

Manhattan Free Press

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An Award Winning Weekly Newspaper

Thursday, July 22, 2010



Strasser Landing apartments are now complete.

McCullough Holds Ribbon Cutting

McCullough Development is hosted a Ribbon Cutting Wednesday afternoon for their 46 unit Strasser Landing apartment complex on N. 4th Street in Downtown Manhattan.

The complex features 34 one bedroom apartments and 12 two bedroom units. Its completion fulfills a portion of the residential component of the Downtown

Manhattan North End Redevelopment Project.

McCullough also kept its promise to the City and the community by successfully applying for National Historic Resister status of the Strasser House, an 1854 stone home on the property, which will be refurbished and occupy two one bedroom apartments.

The project is a classic example

of local entrepreneurship. The apartments are locally owned, managed by McCullough Development, designed by the Ebert Mayo Design Group and built by Schultz Construction using many local tradesmen and suppliers. The project represents the largest investment of local dollars in the Redevelopment Project to date.

Reclaiming America: Honoring The Tea Party

By Matthew Spalding, Ph.D.
The Heritage Foundation

The period of history we know as the American Founding, stretching from 1763 to 1776 to 1787, is made up of a series of turning points, crucial moments like Lexington and Concord. After 1763, you recall, the British looked to the American colonies as sources of revenue and began taxing them, claiming that they had the authority to rule them in "all cases whatsoever." And these colonists were forced to think through things they hadn't thought about for some time, much as we are today.

At first reluctantly, and then increasingly with fervor and determination, they began to object and to resist. In hopes of pacifying the colonists, the British actually got rid of most of the taxes, except for one: a tax on tea. For those colonists, though, it wasn't the amount that was the issue; it was the principle, because it violated the right not to be taxed without representation.

In the fall of 1773, seven ships had been sent to the colonies loaded with tea, and they showed up at four port cities. We always think of one Boston Tea Party, but tea ships showed up at New York, Philadelphia, and Charleston as well as Boston. In every case, there was protest and resistance. On December 16, the first Tea Party rally in American history, seven thousand people showed up at the Old South Meeting House, and that night some hundred or so individuals—not very well disguised as Indians—boarded three ships in Boston Harbor and threw 342 crates of tea overboard. John Adams called it "the grandest event which has ever yet happened since the controversy with Britain

opened."

For 200 years or so, America's principles of liberty and equality, of consent, of religious liberty and private property, of the rule of law and constitutionalism have been under attack in the name of history and science and relativism, in favor of evolving truths, living constitutions, and bureaucratic government, through the Progressive Movement and the New Deal, the Great Society, and now into the age of Obama. Everyone in this room stands against that transformation. Many have fought for the truths of the American Founding for some time, following in the footsteps of statesmen and conservative heroes.

There have been many victories, defeats, successes, and setbacks. The left has always maintained that this progressive state they've created is inevitable and permanent. Many reveled in that fact. Unfortunately, many also accepted that argument.

But a funny thing has happened on the road to the latest iteration of progressive liberalism. An over-promising campaign gave rise to an overreaching agenda, and American citizens—many never before engaged in politics—began to protest and challenge elected officials, attending town hall meetings and then rallies, armed only with handmade signs, pocket Constitutions, and Gadsden flags.

Is it possible that the American people are waking up to the progressive assault on their liberty? Perhaps the question of modern ever-expanding government, and its permanent inevitability, has not yet been settled—at least not in the minds of the American people?

The debate between America's Founders and the modern progressive paradigm of government, a

debate that usually occurs only here and there in academic conferences and think tanks, has now been engaged in the public square, perhaps as never before in our lifetimes.

The Salvatori Prize for American Citizenship is given annually to American citizens who uphold America's principles, embody the virtues of character and mind that animated America's Founders, and emphasize the spirit of independence and entrepreneurial citizenship in the U.S.

In just over one year, the growing nationwide effort of American citizens called the Tea Party Movement has changed the landscape of American politics. In its civil protests and spirited opposition to the direction of American politics, these citizen patriots—many of whom were never before involved in political activity—reflect the civic virtues of popular participation, public discourse, and open dissent that are the very hallmarks of American self-government.

Behind their activities and motivating their efforts is not a single issue or partisan agenda but a deepening commitment and advocacy of the truths of the Declaration of Independence and the basic principles of the United States Constitution. Because of the significance of this effort, bringing America's first principles to the fore of the public debate, motivating millions of their fellow Americans to get involved in the effort to revive those principles and to reorient our politics toward them, the 2010 Henry Salvatori Prize for American Citizenship is awarded to the Tea Party Movement and thereby honors all those American citizens nationwide who are now newly commit-

Beverly Olson Named Director

Shepherd's Crossing has a new Executive Director. Beverly Olson, former financial professional and current community volunteer, accepted the position, effective July 27. She succeeds Jan Conzitto, who served in that role for five years before resigning on June 1.

Donna Erpelding, President, presented Olson to the Board of Directors at the July meeting to formalize the appointment. Erpelding said, "We are most fortunate to attract someone with Beverly's experience and motivation. She will provide the leadership required to help Shepherd's Crossing maintain its position as a major link in the social services network."

Olson moved to Manhattan three years ago with her husband, Larry, who is the head women's

basketball coach and Associate Athletic Director at Manhattan Christian College. She immediately immersed herself in community service with AARP and RSVP, where she now serves as a member of that organization's Board of Directors.

"I am so proud to be a part of an organization that really cares for people in the area," said Olson. "I am excited about the opportunities that Shepherd's Crossing offers to families."

Shepherd's Crossing is a non-profit organization formed in 2000 by a group of local churches to provide emergency financial assistance to residents of Manhattan, Riley County and the community of St. George. Church support currently comes from 34 churches and their members.

Wamego Telecommunications Has A New Modern Logo

For close to a century Wamego Telecommunications has been serving the Wamego area. In that time the company has experienced many changes, including expansion of some services into the surrounding communities of Belvue and St. Marys, as well as changes in technology and breadth of services offered.

This independent telephone company, which began in 1912, has added internet service, cable television, and mobile telephone service to their offerings.

For the last 15 years WTC has been using a logo featuring a desk telephone with handset, but with the additional high tech services the company decided, while it made sense to keep this logo for their basic telephone service, they wanted something new and fresh that would better represent the variety of services now provided.

"Our centennial will be in February 2012 and we felt having a new logo would be a nice part of recognizing that," Shawn Lane, marketing representative for WTC, said.

So they turned to another locally-owned company to help with re-branding and creating a logo that would better reflect their commitment to being on the cutting edge of modern technology.

"Imagemakers is local and they do great work. We've had a good working relationship with them for almost



10 years," Lane said.

In fact, Imagemakers designs the WTC phone book cover every year and are presently working with the company's IT department to redesign its website to enhance its functionality.

"We are familiar with the company and know they truly are cutting edge with some incredible services. We are always happy to work with them," Dan Holmgren, Creative Director of Imagemakers, said.

And the company is pleased with the new design, which features a graphic telecommunications signal or phone cord image spelling out the "W" in the company's logo.

"We love it. It pays homage to our telephone roots while modernizing a classic look. We've received several compliments about the logo," Lane said.

Lane also has praise for the ease he has found in working with Imagemakers.

"We are extremely fortunate to have such a capable design firm in our backyard," Lane said.

armed military force in the world. Was it the intolerable oppressions of the British? The Stamp Act? "No." What about the tax on tea? "I didn't drink tea," he said. "The boys threw it overboard." It must have been all your reading of all those books like Herrington and Sidney and Locke. "Never heard of them," he said. "I only read the Bible, the catechism, and the Almanac."

"Well, what was it then that made you go out and fight the British?" the historian asked. "Young man, what we meant in going after those Redcoats was simple. You see, we had always governed ourselves, we always intended to govern ourselves, and they didn't mean that we should."

I believe that we are at a turning point in our history. It is not clear what will happen. We will either go the way of every other republic in world history, or we will regain our footing and reset our compass.

Because of the strength of our movement and because of the stirring of America's citizens and the unending call of liberty, I am confident that we are going to make the right choice. Someday in the future, some historian will ask some individual, perhaps one of you, "Why did you get involved in the Tea Parties? Was it the spending? Was it the bailouts? Was it health care?" "No," they will answer. It was very simple. We had always governed ourselves, we always intended to govern ourselves, and those liberals didn't think that we should."

