations have developed an addiction to cheap labor, after all, and so, indirectly (in the form of lower prices), so has the American public. Even if cheap-labor jobs for illegals were to dry up, for the same reasons as above we shouldn't think the illegals would just pack up and go home. The entitlement mentality doesn't work that way. Probably their ringleaders have been watching the disintegration of France. They would conclude they have nothing to lose by orchestrating the same thing here. My guess is, if a federal effort to prevent

businesses from hiring illegals was mounted, the illegals would take to the streets. We'd see cars torched here—maybe worse.

There's something else we'd better factor into the equation: given President Bush's remarks calling for more federal powers to deal with emergencies (Katrina-style disasters or an alleged bird flu pandemic), this Administration seems to be looking for an excuse to declare martial law and be done with it. The days when the feds at least had to pay lip service to the Constitution would be over. I can't think of anything more likely to bring martial law to America than riots by illegal aliens erupting in several cities at once.

We need to realize that the illegals are not here simply 'to do jobs Americans won't do' but because powerful people want them here, and planned the present crisis. The last weekend in March, Bush met with Fox and new Canadian Prime Minister Stephen Harper in Cancun to discuss the progress of the year-old Security and Prosperity Partnership of North America (SPP). The SPP is a set of initiatives involving the three national governments, numerous multinational corporations, and NGOs. The long-term goal, never stated openly, is the erasure of the borders between the three nations and the establishing of a supranational entity along the lines of the European Union—a North American Union, if you will. The SPP—like its predecessors NAFTA and CAFTA—offers a direct long-term threat to the sovereignty of this nation. It should be looked at in conjunction with Building a North American Community, published also approximately a year ago by the Council on Foreign Relations.

Among the consequences of erasing the borders would be the diminishing of representative government and genuine free enterprise, as decisions would be made by bureaucrats in "trade authorities" (this is already happening). Big business would have the money (also known as the power of the purse); big government would have the political clout (also known as the power of the sword). Those small businesspersons not selected for "partnering" would lose out, and end up seeking work in the low-paying services sector or in government. A borderless North America would be perfect for sending what is left of

America's middle class to the poorhouse, especially once the CAFTA nations are added to the mix. This is the nasty truth about "free trade" (equals managed trade) and the free migration of peoples as envisioned by the globalist power elite.

Fox has articulated his vision of a borderless North America quite openly. He told a California audience following his election in 2000 that his government would "use all our persuasion and all our talent to bring together the U.S., Canadian and Mexican governments so that in five or ten years, the border is totally open to the free movement of workers." He told a Madrid audience two years later, "our long-range objective is to establish with the United States, also with Canada, our other regional partner, an ensemble of connections and institutions similar to those created by the European Union."

Small wonder he is encouraging illegal immigration!

That members of the power elite would use the European Union as a model is not surprising, given their aim, which for decades has been to bring this country down! The borders of formerly sovereign European nations are now almost as open as those between North and South Carolina, as is the EU's border with the outside world. Individual European nations have thus filled up with unassimilated minorities (mostly Muslim). Europe as a whole, however, is disintegrating, with France's problems only the most visible result. Euro-socialism has proven disastrous—unless again you're part of the political-bureaucratic elite. The highly regulated economy is at a standstill. Birthrates among native populations are falling, while those of the unassimilated minorities are skyrocketing. It might be worth noting that the secular Enlightenment belief in the perfectibility of man took root there first, as did fractional reserve central banking / money lending, and socialism of every variety (Marxist, democratic, fascist/corporatist).

America, and its traditions of

Christianity, free enterprise and Constitutionally limited government by consent of the governed, remains the single obstacle standing between the power elite and corporate-socialist global hegemony. The latter's specifics: a fusion of Western big-corporation capitalism and big-government Euro-socialism (the power of the purse firmly wedded to the power of the sword). Here is the most likely description of what the power elite is planning for the world: (1) global economy managed by a political-corporate elite whose edicts will be administered by political-bureaucratic hierarchies operating through networks of public-private partnerships; (2) a permanently cash-strapped "global workforce"; no financially independent middle class; matters such as housing would be controlled by neighborhood associations and such; (3) a global ecumenical, pseudo-spirituality (everything except Christianity) incorporating sustainable development (Agenda 21) and the radical "deep-ecology" of the Earth Charter and similar documents; finally, (4) controlled, vocationally-oriented "lifelong learning" to produce "global citizens": from mental-health tested children, trained via various forms of operant conditioning to become obedient worker-bee adults. [to understand Smart Growth and Sustainable Development see the DVD "Liberty or Sustainable Development"]

