

"After all, if you believe that no one was ever corrupted by a book, you also have to believe that no one was ever improved by a book (or a play or a movie). You have to believe, in other words, that all art is morally trivial and that, consequently, all education is morally irrelevant. No one, not even a university professor, really believes that."

—Irving Kristol (1920-2009)

"The millionaire or multi-millionaire is a highly economic animal. He sucks up with sponge-like efficiency from all quarters. In this process, far from depriving ordinary people of their earnings, he launches enterprise and carries it through, raises values, and he expands that credit without which on a vast scale no fuller economic life can be opened to the millions. To hunt wealth is not to capture commonwealth."

—Winston Churchill, *Great Contemporaries* (1939)

"The left can only take power through deception."

—Whittaker Chambers (1901-1961)

Government meddling caused the Crash of 2008

Help fight the Culture Wars: **ADF** **Thomas More** **FIRE** **Heritage** **Claremont** **Amer.Principles**

Arizona's immigration law

No Mosque at Ground Zero (video)

Mexico's immigration laws

Three Things About Islam (video)

Pop goes the Times

by William McGowan, Nov 2010

He's just published *Gray Lady Down: What the Decline and Fall of The New York Times Means for America*.

Here's a scintillating excerpt:

<http://www.newcriterion.com/articles.cfm/Pop-goes-the--Times--6415>

God bless "th3j35t3r" !

Patriotic 'hactivist' claims he took down Wikileaks site

Hacker-activist 'The Jester' says he attacks jihadist websites trying to recruit young Muslims

by Kristina Wong, 30 Nov 2010

A computer hacker is claiming he temporarily disabled the Wikileaks site Sunday afternoon, right as the latest dump of leaked State Department memos were scheduled to publish on the site.

The site was down temporarily on Sunday, the same time the hacker began tweeting he had begun attacking it. "www.wikileaks.org - TANGO DOWN - for attempting to endanger the lives of our troops, 'other assets' & foreign relations," he tweeted late Sunday morning. "Tango down" is a special forces military term for having eliminated a terrorist.

He goes by the Twitter handle "th3j35t3r", which is leetspeak for "The Jester." On his website, th3j35t3r calls himself a "hactivist for good." A "hactivist"—a hacker-activist, supposedly hacks for a good cause. His cause is preventing young people from being recruited online by jihadists. He does this by hacking jihadist websites, and temporarily disabling them...

Fascinating: <http://abcnews.go.com/US/patriotic-hactivist-claims-wikileaks-site/story?id=12272776>

These people are insane. Get ready for a good, long belly-laugh:

Cancun climate change summit: scientists call for rationing in developed world

by Louise Gray, *Environment Correspondent*, 29 Nov 2010

<http://www.telegraph.co.uk/earth/copenhagen-climate-change-confe/8165769/Cancun-climate-change-summit-scientists-call-for-rationing-in-developed-world.html>

Dead Green Treaty Stinks Up The Room

by Walter Russell Mead, 29 Nov 2010

...Let's review the bidding for a moment. Even John Kerry and Ted Kennedy voted against the Kyoto Protocol on the grounds that it was too tough on the US and too easy on China and India. Kyoto would have restricted US carbon output but left China and India free to do what they liked. This is the problem the new treaty was supposed to fix.

Our genius environmentalists came up with the idea that in order to make the treaty more palatable to US public opinion and therefore to the Senate, the US would assume an open-ended and eternal obligation to pay tens of billions of dollars a year to various developing world governments, however corrupt, incompetent, dictatorial and unfriendly these might be. Iran, Cuba, and North Korea would get money just like Yemen, Syria and Sudan. In exchange, these countries along with India and China would accept restrictions on their carbon output that are significantly less drastic than those to be imposed on the US. Who could possibly object to a smart plan like this?...

More: <http://blogs.the-american-interest.com/wrm/2010/11/28/dead-green-treaty-stinks-up-the-room/>

The fallout from WikiLeaks' latest exposure

by Tunku Varadarajan, 29 Nov 2010

Another WikiLeaks whirlwind has hit us. The trick, truly, is to stay grounded and ask a question that newspapers (yes, even *The New York Times*) don't easily ask: This is all mighty interesting, and truly, madly juicy, but...should we really be colluding with nihilists who traffic in stolen information?...

...Mr. Assange is a dangerous vandal masquerading as a moral crusader. What is his purpose in publishing this stolen material? There is no clear philosophy behind his actions, no higher aim, other than the gleeful humbling—the public embarrassment—of the United States, a country against which he and his neo-anarchist cohorts have waged their own private little war for well over a year. Mr. Assange detests the United States, detests the philosophy of Western free market democracies, and rejects the notion that the U.S. could ever conceivably wage war abroad that is not criminal. He is, in short, an avowed foe of our society and our way of life.

Mr. Assange has not engaged in a single act of “exposure” that disrupts our enemies. When he starts disrupting the enemy, I will begin to concede that he can be treated—remotely—as evenhanded or worthy of praise. Instead, he has by his leaks, and by the pseudo-moral rhetoric that has accompanied them, offered propagandistic succor to those who would harm us, in addition to the priceless intelligence that he has handed to them on a platter...

More: <http://www.thedailybeast.com/blogs-and-stories/2010-11-29/wikileaks-documents-fallout-from-diplomatic-cables-exposure/>



Winston Churchill (November 30, 1874 - January 24, 1965)

The curses which Mohammedanism lays on its votaries (from *The River War*, 1899)

Mass Effects in Modern Life 1925

Blood, Toil, Tears and Sweat 13 May 1940

We Shall Fight on the Beaches 4 June 1940

Their Finest Hour 18 June 1940

To V-E Day Crowds 8 May 1945

Sinews of Peace (the Iron Curtain speech) 5 March 1946

Declaration of Citizenship 9 April 1963 (JFK's remarks, Churchill's reply)

How the Nanny President sees himself—and us

by Kyle Smith, 28 Nov 2010

...Obama's self-regard is at its most resplendent when he delivers a remark attributed to Abraham Lincoln: "I am not bound to win, but I'm bound to be true. I'm not bound to succeed, but I'm bound to live up to what light I have." That the words are actually those of Ronald Reagan is an amusing but trivial detail.

What's telling is that Obama set up the remark by saying he takes great pleasure in the White House library, and that he stumbled upon the remark in the process of searching out the wisdom of his predecessors. This was not a true statement. In fact Obama later admitted to Wolffe that he had found the quotation while reading one of his own diaries, in which he had mistakenly attributed the Reaganism to Lincoln. So: In times of worry and strife, Obama looks for comforting inspiration in the sacred, timeless words of . . . Obama!

Presidents are often accused of surrounding themselves with yes-men and retreating from the world. This president doesn't even need the yes-men. He lives in a hall of mirrors, and he's awed by the view.

Full column: http://www.nypost.com/p/news/opinion/opedcolumnists/how_the_nanny_president_sees_himself_Rz5QE1GoCFaiwCJvR9mrdP

For tottering states, bankruptcy could be the answer

by Michael Barone, 29 Nov 2010

...The prospect is that the bond market will quit financing California and Illinois long before the federal government. It may already be happening. Earlier this month, California could sell only \$6 billion of \$10 billion revenue anticipation notes it put on the market. Individual investors have been selling off state and local municipal bonds this month. Meredith Whitney, the financial expert who first spotted Citigroup's overexposure to mortgage-backed securities, is now predicting a sell-off in the municipal bond market.

So it's entirely possible that some state government—California and Illinois, facing \$25 billion and \$15 billion deficits, are likely suspects—will be coming to Washington some time in the next two years in search of a bailout. The Obama administration may be sympathetic. It's channeled stimulus money to states and TARP money to General Motors and Chrysler in large part to bail out its labor union allies.

But the Republican House is not likely to share that view, and it's hard to see how tapped-out state governments can get 60 votes in a 53-47 Democratic Senate. How to avoid this scenario? University of Pennsylvania law professor David Skeel, writing in *The Weekly Standard*, suggests that Congress pass a law allowing states to go bankrupt...

...A state bankruptcy law would not let creditors thrust a state into bankruptcy—that would violate state sovereignty. But it would allow a state government going into bankruptcy to force a "cram down," imposing a haircut on bondholders, and to rewrite its union contracts. The threat of bankruptcy would put a powerful weapon in the hands of governors and legislatures: They can tell their unions that they have to accept cuts now or face a much more dire fate in bankruptcy court...

More: <http://patriotpost.us/opinion/michael-barone/2010/11/29/for-tottering-states-bankruptcy-could-be-the-answer/>

Ireland Should Not Be Bailed Out

by Matthew Lynn, 28 Nov 2010

It's not too late. The request for aid might have been made. The negotiations might have started. But Irish Prime Minister Brian Cowen can still refuse a bailout from the European Union and the International Monetary Fund.

It might sound like madness for a drowning man to refuse a lifebelt. But the decision the Irish make in the next few days will shape the future of their nation for a generation. Ireland would be better off going bust than taking a loan. The conditions attached to a rescue aren't worth it: Once it takes EU money, it will never get off the hook. And the Irish banks aren't worth saving anyway. Defaulting on your debts is a far less scary prospect than usually portrayed. The real question is whether Ireland's politicians have the courage to take that step...

...Underneath the property bubble—which was caused by low euro-area interest rates—Ireland has a competitive, export-oriented economy. September figures show exports rose 2 percent and the trade surplus increased. In a weak global economy, that's a very decent performance. If it defaults on its debts, Ireland can bounce back fairly quickly. If it accepts an EU bailout, it will be stuck in recession for a generation.

More reasons: http://www.pittsburghlive.com/x/pittsburghtrib/opinion/s_711139.html

Obama's Trade Contortions

by Mary Anastasia O'Grady, 29 Nov 2010

...Next year, Ottawa's Colombia free trade agreement will enter into force, and Canadian producers will join the list of competitors who have an advantage over Americans in the Colombian market. The European Union and South Korea have also signed FTAs with Colombia and will have advantages on the industrial production front.

It's hard to understand what Mr. Obama is thinking about besides his loyalty to the AFL-CIO. But Colombia's plans are clear. It wants to trade with the U.S. But if it is rejected, it will simply buy and sell with the rest of the world.

More: <http://online.wsj.com/article/SB10001424052748704693104575638402644710436.html>

Facebook, Twitter, etc. cripple our ability to communicate rationally.

The Zuckerberg Revolution

Social media have increased the volume of our communications yet diminished the substance of them.

by Neal Gabler, 28 Nov 2010

<http://www.latimes.com/news/opinion/commentary/la-oe-gabler-zuckerberg-20101128,0,7889675.story>

Congressman wants WikiLeaks listed as terrorist group

by Declan McCullagh, 28 Nov 2010

The incoming chairman of the House Homeland Security Committee says WikiLeaks should be officially designated as a terrorist organization.

Rep. Peter King (R-NY), the panel's next head, asked the Obama administration today to "determine whether WikiLeaks could be designated a foreign terrorist organization," putting the group in the same company as Al Qaeda and Aum Shinrikyo, the Japanese cult that released deadly sarin gas on the Tokyo subway...

More: http://news.cnet.com/8301-13578_3-20023941-38.html?part=rss&subj=news&tag=2547-1_3-0-20

The Kingston Brio

A Republican appropriator bids to change Congress's culture of spending.

Wall Street Journal editorial, 29 Nov 2010

http://online.wsj.com/article/SB10001424052748704700204575642702239206256.html?mod=WSJ_Opinion_AboveLEFTTop

Three of the classic essays recommended in Michael Medved's *The 10 Big Lies About America*:

Were American Indians the Victims of Genocide?

by Guenter Lewy, Sept 2004 (originally published in Commentary)

<http://hnn.us/articles/7302.html>

Ten reasons why reparations for blacks are a bad idea for blacks—and racist, too

by David Horowitz, 3 Jan 2001

<http://archive.frontpagemag.com/readArticle.aspx?ARTID=24317>

The Diversity Myth

by Benjamin Schwarz, May 1995

<http://www.theatlantic.com/past/politics/foreign/divers.htm>

Is Illegal Immigration Moral?

by Victor Davis Hanson, 26 Nov 2010

We know illegal immigration is no longer really unlawful, but is it moral?...

...What is often left out of the equation is the moral dimension of illegal immigration. We see the issue too often reduced to caricature, involving a noble, impoverished victim without much free will and subject to cosmic forces of sinister oppression. But everyone makes free choices that affect others. So ponder the ethics of a guest arriving in a host country knowingly against its sovereign protocols and laws...