Matthew Spalding, Ph.D., is Director of the B. Kenneth Simon Center for American Studies at The Heritage Foundation and the author of *We Still Hold These Truths: Rediscovering Our Principles, Reclaiming Our Future*. He delivered these remarks at a meeting of The Heritage Foundation Resource Bank on April 22, 2010.

Obituaries

Jack Goldstein

Tamara (Tammi) Jeanne Hawk died at the Good Shepherd Hospice House in Manhattan on Sunday, July 18, 2010. She was born August 5, 1952, at Chanute, Kansas, the daughter of John Thomas Naughton and Opal Irene Locke. She grew up on the family farm in Neosho County, and graduated from Chanute High School in 1970.

In 1975 she received a Bachelor's in Social Work from Kansas State University, and in 1981 a Master's in Social Work from the University of Kansas. She later served as an adjunct faculty member in the KSU Department of Sociology, Anthropology, and Social Work. From 1997 until the time of her death she was a member of the Georgetown Family Center and Bowen Center for the Study of the Family Special Post-graduate Program, and was engaged in clinical research.

After working several years in Junction City with SRS child welfare services and USD 475, she joined Pawnee Mental Health Services as a therapist before entering private clinical social work practice in Manhattan in 1987 as a Licensed Specialist

Clinical Social Worker (LCSW).

She married Thomas Dale Hawk on March 25, 1972, in Manhattan, Kansas. She is survived by her husband of the home; two sons, Skyler Thomas Hawk and partner Ian Lesnet, Amsterdam, The Netherlands, and Cameron Joel Hawk, Lawrence; her twin brother, John T. (Tom) Naughton and wife Shelley, Chanute; brother Gary Naughton and wife Barbara, Manhattan; sister Sydney Carlin and husband John, Manhattan; five nieces and twelve nephews; step-father Frank Stacy and his daughter Francene Johnson and husband Alan, Chanute; and father-in-law Dale Hawk, Colby; her brother-in-law Donald Jay Hawk and wife Cathy, Colby; sister-in-law Rodica (Mc)Naughton, Scottsdale, AZ; and numerous great nieces and nephews. She was preceded in death by her parents and brother Kenneth Dale (Mc)Naughton.

She was a member of the First Congregational (UCC) Church; the Kansas National Association of Social Workers which she served as president, 1995-1997; and was the founder of the Prairie Center for Family Therapy in 1999. Her professional career was focused on counseling individuals and families from all walks of life that find themselves

in distress, and in promoting social equity. As a volunteer, she worked for many years using her skills as a seamstress and clothing designer to support the Manhattan Civic Theater, Manhattan Arts Center, Manhattan High School Drama and Theater, and the City Recreational Children's Summer Musical productions.

Funeral services will be at 10:00 a.m., Saturday, July 24, 2010 in the First United Methodist Church, 612 Poyntz Ave., Manhattan with the Rev. R. Kent Cormack and the Rev. Victor Force officiating. Burial followed in Sunrise Cemetery, Manhattan.

Visitation will be from 6 until 8 p.m., Friday, July 23, 2010 at the First Congregational Church (UCC) 700 Poyntz Ave., Manhattan.

The family has established a memorial in Tammi's name for the Georgetown Family Center & Bowen Center for the Study of the Family, Washington, D.C. and also for the Good Shepherd Hospice House in Manhattan. Contributions should be made in care of the Irvin-Parkview Funeral Home, 1317 Poyntz Ave., Manhattan, KS. Online condolences can be sent to www.irvin-parkview.com.

1:00 P.M. Friday at the Kansas Veterans Cemetery at Fort Riley with Reverend Ben Duerfeldt officiating.

Online condolences may be left for the family through the funeral home website at www.ymlfuneral-home.com.

Memorial contributions may be made to the Good Shepherd Hospice House. Contributions may be left in care of the Yorgensen-Meloan-Londeen Funeral Home, 1616 Poyntz Avenue, Manhattan, Kansas 66502.

"Jim" Denton, Jr. on April 17, 1972, in Killeen, Texas. He preceded her in death on March 22, 2001. She was also preceded in death by one granddaughter, Cary Olsson; and by three sisters: Madeline, Bernice and Betty.

Survivors include her three children: Christine Olsson of Manhattan, Dr. Jay Olsson and his wife Ro of Indialantic, FL, and Dr. Roy H. Olsson Jr. and his wife Patricia of Grandville, MI; and two grandchildren: Hanna and Troy Olsson.

Cremation is planned with graveside services to be held at

Constance Denton

Constance Agnes Olsson Denton, age 87, a longtime Junction City resident, died July 19, 2010, at The Good Shepherd Hospice House in Manhattan.

She was born September 10, 1922, in Akron, Ohio, and had lived in Manhattan for the past eight years.

Mrs. Denton worked for Federal Civil Service at Fort Riley, Fort Hood and Fort Gordon as a payroll clerk and as an office assistant.

She was married to William

Dale Thierolf

B. Dale Thierolf, 79, Manhattan, KS passed away Thursday, July 15, 2010 at his home.

He was born July 18, 1930 at Monowi, NE, the son of Benton James Thierolf and Marjorie C. Christensen Thierolf. He grew up in Monowi, Norfolk and Wayne, NE and was a 1948 graduate of the Wayne High School.

He was united in marriage to Lois M. Andrews on May 27, 1951 at Columbus, NE. She survives of the home.

Mr. Thierolf worked as manager for the Gamble Department Stores in Wayne, O'Neill and Fremont, NE as well as stores in Council Bluffs, IA and Kansas City, MO for many years. Prior to leaving Gambles, he was the Regional Credit Manager in charge of a seven state area. In 1964, he and his wife, purchased the Manhattan Credit Bureau and operated the business until his retirement in 2008.

Professionally, Mr. Thierolf had received his certification in the credit bureau industry and had served as president of the state Associated Credit Bureaus of America and president of the Kansas Collectors Association. He had also served on the national board of the Associated Credit Bureaus of America. Locally, he was a member of the First United Methodist Church, United Commercial Travelers, Manhattan Chamber of Commerce, Lafayette Lodge No. 16, A.F. & A.M. and the Scottish Rite Bodies and Isis Shrine of Salina and had been the coach for a Little League Baseball team for several years. He had served as president for the Eugene Field Elementary School PTA, Manhattan Shrine Club, the Shrine's Tin Lizzies Club, Manhattan Lions Club and had also served as a Zone Chairman for the International Lions Club.

He was preceded in death by his parents and a sister, Beverley Johnson.

In addition to his wife, Mr.

Thierolf is survived by two daughters, Connie M. Hampton, Bailey, CO and Gale D. Nebelung, and her husband, Don, Clay Center, KS; three sons, Craig A. Thierolf, and his wife, Carol and Chris L. Thierolf, all of Manhattan and Bruce D. Thierolf, and his wife, Mindy, Wamego, KS; three grandchildren, Julie Mink, Benton Thierolf and Wesley Thierolf; four step grandchildren, Cassie Chmiel, Ben Chmiel, Michele Schwanenberger and Trent Nebelung; and two great grandchildren, Hannah Mink and Hailey Mink.

Funeral services were held at 10:00 a.m., Tuesday, July 20, 2010 in the Irvin-Parkview Funeral Home, Manhattan with the Rev. Kay Scarborough officiating. Burial, with Masonic committal services, will follow in the Sunrise Cemetery, Manhattan.

Memorial contributions can be made to the Shriner's Childrens Hospital and left in care of the funeral home. Online condolences can be sent to www.irvin-parkview.com.

Free Movie At Westloop

The 3 D Summer movie series in Westloop continues Friday July 30..Join us for the 3D presentation of "Fly Me To The Moon"...we will have your 3 D glasses along with free refreshments from Pepsi, free popcorn, face painting for the kids, and live entertainment with Chappie prior to the movie...

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Jared Bixby Appointed

The Kansas Association of Conservation and Environmental Education is pleased to announce the 2010-2012 Board of Directors. KACEE is a private, non-profit organization whose mission is to promote and provide quality, non-biased environmental

education to all Kansans.

Jared Bixby is Curator of Education at Sunset Zoo. Bixby has served on the Board of Directors for KACEE for two years. Jared was elected as Treasurer for the 2010-2012 terms.



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Financial Reform Bill Won't Stop Next Crisis

By Mark A. Calabria
Cato Institute.

The House and Senate will soon vote on a finalized financial-regulation bill, one that was mostly hammered out in a closed-door conference between the two chambers. Legislators will have a stark, simple choice: support a bill that gives us more of the same flawed banking regulations, or reject it in the hopes that new congressional leadership next year will address the actual causes of the financial crisis.