We should not be deluded by all the harping about "free trade," or see it as the "triumph of capitalism over socialism." It's useful to remember that the EU was originally sold to the individual nations of Europe as a "free trade zone." I keep coming back to Europe, because the Europeans have always been ahead of us on the curve. Talk of "economic integration" was in the air among Europe's intellectual class as far back as the 1950s. But if you knew what to read, you could learn the truth:

"[P]olitical considerations are more important than economic ones. Since the existence of Europe is at stake,

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Students March in Colo., Back Illegal Immigrants

Immigration

By MELISSA TRUJILLO
Associated Press Writer

DENVER - Waving U.S. and Mexican flags, hundreds of high school students descended on the Colorado Capitol Wednesday for a rally in support of illegal immigrants.

About 2,500 marchers jammed Denver's Speer Boulevard on Wednesday morning and temporarily blocked other intersections as they headed toward the Capitol, but no major problems were reported, police spokeswoman Virginia Quinones said.

"We are not trying to hurt your country," said Jorge Macias, a high school sophomore who said he is a U.S. citizen. "It is big enough for everyone."

The march was the latest in a string of rallies that have drawn tens of thousands of demonstrators across the country as Congress considers immigration reforms. Many of the demonstrators have said they want more immigrant-friendly policies and oppose a measure that would make it a felony to enter the country illegally.

Police said the Denver students had obtained a permit for the rally. Arvizu Derr, 17, who helped organize the event, said students at a number of area high schools helped promote it through mobile-phone text messages, Internet posts and fliers.

Denver Public Schools officials were not as enthusiastic about the demonstration.

Schools spokesman Mark Stevens said



North High School sophomore Jorge Maljas runs to the front steps of the State Capitol carrying a Mexican flag during a rally in Denver, Wednesday, April 19, 2006. Waving U.S. and Mexican flags and clogging busy streets, about 1,000 high school students and adults descended on the state Capitol for the rally to support immigrant rights, police said. Marchers jammed inbound lanes of Speer Boulevard, a major route to downtown, and temporarily blocked other intersections as they crossed, but no problems were reported, police spokeswoman Virginia Quinones said. (AP Photo/Jack Dempsey)

principals and teachers had discouraged students from participating and that absences would be considered unexcused. Any discipline will be handled on a student-by-student basis, he said.

Gov. Bill Owens, who was not at the

Capitol during the march, said he believes the students are sincere but noted their demonstration was in the middle of a school day.

"I'd be much more impressed if I saw these students out marching on a Saturday," Owens said. ■■

"In the first place, we should insist that if the immigrant who comes here in good faith becomes American and assimilates himself to us, he shall be treated on an exact equality with everyone else, for it is an outrage to discriminate against any man because of creed, or birthplace, or origin. But this is predicated upon the person's becoming in every facet an American, and nothing but an American ... There can be no divided allegiance here. Any man who says he is an American, but something else also, isn't an American at all. We have room for but one flag, the American flag... We have room for but one language here, and that is the English ... and we have room for but one sole loyalty and that is a loyalty to the American people."

--Theodore Roosevelt, 1907

Continued from page 20 A Look Behind America's ...

integration is more of a political than an economic desideratum. Political integration can be facilitated by economic cooperation, but mere economic union is unthinkable." *Economic Integration: Theoretical Assumptions and Consequences of European Integration*, by R.F. Sannwald & J. Stohler (Princeton University Press, 1959), p. 42.

On our side of the Atlantic:

"A global human conscience is for the first time beginning to manifest itself... Today we are ... witnessing the emergence of transnational elites ... composed of international businessmen, scholars, professional men, and public officials. The ties of these new elites cut across national boundaries, their perspectives are not confined by national traditions, and their interests are more functional than national.... [I]t is likely that before long the social elites of most of the more advanced countries will be highly internationalist or globalist in spirit and outlook." *Between Two Ages: America's Role in the Technetronic Era*, by Zbigniew Brzezinski, (Viking, 1970), pp. 58-59.

"More directly linked to the impact of technology, [today's liberal democracy] involves the gradual appearance of a more controlled and directed society. Such a society would be dominated by an elite whose claim to political power would rest on allegedly superior scientific know-how. Unhindered by the restraints of traditional liberal values, this elite would not hesitate to achieve its political ends by using the latest modern techniques for influencing public behavior and keeping society under close surveillance and control."

Ibid., pp. 252-53.

"[T]he 'house of world order' will have to be built from the bottom up rather than from the top down.... [A]n end run around national sovereignty, eroding it piece by piece, will accomplish much more than the old-fashioned frontal assault." Richard T. Gardner, "The Hard Road to World Order," *Foreign Affairs* (published by the Council on Foreign Relations), April 1974.