More: <http://www.nationalreview.com/articles/print/253954>

Talk Loudly, Carry a Big Stick

by David Warren, 25 Nov 2010

...The North Koreans began gratuitously shelling the South Korean military base on Yeonpyeong Island at 0534 GMT Tuesday, killing a couple of marines, injuring more than a dozen soldiers and civilians, and sending the island's 1,600 fishermen and their families into the shelters. The South Koreans returned fire, which it is their duty to do. We will see what follows.

Pyongyang claims Seoul started it, but that is ridiculous. The South was conducting a well-announced military

exercise, in the seas near the island; but all action was purposely directed away from Northern shores. There was no legitimate pretext for the North Korean strike; just as there was no legitimate pretext for the strike last March, in which a South Korean naval vessel was suddenly torpedoed and sent to the bottom, with a few dozen souls...

...The conventional explanation for these and the many other incidents (including many minor ones that hardly make world news), is that the North Korean Great Leader of the moment, is crazy. I fall into this myself, sometimes—one foot—but then have to explain the difference between medical and moral insanity. The "completely crazy guy" theory of history explains nothing, and is useless. Hitler was a crazy guy; Stalin was a crazy guy; Pol Pot was a crazy guy—but mad only north-northwest. Often from a desperate position, they played brilliantly, cheated brilliantly.

One does not become a psychotic, totalitarian dictator without knowing all the weaknesses of half-decent folk, including the location of their Achilles heel. Our politicians are willing to appease even a madman, for the sake of peace. And even when peace is unavailable, those with insufficient moral starch will continue appeasing, in the hope of prolonging the appearance of peace...

...Do not do what the Chinese suggest; do not make concessions, or agree to talk; ignore "humanitarian" arguments; continue making military preparations. Call the bluff, but be ready for anything.

More: <http://www.ottawacitizen.com/news/todays-paper/Talk+loudly+carry+stick/3875677/story.html>

Lessons of Hate at Islamic Schools in Britain

by John F. Burns, 22 Nov 2010

A British network of more than 40 part-time Islamic schools and clubs with 5,000 students has been teaching from a Saudi Arabian government curriculum that contains anti-Semitic and homophobic views, including a textbook that asks children to list the "reprehensible" qualities of Jews, according to a BBC documentary broadcast on Monday.

The 30-minute "Panorama" program quoted the Saudi government-supplied textbook as saying that Jews "looked like monkeys and pigs," and that Zionists set out to achieve "world domination." The program quoted a separate part of the curriculum — for children as young as 6 — saying that someone who is not a believer in Islam at death would be condemned to "hellfire."...

More: <http://www.nytimes.com/2010/11/23/world/europe/23britain.html?ref=todayspaper>

Happy Starvation Day

by John Stossel, 24 Nov 2010

Had today's political class been in power in 1623, tomorrow's holiday would have been called "Starvation Day" instead of Thanksgiving. Of course, most of us wouldn't be alive to celebrate it.

Every year around this time, schoolchildren are taught about that wonderful day when Pilgrims and Native Americans shared the fruits of the harvest. But the first Thanksgiving in 1623 almost didn't happen.

Long before the failure of modern socialism, the earliest European settlers gave us a dramatic demonstration of the fatal flaws of collectivism. Unfortunately, few Americans today know it. The Pilgrims at Plymouth Colony organized their farm economy along communal lines. The goal was to share the work and produce equally.

That's why they nearly all starved.

More: <http://www.creators.com/opinion/john-stossel/happy-starvation-day.html>

Giving thanks for our nation

by Michael Goodwin, 24 Nov 2010

'Count your blessings' was my mother's lifelong advice, and now it's official: She was right. People who feel grateful have more energy, enthusiasm and a more positive outlook on life than those who don't, The Wall Street Journal reports. It notes that a "growing body of research" finds gratitude is a key ingredient to physical, emotional and mental well-being.

The timing of the report is, well, timely, coming on the eve of the American festival dedicated to gratitude. Even allowing for the myth we mix with memory, who we are and how we got here deserve a rich celebration. In that spirit, here are a few enduring blessings for which we as a nation have reason to be thankful...

More: http://www.nypost.com/f/print/news/national/giving_thanks_for_our_nation_w6Rqc27g1d7Lnhju7yNi9H

Health reform's competition-crushers

by Dr. Scott Gottlieb, 23 Nov 2010

Liberal consumer groups are aghast to learn that the Obama health team are really monopolists at heart, bent on handing hospitals a cartel in their local markets.

Sunday's *New York Times* report on this horror confirms what I wrote about in these pages weeks ago ("Killing Marcus Welby," *PostOpinion*, Oct. 18). I warned that the creation of "accountable care organizations," which put hospitals in control of all the doctors in their outlying areas, would lead to concentrated power over the provision of medical care—turning physicians into salaried employees and reducing consumer choices....

Read on: http://www.nypost.com/f/print/news/opinion/opedcolumnists/health_reform_competition_crushers_f2dIEwqEdJYvA3tsNH37wM

Margaret Thatcher's resignation: a career that did not die in vain

by Charles Moore, 23 Nov 2010

<http://www.telegraph.co.uk/comment/columnists/charlesmoore/8150464/Margaret-Thatchers-resignation-A-career-that-did-not-die-in-vain.html>

Receiving a Calling

by Jay D. Homnick, 22 Nov 2010

<http://spectator.org/archives/2010/11/22/receiving-a-calling>

Criminalizing the act of doing business

by Bill Frezza, 22 Nov 2010

http://www.realclearmarkets.com/articles/2010/11/22/criminalizing_the_act_of_doing_business_98764.html

They walk among us

by Robert L. McClain, 21 Nov 2010

http://www.americanthinker.com/2010/11/they_walk_among_us.html

IPCC official: Climate policy is redistributing the world's wealth

by Pamela Geller, 18 Nov 2010

http://atlasshrugs2000.typepad.com/atlas_shrugs/2010/11/atlas-book-exclusive-confirmed-ipcc-official-climate-policy-is-redistributing-the-worlds-wealth-.html

Air travel: one step behind the terrorists

by Jeff Jacoby, 21 Nov 2010

http://www.boston.com/bostonglobe/editorial_opinion/oped/articles/2010/11/21/air_travel_one_step_behind_terrorists/

U.S. not prepared for Mumbai-like terror attacks

by John Arquilla, 21 Nov 2010

<http://www.sfgate.com/cgi-bin/article.cgi?f=/c/a/2010/11/21/INRG1GCFBT.DTL>

Thus does the economy grow

by Keith Hennessey, 17 Nov 2010

<http://www.nationalreview.com/articles/print/253392>

Decision Points by George W Bush — review

by Alastair Campbell, 19 Nov 2010

<http://www.guardian.co.uk/books/2010/nov/19/george-bush-decision-points-review>

Birchers. Again.

by J.R. Dunn, 20 Nov 2010

http://www.americanthinker.com/2010/11/birchers_again.html

Explaining the cold-climate theory for the evolution of high IQ

by Fjordman, 20 Nov 2010

<http://gatesofvienna.blogspot.com/2010/11/explaining-cold-climate-theory-for.html#more>

I've gone on a little voyage, and may not be able to post every day.

In the mean time, let's be grateful during Thanksgiving Week.

"Deo gratias **America** redde pro victoria." —*Don John*

"Choice in a free society implies responsibility on the part of the individual. There is no hard and fast line between economic and other forms of personal responsibility to self, family, firm, community, nation, God. Morality lies in choosing between feasible alternatives. A moral being is one who exercises his own judgment in choice, on matters great and small, bearing in mind their moral dimension, i.e. right and wrong. Insofar as his right to choose is taken away by the state, the party, or the union, his moral faculties (i.e. his capacity for choice) atrophy, and he becomes a moral cripple in the same way as we should lose the facility of walking, reading, seeing, if we were prevented from using them over the year." —*Margaret Thatcher, 1977*

November 22 is the second anniversary of V.I. Day!

And we've still won. Barack Obama hasn't managed to lose it...yet.



Victory in Iraq Day: November 22, 2008

by Zombie, 18 Nov 2008

We won. The Iraq War is over.

I declare November 22, 2008 to be "Victory in Iraq Day." (Hereafter known as "VI Day.")

By every measure, The United States and coalition forces have conclusively defeated all enemies in Iraq, pacified the country, deposed the previous regime, successfully helped to establish a new functioning democratic government, and suppressed any lingering insurgencies. The war has come to an end. **And we won.**

What more indication do you need? An announcement from the outgoing Bush administration? It's not gonna happen. An announcement from the incoming Obama administration? That's *really* not gonna happen. A declaration of victory by the media? *Please*. Don't make me laugh. A concession of surrender by what few remaining insurgents remain in hiding? Forget about it...

Read the whole wonderful thing. Lots of photos, too: http://www.zombietime.com/vi_day/

This is GREAT.

Colin Powell's Algebra Lesson

by Randall Hoven, 19 Nov 2010

http://www.americanthinker.com/2010/11/colin_powells_algebra_lesson.html

Mitt's Bad Medicine

by Michael Graham, 18 Nov 2010

Add another name to the list of Massachusetts conservatives who have signed the ABM Treaty: Anyone But Mitt. Until Mitt Romney admits that his mandate-driven, big-government Romneycare was a mistake, I will be supporting any viable GOP candidate running against him in 2012...

Continue: http://www.bostonherald.com/news/opinion/op_ed/view.bg?articleid=1297196&format=text

Medicare chief Berwick ducks question of whether ObamaCare redistributes wealth

by Matt Cover, 17 Nov 2010

<http://cnsnews.com/news/article/medicare-chief-berwick-refuses-say-wheth>

Dude, where's my ObamaCare waiver?

by Michelle Malkin, 17 Nov 2010

More than one million Americans have escaped the clutches of the Democrats' destructive federal health care law. Lucky them. Their employers and labor representatives wisely applied for Obamacare waivers earlier this fall and got out while the getting was good. Now, it's time for Congress to create a permanent escape hatch for the rest of us. Repeal is the ultimate waiver...

See who's gotten waivers thus far: <http://www.jewishworldreview.com/michelle/malkin111710.php3>

Homeowner ordered to stop parking in her own driveway

by Chloé Fedio, 17 Nov 2010

<http://www.thestar.com/news/article/892153--homeowner-ordered-to-stop-parking-in-her-own-driveway>

(Hat tip: Mark Steyn)

Coventry teenager abused on Facebook [by Muslim scum] for writing war heroes tribute

by Cara Simpson, 17 Nov 2010

<http://www.coventrytelegraph.net/news/coventry-news/2010/11/17/coventry-teenager-abused-on-facebook-for-writing-war-heroes-tribute-92746-27667954/>

Education: the Elephant in the Room

by Karen Karacsony, 19 Nov 2010

...If America is to return to her founding principles, she must become a nation whose children are raised by parents who teach them not only their A-B-Cs, but also the proper path to virtue and the importance of liberty. When we sequester our children five days a week in age-segregated government institutions, we minimize the time our children spend with the very elders who might pass on to them the immortal truths enshrined in our founding documents—truths passed down from Athens and Rome to the Medievals and, ultimately, to our Founders.

Not only that, but by sending our youngsters off to public schools, we force our children to spend their days learning to behave as good drones do, thinking not for themselves (as liberty-minded, self-reliant individuals), but for authority figures hired by the government. The authority figures are grooming our children to become not individualists and innovators, but worker bees who may someday do their part to maintain the health of the collectivist hive. Like good little worker bees, our children learn to pick up their pencils when the bell rings, to regurgitate facts that bureaucrats have decided are good to memorize (facts that rarely align with the truths taught by Aristotle, Cicero, and Madison), and then to put their pencils down when the bell rings again...

Read the rest: http://www.americanthinker.com/2010/11/education_the_elephant_in_the.html

Former Israeli airline security chief: U.S. needs to profile air passengers

by Edwin Mora, 16 Nov 2010

...El Al is considered by most security analysts as the most secure airline in the world because of its track-record in deterring hijackings and terror plots. The airline has been free of terrorist attacks for about 30 years and it has experienced only one hijacking in its history. *Global Traveler magazine* has named El Al as number one in its Best Airline for Security for the last three years in a row.

Nonetheless, critics of American airliners adopting El Al's security approach say it would violate passengers' civil rights by allowing some passengers to be more intensely scrutinized than others.

Yeffet said that U.S. airliners should implement "exactly the same [security] system" as El Al. "Yes, profiling," he said. "Profiling is not that I am choosing that I want to interview them. We don't have discrimination [at El Al]. Every passenger—I don't care who he or she is—has to be interviewed by security. We have to be polite. We know how to ask questions."

"The TSA [Transportation Safety Administration in USA] wants to tell me we now have security in this country—this is an illusion," he said. "It's not security. It's about time that we are proactive and reactive. In this country we fear reactive, we don't do anything to be proactive."...