Perhaps it should come as no surprise that Sen. Christopher Dodd and Rep. Barney Frank, the bill's primary authors, would fail to end the numerous government distortions of our financial and mortgage markets that led to the crisis. Both have been either architects or supporters of those distortions. One might as well ask the fox to build the henhouse.

Nowhere in the final bill will you see even a pretense of rolling back the endless federal incentives and mandates to extend credit, particularly mortgages, to those who cannot afford to pay their loans back. After all, the popular narrative insists that Wall Street fat cats must be to blame for the credit crisis. Despite the recognition that mortgages were offered to unqualified individuals and families, banks will still be required under the Dodd-Frank bill to meet government-imposed lending quotas.

While apologists for government-mandated lending are correct in pointing out that much of the worst lending was originated by state-chartered lenders, such as Countrywide, and not federally chartered banks, they either

miss or purposely ignore the truth that these non-bank lenders were selling the bulk of their loans to Fannie Mae, Freddie Mac, or the government corporation Ginnie Mae. About 90 percent of loans originated by Countrywide, the largest subprime lender, were either sold to Fannie Mae or backed by Ginnie Mae. Subprime lenders were so intertwined with Fannie and Freddie that Countrywide alone constituted over 25 percent of Fannie's purchases.

While one can debate the motivations behind Fannie and Freddie's support for the subprime market, one thing should be clear: Had Fannie and Freddie not been there to buy these loans, most of them would never have been made. And had the taxpayer not been standing behind Fannie and Freddie, they would have been unable to fund such large purchases of subprime mortgages. Yet rather than fix the endless bailout that Fannie and Freddie have become, Congress believes it is more important to expand federal regulation and litigation to lenders that had nothing to do with the crisis.

The legislation's worst oversight is to ignore completely the role of loose monetary policy in driving the housing bubble. A bubble of such historic magnitude as the one we went through can only occur in an environment of extremely cheap and plentiful credit. The ultimate provider and price-setter of that credit was the Federal Reserve. Could anyone truly have believed that more than three years of a negative real federal-funds rate — where one is essentially being paid to borrow — would not end in tears?

As the Federal Reserve's monetary policy is largely aimed at short-term borrowing, the Fed also drove the spread between short- and long-term borrowing to historic heights. This created irresistible incentives for households and companies to borrow short — sometimes as short as overnight — and lend long. Many households chose adjustable-rate mortgages that would later reset as interest rates rose, increasing monthly payments. For banks, this spread provided an opportunity for handsome profits by simply speculating on the yield curve.

Avoiding the issue of loose monetary policy may well be the result of Congress's possessing almost no understanding of it. The first obvious step toward building such an understanding would be to have the GAO audit the Fed's monetary policy. Yet Congress continues to ban the GAO from examining the issue. It is as if Congress does not even want to understand the causes of the crisis.

Nor has there been any discussion in Congress about removing the tax preferences for debt. Washington subsidizes debt, taxes equity, and then acts surprised when everyone becomes extremely leveraged.

Until Washington takes a long, deep look at its own role in causing the financial crisis, we will have little hope for avoiding another one. And the Dodd-Frank legislation, sure to be heralded as strong medicine for perfidious financiers, is actually not even a modest step in the right direction.

Mark A. Calabria is director of financial-regulation studies at the Cato Institute.

Reform And Kansas Investors

By Marc S. Wilson
Kansas Securities Commissioner

Common sense tells us that convicted felons and persons banned from financial services industries should not be permitted to offer securities to the public.

Fortunately, the Wall Street Reform and Consumer Protection Act will reinstate the "bad boy" laws that will once again prevent convicted felons from using federal exemptions to raise capital in the public marketplace.

Yes, current law has a loophole that felons and other undesirables can use to make stock offerings to the public. Unfortunately, this is perhaps not surprising after what the country has been through with the financial crisis.

But reform is in the air in more ways than one. After Bernie Madoff, Congress is asking state securities regulators to shoulder more of the securities industry oversight burden. When the federal reforms become law, the Kansas Securities Commissioner (KSC) will become the primary regulator of Kansas investment advisers with up to \$100 million in assets and licensed in fewer than 15 states, leaving the SEC to focus on the largest Wall Street players.

Since 1911, Kansas has been protecting against fraudulent investments that have "no more basis than so many feet of blue sky." Thanks to Kansas — the first

state to adopt such regulation — these state consumer protections are known the world over as "blue sky laws."

By increasing state responsibility, Congress is acknowledging that Kansas has been correct in its approach all along. In fact, KSC is already working on implementing the required changes in a manner that ensures advisers understand the new rules but remain focused on investors and the growth of investor assets in the midst of turbulent markets.

Perhaps these changes are proof that even Washington can make sense sometimes. But don't hold your breath, because the reform bill probably did not do everything it should.

For example, unbeknownst to many, investment advisers and broker-dealers have differing duties to their clients. Investment advisers have a "fiduciary" standard in making investment recommendations to their clients, while broker-dealers operate under a "suitability" standard. Critics claim this difference means broker-dealers are incentivized to recommend investments with higher commissions, not what is best for their client.

One version of the federal reforms placed the same "fiduciary" standard on both advisers and broker-dealers; however, this version was not adopted. Instead,

Congress required that the SEC study the issue for six months and adopt rules if the SEC decides they are needed.

The federal reforms require nearly 70 studies like this, and further mandates the SEC to adopt close to 350 rules and regulations on various topics, some of which will be critically important to protecting investors. Other rules have the potential to reduce the amount of capital available for certain types of investments.

Federal issues like derivatives regulation and systemic risk are beyond the control of KSC. But we will remain vigilant in doing the job mandated by the Kansas Legislature and Congress, and in monitoring the SEC's rulemaking process to ensure the interests of Kansas investors are heard.

The Office of the Kansas Securities Commissioner is responsible for registration and regulation of securities offerings and those working in the securities industry, investigation of illegal securities activities and prosecution of securities-related crimes. For more detailed information about the Office of the Kansas Securities Commissioner visit www.ksc.ks.gov.

Contact: Marc S. Wilson, Kansas Securities Commissioner
(785) 296-5457 or marc.wilson@ksc.ks.gov

Cap-and-Trade Bill Would Make Housing Less Affordable

By Wendell Cox and
Ronald Utt, Ph.D.
The Heritage Foundation.

In addition to the devastating economic effects of cap and trade, the Clean Energy Jobs and American Power Act (S. 1733)—introduced by Senators John Kerry (D-MA) and Joseph Lieberman (I-CT)—would likely lead to the same conditions that caused the housing bubble of a few years ago.

It would do this by providing financial incentives to the federally funded metropolitan planning organizations to shift transportation resources and passengers away from automobiles to public transit and forms of non-motorized transportation such as walking and bicycles. The bill further suggests that these be accomplished through "zoning and other land use regulations" that lead to a more crowded living environment. In turn, these communities of higher population density would be more amenable to forms of transportation common in the decades prior to the invention of the internal combustion engine.

The purpose behind the Senators' attempt to foster archaic living and travel arrangements (often called "smart growth") is the belief that this would lead to lower greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions. As it turns out, there is scant evidence to suggest that this would be the consequence of such a strategy, and what evidence there is indicates that the Senators are proposing that Americans trade an empty gesture on the environment for a program that would contribute to restoring house prices to the unaffordable levels reached in 2006–2007.

What the Evidence Shows

Although the academic and the consulting communities are just beginning to investigate the influence of land use and transportation options on GHG emissions and other energy-related measures, findings to date—including studies and reports from the National Academy of Science (NAS), Demographia, Apt Associates Inc., the U.S. Department of Energy, and data

from the Australia Conservation Foundation—suggest little or no impact of tighter land use regulations or densification on energy use or GHG emissions.

Indeed, achieving what minimal benefits these studies suggest might possibly occur would require measures of extreme government coercion that would not be tolerated in a free society and would receive little support from Congress or the people. Fortunately for the nation, there are better options: As an MIT newsletter observed, "Urban planners hoping to help mitigate CO2 emissions by increasing housing density would do better to focus on fuel-efficiency improvements to vehicles. ... [The NAS study] concludes that increasing population density in metropolitan areas would yield insignificant CO2 reductions."

Despite the absence of any meaningful evidence indicating that more intensive land use regulations could materially contribute to GHG reductions, White House officials and congressional leaders have introduced or supported legislation that would begin the process of population densification in the vain hope that it would somehow work anyway. But as the evidence of the recent housing market collapse reveals, the consequence of this legislation could be catastrophic and would undermine efforts to restore affordable housing to American families.