And, from a recent installment in Dennis Cuddy's series, this astounding observation merits repeating: "One must act in Europe as if nations were to remain sovereign, in order to convince them to surrender their sovereignty.... The sovereignty lost at the national level does not pass to any new subject. It is entrusted to a faceless entity,... And those who are in command can neither be pinned down nor elected.... That is the way Europe was made, too: by creating communitarian organisms without giving the organisms presided over by national governments the impression that they were being subjected to a higher power.... I don't think it's a good idea to replace this slow and effective method—which keeps national States free from anxiety while they are being stripped of power—with great institutional leaps. Therefore I prefer to go slowly, to crumble pieces of sovereignty up little by little...." Italian Prime Minister Giuliano Amato (Vice President of the EU's Constitutional Convention), to Barbara Spinelli in an interview for *La Stampa* (July 13, 2000).

Over a century ago, the socialist founders of the Fabian Society spoke quietly of "penetration and permeation." They invented gradualism: "Make haste slowly." And: "For the right moment

you must wait, as Fabius did most patiently when warring against Hannibal, though many censured his delays; but when the time comes, you must strike hard, as Fabius did, or your waiting will be in vain and fruitless." *Fabian Freeway*, by Rose L. Martin (Fidelis Publishers, 1968), p. 14.

Brzezinski's work became the bible of the Trilateral Commission, when he, David Rockefeller and Henry Kissinger organized that group in the early 1970s with "economic integration" in mind. David Rockefeller, we ought to note here, studied for a time at the Fabian-created London School of Economics. He penned a masters thesis entitled "Destitution Through Fabian Eyes."

Most recently, he wrote: "For more than a century ideological extremists at either end of the political spectrum have seized upon well-publicized incidents such as my encounter with Castro to attack the Rockefeller family for the inordinate influence they claim we wield over American political and economic institutions. Some even believe we are part of a secret cabal working against the best interests of the United States, characterizing my family and me as 'internationalists' and of conspiring with others around the world to build a more integrated global political and economic structure—one world, if you will. If that's the charge, I stand guilty, and I am proud of it." *Memoirs* (Random House, 2002), p. 405; italics mine.

All this might seem rather far a field. This is just to underscore the fact that our present immigration crisis is just part of a much larger process, long in the making. This process has specific goals, most of them probably unknown to the immigrants or their ringleaders. It is part

of the campaign these authors describe openly, which aims at one world: the hegemony described above, directed by men (and a few women) motivated exclusively by economic gain and political power. A world with no meaningful national borders—and no exclusive rights for individuals, including private property rights. A world having abolished both free enterprise and government by consent of the governed. Illegal immigration thus can't be battled singularly, independently of the larger effort to destroy this country and institute corporate-socialist global hegemony.

We The People will be helpless in responding effectively to the current crisis unless we make a concerted effort to identify who the enemies of America really are and understand how this crisis was brought about. Perhaps we can even enlist some of the Hispanics themselves if they can be made to realize they are being used as cattle, just as we are. They won't get their Aztlán. They will get the same North American Union the rest of us get, having brought all their NAFTA-era poverty with them from Mexico.

This might be our best bet in figuring how to handle them: communicating with them, given that for the time being, at least, they are probably here to stay. We 'gringos' are certainly not their enemy. Nor are they necessarily our enemies. What we must be willing to do is expose the global-hegemonists—the one-worlders (Fabians, CFR / Trilateralists, Rockefellers, etc.)—as the enemy, and then start getting behind ideas, institutions, companies, and candidates for public office who are not bought and paid for by them.

■■■

Continued from page 8 From Here to Insanity

should we indeed. The power of imagery.

Without a doubt, marriage is under attack, with the faux marriage lobby and its enablers in the media and popular culture seeking to co-opt the word and redefine the institution. Of course, marriage has its defenders too, and it is an argument and a refutation in the cultural battle between the two camps that makes the polygamous Big Love most relevant.

The argument is the centerpiece of faux marriage advocacy, namely, that to deny homosexuals the "right" to legal sanction of their unions is to deny equal protection under the law. The refutation is put forth by traditional culture warriors, social commentator Bill O'Reilly and Pennsylvania Senator Rick Santorum among them, who have warned of the implications of this line of reasoning. After all, if denying homosexuals the right to legal marriage outside the traditional definition does violence to the principle of equality, how can you deny the "right" to those whose flavor of choice lies elsewhere outside that definition? For instance, those who practice polygamy.