More: <http://cnsnews.com/news/article/full-body-scanners-are-illusion-security>

More Liberal Fascism

Sen. Rockefeller Suggests Eliminating FOX, MSNBC

by Ryan G. Murphy, RTDNA Digital Media Editor, 18 Nov 2010

<http://www.rtdna.org/pages/posts/sen.-rockefeller-suggests-eliminating-fox-msnbc1143.php>

The Ghailani Debacle

by Jennifer Rubin, 17 Nov 2010

The acquittal of Guantanamo detainee Ahmed Khalfan Ghailani yesterday on all but one of 285 counts in connection with the 1998 al-Qaeda bombings of the U.S. embassies in Kenya and Tanzania has once again demonstrated that the leftist lawyers' experiment in applying civilian trial rules to terrorists is gravely misguided and downright dangerous...

...The judge called it correctly, and explicitly warned the government of "the potential damage of excluding the witness when he said in his ruling that Mr. Ghailani's status of 'enemy combatant' probably would permit his detention as something akin 'to a prisoner of war until hostilities between the United States and Al Qaeda and the Taliban end, even if he were found not guilty.'"

In other words, what in the world was the bomber doing in an Article III courtroom? He was, quite bluntly, part of a stunt by the Obama administration, which had vilified Bush administration lawyers for failing to accord terrorists the full panoply of constitutional rights available to American citizens who are arrested by police officers and held pursuant

to constitutional requirements.

Once again, the Obama team has revealed itself to be entirely incompetent and has proved, maybe even to themselves, the obvious: the Bush administration had it right. And in fact, maybe we should do away with both civilian trials and military tribunals and just hold these killers until hostilities end. You know, like they do in *wars*.

More: <http://www.commentarymagazine.com/blogs/index.php/rubin/381533>

See how well the freedom-killing, economy-crushing regulations of the Green Police State work? California already has some of the country's most restrictive eco-laws, which are so burdensome that instead of obeying them, people circumvent them (when they can). Politicians have willingly crippled the economy of the state's central valley—the world's finest agricultural land—for the sake of some tiny fish. And Californians, in voting for Brown and Boxer over Whitman and Fiorina, and against Proposition 23, have just asked for more of the same nonsense that doesn't work! Isn't that the definition of insanity?

America's 10 Dirtiest Cities

Forbes, 15 Nov 2010

The American Lung Association, in its report "State Of The Air 2010," finds seven California metropolitan areas with air quality bad enough that they make it on the list of the Top 10 Dirtiest Cities in America. The 20 million people in these cities are at higher risk of asthma and chronic bronchitis.

The list: http://www.forbes.com/2010/11/15/americas-dirtiest-cities-business-energy-dirty-cities_slide.html

The 2011 Tax Tsunami

by Gary Wickert, 18 Nov 2010

...Conservatives now have a daunting task ahead of them, and very few tools with which to accomplish it. With a Democrat-controlled Senate and a lame-duck president in the Oval Office, Republicans are heading to a knife fight wielding a spoon. In less than three months, the **largest tax increases** in U.S. history will take effect, and most people don't even realize it. These massive tax increases will take effect on January 1, 2011, and the same folks who can't understand why spending a trillion dollars on pork-laden government projects, union dole-outs, and **ACORN** doesn't create private sector jobs are clueless as to the devastating effect these historic tax increases will have on our economy in 2011. Despite the midterm victories we enjoyed, the tax tsunami is coming...

...Our president's strongly held political religion firmly believes that the new taxes and even more government spending are necessary to fix a \$1.4 trillion deficit which the White House itself created and to reduce a national debt which the White House itself worsened.

We'll undoubtedly be treated to more of the Bush blame game. Forget for a moment that Bush held average unemployment at 5.3%, saw the **strongest productivity growth** in four decades, and witnessed **robust GDP growth**. Set aside the fact that he oversaw this growth despite an inherited recession, 9/11, Hurricane Katrina, and wars in Afghanistan and Iraq. Focus instead on the simple fact that the last budget that a Republican Congress had control over had a deficit of approximately **\$162 billion dollars**—a large number to be sure, but not so large that the Democrats and our "progressive" president couldn't expand it in under two years by nearly a factor of ten. Under the Obama administration and with the Democrats in complete and total control, we have record debt, record deficits, record unemployment, record underemployed, record foreclosures, record bankruptcies, and soon, record tax increases...

The horrific details: <http://pajamasmedia.com/blog/the-2011-tax-tsunami/?singlepage=true>

Liberal Fascism to continue

Don John, 18 Nov 2010

Here are the highlights of what Katrina vanden Heuvel, John Podesta, and the Center for American Progress are urging President Obama to implement by fiat ("executive order") to thwart and circumvent the clearly-expressed wishes of the American electorate:

1. Use EPA regulatory authority to reduce greenhouse-gas pollution by 17 percent by 2020.
2. Launch the new Consumer Financial Protection Agency with aggressive rulemaking to protect and empower consumers.
3. Accelerate the implementation of the Small Business Jobs Act so that small businesses can begin hiring again more quickly.
4. Build a new website that promotes government transparency by tracking all public expenditures in real time.
5. Use the authority of the commander-in-chief to mitigate DADT's impact, should Congress fail to repeal it.

6. Appoint a special commission to assess the government's use of independent contractors like Blackwater.
7. Direct agencies to require automatic mediation to avoid foreclosures where possible.
8. Implement the Affordable Care Act while working with the private sector on payment reforms.
9. Create a national awareness campaign on workplace flexibility.
10. Simplify access to federal antipoverty programs.

More: <http://www.thenation.com/blog/156485/use-your-executive-authority-president-obama>

This is the food safety version of ObamaCare.

S 510 breezes to passage in the Senate

by Thomas Lifson, 18 Nov 2010

...Here are the Republicans who voted to give sweeping powers over our food supply to our government masters: Alexander (R-TN), Barrasso (R-WY), Collins (R-ME), Corker (R-TN), Enzi (R-WY), Grassley (R-IA), Gregg (R-NH), Johanns (R-NE), LeMieux (R-FL), Lugar (R-IN), Snowe (R-ME), Thune (R-SD), Vitter (R-LA), Voinovich (R-OH)...

More: http://www.americanthinker.com/blog/2010/11/s_510_breezes_to_passage_in_th.html

Obama DREAMs of Amnesty

by Bryan Preston, 17 Nov 2010

Republicans on Capitol Hill reportedly don't trust President Obama, and with good reason. He's nearly always up to no good, promising a "change in tone" while in reality, he's pursuing the same old divisive, destructive policies.

According to Politico, President Obama wants the defeated Democrat majority to pass the DREAM Act on its way out as a "down payment" on "comprehensive immigration reform," which in his world amounts to amnesty for illegals...

More: <http://pajamasmedia.com/blog/obama-dreams-of-amnesty/?singlepage=true>

Mr. West goes to Washington

by Greg Halvorsen, 18 Nov 2010

This should be interesting. Colonel Allen West is someone with whom the Congressional Black Caucus is exceedingly unfamiliar: a man of African heritage who refuses to play victim and who lives by the words "let us judge men not by the color of their skin, but by the content of their character." The CBC will hear, when they hear from Mr. West, the truth about their policies, the damage they inflict, and their failed philosophy.

This video captures what is to come: <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ST08kNZETNE>

More: http://www.americanthinker.com/blog/2010/11/mr_west_goes_to_washington.html

The West and the Guest

by David Solway, 17 Nov 2010

Let's start with a simple thought experiment. You invite a guest into your house, give him a room, and make all your facilities available to him. You find him a job — it might be one that needs to be done, it might not — but if he runs into difficulties or loses his job you provide him with the wherewithal he requires. Eventually he brings his family over for an extended visit which turns out to be permanent and before you know it an entire part of your house has been sealed off or, as in some instances, has become a domestic no-go zone.

Your new guests refuse to participate in your home life. They deplete your budget, may not even learn your language, install a V-chip in your computer to prevent the normal range of your communications, and in the course of time begin agitating to introduce a new set of house rules which you, the proprietor, are expected to abide by. It is quite possible that you return one evening to discover that your kids have been traumatized and the house is in shambles...

Eloquent, and very literate: <http://pajamasmedia.com/blog/the-west-and-the-guest/?singlepage=true>

Profile Muslims or Pat Down the Masses?

by Selwyn Duke, 18 Nov 2010

...As I have said before, "racial profiling" is much like "assault weapon": It's an emotionally charged term designed to manipulate the public. In reality, there are only two types of profiling: good profiling and bad profiling. What's the difference? Good profiling is a method by which law enforcement can accurately determine the probability that an individual has committed a crime or has criminal intent; bad profiling makes that determination less accurate. Good profiling considers all relevant factors—age, sex, dress, behavior and, yes, race, religion and ethnicity—without regard for political or social concerns. Bad profiling subordinates common sense, criminological science and security to political correctness.

Good profiling is also fair. That is to say, it discriminates on the correct basis: If a group—*any* group—commits an inordinate amount of a given crime, it receives greater scrutiny. Period. Bad profiling is invidiously discriminatory. It says, "Hey, if you're male, you'll be viewed with a jaundiced eye. If you're young, then you, too, will be viewed more suspiciously. Don't like it? Take it up with those in your group who commit crimes!" There is no talk of stamping out "sex profiling" or "age profiling." But when we propose applying the same criteria to higher-crime-incidence groups sheltered by the thought police's umbrella of protection, we hear shouts of "racial profiling!" There then are news stories, Dept. of Injustice investigations and people lose their jobs.

Good profiling is also nothing unusual; it's just the application of common sense within the sphere of law enforcement and something we all do continually. If you cross the street upon seeing a bunch of rough-hewn young men walking your way, you've just engaged in profiling...

Read it all: http://www.americanthinker.com/2010/11/profile_muslims_or_pat_down_th.html

California suggests suicide; Texas asks: Can I lend you a knife?

by Joel Kotkin, 15 Nov 2010

In the future, historians may likely mark the 2010 midterm elections as the end of the California era and the beginning of the Texas one. In one stunning stroke, amid a national conservative tide, California voters essentially ratified a political and regulatory regime that has left much of the state unemployed and many others looking for the exits.

California has drifted far away from the place that John Gunther described in 1946 as "the most spectacular and most diversified American state ... so ripe, golden." Instead of a role model, California has become a cautionary tale of mismanagement of what by all rights should be the country's most prosperous big state. Its poverty rate is at least two points above the national average; its unemployment rate nearly three points above the national average. On Friday Gov. Arnold Schwarzenegger was forced yet again to call an emergency session in order to deal with the state's enormous budget problems.

This state of crisis is likely to become the norm for the Golden State. In contrast to other hard-hit states like Pennsylvania, Ohio and Nevada, which all opted for pro-business, fiscally responsible candidates, California voters decisively handed virtually total power to a motley coalition of Democratic-machine politicians, public employee unions, green activists and rent-seeking special interests...

Continue: <http://blogs.forbes.com/joelkotkin/2010/11/15/california-suggests-suicide-texas-asks-can-i-lend-you-a-knife/>

First health care, next the food supply

by Michael Geer, 17 Nov 2010

Just because the duck is lame doesn't mean it can't still do terrible damage to American freedom. Our new Congress, especially the new House, isn't yet seated, and this current Congress can still wreak terrible havoc on our rights if not stopped.

Case in point: Senate Bill 510, believed to be coming to the floor Wednesday, November 17 (pending). **This is the food safety version of ObamaCare.** Reading the thing will make your head hurt for all its cognitive dissonance. Trying to winnow out its complexity and hidden empowerments is stultifying....

It's another nightmare: http://www.americanthinker.com/2010/11/first_healthcare_next_the_food.html

Meet the 'New' Donald Berwick

by Dr. Hal Scherz, 17 Nov 2010

Dr. Donald Berwick has his coming out party today in Washington. After President Obama snuck him into office during a recess appointment as the head of the second largest health insurance company in the world, CMS (Center for Medicare and Medicaid Services) without so much as a single hearing, Senators finally have an opportunity to meet him during a Finance Committee meeting...

...The Donald Berwick that we have come to know, has stated his positions clearly and they are very different from what he is now trying to convince Senators and the American people that he supposedly stands for. There is no ambiguity about how Berwick feels about the sanctity of the doctor patient relationship. In his book *New Rules* he writes: "Today, this isolated relationship (between doctor and patient) is no longer tenable or possible...Traditional medical ethics, based on the doctor- patient dyad must be reformulated to fit the new mold of the delivery of health care...Regulation must evolve. Regulating for improved medical care involves designing appropriate rules with authority... Health care is being rationalized through critical pathways and guidelines. The primary function of regulation in health care, especially as it affects the quality of medical care, is to constrain decentralized decision making."