Just as there is ample evidence to suggest that smart growth and New Urbanist housing policies would do little or nothing to curb GHG emissions, there is plenty of evidence to suggest that they would disrupt the already wobbly housing market, make housing less affordable, reduce housing quality, and substantially limit consumer choice. The Kerry-Lieberman bill's call for "implementation of zoning and other land use regulations and plans to support infill, transit-oriented development, redevelopment, or mixed use development" would lead to higher density living arrangements than most households

currently find attractive but cost substantially more.

Bipartisan Concern

Over the past decade or more numerous studies and reports have been conducted and published by a variety of independent sources on the influence of land use regulations on housing affordability. One of the better summaries of what these studies have found was written in 2005 by Paul Krugman—Nobel Laureate in economics and columnist for The New York Times—just as the housing price bubble was about to burst:

When it comes to housing, however, the United States is really two countries, Flatland and the Zoned Zone. In Flatland, which occupies the middle of the country, it's easy to build houses. When the demand for houses rises, Flatland metropolitan areas, which don't really have traditional downtowns, just sprawl some more. As a result, housing prices are basically determined by the cost of construction. ... But in the Zoned Zone, which lies along the coasts, a combination of high population density and land-use restrictions—hence "zoned"—makes it hard to build new houses. So when people become willing to spend more on houses, say because of a fall in mortgage rates, some houses get built, but the prices of existing houses also go up.

Undermining the Housing Recovery

As the record reveals, communities that adopted the sort of land use regulations and restrictions implied by S. 1733 became highly unaffordable for the typical family. The ensuing housing bubble soon collapsed, and the economy swooned with it. With home prices now slowly approaching affordable levels, it would be a sad day indeed if congressional actions contributed to a reversal of this trend.

Wendell Cox, Principal of the Wendell Cox Consultancy in St. Louis, Missouri, is a Visiting Fellow, and Ronald D. Utt, Ph.D., is Herbert and Joyce Morgan Senior Research Fellow in the Thomas A. Roe Institute for Economic Policy Studies, at The Heritage Foundation.

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Thoughts From The Prairie

Paying Respect

To the family of Tom and Tamara Hawk, Jenny and I extend our most sincere condolences and sympathy on the occasion of Tamara's departure from this life into eternity. You will recall that Tom and I were political opponents for the Kansas House two and four years ago, with the District electing Tom as our representative both times. In due time, life will go on and perspectives expressed, but now is a time for taking a respite from differences and paying respect to a family beloved by friends and a significant contributor to our community and state. We join other members of our community who are interceding on behalf of the Hawk family that God will surround them with His love and comfort as they grieve their great loss.

People out here on the Prairie take loss of family and friends seriously. We are also a tough breed and while we are grieving in our hearts, we continue the work of our hands: to keep these Flint Hills a great place to live. "But life cannot maintain itself alone," wrote Frederic Bastiat. "The Creator of life has entrusted us with the responsibility of preserving, developing, and protecting it. In order that we may accomplish this, He has provided us with a collection of marvelous faculties." One of the people in our community that is blessed with a collection of these marvelous faculties is Dee McKee who has answered the call to apply her faculties as a County Commissioner to preserve, develop and protect the resources of Riley County.

Dee won my admiration as a visionary and creative candidate as we ran side by side in the Kansas House race. Now she is offering her common sense and solid qualifications as a candidate for County Commissioner. She comes already experienced having served as a Ford County Commissioner. Dee understands the classic blueprint for a free society and is a strong advocate for the growth of private industry. She demonstrated her support for efficient, collaborative effort in local government at a recent gathering at which she and City Commissioner Strawn had a constructive dialogue about possible cost saving initiatives between the City and County resources.

Intergovernmental collaboration (IC) is a natural for Dee and she has extensive IC experience in waste management, public safety, highway development, economic development and school services restructuring,



Dick Miller

ture, all areas vital to the efficient operation of county government.

Dr. McKee received her doctorate from Kansas State University in Education Administration and Leadership. She has been lauded as Special Education Director of the Year, Kansas Farm Bureau Leader of the Year, Agri Woman of the Year, and has been a Family Farm Partner for 14 years. In addition she received Kansas State Volunteer Recognition in 2010. All these accomplishments were achieved while being a mother to three successful married children and a grandmother to eight grandchildren.

Riley County is facing formidable challenges. We need a commissioner who can hit the ground running and Dee McKee is that person. Her vast experience in a wide panorama of functions, her astute perception of the roles of government and the free enterprise system, and her succinct communication skills qualify her to be the clear candidate of choice for Riley County Commissioner. For more information please go to www.deemckee.com. This County level race is one of the most important races this year because effective governance always begins at the local level. Dee asks for your VOTE!

Next I will share my thoughts on supporting Todd Tiaht and Kris Kobach.

"Conscience of Kansas"

Obamacare: Reshaping society through government control

In 1997, under the direction of Andrew Niccol, people viewed on their cinema screens a sterilized world of growing government perfection. The movie, "Gattaca," depicted a world where through genetic selection only children with their parents' desired hereditary traits were given societal acceptance. The children that were born naturally, void of the process called preimplantation genetic diagnosis, were labeled "invalids" and were treated as societal junk and placed in menial labor jobs. To the elites of this futuristic world, this made for a more productive humanity. Like liberals today, the power wielders of this science fiction story wanted to make their version of a better, more productive and certainly healthier society, and to do that they needed the power of the government. Gattaca was a world of sterilized government control where the "haves" and the "have nots" of social class warfare could be identified with the technological speed of an eye scan, cheek swab or blood test.

It would be easy to leave these Orwellian-style cinematic depictions of worlds with governments running amuck at the doors of the theatre if it weren't for the disquieting reality that society seems to mirror these movies at an alarming rate. One has only to look to recent events to see that it is the modern liberal of today that works feverishly to build the Gattaca of tomorrow. Ed Morrissey of Hot Air reported on July 6, 2010 of New York Mayor David Paterson's attempt to tax the fat out of people, with a high-profile levy on sugary drinks. The ultra-liberal, get-your-Gattaca-here Mayor Gavin Newsom achieved level one of calorie control in his sphere of influence by declaring Coke, Pepsi, and Fanta Orange as in-valid and thus rejecting them from city vending machines and exchanging them for soy and rice milk.

If you think that you can avoid having to choke down Newsom's rice milk by simply avoiding San Francisco, you are not seeing the bigger picture. Liberals wish to control every aspect of human life. This is a desire based not simply on their warped belief that they know better than average citizens how average citizens should live, but also on the less altruistic reality that liberals like to wield power through government control. Of these liberal builders of a bigger, better and much bolder government of tomorrow are the Obamas. As president, Barack Obama has expanded government control into the private industries, the banks, health care and soon the energy by which all of these entities operate. Michelle Obama, well she wants to build a better tomorrow by way of your children.

As reported in Politico, with Michele Obama's outlet on LetsMove.gov, the first lady tries aggressively to move beyond simple nutrition education and into the world of liberal mandates when it comes to school food. Michele Obama was quoted by Politico as saying, "Kids are malleable, and they're also open to learn. We're the ones that stand in the way." She further states, "We're going to have to step it up and make some changes on our own to get