But the faux marriage crowd has a retort at the ready. Paul Varnell, writing in his piece *Gay Marriage, then Poligamy?*, said,

"... nothing in the principles supporting gay marriage provides any support for the legalization of any other type of relationship, much less polygamy. And the legalization of polygamy seems very unlikely anyway in modern societies like the U.S."

And, by and large, this is the stance of

the proponents of faux marriage. This will not lead to the destruction of marriage, say they. Faux marriage is the endgame; it will go no further. Just sign on the dotted line.

Being a one issue activist, a provincial breed that often can't see beyond its own selfish, narrow agenda, Varnell may very well have no desire to further degrade marriage. But he certainly is no prophet, an assertion I'll buttress with exhibit A: a Newsweek article titled *Polygamists, Unite!* The author speaks of,

"... a new wave of polygamy activists emerging in the wake of the gay-marriage movement - just as a federal lawsuit challenging anti-polygamy laws makes its way through the courts and a new show about polygamy debuts on HBO."

Then, we should ponder the argument propounded by Mark Henkel, founder of pro-poligamy TruthBearer.org. The article quotes him as saying,

"Polygamy rights is the next civil-rights battle... if Heather can have two mommies, she should also be able to have two mommies and a daddy."

Some may think that this could just be a phase, an isolated social accident that is to be expected in a country that still has some old school Mormons. On the contrary, however, this movement is part of a pattern, a fact evidenced by the recent history of a nation whose social developments can be considered harbingers of cultural change throughout the western world: Sweden.

Long a bastion of the radical left, in 1987 Sweden became the very first country to offer homosexual couples domestic partnership benefits, then took the leap into the legalization of de facto

faux marriage in 1994. But here's where it gets interesting. As reported by Stanley Kurtz in the February 26, 2006 issue of *National Review Online*, forces in Sweden are seriously proposing going where no perverse land has gone before. Writes Kurtz,

"... in March of 2004... one of the few conservative papers in Sweden, *Nya Dagen*, reported that a local youth wing of Sweden's governing Social Democrat party had endorsed the idea of replacing marriage with a gender-neutral, multi-partner-friendly marriage system. Around the same time, the youth wing of Sweden's Green party called for formal recognition of polyamorous (i.e. multi-partner) relationships.

So while faux marriage lobbyists may echo Paul Varnell's prognostication, "... the legalization of polygamy seems very unlikely anyway in modern societies like the U.S.," current events have already exposed it as something less than prescient.

But then, polygamy activists represent only a small minority. And here in America we have that ironclad assurance that all the social engineers want is faux marriage, then they'll take their pink ball and go home. Interestingly, however, that tune has been played before - in folk music. As Stanley Kurtz pointed out,

"Nya Dagen reminded its readers that the public had been promised no further changes in the family after the initial same-sex partnership legislation in 1987, and again after Registered Partnerships in 1994. Don't believe it! said Nya Dagen."

No, don't believe it. A lie is a lie in the modern society of the U.S. just as it is in the modern society of Sweden.

Thus, if Soap portended the second American sexual revolution, one could be left wondering if Big Love is the first reconnaissance mission of the third one. That said, it would be just as great a mistake to view legalized polygamy as the end result as it would be to view faux marriages as such. The truth is that they are both merely steps in an agenda-driven progression, one that ensures the ever widening of the boundaries of acceptable libertine behavior and the ever narrowing of the boundaries of acceptable traditional judgements about it. And once marriage is seen as no longer limited to a man and a woman joined together in Holy Matrimony, a Pandora's Box will have been opened. Where will it end? The terminus appears murky to most, but as Bill O'Reilly has opined, the next thing we'll know is that someone will want to marry a duck or a goat.

Big Love may be a big hit or a big flop, but culturally it is a big mistake. And there is a lesson here. As the existence of Anytown, U.S.A., teens who dress like gangsta rappers will attest, life does imitate art. From *The Birth of a Nation* to *The Ten Commandments* to *Brokeback Mountain* to *Big Love*, our entertainment can serve as a social barometer and a warning, telling us where we have been, where we are now and, perhaps, where we're going. As to the last matter, it seems we're heading south for the winter of our discontent. Let's just hope that the next time they make a movie about a boy and his dog, it's nothing more nor less than the innocent stuff of a Norman Rockwell painting.

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Continued from page 6 The Josephine County Sheriff ...

locally by being the newest to the area saying that it had even been brought up by individuals asking, "what kind of vested interest do you have in the county if you have only been here two years?" Answering to this Fasching stated that he'd like people to look at the credentials of the individuals running and not how long they have lived in the area. He even went on to say that by being new it made it better as he didn't owe anyone anything.