Berwick is in a position to fulfill his agenda, of transforming our healthcare system into one that resembles the British system, with its rationed care and inferior outcomes, unchecked and accountable to no one. This is a system to which he has professed his love and admiration. He has a dislike of our system of healthcare and disapproves of it. Here are some other "pearls" that have come directly from Dr. Berwick. "I cannot believe that the individual healthcare consumer can enforce through choice the proper configurations of a system as massive and complex as healthcare. That is for leaders to do." "Please don't put your faith in market forces. It's a popular idea: that Adam Smith's invisible hand would do a better job of designing care than leaders with plans can." "The U.K. has people in charge of its health care—people with the clear duty and much of the authority to take on the challenge of changing the system as a whole. The U.S. does not..."

More: http://www.realclearpolitics.com/articles/2010/11/17/meet_the_new_donald_berwick_107985.html

Michael Savage voices support for the English Defence League (EDL)

Occidental Soapbox, 16 Nov 2010

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Udq6XzSLWvQ>

Climategate: one year and sixty House seats later

by Marc Sheppard, 17 Nov 2010

It's been one year to the day since hero or heroes still unnamed and unrewarded bestowed upon the world a virtual dossier, the contents of which should have ended the anthropogenic global warming (AGW) debate abruptly and evermore. Remarkably, it didn't. Despite the revelations exposed in the now public climate huckster's handbook, one year later the specter of governance and wealth redistribution both national and international based largely, if not solely, on pseudo-scientific hocus-pocus persists.

By all measures, last year's U.N. climate summit in Copenhagen was an embarrassing flop for those who again tried to sell an international progressive fund reallocation scheme as the "last chance to save the planet" from runaway climate change. But with Cancun's "last chance to save the planet" climate talks just around the corner, the media is working overtime to explain away previous failures as anything other than the product of bad policy toward unproven hazards that they indeed were...

A thorough debunking of the hysterics and their enablers:

http://www.americanthinker.com/2010/11/climategate_one_year_and_sixty_house_seats_later.html

Why the BBC cannot be trusted on 'Climate Change': the full story

by James Delingpole, 16 Nov 2010, with extensive quotes from Andrew Montford and Tony Newbery

<http://blogs.telegraph.co.uk/news/jamesdelingpole/100063937/why-the-bbc-cannot-be-trusted-on-climate-change-the-full-story/>

Rangel Convicted On 11 of 13 Ethics Charges

He should have set some money aside for lawyers.

by John Hayward, 16 Nov 2010

<http://www.humanevents.com/article.php?id=40026>

Be sure to read the Comment by "Ol_Irish_Barrister."

Gerrymandering 101

by *Zombie*, 10 Nov 2010

<http://pajamasmedia.com/zombie/2010/11/10/gerrymandering-101/?singlepage=true>

Also, the 10 most Gerrymandered U.S. Congressional districts:

<http://pajamasmedia.com/zombie/2010/11/11/the-top-ten-most-gerrymandered-congressional-districts-in-the-united-states/?singlepage=true>

Cool It: The Anti-Scarefest Documentary of the Year

Bjorn Lomborg, the self-described "skeptical environmentalist," is so likable and empowered by common sense in this new film that he could be the Ronald Reagan of climate science.

by *John Boot*, 12 Nov 2010

<http://pajamasmedia.com/blog/cool-it-the-anti-scarefest-documentary-of-the-year/?singlepage=true>

But there's a difference: unlike gullible warming, the problems Reagan confronted were actually real.

Archbishop Timothy Dolan defeated the social-justice weenie Bishop Gerald Kicanas 128-111 for the top spot. Archbishop Joseph Kurtz was elected vice president, 147-91 over Archbishop Charles Chaput. Dolan and Kurtz are somewhat conservative; but Chaput is a Native American and a serious political conservative, some of whose essays can be found [here](#). Still, the continued trend away from "social justice" is an encouraging sign, in an organization that not long ago was led by packs of leftists.

Dolan Chosen as President of U.S. Bishops' Group

by *Laurie Goodstein*, 16 Nov 2010

http://www.nytimes.com/2010/11/17/us/17bishops.html?_r=1&pagewanted=print

Speaking of multiculturalism . . .

by *Roger Kimball and Hilton Kramer*, Nov 2010

... "All cultures are equal," chant the multiculturalists, like characters out of George Orwell's *Animal Farm*, "but some are more equal than others." It is one of the great rhetorical ironies of the age that what travels under the name of "multiculturalism" is really a form of mono-cultural animus directed against the dominant culture—*our* culture, the culture of the West. In essence, as Samuel Huntington noted in his book *Who Are We?*, multiculturalism is "anti-European civilization...It is basically an anti-Western ideology."

Multiculturalists claim to be fostering a progressive cultural cosmopolitanism distinguished by superior sensitivity to the downtrodden and dispossessed. In fact, they encourage an orgy of self-flagellating liberal guilt as impotent as it is insatiable. The "sensitivity" of the multiculturalist is an index not of moral refinement but of moral vacuousness. As the French essayist Pascal Bruckner observed, "An overblown conscience is an empty conscience."...

...Multiculturalism is a moral intoxicant; its thrill centers around the emotion of superior virtue; its hangover subsists on a diet of ignorance and blighted "good intentions." Wherever the imperatives of multiculturalism have touched the curriculum, they have left broad swaths of anti-Western attitudinizing competing for attention with quite astonishing historical blindness...

More: <http://www.newcriterion.com/articles.cfm/Speaking-of-multiculturalism-----6412>

The pleasures of Hitch

Left or right, a quality scribe.

by Christopher Caldwell, 16 Nov 2010

There is an odd thing about Christopher Hitchens. Having entered journalism as a Trotskyist in 1970s Britain (which he memorably described as "Weimar without the sex"), he has spent the last decade as a leading advocate of bombing Afghanistan "back out of the Stone Age." Yet this ideological change has had little effect on the pleasures of reading him....

Continue: http://www.nypost.com/p/news/opinion/opedcolumnists/the_pleasures_of_hitch_c2HliTFWxqhG32jhNgGgJ

Stimulus: still not working!

Unbelievably, the administration and its allies keep insisting that a failed policy was a success.

by Veronique de Rugy, 16 Nov 2010 (December issue)

...Stimulus spending is like morphine. It might feel good in the short term for the beneficiaries of the money, but it doesn't help repair the economy. And it causes more damage if it gets in the way of a proper recovery...

...The stimulus isn't working because it is based on faulty economics. Using historical spending data, the Harvard economist Robert Barro and recent Harvard graduate Charles Redlick have shown that in the best case scenario, a dollar of government spending produces much less than a dollar in economic growth—between 40 and 70 cents. They also found that if the government spends \$1 and raises taxes to pay for it, the economy will shrink by \$1.10. In other words, greater spending financed by tax increases hurts the economy. Even if the tax is applied in the future, taxpayers today adjust their consumption and business owners refrain from hiring based on the expectation of future tax increases, which worsen the economy today.

There are other reasons the stimulus bill has hurt rather than helped the economy. Four of every five jobs reported "created or saved" are government jobs. That's far from the 90 percent private sector jobs the administration promised. Also, the Department of Education claims it has "created or saved" at least seven jobs for every job "created or saved" by any other agency. In other words, federal stimulus funds have been used to keep teachers on state payrolls. By subsidizing public sector employment, the federal government is getting in the way of addressing the issue of overspending in the states.

These injections of cash may provide a short-term boost, but they don't increase economic growth permanently. When the money goes away, the jobs go away too, and so will the artificial GDP growth...

More: <http://reason.com/archives/2010/11/16/stimulus-still-not-working>

Congresses Compared

by Ramesh Ponnuru, 16 Nov 2010 (29 Nov issue)

Next year in Washington is not going to be a replay of 1995. The analogy is on everyone's mind in the capital. Many Republicans worry that President Obama will win the public-relations war against Speaker-to-be John Boehner as handily as Bill Clinton bested Newt Gingrich. They should relax...

Eleven reasons why, in detail: <http://www.nationalreview.com/articles/print/253319>

Obama's Farcical Deficit Commission

by Thomas Sowell, 16 Nov 2010

Another deficit reduction commission has now made its recommendations. My own recommendation for dealing with deficits would include stopping the appointment of deficit reduction commissions. It is not the amount of money that these commissions cost that is the issue. It is the escape hatch that they provide for big-spending politicians. Do you go ahead and spend the rent money and the food money— and then ask somebody else to tell you how to escape the consequences?...

Continue: <http://frontpagemag.com/2010/11/16/obamas-farcical-deficit-commission/>

Just say no to Nancy Reagan

by Hugh Hewitt, 14 Nov 2010

With all due respect to Nancy Reagan, her proposal that the first Republican debate of the 2012 season be held at the Reagan Library in the spring of 2011 is worse than a nonstarter. The country needs to focus on the hugely important congressional debates this spring, not on made-for-MSM, liberal-dominated GOP wrestling matches.

The idea is itself an insult to conservative activists and new media. A quick rejection by GOP candidates of the presumptuous declaration of inevitability by Politico.com and NBC that they would be in charge would go a long way toward recognizing that these outlets, like most of the Beltway-Manhattan media elite, went in the tank for President Obama in 2008 and won't be allowed to dictate the terms of the 2012 presidential race...

...Both outlets are significantly biased to the left, and not just to the president, but to the whole Beltway culture which is inherently big-government oriented and dominated by the conventional big-government wisdom about every debate. Very few Beltway media voices retain any connection to the conservative grass roots or the GOP's base, and those that do don't work at Politico or NBC.

In fact, those journalists never appear at these debates, which are instead given over to lefties like the affable Anderson Cooper, the professional but still MSM-driven Wolf Blitzer, the amiable Brian Williams or the talented-but-still-Beltway-driven John Harris or Jim Lehrer. Can we be honest? They are all liberals. All of them. Not one of the questioners that could or would be proposed by Politico or NBC would be remotely in touch with the cares, concerns, and passions of the GOP's primary electorate. The process of choosing a GOP nominee should not be mediated by the left-wing media—again...

More: <http://www.washingtonexaminer.com/opinion/columns/Just-say-no-to-Nancy-Reagan-1564688-108009569.html>

Why Japan fell... and what it teaches us

by Robert Samuelson, 15 Nov 2010

It's hard to remember now that in the 1980s Japan had the world's most-admired economy. It would, people widely believed, achieve the highest living standards and pioneer the niftiest technologies. Nowadays, all we hear are warnings not to repeat Japan's mistakes that resulted in a "lost decade" of economic growth. Japan's cardinal sins, we're told, were skimping on economic "stimulus" and permitting paralyzing "deflation" (falling prices). People postponed buying, because they expected prices to go lower. That's the conventional wisdom—and it's wrong.

Just the opposite is true: Japan's economic eclipse shows the limited power of economic stimulus and the exaggerated threat of modest deflation. There is no substitute for vigorous private-sector job creation and investment, and that's been missing in Japan. This is a lesson we should heed.

Japan's economic problems, like ours, originated in huge asset "bubbles."...

...Japan's economy is trapped: a high yen penalizes exports; low births and sclerotic firms hurt domestic growth. The lesson for us is that massive budget deficits and cheap credit are at best necessary stopgaps. They're narcotics whose effects soon fade. They can't correct underlying economic deficiencies. It's time to move on from the debate over "stimulus."

Economic success ultimately depends on private firms. The American economy is more resilient and flexible than Japan's. But that's a low standard. Neither the White House nor Congress seems to understand that growing regulatory burdens and policy uncertainties undermine business confidence and the willingness to expand...

Read the rest: <http://www.newsweek.com/2010/11/13/samuelson-why-japan-fell-and-what-it-teaches-us.html>

China's Achilles Heel

by Steve McCann, 14 Nov 2010

...It was a basic tenet of Western belief that economic growth and quasi-capitalism in China would bring about political liberalization. However, this has not happened to date, as the Chinese middle class has been co-opted into the current system. They have little desire to see hundreds of millions of poor urban and rural citizens getting the vote to press for their piece of the economic pie.

However, as the market forces have been unleashed, administrative decision-making and the size of the state have skewed the economy. Capital and resources are inefficiently allocated. Manufactured goods and food are traded in the market, but land, labor, and capital markets are controlled. Thus, wealth disparities grow amid rising discontent at the fortunes made by those with the right connections...

...The United States should not look at China with fear and apprehension. While they may currently hold the upper hand in financing the U.S. debt, that issue can be mitigated by eliminating the massive deficits being run up and by growing the economy. The American worker is still the most productive in the world and can compete with the Chinese

if U.S. government policy toward manufacturing, energy, and business development takes a 180-degree turn from the present course...