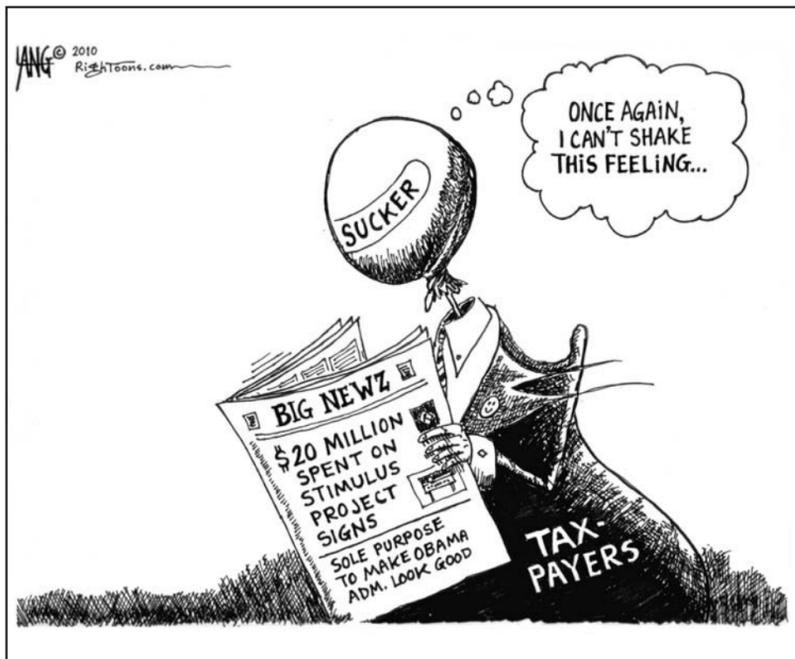
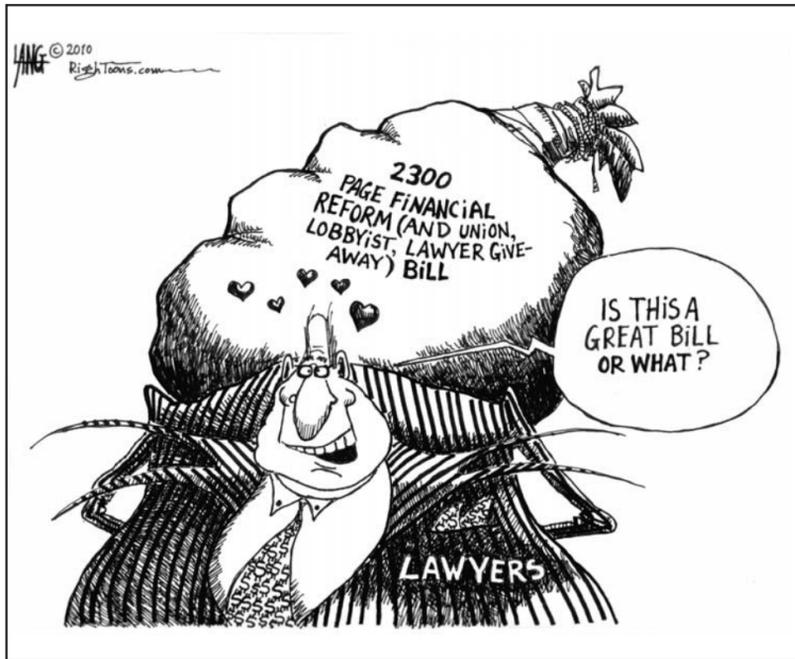
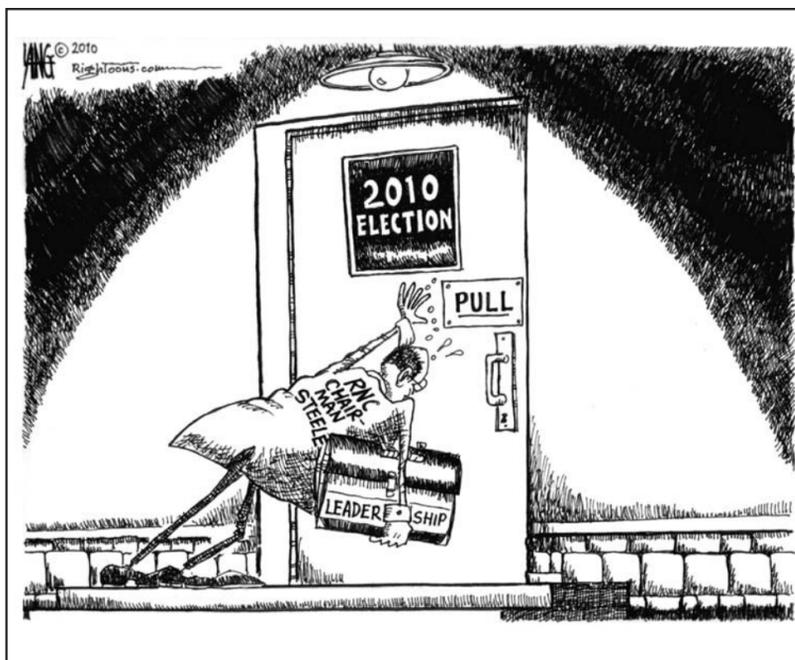


Paul A. Ibbetson

our kids where we want them to be." Within this same vein she spoke about her future plans to eliminate school desserts and push her agenda to the public forefront, at the level of attention given to the AIDS epidemic. In other words, move over Newsom, with you rice-milk-filled city vending machines, it's the Obamas who wish to draw up the master blueprints to a healthier world through government control. The effects in the schools are moving quickly. Alison Bologna of Fox News Boston reports that children are now being sent home with "fat reports." The school is reported to be required to calculate the body mass index (BMI) of children to decide what portions they are allowed to eat. The "valids" and "in-valids" at school will now be determined by the governmental BMI.

Is this assessment nothing more than fear mongering, an attempt to falsely portray a soon-coming world of "Obamacare" where only science fiction really exists? Some will say so even as Barack Obama expands the government into every part of the economy and Michele Obama trots school desserts into the parking lot to be shot. I say that any time government mandates supersede education and free choice, we move further away from what America stands for, and what had made this blessed nation great. Freedom—it's as American as apple pie with all the glorious calories.

Paul A. Ibbetson is a former Chief of Police of Cherryvale, Kansas, and member of the Montgomery County Drug Task Force. Paul received his Bachelor's and Master's degrees in Criminal Justice at Wichita State University, and is currently completing his Ph.D. in Sociology at Kansas State University. Paul is the author of the books "Living Under The Patriot Act: Educating A Society" and "Feeding Lions: Sharing The Conservative Philosophy In A Politically Hostile World." Paul is also the radio host of the Kansas Broadcasting Association's 2008, 2009 and 2010 Entertainment Program of the Year, Conscience of Kansas airing on KSDB Manhattan 91.9 FM, www.ibbetsonusa.com. For interviews or questions, please contact him at ibbetson91.9@gmail.com



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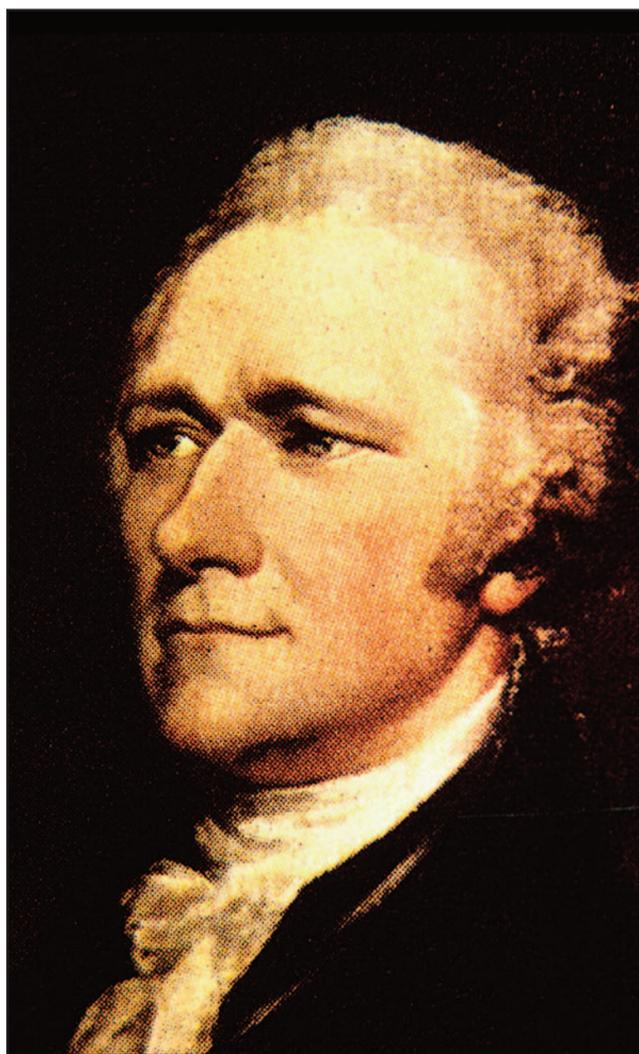
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- Thomas Jefferson, 1787

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Alexander Hamilton

The Federalist Papers

**The Federalist No. 30
Concerning the General
Power of Taxation
New York Packet
Friday, December 28, 1787
[Alexander Hamilton]
To the People of the State of
New York:**

IT HAS been already observed that the federal government ought to possess the power of providing for the support of the national forces; in which proposition was intended to be included the expense of raising troops, of building and equipping fleets, and all other expenses in any wise connected with military arrangements and operations. But these are not the only objects to which the jurisdiction of the Union, in respect to revenue, must necessarily be empowered to extend. It must embrace a provision for the support of the national civil list; for the payment of the national debts contracted, or that may be contracted; and, in general, for all those matters which will call for disbursements out of the national treasury. The conclusion is, that there must be interwoven, in the frame of the government, a general power of taxation, in one shape or another.