Fasching's father was in the service and spent some time in San Diego where his sister was born prior to moving to North Dakota where he and his brother were born. Don was born in Beach, North Dakota in 1949. In 1952 his mother decided she was tired of the winters there and they moved the family back to San Diego where his mother has resided ever since.

In 1967 he graduated from college and instead of getting drafted into the Viet-Nam war he enlisted in the army. In 1970 he was assigned to defense and White House communications where he worked for two and a half years. "That was fun. I enjoyed Washington D.C." he said.

In 1973 he left the service and joined the Fairfax, Virginia police department where he drove a beat car for almost 7 years. He said that he always wanted to go into law enforcement.

In 1979 he left Fairfax and headed back to San Diego where he attended another police academy, which he said was one of the hardest things he ever had to do because of his age at the time. After completing the academy he moved into patrol for a number of years before moving up the ranks into the field

training office where he was in charge of assigning training officers for the department. In 1985 he was promoted to sergeant and went back to patrol before being moved over into the academy where he ran the defensive tactics program for two and a half years. "As far as training issues I can do it all, have done it all." Fasching stated.

To make a long and career short he served in K-9 while also teaching in the academy before moving over into internal affairs where he served for two years as well as eventually being elected as a director of the police association where he was in charge of the police officer defense fund and treasurer in charge of a budget of over a million dollars per year. He even got to spend time in the mounted unit doing crowd control on horseback.

He says he has the most law enforcement experience here in the United States and that there isn't a law enforcement personnel issue that he hasn't seen or dealt with during his career. Speaking on this he said, "So, I bring that, and I feel I bring a lot more than any of the other candidates in that regard."

His wife, Sue Ellen, who served 27 years in the San Diego police Department and served her last 7 years as a homicide detective had family who moved into the Grants Pass area and they fell in love with it, so they decided to retire here. He says that it was through friends at his church in Cave Junction that first asked him to run as sheriff.

He says he can't promise he'll be able to put more deputies out on the streets right away because of budget constraints, but that he can be productive with what the department has now.

Saying what he'd like the county residents to know, he stated, "I have the background... I don't have any hidden agendas. I'm not out here to change the world, I know it's going to be a slow process, but it can be done..."

Gil Gilbertson:



Gil Gilbertson was born in Waterloo, Iowa in 1947 and stayed there through his high school years. Just two weeks after graduation he set off with the Navy where he spent most of his time overseas which included Viet Nam. Just prior to his 21st birthday his Navy tour ended and he spent some time living in Southern California before returning to his home town of Waterloo.

Back in Waterloo Gil joined the police department, a career choice he says he has always loved. After an early stint as a reserve he was hired-on in 1975 as a full-time officer.

Re-entering the military in 1980 Gil

joined-up with the Iowa Air National Guard in the law enforcement field and later transferred into the Iowa Army National Guard, and finally the Army Reserves rounding out a total of 17 years of military service while simultaneously serving as a reservist in the Waterloo Police Department.

This also launched what would become a lifetime career as a law enforcement instructor and in 1988 he co-founded the International Law Enforcement Training Group whose clients included the Army, Air Force, and Marines. He, at one time, taught 53 different topics including explosives, use of force, defensive tactics, officer survival techniques, S.W.A.T., and many others which he often wrote and published training manuals for.

Choosing to move closer to the rest of his family, Gil moved his home base to Josephine County in 1991 but this didn't mean he stayed put.

In 1996 he went to Bosnia through DynCorp, a contractor to the Department of State, and in 1998 was sent into Kosovo - details of which he said I could get from his web site at www.gilgilbertson.com. Through DynCorp he also served in Iraq and New Orleans in the wake of Katrina.

In 2003, however, he met the love of his life and in 2004 decided to stay home, unless absolutely needed, and married her. He and his wife Diann own and operate Blind George's News Stand. Diann has two daughters, whom Gil lovingly calls his own.

As for what he wanted to say to the county residents, "My life, my career, my passion has been law enforcement. This job is not for everyone. The ones that choose to follow this career path are

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'Wrong site' surgeries on the rise

By Robert Davis
USA TODAY

Despite years of patient-safety efforts, an increasing number of health care facilities have reported mistakenly removing the wrong limbs or organs, slicing into the wrong side of bodies and performing surgery on the wrong patients.

"It's getting worse," says Dennis O'Leary, who heads the non-profit Joint Commission on Accreditation of health care Organizations, which inspects more than 15,000 hospitals and surgical centers nationwide and sets patient safety requirements and guidelines.