More: http://www.americanthinker.com/2010/11/chinas_achilles_heel.html

Just Stay Home

by *Jed Babbin*, 15 Nov 2010

...There are two ideas which dominate US airline security, and both are false. The first is that every air traveler—be it a four-year-old girl or a 24-year-old Yemeni man—is an equal risk. The second is that it more important to keep dangerous objects off the plane than to keep a dangerous person on the ground. And plans based on these assumptions are metastasizing into a burden on air travel that will damage our economy severely...

...And then there is the liberals' biggest bugaboo, profiling. Yes, it's high time we adopted the methods of profiling that have kept the Israeli airline El Al free of terrorist attacks for more than three decades. Every passenger should be screened behaviorally and—let's say it loudly and clearly—special attention needs to be paid to every Muslim male between the ages of 17 and 45.

Would that be discriminatory? Of course. But discrimination is legal unless it is—as the courts have said for many years—invidious. In the 1984 case of *McLaughlin v. Florida*, the Supreme Court said that invidious discrimination is a classification which is arbitrary, irrational, and not reasonably related to a legitimate purpose.

The facts of Islamic terrorism demonstrate that additional screening for Muslim men in that age group is supported objectively and rationally and is related to the legitimate purpose of preventing terrorist attacks. It may be discrimination, but it is both legal and necessary. And it should be done, comprehensively, throughout our air travel system...

More: <http://spectator.org/archives/2010/11/15/just-stay-home>

The Socialism-Capitalism Science Experiment

by *Andrew Thomas*, 14 Nov 2010

...We have drifted way off course in this country. Socialism is becoming revered and capitalism reviled by many Americans, primarily due to the pervasiveness of leftist propaganda and the lack of historical perspective. How do we reverse this course and "take our country back"?

Despite the absence of accurate twentieth-century historical education, there are some ways the stark differences between the two economic philosophies can be presented...at least to those who have not been completely blinded to fact-based evidence. A perfect example of this is to present the evolution of the once-unified country of Korea as if it were a science experiment.

Imagine taking a country comprising a homogenous race of people who share the same culture and history and dividing it in half. On one half, the capitalist experiment is conducted. Free markets are created, and a democratic form of government is put in place. It is called "The Republic." On the other half, socialism is the economic system of choice, and a communist government is installed. It is known as "The Democratic People's Republic." (I believe this name was developed by the same folks who titled ObamaCare the "Patient Protection and Affordability Act.")

We take these two giant Petri dishes and allow them to incubate for sixty-five years. Upon observation, what do we find?...

Read it all: http://www.americanthinker.com/2010/11/the_socialismcapitalism_scienc.html

Google Street View: A Systematic Invasion of Privacy

by *Alex Deane*, 13 Nov 2010

...It is easy in the fight to protect privacy to believe that the threat comes solely from the state. But the private sector is just as capable of intruding into our private lives as government. The disgraceful behavior of Google with their Street View program has demonstrated that in no uncertain terms. As most people know by now, the cars which created the images also captured data from members of the public who happened to be using wi-fi as they passed by. They collected over 600 gigabytes of such data in the UK alone.

Despite this, Britain's Metropolitan Police have ended their investigation into Google — a problem with the law as currently written, perhaps, so one should be pleased that lawmakers are debating the subject. The U.S.'s Federal Trade Commission (FTC) announcement that their "investigation" into Google was closed following "assurances" by the

company should raise similar concerns and debates across the Atlantic.

Arguing that people somehow "deserved it" or have no right to complain because the data wasn't encrypted is fatuous. We don't encrypt our mail or our telephone calls, but they come with a legitimate expectation of privacy; our internet usage and e-mail is just the same...

More: <http://pajamasmedia.com/blog/google-street-view-a-systematic-invasion-of-privacy/?singlepage=true>

The Decider returns to haunt Mr Nuance as George W. Bush eclipses Barack Obama

The 43rd and 44th American presidents are a study in contrasts, but the link between them is symbiotic. There could have been no Obama without Bush, and only Obama's stumbles could have made Bush look good again so quickly.

by Toby Harnden, 15 Nov 2010

<http://www.telegraph.co.uk/news/worldnews/northamerica/usa/us-politics/8131268/The-Decider-returns-to-haunt-Mr-Nuance-as-George-W.-Bush-eclipses-Barack-Obama.html>

These idiot bishops are willfully ignorant of the plight of Israel, and the multifarious evil of militant, retrograde, intolerant Islam. They are a disgrace to the Roman Catholic Church, an institution which (in times long past) fought for centuries against this evil.

Update on the Synod of Bishops

by Eileen F. Toplansky, 14 Nov 2010

http://www.americanthinker.com/2010/11/update_on_the_synod_of_bishops.html

Deficit Commission: Tinkering Around the Edges

The deficit commission's work doesn't exhibit the kind of out-of-the-box thinking needed to get us out of the hole we're in. It does meet the definition of insanity.

by Michael Swartz, 13 Nov 2010

<http://pajamasmedia.com/blog/deficit-commission-tinkering-around-the-edges/?singlepage=true>

The hysterics (Michael Mann, *Nature*, the University of Virginia, *Science*, the *Washington Post*, the National Academy of Sciences) are fighting tooth and nail against Virginia Attorney General Kenneth Cuccinelli.

The Global Warming Court Battle

In Virginia, a court battle is underway to release data that could reveal the truth of the Climategate scandal.

by S. Fred Singer, 14 Nov 2010

http://www.americanthinker.com/2010/11/the_global_warming_court_battl.html



November 14, 2010 is the 102nd birthday of a great American.

Whom Do You Trust?

by Don John

http://www.standingonthedeck.com/uploads/Whom_Do_You_Trust.pdf

Will liberals ever figure it out about unintended consequences?

Is humanitarian aid bad for Africa?

by Margaret Wentz, 13 Nov 2010

<http://www.theglobeandmail.com/news/opinions/opinion/is-humanitarian-aid-bad-for-africa/article1797413/>

Free Speech in Europe

by Pat Condell, 10 Nov 2010

...The genie is out of the bottle in Europe, and no multicultural diversity fascist is going to put it back. Already, thousands of people are speaking out and making their voices heard in opposition to the relentless Islamization of our society, and soon it's going to be millions.

People who've had enough of political correctness, of being told what they're allowed to think and say, of being told to respect a religion that respects absolutely nobody. And they're finding out as they do speak out that they're not alone, and that they're not in fact fascists and hatemongers and racists at all, despite what they're told time and again by a cowardly crooked press.

And, like many of those people, I oppose Islam for the simple reason that Islam opposes me and everything I believe in. I don't care how Muslims feel about that. I don't care how anyone feels about it, nor should I be required to. In my opinion, Islam's disgusting treatment of women is a crime against humanity, nothing less. It's a thousand percent wrong. There's no grey area. It's unconscionable and unforgivable, and it's poisoning the whole world.

It's not "different" or "relative"; it's backward and uncivilized. There's no excuse for it, and no excuse for defending it. This is what I believe very strongly indeed. And you may disagree, and you have a right to do so, just as I have a right to say so, and I do insist upon the right to say so as openly, as often, and as loudly as I like, and anyone who chooses to be offended can go ahead and drop dead for all I care, with all due respect, especially over there in the Islamic Republic of Austria...

Read it all: <http://gatesofvienna.blogspot.com/2010/11/left-is-very-much-new-far-right.html>

Watch it all: <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=bWw7H4m389o>

Richard Warman turns against the Jews

by Ezra Levant, 11 Nov 2010

...But now Warman has attacked another friend of the Jews, Arnie Lemaire. You may know Arnie better as the blogger Blazing Catfur—who also happens to be Kathy Shaidle's husband. Like Kathy, Arnie has participated in a pro-Israel mission. But that's the least of it. It's rare that a single day goes by when Arnie isn't doing dramatic, primary research about radical Islam in Canada—the kind of investigative journalism that the mainstream media should be doing, but doesn't. In fact, many of Arnie's scoops soon become front page stories, when MSM journalists take his work and run with it. Just to name the most recent example, it was Arnie who blew the whistle on Zijad Delic, the radical imam of the anti-Semitic Canadian Islamic Congress, who had been invited by the Department of Defence to give a talk to the government. After Arnie's expose leapt from his blog onto TV, Peter MacKay himself cancelled the event.

That's Arnie. **So it shouldn't surprise you that Richard Warman is now suing Arnie for \$500,000.** Amongst Arnie's crimes? Linking to the website of Mark Steyn. Seriously. (I should note that Warman hasn't sued Steyn—he's too afraid to do so. Warman's specialty is suing penniless bloggers or pushover media outlets happy to pay a nuisance settlement. Neither describes Mark Steyn and Maclean's.)

So I am writing this blog entry for two reasons. The first is to ask you, my dear readers who have been so helpful to me throughout my own battles against censorship, to chip in to help Arnie fend off Warman's predatory lawsuit. **Would you please visit his website, and click on his PayPal button?** You wouldn't just be helping Arnie. You'd be helping me, too, and everyone else being victimized by Warman. Because we must all stand united against that bullying censor...

More: <http://ezrlevant.com/2010/11/richard-warman-goes-after-yet.html>

ObamaCare hits the most vulnerable

by Mona Charen, 12 Nov 2010

Everyone agrees that the burden of dealing with escalating health care costs should not fall on the most vulnerable, right? Democrats in particular are always at pains to convince us that they are sensitive to the needs of the less fortunate. Yet among the many new taxes Obamacare will impose is one that hits wounded veterans and sick children especially hard—the 2.3 percent annual tax on medical device manufacturers set to begin in 2013.

All of those fantastic prosthetic limbs, powered wheelchairs, stents, pacemakers, artificial hips, and other miraculous technologies that improve the lives of maimed soldiers will now be more expensive...

More: <http://www.jewishworldreview.com/cols/charen111210.php3>

Stop the Obama tax hikes

by Peter Ferrara, 10 Nov 2010

...Stopping the Obama tax hikes would just be a down payment on restoring prosperity. Indeed, we must stop all the myriad of tax increases the Obamaniacs have already scheduled under current law. That would involve not only permanently extending all of the Bush tax cuts, which would eliminate the death tax as well as continuing the lower Bush income tax rates for everyone, and stopping the return of the marriage penalty. It would also involve eliminating the Alternative Minimum Tax (AMT), which was adopted at the end of the Johnson Administration to ensure that the very wealthiest could not avoid paying any income tax. Over the years, of course, that tax has come to apply to more and more of the middle class, which Congress has been preventing only by adopting stop gap patches every year delaying application of the tax. It would only be abiding by Obama's Campaign 2008 pledge not to raise taxes on anyone earning less than \$250,000 per year to eliminate the AMT permanently.

Stopping the tax hikes would also mean repealing the tax increases in Obamacare. That includes the 60% increase in the Medicare HI payroll tax for upper income earners, and the application of that tax to capital gains and other investment income, which adds up to taxing capital income 5 or 6 times. (Liberals need to learn that you can't have capitalism without capital before we ever trust them with the keys to drive the economy again.) It would also involve ditching as well both the employer and individual mandates, which are also effective taxes...

Many more good ideas: <http://spectator.org/archives/2010/11/10/stop-the-obama-tax-hikes>

Dems extol facts and science but act on ideology

by Byron York, 11 Nov 2010

President Obama recently fretted that our politics has become so rough-and-tumble that "facts and science and argument do not seem to be winning the day all the time." Speaking at a Democratic fundraiser just before the election, the president worried that Americans were so rattled by economic anxieties that they might lose their heads and choose Republicans over Democrats—a fear that became a reality on Nov. 2.

But his larger point was that Democrats are guided by facts and science and argument while Republicans act on ideological or even irrational motives. As liberals and Democrats are fond of saying, they are part of the "reality-based community." Except when they're not...

More: <http://www.washingtonexaminer.com/politics/Dems-extol-facts-and-science-but-act-on-ideology-1531308-107331613.html>

Maddow spurs leftist skulduggery

Don John, 12 Nov 2010

Joyce Kaufman is a conservative radio talker on WFTL AM 850, Pompano Beach FL. On 9 Nov 2010, MSNBC's Rachel Maddow played a clip from a July 2010 Tea Party rally where Kaufman said "If ballots don't work, bullets will." Within hours, WFTL received an email that stated, in part: "I'm planning something big around the government building here in Broward County, maybe a post office, maybe even a school." The station also received a phone call from a woman who said her husband might go to a school and open fire with a gun. This led to a one-day county-wide lockdown of Broward schools, libraries and other government buildings, and caused Ms. Kaufman to decline the offer of a job as chief of staff to newly-elected Rep. Allen West (FL-22).

