

Europe made easy

“Why are we having a depression, Daddy?”

by *Matt Miller*, 30 Nov 2011

http://www.washingtonpost.com/opinions/europe-made-easy/2011/11/30/gIQA7bHeCO_story.html

Slice the demographics any way you want, but Obama is in trouble

by *William Galston*, 30 Nov 2011

<http://www.tnr.com/article/the-vital-center/97938/obama-demographics-2012-latinos>

'Most transparent administration in history' seals file on border agent murder

by *Thomas Lifson*, 30 Nov 2011

http://www.americanthinker.com/blog/2011/11/most_transparent_administration_in_history_seals_file_on_border_agent_murder.html

How NLRB helped unions shake down Boeing

by *Philip Klein*, 30 Nov 2011

<http://campaign2012.washingtonexaminer.com/blogs/beltway-confidential/how-nlr-helped-unions-shakedown-boeing/229236>

Does Obama know the difference between Great Britain and England?

by *Nile Gardiner*, 29 Nov 2011

<http://blog.heritage.org/2011/11/29/does-obama-know-the-difference-between-great-britain-and-england/>

Anything but govern for Bam

by *Michael Goodwin*, 30 Nov 2011

The words cut like a knife. “What the hell are we paying you for?” Gov. Chris Christie asked of President Obama. The New Jersey Republican has a gift for getting to the heart of things, and his broadside against the president over the debt bomb is Exhibit A. His assertion, framed as a question, makes the case against Obama better than anything heard from the actual candidates...

More: http://www.nypost.com/p/news/national/anything_but_govern_for_bam_jNXbQt7gkOMjQ7EZcOUbtK



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)

Oregon and the Death Penalty

Responding to Governor Kitzhaber's five weak reasons.

by *Dennis Prager*, 29 Nov 2011

<http://www.nationalreview.com/articles/284275/oregon-and-death-penalty-dennis-prager>

The root cause of market failure in higher education

by *Bill Frezza*, 28 Nov 2011

A little noticed Associated Press news story last week reported that China now plans to phase out college majors that consistently produce unemployable graduates. Any program in which 60% of the graduates failed to find work for two consecutive years would face funding reductions until supply was brought back into balance with demand.

This Chinese hand may not be invisible, but it would be one that Adam Smith would recognize...

Read on: http://www.realeclearmarkets.com/articles/2011/11/28/the_root_cause_of_market_failure_in_higher_education_99387.html

The Great Global Warming Fizzle

The climate religion fades in spasms of anger and twitches of boredom.

by Bret Stephens, 29 Nov 2011

<http://online.wsj.com/article/SB10001424052970203935604577066183761315576.html>

Ezra Klein: from 'Journalist' to liberal activist

Investors' Business Daily editorial, 29 Nov 2011

<http://news.investors.com/Article/593047/201111281852/ezra-klein-goes-from-journalist-to-liberal-activist.htm>

Making the Klan boring

by Jonah Goldberg, 28 Nov 2011

<http://www.nationalreview.com/corner/284228/making-klan-boring-jonah-goldberg>

Occupy: history repeats as reality show

by Christopher Chantrill, 29 Nov 2011

Marx famously wrote that history repeats itself, first as tragedy, then as farce... We can see the truth of Marx's dictum, as amended, in the rise of the Occupy movement. In the tragic 1840s generation of Marx, we can say that they certainly had read their Hegel. In the farcical 1960s generation of Bill Ayers, at least they had read their Marcuse. But what can we say of the Occupy generation of the 2010s? That they have watched their Michael Moore?...

...Marx and Engels admitted that capitalism was amazing, conjuring up wonders "far surpassing Egyptian pyramids, Roman aqueducts," and so forth. The only trouble was that the bourgeoisie would put everyone out of work with its efficiency. So capitalism had to be strangled in its cradle. In the 1960s, Marcuse's readers sneered at the workers who saw their "soul in their automobile, hi-fi set, split-level home, kitchen equipment." Marcuse gave the sons and daughters of postwar liberals just the snobbish ideas they were looking for.

But now the left has produced the Occupy movement, a bonfire of the dysfunctions in which reality shows specialize. After all, these folks aren't rebels, reading transgressive ideas in defiance of their teachers. They are mind-numbed robots vomiting undigested the ideas retailed by their tenured, sinecured government teachers...