Last year, health care facilities reported 84 operations to the commission that involved the wrong body part or the wrong patient. While some states require hospitals to report such blunders, many hospitals across the nation are not obligated to account for them publicly.

"I can assure you that this is just the tip of the iceberg," O'Leary says. "Some hospitals are reporting everything and some hospitals don't report anything at all."

A new study documents cases in which surgeons operated on the wrong arm, the wrong rib and in one case the wrong person, among other mistakes.

The study of 2.8 million operations over a 20-year period, published in today's Archives of Surgery, suggests that the rate of "wrong site" surgery anywhere other than the spine is 1 in every 112,994 operations. The study excludes the spine, the authors explain, because surgical sites on the spine are verified with X-rays, in contrast to the apparent simplicity of marking the correct knee or ear in advance.

The study, funded by the federal Agency for health care Research and

Quality, concludes that the rate is "exceedingly rare" but "unacceptable."

Patient safety experts say more vigilance is needed. "We're trying to get the number down to zero," says Donald Palmisano, a New Orleans surgeon on the non-profit National Patient Safety Foundation's board of directors. "It is such a catastrophe when this happens."

Since 2004, doctors have been required by the joint commission to mark the spot they plan to cut while consulting with their patient before surgery. The commission also encourages patients to insist on such a mark.

Nurses are supposed to call a "time out" in the operating room, according to commission protocol, calling everyone's attention to a final safety check in an effort to ensure that the right procedure is performed on the right patient.

But some surgeons, particularly those who believe they would never make such a stupid mistake, often ignore the safety protocols, says one chief surgeon. "They think this is useless," says Glenn Rothman, chairman of surgery at Banner Desert Medical Center in Mesa, Ariz. "Doctors fight it because they are the captains of the ship. There is a lot of resistance to standardized conduct."

Doctors and nurses spar over the safety checks. Rothman says some surgeons make a tiny, mole-sized mark on a patient instead of a big, bold "X."

"I call them passive-aggressive marks," Rothman says. He is working to develop a standard stamp to put an end to such conflicts in his hospital and in others nationwide.

Some surgeons all but ignore the nurse's call for "time out" before the operation begins, Rothman says. "Doctors think nurses are just trying to torture them," he says.

Both Rothman and O'Leary say the way doctors and hospitals are paid contributes to the problem. There is no financial incentive for practicing safer medicine, O'Leary says, because hospitals want operating-room staff to move patients through quickly.

It can be "dangerous" if speed is a measure of operating-room performance, Rothman says.

Doug McCoy is no stranger to the inner workings of a hospital. And the 43-year-old medical-device repairman was completely at ease in September when co-workers at Maricopa Medical Center in Phoenix wheeled him into an operating room.

But instead of removing a tumor from McCoy's right ear, the team operated on his left ear - which had no tumor. He reached a settlement with the hospital and the surgeon, agreeing not to disclose the doctor's name or the amount of money he received.

Peter Crowley, the risk manager for Maricopa County who spoke on behalf of the medical center, suggests that it's important to have perspective, noting that the McCoy operation was just one of 6,400 surgical procedures performed last year at the hospital.

While Crowley could not discuss specifics of the McCoy case, he said that "a very thorough analysis was conducted" and that "procedures to avoid a recurrence were immediately implemented."

The researchers in the new study note in a prepared statement that, "No protocol will prevent all cases. Therefore, it will ultimately remain the

surgeon's responsibility to ensure the correct site of operation in every case."

But McCoy is afraid to return to the operating room to have the benign growth removed. "My doctor couldn't apologize enough," McCoy says. "But if he can't even do the right ear, how is he going to do the procedure right?"

"There are so many mistakes that can be made," he says. "I don't trust them."

■ ■ ■

Health Tip

(HealthDay News) -- If you suffer from heartburn, there are prescription and over-the-counter medications that can help alleviate your symptoms. But how is your heartburn triggered in the first place?

The National Heartburn Alliance recommends dietary changes to lower your risk. Acidic foods and drinks, like coffee, soda or citrus fruit, can aggravate the stomach. So can fattening and spicy foods, as can garlic, onions, pepper, caffeine and alcoholic or carbonated drinks.

Lifestyle changes, such as losing weight or quitting smoking, can reduce bouts of heartburn. Also, avoid lying down or bending over after meals, and try to avoid eating right before bedtime.

Bush to approve bird flu plan

WASHINGTON (AFP) - President George W. Bush is expected to approve a 240-page response plan for a massive outbreak of bird flu in the United States, anticipating an 18-month health crisis that could lead to as many as 1.9 million deaths.