Money is, with propriety, considered as the vital principle of the body politic; as that which sustains

its life and motion, and enables it to perform its most essential functions. A complete power, therefore, to procure a regular and adequate supply of it, as far as the resources of the community will permit, may be regarded as an indispensable ingredient in every constitution. From a deficiency in this particular, one of two evils must ensue; either the people must be subjected to continual plunder, as a substitute for a more eligible mode of supplying the public wants, or the government must sink into a fatal atrophy, and, in a short course of time, perish.

In the Ottoman or Turkish empire, the sovereign, though in other respects absolute master of the lives and fortunes of his subjects, has no right to impose a new tax. The consequence is that he permits the bashaws or governors of provinces to pillage the people without mercy; and, in turn, squeezes out of them the sums of which he stands in need, to satisfy his own exigencies and those of the state. In America, from a like cause, the government of the Union has gradually dwindled into a state of decay, approaching nearly to annihilation. Who can doubt, that the happiness of the people in both countries would be promoted by competent authorities in the proper hands, to provide the rev-

enues which the necessities of the public might require?

The present Confederation, feeble as it is intended to repose in the United States, an unlimited power of providing for the pecuniary wants of the Union. But proceeding upon an erroneous principle, it has been done in such a manner as entirely to have frustrated the intention. Congress, by the articles which compose that compact (as has already been stated), are authorized to ascertain and call for any sums of money necessary, in their judgment, to the service of the United States; and their requisitions, if conformable to the rule of apportionment, are in every constitutional sense obligatory upon the States. These have no right to question the propriety of the demand; no discretion beyond that of devising the ways and means of furnishing the sums demanded. But though this be strictly and truly the case; though the assumption of such a right would be an infringement of the articles of Union; though it may seldom or never have been avowedly claimed, yet in practice it has been constantly exercised, and would continue to be so, as long as the revenues of the Confederacy should remain dependent on the intermediate agency of its members. What the consequences of this system have been, is within the knowledge of every man the least conversant in our public affairs, and has been amply unfolded in different parts of these inquiries. It is this which has chiefly contributed to reduce us to a situation, which affords ample cause both of mortification to ourselves, and of triumph to our enemies.

What remedy can there be for this situation, but in a change of the system which has produced it in a change of the fallacious and delusive system of quotas and requisitions? What substitute can there be imagined for this ignis fatuus in finance, but that of permitting the national government to raise its own revenues by the ordinary methods of taxation authorized in every well-ordered constitution of civil government? Ingenious men may declaim with plausibility on any subject; but no human ingenuity can point out any other expedient to rescue us from the inconveniences and embarrassments naturally resulting from defective supplies of the public treasury.

The more intelligent adversaries of the new Constitution admit the force of this reasoning; but they qualify their admission by a distinction between what they call internal and external taxation. The former they would reserve to the State governments; the latter, which they explain into commercial imposts, or rather duties on imported articles, they declare themselves willing to concede to the federal head. This distinction, however, would violate the maxim of good sense and sound policy, which dictates that every POWER ought to be in proportion to its OBJECT; and would still leave the general government in a kind of tutelage to the State governments, inconsistent with every idea of

vigor or efficiency. Who can pretend that commercial imposts are, or would be, alone equal to the present and future exigencies of the Union? Taking into the account the existing debt, foreign and domestic, upon any plan of extinguishment which a man moderately impressed with the importance of public justice and public credit could approve, in addition to the establishments which all parties will acknowledge to be necessary, we could not reasonably flatter ourselves, that this resource alone, upon the most improved scale, would even suffice for its present necessities. Its future necessities admit not of calculation or limitation; and upon the principle, more than once adverted to, the power of making provision for them as they arise ought to be equally unconfined. I believe it may be regarded as a position warranted by the history of mankind, that, in the usual progress of things, the necessities of a nation, in every stage of its existence, will be found at least equal to its resources.

To say that deficiencies may be provided for by requisitions upon the States, is on the one hand to acknowledge that this system cannot be depended upon, and on the other hand to depend upon it for every thing beyond a certain limit. Those who have carefully attended to its vices and deformities as they have been exhibited by experience or delineated in the course of these papers, must feel invincible repugnance to trusting the national interests in any degree to its operation. Its inevitable tendency, whenever it is brought into activity, must be to enfeeble the Union, and sow the seeds of discord and contention between the federal head and its members, and between the members themselves. Can it be expected that the deficiencies would be better supplied in this mode than the total wants of the Union have heretofore been supplied in the same mode? It ought to be recollected that if less will be required from the States, they will have proportionally less means to answer the demand. If the opinions of those who contend for the distinction which has been mentioned were to be received as evidence of truth, one would be led to conclude that there was some known point in the economy of national affairs at which it would be safe to stop and to say: Thus far the ends of public happiness will be promoted by supplying the wants of government, and all beyond this is unworthy of our care or anxiety. How is it possible that a government half supplied and always necessitous, can fulfill the purposes of its institution, can provide for the security, advance the prosperity, or support the reputation of the commonwealth? How can it ever possess either energy or stability, dignity or credit, confidence at home or respectability abroad? How can its administration be any thing else than a succession of expedients temporizing, impotent, disgraceful? How will it be able to avoid a frequent sacrifice of its engagements to immediate necessity? How can it undertake or execute any liberal or enlarged plans of public good?

Let us attend to what would be the effects of this situation in the very first war in which we should happen to be engaged. We will presume, for argument's sake, that the revenue arising from the impost duties answers the purposes of a

provision for the public debt and of a peace establishment for the Union. Thus circumstanced, a war breaks out. What would be the probable conduct of the government in such an emergency? Taught by experience that proper dependence could not be placed on the success of requisitions, unable by its own authority to lay hold of fresh resources, and urged by considerations of national danger, would it not be driven to the expedient of diverting the funds already appropriated from their proper objects to the defense of the State? It is not easy to see how a step of this kind could be avoided; and if it should be taken, it is evident that it would prove the destruction of public credit at the very moment that it was becoming essential to the public safety. To imagine that at such a crisis credit might be dispensed with, would be the extreme of infatuation. In the modern system of war, nations the most wealthy are obliged to have recourse to large loans. A country so little opulent as ours must feel this necessity in a much stronger degree. But who would lend to a government that prefaced its overtures for borrowing by an act which demonstrated that no reliance could be placed on the steadiness of its measures for paying? The loans it might be able to procure would be as limited in their extent as burdensome in their conditions. They would be made upon the same principles that usurers commonly lend to bankrupt and fraudulent debtors, with a sparing hand and at enormous premiums.

It may perhaps be imagined that, from the scantiness of the resources of the country, the necessity of diverting the established funds in the case supposed would exist, though the national government should possess an unrestrained power of taxation. But two considerations will serve to quiet all apprehension on this head: one is, that we are sure the resources of the community, in their full extent, will be brought into activity for the benefit of the Union; the other is, that whatever deficiencies there may be, can without difficulty be supplied by loans.

The power of creating new funds upon new objects of taxation, by its own authority, would enable the national government to borrow as far as its necessities might require. Foreigners, as well as the citizens of America, could then reasonably repose confidence in its engagements; but to depend upon a government that must itself depend upon thirteen other governments for the means of fulfilling its contracts, when once its situation is clearly understood, would require a degree of credulity not often to be met with in the pecuniary transactions of mankind, and little reconcilable with the usual sharp-sightedness of avarice.

Reflections of this kind may have trifling weight with men who hope to see realized in America the halcyon scenes of the poetic or fabulous age; but to those who believe we are likely to experience a common portion of the vicissitudes and calamities which have fallen to the lot of other nations, they must appear entitled to serious attention. Such men must behold the actual situation of their country with painful solicitude, and deprecate the evils which ambition or revenge might, with too much facility, inflict upon it.

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“Mostly Free” - The Startling Decline Of Economic Freedom

By Ambassador Terry Miller and Kim R. Holmes, Ph.D.

“Mostly Free” — Not Good Enough!

In 2010, for the first time ever, the United States has fallen from the ranks of the economically “free” as measured by the Index of Economic Freedom, published annually by The Heritage Foundation and The Wall Street Journal. With a score of only 78.0 on the Index’s 0–100 scale, the United States has fallen below the cut-off (an average score of 80 or above) that earns countries the right to call themselves truly “free.” The United States’ current status? “Mostly free.”