The fact that Kaufman's overheated rhetoric only moved some lunatics to action after West had won the election, and just after Maddow aired the clip, makes the threats look like leftist dirty tricks.

Source, including some very good Comments:

"Radio host resigns from Congress job after lockdown" <http://www.wsvn.com/news/articles/local/21002720791522/>

Out of the Wilderness

by R. Emmett Tyrrell Jr., 9 Nov 2010

Well, I guess our Wilderness Years are over. They were very brief. I never even felt a chill. Conservatism's undertakers had hardly finished their tales of Conservative Crack-Up and Conservative Demise when we were on the comeback trail. I think it began January 20, 2009. Soon we were firing up our Hummers and heading home. I had hoped my years in the Wilderness would last a bit longer. Out there with the chiggers and the poison ivy, I had hoped to find the pulchritudinous Sarah Palin. I understand that she has a terrific recipe for sautéed elk. Or perhaps I could catch a member of the World Wildlife Federation torturing butterflies.

But now we have returned to civilization, and I do not know what to do with all that stuff I bought from the L.L. Bean catalogue back in that dratted year '08. Maybe I can give the stuff to Sam Tanenhaus, the goofball editor of the *New York Times Book Review*. If there be justice in this world, Tanenhaus will be consigned to the Wilderness for the rest of his life after writing that exceptionally imbecilic *The Death of Conservatism*, first in the *New Republic*, which is understandable. Everything in the *New Republic*, at least on politics, is imbecilic. Then, as a book. That was a little over a year ago. A little over a year ago! The Death of Conservatism! If I ever write such a stupendously stupid book, burn it!

Tanenhaus's theme was anticipated shortly after the '08 elections by David Frump and David Brooks. They are conservatism's Branch Davidians, who occasionally attempt suicide in the newspapers, only to be saved from oblivion by Liberals who find their columns somehow wonderful...

Continue: <http://spectator.org/archives/2010/11/12/out-of-the-wilderness>

Still Counting

Up-to-date information on recounts in U.S. House of Representatives districts TX-27, NY-1, NY-25, NC-2, CA-11, CA-20, IL-8, and KY-6.

<http://www.nrcc.org/action/Still-Counting/>

Stealth Protectionism

by *Alvaro Vargas Llosa*, 10 Nov 2010

We have heard every major world leader reject the notion that protectionism would be an appropriate response to the financial and economic debacle of 2007-08. And yet the signs are unmistakable: We are entering a protectionist era that does not speak its name... The United States is doing what every protectionist government does—trying to make its economy competitive by devaluing the currency, a perverse mechanism for making what comes in artificially expensive and what goes out artificially cheap...

...The Federal Reserve has been trying to get people to consume and businesses to invest by creating money out of thin air—its assets and liabilities have almost tripled since 2007. And so far the desired effect has not taken place. Convinced that no action on his part would lead to pernicious deflation and a prolonged depression, Fed Chairman Ben Bernanke has decided to double down. The government is fully behind this policy, as Treasury Secretary Tim Geithner and President Obama have made very clear.

The policy has not worked because the excess of debt and the unrealistic investments of the bubble years have not yet been purged from the system. It takes time and sacrifice. Deflation has little to do with this natural cleansing process. In fact, deflation is generally a good thing. The more productive an economy is, the less things cost. This is how everything from cars to computers eventually came to be affordable. Historically, productivity grew more than the money supply in the United States, so for very long periods the country experienced economic growth and declining prices.

Now, the fear of deflation is pushing the U.S. to do what Japan uselessly tried to do for the last two decades—spend and print its way out of a slow-growth environment. The authorities think that devaluing the currency will help the economy become competitive and create jobs, forgetting that a debased currency hurts more people than it helps. The result will inevitably be high inflation. That was the history of many Latin American countries in large chunks of the 20th century. I was there. It is not pretty...

More: <http://www.independent.org/prINTER.asp?page=%2Fnewsroom%2Farticle.asp?id=2915>

The Politics of Budget-Cutting

Six things that stand in our way.

by *Victor Davis Hanson*, 11 Nov 2010

...Fourth, politicians promise the easy cutting of generic "waste and fraud," "foreign aid" or "unnecessary wars." The problem, however, is that waste, wars, and aid this year probably account for less than 5 percent of the federal budget. In contrast, more than 60 percent of yearly spending is devoted to Social Security, Medicare and Medicaid, and Defense apart from war expenditures. Budgetary discipline is impossible without a no-holds-barred discussion of demography, increased longevity, and the national-security perils of unsustainable national debt.

Fifth, self-interest governs the entire debate. Roughly half the public pays no income tax. And roughly half of America either receives all of its income or a large part of it from the federal government. Beneficiaries vote for higher taxes on others and still more benefits for themselves. Benefactors obviously prefer fewer payouts for others and lower taxes on themselves.

Yet political affiliation is not always a clear guide. Despite public rhetoric, many conservatives will privately object to the cutting of any federal benefits they receive, while high-earning liberals might quietly resent having to pay increased taxes to be spent on others...

Read the rest: <http://www.nationalreview.com/articles/print/253014>

The bashing of American exceptionalism

Leftists mocking those who believe in the greatness of the U.S. is nothing new. But their bizarre insistence that it's an artifact of right-wing jingoism and xenophobia certainly isn't helping Obama.

by *Jonah Goldberg*, 9 Nov 2010

<http://www.latimes.com/news/opinion/commentary/la-oe-goldberg-exceptionalism-20101109,0,263343.column>

The 2010 Midterm Election in Perspective

by Peter Wehner, 10 Nov 2010

...Politico called the midterm elections a "bloodbath of a night for Democrats." *National Journal's* Ron Brownstein wrote, "If the U.S. genuinely used a parliamentary system, Tuesday's result ... would have represented a vote of no confidence in the president and the governing party." And the *Washington Examiner's* Michael Barone says that "you could argue that this is the best Republican showing ever." Apart from all that, it was a splendid midterm election for President Obama and his party.

Gloatable facts and figures: <http://www.commentarymagazine.com/blogs/index.php/wehner/380851>

Take time to give thanks to those who give all

A Veteran's Day tribute to our troops past and present.

by Lt. Col. Oliver North

Watch: <http://www.nragive.com/ringoffreedom/index.html>

Thatcher and more

Including Turkey, Sarah Palin, and Islamic culture.

Claire Berlinski and Peter Robinson, 3 Sept 2010

Watch (39:11): <http://www.hoover.org/multimedia/uncommon-knowledge/50051>

Why Margaret Thatcher Matters

Marcia Sielaff reviews Claire Berlinski's *Why Margaret Thatcher Matters*, "There is No Alternative"

6 Nov 2010

For delightful reading, few biographers or historians can match this book. *Why Margaret Thatcher Matters* is equal parts of each genre, but difficult to classify as either...

...Claire Berlinski's prose sparkles with wit, insight, and charm. There is little doubt that those attributes helped to lubricate the many interviews she conducted with Thatcher's friends and enemies, and with those affected by her policies. Berlinski is clearly enthralled by her subject, but she is not blind to Thatcher's failings. The "Iron Lady," as the Soviets dubbed Thatcher, is human and fallible. The author's declared purpose is to bring forth "an extraordinary personality and towering historical figure—a woman whose influence extends far beyond Great Britain and far beyond her moment of power." That Berlinski does, admirably.

It is, first of all, a cautionary tale. Thatcher became Prime Minister in 1979 when Great Britain was known as the Sick Man of Europe, riven by labor unrest, its industries strangled by shortages, its products defective and its exports shrinking...

Read it all: http://www.americanthinker.com/2010/11/why_margaret_thatcher_matters.html

How liberals argue

by Y2KCIA, 22 Oct 2010

This scene is a microcosm of how liberals seek to silence the opposition by censorship and leveling personal attacks while avoiding the issues at hand. It further elucidates their ignorance of the issues, their bad habits of changing the subject during the debate, and their wild self-constructed fantasies of the world at large. Liberalism is a mental disorder.

Watch: <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=uGwtG8nVpUU>

Kevin Rubs It In

by Maureen (but mostly her conservative brother Kevin) Dowd, 9 Nov 2010

...No one should be surprised by this. The president is a devoted disciple of the teachings of Saul Alinsky and a true believer in a redistribution of wealth controlled by big government. We can see how well that is working in Greece,

Portugal, Spain and France. Instead of focusing on jobs and turning the private sector loose to provide them, he insisted on giving the American people things they did not want: expensive health care, more regulation and higher taxes. He clumsily interjected himself on behalf of the mass-murdering Muslim Army major, the ground zero mosque, the civil trials of enemy combatants and the lawsuit against Arizona. His theme song could have been "Who are you going to believe, me or your lying eyes?"...

Read the rest: http://www.nytimes.com/2010/11/10/opinion/10dowd.html?_r=3&ref=opinion

The 2010 election was a call to cut public pensions

Voter anger at generous (and unfunded) retirement benefits for government workers resulted in successful ballot initiatives and the election of governors promising change.

Christian Science Monitor editorial, 8 Nov 2010

...Moving to "defined contribution" plans like 401(k)s will help public pension plans recoup the massive losses from the 2008 financial collapse on Wall Street. Too many states were too generous in retirement benefits, believing their investments on behalf of workers would bring 8 percent returns for decades. Two states, Alaska and Michigan, have already adopted 401(k)-style systems, and others are sure to follow.

A question remains over whether reforms will need to cut the pensions of current public workers. If unemployment persists and the stock market doesn't do better, more governments will need big cuts. But the powerful American Federation of State, County, and Municipal Employees is ready to go to court if any government breaks an agreement on benefits.

The usual partisan politics, however, tend to fail in the face of the need for reform. "This is not a conservative-versus-liberal issue; this is a reality issue," says Dan Liljenquist, a state senator in Utah who champions such reform...

More: <http://www.csmonitor.com/Commentary/the-monitors-view/2010/1108/The-2010-election-was-a-call-to-cut-public-pensions>

Without a Teleprompter

Don John, 9 Nov 2010

The other day, Andrew Ferguson wrote "[What's So Great About America](#)," a nice column about Senator-elect Marco Rubio (R-FL). It opened with praise for his campaign speeches, a version of which he delivered in victory last Tuesday night. But let's not forget some of his marvelous oratory from the not-too-distant past: the **Farewell speech to the Florida House of Representatives** (Dec.2008) and the **Keynote Speech at CPAC** (Feb. 2010; transcript [here](#)).

If you hate getting choked up, then *don't* watch the first one. The link to the latter has been repaired, in our little compendium of [political videos](#).

Mandate Challenge Could Prevail

by Ilya Somin, 7 Nov 2010

When 21 states and several private groups initiated lawsuits challenging the constitutionality of the Obama health care law earlier this year, critics denounced the suits as frivolous political grandstanding. But it is increasingly clear that the plaintiffs have a serious case with a real chance of victory...

...The government's Commerce Clause argument is equally dubious. The Clause gives Congress authority to regulate "Commerce...among the several states." But the individual mandate regulates that which is neither commercial nor interstate.

Virtually all purchases of health insurance are **intrastate** because a combination of state and federal law makes it illegal to purchase health insurance across state lines. Moreover, the object of the mandate isn't even commerce at all. Instead of regulating pre-existing commerce, the bill forces people to engage in commercial transactions they would have otherwise avoided.

A series of flawed Supreme Court decisions have expanded Congress' Commerce Clause authority well beyond what the text of the Constitution permits. These rulings allow the federal government to regulate almost any "economic activity." But, as Judge Vinson emphasized, even they do not give Congress the power to regulate people "based solely on citizenship and on being alive." Far from engaging in "economic activity," people who decide not to purchase health insurance are actually refraining from doing so.

In his decision in the Michigan case, Judge Steeh argued that the mandate is constitutional under the Commerce

Clause because deciding not to purchase health insurance is an "economic decision."... This approach would allow the Commerce Clause to cover virtually any choice of any kind. Any decision to do anything is necessarily a decision not to use the same time and effort to engage in "economic activity." If I choose to spend an hour sleeping, I necessarily choose not to spend that time working or buying products. Under Judge Steeh's logic, the Commerce Clause authorizes Congress to force workers to get up earlier in the morning so that they would spend more time on the job...

Read it all: <http://www2.timesdispatch.com/news/rtd-opinion/2010/nov/07/ed-somi07-ar-634809/>

Palin's Dollar, Zoellick's Gold

An unlikely pair elevate the monetary policy debate.