It is reported that the US government would be tasked with a range of identifying which emergency workers should be vaccinated to deciding agencies would be in charge, to prevent chain-of-command problems that bedeviled the federal response to the devastation of Hurricane Katrina, the Post said.

The Washington Post wrote Sunday that the report is to be approved "soon," without offering a more detailed timeline.

US plans for a bird flu epidemic include stockpiling latex gloves, minting cash overseas and working from home computers by Internet.

Even before a crisis hits, the government will tender contracts to vaccine manufacturers, the Washington daily said, and emergency workers are to be identified for early vaccination, although how much vaccine is needed, who would get it, and how laboratories would adapt rapidly to new strains of the virus all need to be settled, the Post said.

Among 300 duties assigned to US government agencies under the plan are

the following:

- The US Treasury Department will plan to mint currency elsewhere if the US mints cannot.

- Internet capacity will be assessed to handle extra traffic if people work from home.

- The Pentagon will find alternate suppliers if Far East nations cannot supply items such as latex gloves.

- The Department of Veterans' Affairs will provide a drive-through medical exam for persons who may be infected.

Still, Michael Osterholm, director of the Center for Infectious Disease Research and Policy at the University of Minnesota, said the the effort may not be enough.

"Most of the federal government right now is as ill-prepared as any part of society," he told the Post, comparing the preparations to those for a "12- to 18-month blizzard."

Avian flu has infected wild and domesticated birds in most of the world, and the birds are known to have infected some 200 persons, killing half of them.

Scientists fear that the flu could mutate into a strain that could be passed from person to person. That could trigger a pandemic like one in 1919, which killed an estimated 50 million people worldwide.

Bird flu could kill 210,000 to 1.9 million Americans, the Post wrote. ■ ■ ■

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U.S. and Iran: War Inevitable?

SooNews Wire

International media are reporting that even while the U.S. is bogged down in its war in Iraq, Washington is paying lip service to diplomacy while it privately draws up plans to invade Iran over that rogue state's nuclear ambitions.

"The Bush administration, while publicly advocating diplomacy in order to stop Iran from pursuing a nuclear weapon, has increased clandestine activities inside Iran and intensified planning for a possible air attack," says veteran investigative journalist Seymour Hersh in *The New Yorker* magazine.

The Bush administration scoffs at reports like this.

But Hersh quotes military and intelligence officials that targeting plans are underway, and "(U.S. President George W.) Bush is determined to deny the Iranian regime the opportunity to begin a pilot program, planned for this spring, to enrich uranium."

Some analysts believe the nuclear capability question is merely an excuse for the struggling Bush administration to pursue an agenda to reshape the Middle East to America's liking.

"Prior to the Iraq invasion you saw lots of statements on the danger of the regime, the threat to U.S. security, the pursuit of terrorism and weapons of

mass destruction, the violations of human rights, and the hostility to Israel," says Houchang Hassan-Yari, head of the department of politics and economics at the Royal Military College of Canada.

"With Iran you see many of the same elements. And in the background is the question of oil. In both cases regime change is an issue."

Joseph Cirincione, of the Carnegie Endowment for International Peace, in discussions with colleagues who have close ties to the Bush administration, have convinced him "they want to hit Iran."

Furthermore, Cirincione says, "I've come to realize that for some in this administration, Iran is just the continuation of the process they started in Iraq. The whole point was not just to eliminate Saddam Hussein, but to begin a regime change throughout the whole region. That includes, Iran, Syria, Saudi Arabia and other countries."

Although Tehran insists it is interested only in ensuring a domestic energy supply, the International Atomic Energy Agency expressed doubts about some aspects of its nuclear program.

America may hold back a full-scale war with Iran, but some analysts believe the U.S. could conduct limited airstrikes on selected Iranian targets.

Source: *Toronto Star*

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Gas Prices Climb Sharply

CAMARILLO, Calif. (AP) - Retail gas prices across the country jumped an average of nearly a quarter per gallon in the past two weeks, according to a survey released Sunday.

Self-serve regular averaged \$2.91 a gallon, up from \$2.67 two weeks ago, said Trilby Lundberg, who publishes the nationwide Lundberg Survey of 7,000 gas stations.

Also Sunday, OPEC President Edmund Maduabebe Daukoru predicted that oil prices would fall from their current high of just over \$75 a barrel to stabilize in the "upper fifties to lower sixties."

Crude-oil prices hit a new record Friday, fueled by concerns about Iran's nuclear ambitions and tight U.S. gasoline supplies.