How did this happen? What can be done to address the problem and allow Americans to reclaim the economic freedoms they have lost?

This booklet provides a snapshot of American’s economic freedom and compares conditions in the United States with those in other countries around the world. A program of straightforward but bold reforms is proposed to put the U.S. back where it belongs: as a world leader in economic freedom.

A Startling Decline

The United States is the 8th freest economy in the 2010 Index of Economic Freedom. Its score is 2.7 points lower than last year, reflecting notable decreases in financial freedom, monetary freedom, and property rights. Economic freedom has declined in seven of the 10 categories

measured in the Index. Overall, the U.S. suffered the largest decline in economic freedom among the world’s 20 largest economies. The United States has fallen to 2nd place in the North America region, trailing Canada.

The U.S. government’s intrusive responses to the financial and economic crisis that began in 2008 have significantly undermined economic freedom and long-term prospects for economic growth. Uncertainties caused by ongoing regulatory changes and politically influenced spending have discouraged entrepreneurship and job creation, slowing recovery. Leadership in free trade has been undercut by “Buy American” provisions in stimulus legislation and failure to pursue previously agreed free trade agreements (FTAs) with Panama, Colombia, and South Korea.

Meanwhile, tax rates are increasingly uncompetitive, and massive stimulus spending is creating unprecedented deficits. Bailouts of financial and automotive firms have generated concerns about property rights. The health care law is adding billions of dollars to the nation’s medical bill, as well as federal and state deficits, while fundamentally altering the structure of employment compensation.

The Economic Freedom Agenda

The U.S. Constitution was established, in the words of its Preamble, to “secure the Blessings of Liberty to ourselves and our Posterity.” That lib-

erty is under assault today, and the threat, now as at the time of the Declaration of Independence, comes from a government that has become destructive of “Life, Liberty, and the pursuit of Happiness.”

Reclaiming their heritage of economic freedom will not be an easy task for Americans. Action is needed in every area to challenge politically powerful special interests. Politics as usual will not suffice. Indeed, it is politics as usual that has gotten us off track, with government encroaching daily into areas that Americans have traditionally regarded as private.

We don’t need a revolution, but we do need a restoration of the rights once considered unalienable—by the Founders and by the generations of Americans that followed them. The time to start is now. The actions that we need to take form the Economic Freedom Agenda for America.

The following pages provide a step-by-step guide to putting the U.S. back in the top ranks of the economically “free.” The specific recommendations are but one possible strategy to restore our economic freedom. They illustrate clearly the scope of reform that is needed. Other proposals, if honest in actually advancing economic freedom, could serve as well.

The important thing is to act now to arrest the decline of freedom and assert our rights as free people to set our own course toward greater prosperity in the future.

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Comparing Federal & Private Pay

By James Sherk The Heritage Foundation

The federal government pays its employees substantially more than they would earn in the private sector. The current federal pay system:

- Pays hourly wages 22 percent above that of comparable private sector workers;

- Provides more generous health care and pension plans;

- Provides total compensation on the order of 30 percent to 40 percent above similarly skilled private sector workers; and

- Offers near-total job security and insulates federal employees from recessions.

Congress should not overtax all Americans to overpay the privileged workers in the federal civil service. Aligning federal compensation with market rates would save taxpayers approximately \$47 billion a year. Congress should immediately act to bring equity to federal pay.

Federal Government Pays More

The federal government pays significantly more than the private sector: Hourly wages and annual income are 57 percent higher than in the private sector. Adding in the value of non-cash benefits increases the federal total compensation premium to 85 percent. Different skills justify part of this higher pay. The typical federal employee has more education and experience than the typical private sector worker.

However, the superior skills of federal employees explain only part of their higher pay. After controlling for observable skills and characteristics, federal employees still get cash wages 22 percent more per hour than comparable private workers. Federal employees in occupations that also exist in the private sector—such as computer programmers, human resource specialists, and accountants—enjoy a similar premium. The federal government pays substantially more than the amount accounted for by federal employees’ skills.

Generous Benefits

The federal government also provides generous non-cash benefits: an

average of \$32,115 per employee annually, over triple the average non-cash compensation of the average private sector worker (\$9,882 a year). The federal government gives its workers excellent health coverage and offers them both a defined benefit and defined contribution pensions. Federal employees get more paid leave than private sector workers and receive other perks that few private workers do—such as student loan repayments and on-site child care.

The superior skills of federal workers explain even less of these generous benefits than they do hourly pay. The typical federal employee has almost four times greater odds of participating in a pension plan than a comparably skilled private sector worker.

Data limitations make measuring the precise cost of overcompensation for federal employees difficult. However, conservative estimates show that the federal government pays an average of 30–40 percent greater total compensation than comparable private sector workers would receive.

Federal Employers Rarely Fired or Quit

In addition to higher earnings, federal employees enjoy far greater job security than private sector workers. Federal agencies rarely lay off employees for poor performance. The government does not let workers go in economic downturns, either.

Reduce Federal Pay to Market Rates

The federal government has hired 240,000 net new employees even as private employers have shed 8 million net jobs. Unemployment among federal employees has only slightly risen—to 2.9 percent—during the recession. The federal government insulates its employees from the business cycle.

Federal employees also enjoy much more comfortable working conditions than most private sector workers. As a result, they rarely quit. In fact, federal employees voluntarily quit at just one-third the rate of private sector workers.

Excessive average federal compensation redistributes wealth from less-well-paid private sector workers to more highly paid federal employees. Congress should not engage in this reverse redistribution of wealth. The ticket to financial success should not

be the good fortune of landing a job with Uncle Sam.

Savings from Pay Reform

Congress would save taxpayers approximately \$47 billion a year if it reduced federal compensation to market rates. This would not eliminate the deficit alone, but it would be an important step toward putting America’s fiscal house in better order.

However, Congress should reform federal pay wisely. Although the average federal worker earns above-market wages, not all federal workers do. Because the federal government bases raises largely on seniority and not performance, many highly skilled and high-performing federal workers do not earn above-market pay.

Uniformly cutting federal pay would inappropriately penalize productive federal employees. Instead, Congress should equitably reduce federal pay to market rates by:

- Abolishing the General Schedule and implementing market-based performance pay;

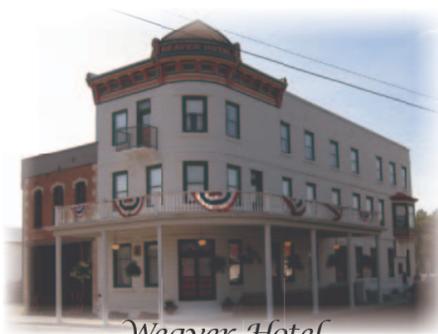
- Expanding the contracting out of non-essential tasks to the private sector;

- Reducing the generosity of the benefits the federal government provides; and

- Ending restrictions on dismissing underperforming federal employees, thus incentivizing increased productivity.

Federal employees get substantially better wages and benefits than do the private sector workers whose taxes fund their paychecks. After controlling for education, experience, and other observable characteristics, federal employees earn cash wages 22 percent above comparable private sector workers. Adding in the value of non-cash benefits raises their total compensation premium to 30 to 40 percent.

If Congress reduced federal pay to market rates, it would save taxpayers approximately \$47 billion a year. Congress should stop giving federal employees inflated earnings before considering raising taxes.



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Grocery Initiative Earns Kansas State Recognition

Kansas State University's Center for Engagement and Community Development is being honored for its Rural Grocery Initiative with the Outstanding Community Development Program award from the International Community Development Society. The award recognizes outstanding community development programs that use principles of good

practice as adopted by the society. It will be presented at the society's 2010 international meeting, July 25-28, in New Orleans. "This award is due to the efforts of K-State faculty, extension professionals, nongovernmental organizations and citizen leaders from across the United States to come together to address important rural grocery store challenges and sustainability models," said Dan Kahl, K-State Extension liaison to the Center for Engagement and Community Development.

The Rural Grocery Initiative began in 2007 with a grant from the U.S. Department of Agriculture Rural Development. "The original focus was on Kansas rural grocery stores, but it soon became apparent that this was a national issue affecting economic development issues, food access issues and community sustainability issues," said David Procter, director of the Center for Engagement and Community Development. "We found that rural grocery stores are a critical piece of the infrastructure that sustains rural communities." Significant outcomes from the initiative include six white papers detailing grocery best practices, two rural grocery summits, a virtual grocery store owner forum and the website, http://www.ruralgrocery.org, which serves as a national clearinghouse. The initiative also has involved K-State faculty research from the departments of horticulture, forestry and recreation resources, agricultural economics, human nutrition, communications and history, as well as the A.Q. Miller School of Journalism and Mass Communications, the College of Human Ecology, and county-based K-State Research and Extension professionals.