Wall Street Journal editorial, 9 Nov 2010

...The former Alaskan Governor showed sound political and economic instincts by inveighing forcefully against the Federal Reserve's latest round of quantitative easing. According to the prepared text of remarks that she released to National Review online, Mrs. Palin also exhibited a more sophisticated knowledge of monetary policy than any major Republican this side of Wisconsin Representative Paul Ryan.

Sarah Palin says she's deeply concerned about the Federal Reserve's plan to buy \$600 billion of U.S. bonds to boost the economy. Alan Murray, Jerry Seib and Jon Hilsenrath discuss why the Federal Reserve has been drawn into the political fray.

Stressing the risks of Fed "pump priming," Mrs. Palin zeroed in on the connection between a "weak dollar—a direct result of the Fed's decision to dump more dollars onto the market"—and rising oil and food prices. She also noted the rising world alarm about the Fed's actions, which by now includes blunt comments by Germany, Brazil, China and most of Asia, among many others.

"We don't want temporary, artificial economic growth brought at the expense of permanently higher inflation which will erode the value of our incomes and our savings," the former GOP Vice Presidential nominee said. "We want a stable dollar combined with real economic reform. It's the only way we can get our economy back on the right track."...

More: http://online.wsj.com/article/SB10001424052748703514904575602231815453378.html?mod=WSJ_newsreel_opinion

What the Green movement got wrong: Greens come to see the error of their ways

For many years, Channel 4 would not have dared devote an hour to the errors of environmentalism.

by Charles Moore, 8 Nov 2010

<http://www.telegraph.co.uk/comment/columnists/charlesmoore/8116595/What-the-Green-Movement-Got-Wrong-Greens-come-to-see-the-error-of-their-ways.html>

The George Bush I Know

by Mark McKinnon, 9 Nov 2010

...I'm glad President Bush has published *Decision Points*—not so much because I think it will help rehabilitate his image or improve his place in history, though I think it will help on those counts. I'm glad because I believe readers will get a sense of the George W. Bush who I've known for 15 years—a man who is very different than the distorted public image many have come to accept as accurate. Contrary to conventional wisdom, President Bush is very smart, quietly reflective, often contrite, and deeply humble. He is also a strong leader who, while relying on the strong counsel of many around him, makes his own decisions. He was secure enough to hire a vice president like Dick Cheney, and strong enough that it was never in doubt who was the boss...

More: <http://www.thedailybeast.com/blogs-and-stories/2010-11-08/george-bushs-decision-points-mark-mckinnon-on-the-former-presidents-book/?cid=hp:mainpromo8>

A delineation of Obama's shocking economic ignorance, and delicious critiques of the egregious Thomas Ricks, LTC Robert Bateman, and Andrew Sullivan.

Stay Worried

by Victor Davis Hanson, 6 Nov 2010

...No, my worries run deeper. Apparently, the president is unaware that after some 2,500 years of both experience with and abstract thought about Western national economies, we know that a free, private sector increases the general wealth of a nation, while a statist redistributive state results in a general impoverishment of the population. At the root of that truth is simple human nature — that people wish to further their own interest more fervently than the more abstract public good (e.g., why the renter does not wash the rental car, or why the public restroom is treated differently from its counterpart at home), and can be encouraged to invent, create, and discover which in turn helps the less fortunate, lucky, healthy, or talented.

We all accept, of course, that the question is not one of a laissez-faire, unchecked robber baron arena, versus a Marxist-Leninist closed economy, but rather in a modern Western liberal state the finer line between a Greece and a Switzerland, or a California and a Texas...

Read it all: <http://pajamasmedia.com/victordavishanson/stay-worried/?singlepage=true>

Republicans may yet have upper hand in Senate

by *Gerald F. Seib*, 9 Nov 2010

On paper, the numbers tell you the Democrats held on to a majority in the Senate last week. In reality, things won't be quite that neat. In fact, on some issues the Republicans actually may have a functional majority, given the sentiments likely to prevail among certain Democrats who face the voters in two years. Here's the situation...

More: http://online.wsj.com/article/capital_journal.html

The scandal of military voter disenfranchisement

by *Captain Samuel F. Wright, JAGC, USN (Ret.)*, 4 Nov 2010

<http://pajamasmedia.com/blog/the-scandal-of-military-voter-disenfranchisement/>

Republicans won the midterm elections. Now can they survive?

by *Frank Luntz*, 7 Nov 2010

...The tea party is not some fringe coalition hopelessly removed from the mainstream. It is not, as The Washington Post recently wrote, "a disparate band of vaguely connected gatherings that do surprisingly little to engage in the political process." The movement supplied the ideas that made independent voters flip from favoring Democrats by an 18-point margin in 2006 to supporting Republicans by 15 points Tuesday—and it will keep pressuring the government to change until the government truly changes.

As much as Democrats rightfully fret over the tea party, establishment Republicans should fear it just as much. The movement has already put Republicans on notice: Deliver or get dumped. Nearly six in 10 registered voters I surveyed the weekend before the elections agreed with the following statement: "If Republicans do win a majority in the House and Senate and fail to deliver on their promises, I would consider supporting the creation of a new third party dedicated to reducing the size and scope of Washington." (Only 17 percent disagreed.)

And when asked "which best represents your views?," about a third of registered voters, 36 percent, chose Democrats, while 25 percent chose the GOP and 22 percent opted for the tea party. Together, Republicans and the tea party movement represent 47 percent of America to the Democrats' 36 percent. That's a recipe for massive electoral success in 2012 if they stay united, but unprecedented failure if they pull apart.

This is the whole story of American politics today. When conservatives are divided or dispirited, Democrats win. But united, conservatives control the political landscape...

...The last time Republicans gained control of the House, in 1994, they achieved more in the first 100 days than some Congresses have in two years. From welfare reform to tax cuts to a balanced budget amendment, they passed every one of their 10 "Contract With America" items. Some of this agenda stalled in the Senate, and much of it was vetoed by President Bill Clinton, but they held on to their majority for a dozen years because of those first 100 days. They worked with the president when they could, opposed him when they couldn't—and the American people were satisfied with the results...

All of it: <http://www.washingtonpost.com/wp-dyn/content/article/2010/11/05/AR2010110503054.html>

Calif. rail project is high-speed pork

by Robert Samuelson, 1 Nov 2010

Somehow, it's become fashionable to think that high-speed trains connecting major cities will help "save the planet." They won't. They're a perfect example of wasteful spending masquerading as a respectable social cause. They would further burden already overburdened governments and drain dollars from worthier programs—schools, defense, research.

Let's suppose that the Obama administration gets its wish to build high-speed rail systems in 13 urban corridors. The administration has already committed \$10.5 billion, and that's just a token down payment. California wants about \$19 billion for an 800-mile track from Anaheim to San Francisco. Constructing all 13 corridors could easily approach \$200 billion. Most (or all) of that would have to come from government at some level. What would we get for this huge investment?

Not much. Here's what we wouldn't get: any meaningful reduction in traffic congestion, greenhouse gas emissions, air travel, oil consumption or imports. Nada, zip. If you can do fourth-grade math, you can understand why...

Read on: <http://www.washingtonpost.com/wp-dyn/content/article/2010/10/31/AR2010103104260.html>

The Ashburn Jihadist signals a greater danger

by Walid Phares, 5 Nov 2010

...The FBI's indictment states that Mr. Ahmed agreed to conduct surveillance and take photographs of the Arlington Cemetery Metrorail station and a hotel in Washington for the purpose of gathering information about security and the sites' busiest periods. Mr. Ahmed allegedly also participated in surveillance, recording images of the Arlington Cemetery Metro station on July 7.

The following month, Mr. Ahmed is said to have participated in surveillance of the Courthouse, Pentagon City and Crystal City Metrorail stations just outside Washington. These descriptions of Mr. Ahmed's tasks correspond to calls by al Qaeda leaders to conduct strikes in U.S. cities and to similar actions the group and its affiliates have undertaken in many parts of the world.

"During a meeting at a hotel in Herndon, Virginia, on Sept. 28," the indictment reads, "[Ahmed] suggested that rolling suitcases be used instead of backpacks, and he said that he wanted to kill as many military personnel as possible."

The plan closely resembles past attacks, such as the train bombings of Madrid in 2004 and London in 2005. More important, the plot is consistent with the standing orders of al Qaeda and other jihadists to attack U.S. military personnel...

More: <http://www.washingtontimes.com/news/2010/nov/5/the-fbis-arrest-of-farooque-ahmed-of-ashburn-va-fo/>

The new House can, and should, vote *every month* for total repeal, even though the Democrat-controlled Senate and White House will block it. Investigative hearings can be held, to rip the happy mask from ObamaCare and increase public opposition to 80%. Partial repeal and random exemptions might help, too. But Mr. Tanner also explains how to stop the monstrosity in its tracks:

What Republicans can — and can't — do about ObamaCare

by Michael Tanner, 7 Nov 2010

...Finally, Republicans in the House now control the power of the purse. They should refuse to fund implementation of the bill. For example, the IRS says it will need to hire as many as 13,500 additional IRS agents to administer the law's unpopular individual mandate. Congress should refuse to appropriate the money to do so. All sorts of provisions could be subject to defunding. Theoretically, the House could go so far as to forbid HHS officials from spending any time working on any aspect of the law.

Cutting off funding risks having the Democrats shut down the government in an attempt to put public pressure on the Republicans to pass a budget with the health care funding that the president wants. President Clinton used this tactic successfully against the Republican Congress in 1996. But the public, as shown by this election, is in a very different mood now. And Obama is no Bill Clinton...

More: http://www.nypost.com/p/news/opinion/opedcolumnists/what_republicans_can_and_can_do_15NIOv7ddCH16iLFOHdbUK

Linguistic Lemmings

Don John, 6 Nov 2010

Have you noticed how many people, even conservatives, have stopped saying "ObamaCare"? Instead, they all use the favored liberal term "health care," which makes it sound like "apple pie." To me, the only acceptable alternative term for ObamaCare is the one favored by Dana Loesch: Health Control.

Keith Olbermann - A Memorial Tribute

by ReasonTV, 5 Nov 2010

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=yvVJTARw6aQ>

Audacity of nope brings hope

by Ron Hart, 5 Nov 2010

...On Tuesday Obama set another "historic first." He beat out limousine accidents as the No. 1 cause of death for old Democrats...

...But I am also optimistic we can turn our politicians in Washington into more of the minimal government public servants our founders wanted. We must remind these new representatives to stay on task. Somehow, all politicians start out in Washington as Jimmy Stewart did in *Mr. Smith Goes to Washington*, but then after about a year they turn into something more like Kim Jong Il...

...In America today, you have the makers: those who work, produce and pay taxes; and you have the takers: the moochers or "hitchhikers of society," as Ayn Rand so aptly dubbed them. Started by Bush but accelerated by Obama, the growth in the number of federal workers and the expansion of the welfare state has resulted in the takers of society outnumbering the makers. Voltaire warned of this.

Somehow the narrative has become that we, the makers, are greedy if we want to keep the money we earn, and politicians are somehow noble for confiscating more of other people's money to distribute it to their "taker" constituents. Most Americans have enough self-esteem to reject that concept. But to somehow make the takers in society seem nobler than the makers just sends us further down the wrong road: The Road to Serfdom...

More: <http://www.oregister.com/opinion/obama-274670-somehow-makers.html>

The State-Level Tsunami

by Bruce Walker, 6 Nov 2010

Was the 2010 midterm election a Republican tsunami? Although pundits waffle because a few Senate races were not won, the clearest proof of a Republican tsunami is found in state legislative elections...

...In those 6,115 state legislative elections, Republicans picked a net gain of 998 seats from Democrats. Republicans captured seats held by Democrats in a mind-boggling 16% of these races. A post-election map from **Tim Storey** at the National Conference of State Legislatures gives an eye-popping idea of the geographical spread of Republican control in state legislatures. Look at that map. Consider that there were no state legislative elections in Louisiana, Virginia, Mississippi, or New Jersey and that there was no election in the New Mexico Senate. If there had been races in those states, nearly all of America, except for the Northeast and the West Coast, would be red...

...Republicans have more seats in state legislatures than at any time since Reconstruction...How broad were Republican gains across America? Republicans increased their numbers in 73 state legislative chambers of the 87 up for election...

More key points: http://www.americanthinker.com/2010/11/the_statelevel_tsunami.html

Olbermann suspended for Dem contributions

CNN, 5 Nov 2010

Keith Olbermann, MSNBC's primetime firebrand host, has been suspended indefinitely for violating the ethics policies of his employer earlier this year when he donated to three Democrats seeking federal office, MSNBC announced Friday.

"I became aware of Keith's political contributions late last night. Mindful of NBC News policy and standards, I have suspended him indefinitely without pay," MSNBC President Phil Griffin said in a statement.