The Organization of Petroleum Exporting Countries president said the solution to high prices lies in a calmer international environment and boosting refining capacity — not increasing output which would only clog the market.

"If we do the right things by lowering international tensions, oil prices will definitely stabilize," said OPEC President Edmund Maduabebe Daukoru said in Doha, Qatar.

In the Lundberg Survey, mid-grade hit \$3 a gallon, up from \$2.76, while



premium climbed to an average of \$3.10, from \$2.86 two weeks ago.

The survey covered the period from April 7 through April 21.

Among the stations surveyed, the lowest average price in the country for regular unleaded was in Boise, Idaho, at \$2.54 a gallon.

Drivers in San Diego were paying the most for gas, at an average of \$3.12 a gallon for regular. ■ ■

Continued from page 22 The Josephine County Sheriff ...

usually people with a strong desire to help others, and I see our current sheriff's department suffering from poor administrative decisions made over the years. I see it and the public needing help which is why feel strongly compelled to "step-up-to-the-plate" and offer my experience ... This is our home. It is up to all of us, in our own ways, to play a positive role in the development of our community and my role can best be served as sheriff."

Spike Kelly:



"I was born in Gardena, California and was basically raised in Hermosa Beach where I grew up and learned to surf and hunted horny toads in the fields." Kelly said when asked where he was born.

He went on to say that he had gone to Long Beach State University and after

graduation became a police officer in the mid 1970's where he started out in patrol and worked his way up into under-cover narcotics and then homicide investigations as well as becoming a field training officer. As a sergeant he also served on S.W.A.T. and quickly became watch commander. As watch commander he was the supervisor of patrol and the jail.

Saying of California, "You get a lot of training and we qualified once a month down there, something I'd like to see us do up here ..." He went on to say that he had loved it down there.

He said the reason he is in law enforcement is that he used to see things happen at an early age that he knew was wrong and wanted to do something about it, so he knew that was what he wanted to do.

In 1991 he and his wife moved into Oregon where he wanted to retire, but he says that he just got bored. "I was watching the show COPS one day and I was yelling at the TV so my wife told me it was time to go back to work," he said with a smile.

Soon thereafter he came to the Josephine County Sheriff's Department as a reserve and was quickly promoted to Sergeant then Lieutenant where he took part in doing internal investigations and they soon asked him to come on full time. When he went through the academy he won three awards; he won the shooting award, the academic award, and the award for best overall deputy.

When asked why if he had all of these

awards he was placed in the jail he said that when he came back to the county as a full deputy he chose the jail, but he did go on to say that it went beyond his choice alone. "When I started working for the jail everybody said, 'oh, you're going to be the next sergeant ... he's going to promote quickly' because I had plenty of experience. But I noticed that one of the supervisors was sexually harassing some of the female deputies and citizens, so I filed a complaint."

According to Kelly the complaint went unanswered for about 6 months until one of the female deputies came forward and filed her own complaint. He was called into the office where he was told by Daniel that the supervisor was demoted and that lay-offs were going to be happening soon and that he'd be gone. But somehow this supervisor was able to fight back his seniority prior to the lay-offs and stayed with the department. According to Kelly this supervisor has continued to harass the women in the department and even "went off" on one female corporal who reprimanded him, but when the internal investigation took place the administration found that he was acting within his rights of freedom of speech.

Kelly said, "I don't know if they hired me thinking I was going to be a 'Good Old Boy' but I think they realized I wasn't going to be ..."

He went on to relate a story about a colored man who came into the jail that was treated deplorably and was eventually hazed stating that he filed a complaint on this instance as well, this

time for excessive force. For Kelly it has seemed like every time he has filed a complaint, he is the one who gets disciplined.

He feels so strongly that the department is being mismanaged that he decided to run for its head seat, sheriff. He said that he's concerned for the county saying that he is afraid that the citizens will elect a politician instead of a true working sheriff which he is committed to being, even getting behind the wheel of a squad car and taking shifts in the jail.

He wants to open the sheriff's position to regular town-hall style discussions where any citizen came come forward and discuss with him the workings of the office or even submit complaints directly to him.

According to Kelly he isn't afraid to do what is necessary to be sheriff, even if that means to make drastic cuts. "I'm a realist. The citizens aren't going to give us any extra money to run this department. We need to run it with what we have."

He said that he wanted the citizens of the county to know that, "We are in a crisis. I don't think they are going to elect somebody who will solve all of their problems, I think we are going to have to do it as a team. I think there are a lot of people out there (in the department) that are afraid that if I were to get it (the sheriff's position) the gravy-train would go away ... Well, the gravy-train should go away."

■ ■

Please do your part and vote!