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DUMP TRUCKS: '00 GMC Topkick C7H042, '89 GMC Topkick C7D042 ladder truck
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 • '61 Case
HARVESTING
 • (2) '09 Case IH 8120 combines
 • '98 Case IH 2388 combine
 • '03 Case IH 2208 corn head
 • (2) JD 893 corn heads
 • '04 Class Jaguar 900 forage harvester
TRAILERS
 • '00 Wabash 52' trailer
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Handling: JD 9860STS, JD 9760STS, JD 9750STS, JD 9610, JD 1293 corn hd, JD 1243 corn hd, (2) JD 843 corn hd, Shelbourne 24' head, Kinze 800 cart, Big 12-K 400 cart
Sprayers: JD 4720, JD 4700, JD 6500, Schaben SF-8500 Hay & Forage; (2) JD 7700 SPFH, JD 6850 SPFH, JD 6810 SPFH, Kemper 4500 head, NH 355W p/u head, JD 582 silage blr, **Planting:** Crust-buster 3200TS, GP 3N-3010P, GP 3000, TYE 27' drill
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Manhattan Area Technical College was granted initial accreditation status in 2006 and is currently seeking continuing institutional accreditation from the Higher Learning Commission of the North Central Association of Colleges and Schools.

At this time, MATC is seeking comments from the public about the College in preparation for its evaluation by this regional accrediting agency. The College will undergo a comprehensive evaluation visit October 25 - 27, 2010, by a team representing the Higher Learning Commission of the North Central Association of Colleges and Schools. The team will review the institution's ongoing ability to meet the Commission's Criteria for Accreditation.

The public is invited to submit comments regarding the college to:

Public Comment on Manhattan Area Technical College
 The Higher Learning Commission of the
 North Central Association of Colleges and Schools
 230 North LaSalle Street, Suite 7-500
 Chicago, IL 60604-1413

Comments must address substantive matters related to the quality of the institution or its academic programs. Comments must be in writing and signed; comments cannot be treated as confidential.

All comments must be received by September 24, 2010

Daniel Marcus On Committee

By Beth Bohn
KSU News Service

A Kansas State University professor has been elected to serve on a national committee that seeks to elevate biomedical research resources in Kansas and other states.

Daniel C. Marcus, university distinguished professor of anatomy and physiology, will serve a four-year term on the National Committee for the National Association of IDEa Principal Investigators. The 20-member committee assists the National Center for Research Resources, a division of the National Institutes of Health, in strengthening biomedical research in 23 states -- including Kansas -- that are part of the Institutional Development Awards, or IDEa, network. The committee meets in Washington, D.C.

The association represents the principal investigators from each IDEa Network of Biomedical Research Excellence and Center of Biomedical Research Excellence, and is focused on elevating bio-

medical research infrastructure in states with historically low levels of research funding from the National Institutes of Health.

Marcus is the principal investigator for the K-State Center of Biomedical Research Excellence, based in the College of Veterinary Medicine. The center studies epithelial cell function in human health and disease. It supports individual research projects as well as research facilities for confocal microscopy, molecular biology and electrophysiology investigators across eight departments in five K-State colleges.

The center is beginning its ninth year of funding through a National Institutes of Health award of about \$22 million over 10 years.

Marcus is internationally known for his research on the physiology of inner ear epithelial cells. Functions of these cells are essential for healthy hearing and balance.

He has received the Pfizer Research Excellence Award from

K-State's College of Veterinary Medicine and has honorary membership in Society of Phi Zeta, Sigma Chapter, an organization that recognizes and promotes scholarship and research pertaining to the welfare and diseases of animals. Marcus also is a reviewer for several professional journals and granting agencies.

Marcus joined K-State in 1998 as an associate professor in anatomy and physiology. He was promoted to professor in 2000 and was named a university distinguished professor, K-State's highest academic ranking, in 2006. His previous professional experience was at Creighton University, Washington University in St. Louis and Boys Town National Research Hospital. His master's and doctorate degrees are in electrical and biomedical engineering from Washington University, St. Louis. His bachelor's degree in physics is from Antioch College in Ohio.



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Researchers May Put End To Pesky Summer Pests

By Greg Tammen
KSU News Service

Summer just wouldn't be complete without mosquitoes nipping at exposed skin. Or would it?

Research conducted by a Kansas State University team may help solve a problem that scientists and pest controllers have been itching to for years.

Kun Yan Zhu, professor of entomology, and teammates Xin Zhang, graduate student in entomology from China, and Jianzhen Zhang, a visiting scientist from Shanxi University, China, investigated using nanoparticles to deliver double-stranded ribonucleic acid, dsRNA -- a molecule capable of specifically triggering gene silencing -- into mosquito larvae through their food. By silencing particular genes, Zhu said the dsRNA may kill the developing mosquitoes or make them more susceptible to pesticides.

Gene silencing triggered by dsRNA or small interfering RNA, siRNA, is known as RNA interference, or RNAi.

"RNAi is a specific and effective approach for loss of function studies in virtually all eukaryotic organisms," Zhu said. Eukaryotic organisms have cells that contain a nucleus within which genetic material is carried and can therefore be manipulated. Almost all animals, plants and fungi are eukaryotes.

Once RNAi is triggered, it destroys the messenger RNA, or mRNA, of a particular gene. This prevents the translation of the gene into its product, silencing it. In the case of Zhu's research, RNAi was used to silence genes responsible for the production of chitin, the principle constituent of the exoskeleton in insects, crustaceans and arachnids.

"Since our RNAi is focused on chitin synthesis, the dsRNA that is delivered into the mosquito larvae can basically block the production of chitin," Zhu said.

Though the silencing is not yet 100 percent effective in their study, Zhu said it does leave the mosquito's body with less ability to combat insecticides, which must penetrate the mosquito's exoskeleton. If the gene, called chitin synthase, could be completely silenced, the mosquitoes may die without the use of pesticides because the chitin biosynthesis pathway would be

blocked, Zhu said.

Zhu theorized using nanoparticles to deliver dsRNA to mosquito larvae might work because of the low success of manually injecting larvae with dsRNA. Mosquito larvae live in water but because dsRNA quickly dissipates in water, it can't be directly added to the larvae's food source. Zhu's group discovered that using nanoparticles assembled from dsRNA facilitates their ingestion by mosquito larvae because the nanoparticles don't dissolve in water. Zhu said the nanoparticles may also stabilize the dsRNA in water.

"Now insects will have a much greater likelihood of getting these nanoparticles containing the dsRNA into their gut through feeding," Zhu said.

Potentially, bait containing dsRNA-based nanoparticles could be developed for insect control, Zhu said.

"Because we can select specific genes for silencing, and the nanoparticles are formed from chitosan -- a virtually non-toxic and biodegradable polymer -- this pest control technology could target specific pest species while being environmentally friendly," he said.

Mosquitoes were chosen, Zhu said, because of the abundant research on them as human disease vectors. Other insects, though, can have their genes silenced. Zhu and his collaborators also have investigated gene silencing in the European corn borer and in grasshoppers, a major insect pest in China. Nanoparticles did not have to be used because grasshoppers and European corn borers are not aquatic. However, nanoparticle-based RNAi may facilitate the studies on the functions of new genes.

The team's paper, "Chitosan/double-stranded RNA nanoparticle-mediated RNA interference to silence chitin synthase genes through larval feeding in African malaria mosquito (*Anopheles gambiae*)," was recently accepted by the journal, *Insect Molecular Biology*. It has been published online in advance of print.

The research was partially funded by the Kansas Agricultural Experiment Station.

Zhu's upcoming research will focus on gene silencing in agricultural pests.

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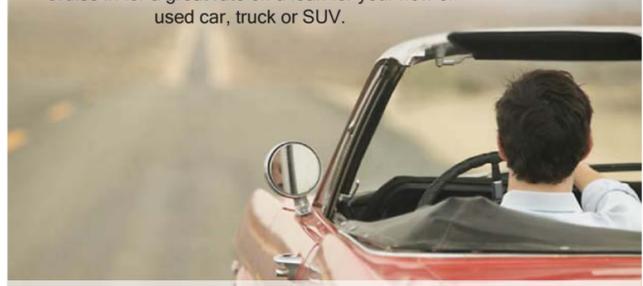
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