First reported by **Politico** and confirmed by Federal Election Commission filings, the primetime television host gave \$2,400 – the maximum individual amount allowed – to each of the campaigns of Kentucky Senate candidate Jack Conway, and Arizona Reps. Raul Grijalva and Gabrielle Giffords...

More: <http://politicalticker.blogs.cnn.com/2010/11/05/olbermann-donated-to-three-dems-in-apparent-violation-of-nbc-policy/>

Something's not normal

by *Judi McLeod*, 3 Nov 2010

<http://canadafreepress.com/index.php/article/29488>

(Hat tip: Tom L.)

Allen West was elected this week to the U.S. House of Representatives (FL-22). This six-minute clip from last fall reminds us that we're in a long-term, continuing battle against tyranny.

Congressional candidate LTC Allen West at the Revolution/American Freedom Tour

21 Oct 2009

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=VP2p91dvm6M>

(Hat tip: Richard D.)

We're All Bigots Now!

by *Ann Coulter*, 3 Nov 2010

...Republicans added two magnificent new black faces to the Congress with Allen West in Florida, who beat sore loser Ron Klein 54.3 percent to 45.7 percent (with 97 percent counted, Klein wouldn't concede), and Tim Scott in South Carolina, who crushed Democrat Ben Frasier, 65-29. Republicans also launched two new Hispanic stars this election: Sen.-elect Marco Rubio from Florida and the new governor of New Mexico, Susanna Martinez. And we got a bonus Sikh—Nikki Haley, the new governor of South Carolina. MSNBC is still searching for the "Republicans are racist" angle in all of this...

...Every Republican who won a tightly contested election should be sending a thank-you note to Angle and O'Donnell for taking all the fire from the mainstream media and keeping the heat off of them...

...Do you think Claire McCaskill, Jim Webb, Sherrod Brown and Jon Tester of Montana—all of whom will be facing the voters in two years—noticed that popular, long-serving Democrat Russ Feingold just lost an election in a much more liberal state than their own? Even Lindsey Graham is going to start voting with the Republicans!...

...Republicans had the ideal Connecticut candidate in Rob Simmons, who lost the primary to McMahon. He had won in liberal districts before, was a graduate of Haverford College and Harvard University, was an Army colonel who served in Vietnam and teaches at Yale. He also never kicked a man in the groin for entertainment. But Simmons didn't have McMahon's money, so Republicans went with McMahon...

Good analysis: <http://www.anncoulter.com/cgi-local/article.cgi?article=394>

What the Next Speaker Must Do

Secrecy, arrogance, and the abuse of power have shattered the bonds of trust between the people and their elected leaders. Repairing that trust requires sweeping change, beginning with an end to earmarks.

by *John Boehner*, 5 Nov 2010

<http://online.wsj.com/article/SB10001424052748703805704575594280015549088.html>

Indebted and Unrepentant

New York and California stand virtually alone against the rest of the country.

by *Fred Siegel*, 3 Nov 2010

...New York and California lead the country in middle-class—often white—outmigration. That has produced a vicious circle in which the very wealthy, the urban poor, and the public-sector unions who define the Democratic coalition create a high-taxing, heavily regulated polity that drives business and the upwardly mobile to the exits...

...The mood in much of the rest of the country was quite different. In the nation's interior, Republicans gained ten governorships and may have picked up as many as 20 state legislatures. In traditionally blue Minnesota and Wisconsin, both houses of the legislature are now in Republican control. This sets up what could be an ugly fight in which a Tea Party-inflected national Republican Party, encouraged by its strength in the interior states, forces California and New York—now heavily dependent on federal subsidies—to reduce their spending sharply. The coastal giants would no doubt respond by threatening defaults, which could affect the credit standing of the entire country, since many of the bonds are held by foreign investors. The upshot would likely be a high-stakes conflict about free trade, globalization, social class, race, illegal immigration, and public-sector unionism.

More: <http://city-journal.org/2010/eon1103fs.html>

Investigate This

by Paul Mirengoff, 4 Nov 2010

...In my opinion, the public elected a Republican Congress for the purpose of repealing Democratic legislative excesses, preventing new overreaching legislation, and bringing spending under control. It did not elect a Republican Congress to persecute the executive branch.

With this in mind, let's look at the five areas of possible investigation that Emily, per the Daily Beast, has listed. They are: the Joe Sestak deal, the new Black Panther Party, the BP spill, the "czars," and the removal of the inspector general of the Corporation for National and Community Service.

I would put the Sestak deal and the BP spill at the bottom of this list...

More: <http://www.powerlineblog.com/archives/2010/11/027626.php>

A Return to the Norm

by Charles Krauthammer, 5 Nov 2010

...The conventional wisdom is that these sweeps represent something novel, exotic and very modern—the new media, faster news cycles, Internet frenzy and a public with a short attention span and even less patience with government. Or alternatively, that these violent swings reflect reduced party loyalty and more independent voters.

Nonsense. In 1946, for example, when party loyalty was much stronger and even television was largely unknown, the Republicans gained 56 seats and then lost 75 in the very next election. Waves come. Waves go. The republic endures...

...Our two most recent swing cycles were triggered by unusually jarring historical events. The 2006 Republican "thumpin'" (to quote George W. Bush) was largely a reflection of the disillusionment and near-despair of a wearying war that appeared to be lost. And 2008 occurred just weeks after the worst financial collapse in eight decades. Similarly, the massive Republican swing of 2010 was a reaction to another rather unprecedented development—a ruling party spectacularly misjudging its mandate and taking an unwilling country through a two-year experiment in hyper-liberalism...Opposition to the policies was compounded by the breathtaking arrogance with which they were imposed...

...Tuesday was the electorate's first opportunity to render a national verdict on this manner of governance. The rejection was stunning. As a result, President Obama's agenda is dead. And not just now. No future Democratic president will try to revive it—and if he does, no Congress will follow him, in view of the carnage visited upon Democrats on Tuesday. This is not, however, a rejection of Democrats as a party. The center-left party as represented by Bill Clinton remains competitive in every cycle...

Read it all: <http://www.washingtonpost.com/wp-dyn/content/article/2010/11/04/AR2010110406581.html>

Battered Bam STILL thinks he knows best

by Michael Goodwin, 4 Nov 2010

Before President Obama started talking yesterday, the question was this: Will we now see an ideologue or a pragmatist?

An hour later, the answer was clear: Yes. He will be a pragmatist only to the extent it helps him push his ideology. If he gets a free hand again, it's off to the radical races. Any hope he is a chastened president, ready to work for the

majority of Americans instead of against them, is another illusion...

More: http://www.nypost.com/p/news/national/battered_bam_still_thinks_he_knows_zDhozwbxPB1XCuUamfvIdK

Senate GOP leader takes aim at health care law

Senate Majority Leader Mitch McConnell says lawmakers should repeatedly vote to repeal the president's health care law and cancel funding for its programs if necessary.

Associated Press, 4 Nov 2010

<http://www.foxnews.com/politics/2010/11/04/senate-gop-leader-takes-aim-health-law/>

Obama doesn't get it

by Victor Davis Hanson, 3 Nov 2010 (4:40pm)

...For most of his press conference, an oddly depressed Obama voted present, as he all but said that the problems are mostly ours, not his — or at least not his agenda but perhaps an occasional inadequate communication.

In clingers fashion, he once more is talking down to us, explaining that we confused his necessary solutions with a bogeyman increase in big government, and so typically, in fright and ignorance, lashed out at his party. He is claiming the outrage grew from the same frustration that elected him, rather than arising precisely because of him and his agenda. In short, we are angry because his EU-socialist agenda is progressing too slowly and hasn't delivered as promised — as it will in time. Perhaps then we will thank him for his proper big-government, big-spending solution...

More: <http://www.nationalreview.com/corner/252447/obama-doesn-t-get-it-victor-davis-hanson>

Four decades of tolerating the intolerable have ruined a once-great city.

The Sidewalks of San Francisco

Can the City by the Bay reclaim public space from aggressive vagrants?

by Heather Mac Donald, Autumn 2010

6,900 words: http://www.city-journal.org/2010/20_4_san-francisco-homeless.html

N.B.: *Chelsea Dagger*, by the Fratellis, has now been turned off. One full day of that level of celebration is enough. We hope to be able to play it again in November 2012.

Power to the people! *Michael Goodwin, 3 Nov 2010*

Welcome, Senate Conservatives *Sen. Jim DeMint, 3 Nov 2010*

...Tea party Republicans were elected to go to Washington and save the country—not be co-opted by the club. So put on your boxing gloves. The fight begins today.

Ten Takeaways from the Big Night *Michael Tanner, 3 Nov 2010*

Black Republicans Win First Congress Seats Since 2003 *L.A. Holmes, 3 Nov 2010*

Rep. Allen West bashes Obama in first interview "This should not be about punishing enemies or hand-to-hand combat" (video)

Republicans tear up President Obama's map *by Ben Smith & Jonathan Martin, 3 Nov 2010*

Americans say no to US decline *Nile Gardiner, 3 Nov 2010*

The Rebuke *Chicago Tribune, 3 Nov 2010*

Don John sez: Senator-elect Mark Kirk (R-IL) will take office this month, to fill the remainder of the Obama-Burris term which began in January 2005. This should help to thwart the lame-duck Democrats.

American hero Ben Quayle wins big in Arizona *Jim Hoft, 3 Nov 2010*

Historic GOP Gains in State Legislatures *John Hood, 3 Nov 2010*

Take Your Olive Branch and Shove It, Democrats *Michelle Malkin, 3 Nov 2010*



Voters foreclose on Democratic House

<http://www.washingtontimes.com/news/2010/nov/3/gop-repossesses-democrat-house/>

More election news from these reliable sources:

Fox News National Review Gateway Pundit Weekly Standard

ACORN files for bankruptcy

by Eric Shawn, 2 Nov 2010

<http://politics.blogs.foxnews.com/2010/11/02/acorn-s-troubled-past-leads-stunning-election-day-announcement>

Top 10 excuses Democrats will make for why they were destroyed in the midterm elections

by Scott Spiegel, 31 Oct 2010

<http://www.newsrealblog.com/2010/10/31/top-10-excuses-democrats-will-make-for-why-they-were-destroyed-in-the-midterm-elections/>

The Germany That Said No

The stimulus pleas of the Obama administration fell on deaf ears in Berlin.

Guess whose economy is growing faster.

by Christopher Caldwell, 1 Nov 2010 (Nov. 8 issue)

...Although he backed Gordon Brown's bank rescue plan in the immediate aftermath of the bank bailouts in 2008,

Cameron, who is as widely read in economics as any Western leader, has an analytical objection to stimulus. It is that stimulus leaks. His understanding of our predicament seems to be roughly this: Some countries have current account deficits. That is, they import a lot more than they export, and cover the difference by borrowing money abroad. The current account deficits of the United States and the United Kingdom are spectacularly, dangerously large. Those deficits are a measure of the amount of credit that used to be sloshing around the U.S. economy. They helped crash the financial system, leaving people with less money to spend, which in turn threatens further economic contraction. To avoid that contraction, the government can stimulate, and if it does, people will keep buying things. But there is a problem: Why should their buying habits differ from the ones that got us into this mess in the first place? All you do by stimulating is prop up real estate prices at ultimately unsustainable levels and keep the flow of junky toys coming from China.

This, it seems, is the light in which Sinn and Germans in positions of power in Berlin understand the U.S. bullying on stimulus. Think of the global economy as a big, glitzy barroom. The Obama administration sold the stimulus (successfully) to Congress and (unsuccessfully) to the public at large as a way of getting us more drinks. But, in a global economy, what we are doing is standing rounds for the entire establishment. U.S. policymakers have come to realize that if other patrons don't start standing rounds, too, we're going to run out of money soon. Hence the tendency to cast the nonstimulators as a bunch of ungrateful jerks. Germany is suggesting a different view: Maybe everyone ought to mind his own business and buy his own drinks...

More: http://www.weeklystandard.com/articles/germany-said-no_513319.html

Support Our Troops

They're still fighting for us.

Soldiers' Angels

Wounded Warrior Project

Fisher House: help military families

Disabled American Veterans

Our Military

Be sure to read these superb pieces:

The Descent of Liberalism *by Michael Knox Beran*

The State Despotism *by Mark Steyn*

Seen, and Not Seen *by Frédéric Bastiat (July 1850)*

100 Stimulus Projects: A Second Opinion *by Sen. Tom Coburn*

Just Make Stuff Up *by Victor Davis Hanson*

What would real health care reform look like? *by Ronald Bailey*

Health Care Mythology *by Clifford Asness*

And here's what a trillion dollars looks like.