More: http://www.americanthinker.com/2011/11/occupy_history_repeats_as_reality_show.html

Bye-bye, Berwick

Asterisk of history falls on his socialist sword.

by Milton R. Wolf, 28 Nov 2011

<http://www.washingtontimes.com/news/2011/nov/28/bye-bye-berwick/>

IDF fires on Lebanon after at least 3 rockets land in North

by Yaakov Lappin and Jpost.com staff, 28 Nov 2011

http://www.jpost.com/Defense/Article.aspx?ID=247355&R=R1&utm_source=twitterfeed&utm_medium=twitter

The Banking Queen

Rep. Barney Frank (D-MA) has announced that he'll be retiring at the end of his current term, after 32 years in the House of Representatives. Here are some highlights of his career by [Michelle Malkin](#), [Jeff Jacoby](#), and [Aaron Goldstein/Joel Pollak](#). Also, three versions of Paul Shanklin's musical tribute:

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ChShICWCim8>

<http://www.youtube.com/watch#!v=a5NrqqK60OI>

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

Bulletin of Christian persecution [by Muslims]

Oct 28-Nov 27, 2011

<http://www.politicalislam.com/blog/bulletin-of-christian-persecution-october-28-november-27-2011/>

The fix was in

Conrad Black's greatest book yet: *A Matter of Principle*

by *John R. Coyne, Jr., Nov 2011 issue*

<http://spectator.org/archives/2011/11/28/the-fix-was-in/>

Global Warming bubble is popping

by *James Lewis, 28 Nov 2011*

...The 5,000 internal emails among "scientists" in the UK—Climategate 2.0—are proving to be the tipping point. This story is now moving at warp speed. In the UK the Prime Minister's office has just run up **the white flag of surrender**. The BBC Organ of Propaganda is now a target of the British press, who seem to remember what news coverage is for. See [here](#).

Excellent blow-by-blow coverage is being provided by **Climate Depot**...If you like your facts raw, here's Anthony Watt's site, "**Wattsupwiththat?**" You are watching history in the making...

More: http://www.americanthinker.com/blog/2011/11/global_warming_bubble_is_popping.html

Report: Explosion rocks Iran city of Isfahan, home to key nuclear facility

Semi-official Fars news agency says blast heard distinctly in several parts of the western Iran city; a uranium conversion plant near Isfahan went online in 2004.

by *Yossi Melman and Reuters, 28 Nov 2011*

<http://www.haaretz.com/news/middle-east/report-explosion-rocks-iran-city-of-isfahan-home-to-key-nuclear-facility-1.398312>

Labor board broke federal law on Boeing suit

by *Conn Carroll, 28 Nov 2011*

<http://campaign2012.washingtonexaminer.com/article/labor-board-broke-federal-law-boeing-suit>

Rep. Maloney lies about Fast and Furious

by *M. Catharine Evans, 28 Nov 2011*

...So far, big media has gone along with the "lax gun laws" and "Bush started it" defense. But Americans are growing tired of the lies—to say nothing of representatives like Maloney who spew them and an administration who continues to blame a former president while ratcheting up its own so-called failed programs.

It's what Dems do: http://www.americanthinker.com/2011/11/rep_maloney_lies_about_fast_and_furious.html

Wake me when the meaningless deficit arguments end

by *David French, 28 Nov 2011*

...We can't push the illegitimacy rate over 40 percent and believe that we're creating a productive, self-sufficient culture. No politician made millions of Americans abort millions of children, nor did politicians make us embrace no-fault divorce in our own lives or rationalize divorce for our families, friends, and neighbors. It is not Washington that

compels us to wallow in our own self-love and look everywhere else for solutions to problems we've helped create for ourselves with profligate personal spending and impulsive, self-indulgent lifestyles. When we embrace self-love to the point where many of our fellow citizens will kill their own children, we can't hope that political reform will bring any real hope...

More: <http://www.nationalreview.com/corner/284216/wake-me-when-meaningless-deficit-arguments-end-david-french>

and Mark Steyn agrees:

<http://www.nationalreview.com/corner/284231/re-wake-me-when-meaningless-deficit-arguments-end-mark-steyn>

FATCA: a ticking time bomb for the economy

by Peter W. Dunn, 28 Nov 2011

Buried in an ostensible jobs bill signed by President Obama last year is a little-noticed job-destroying government regulation that threatens to trigger a massive outflow of capital from the American economy...

...In a time when government has caused what may be irreparable economic problems, we don't need "help" like this. Mr. Obama, please stop helping us.

All about it: http://www.americanthinker.com/2011/11/fatca_a_ticking_time_bomb_for_the_economy.html

An accumulation of little extravagances: William F. Buckley Jr. on Barack Obama

by Roger Kimball, 26 Nov 2011

<http://pjmedia.com/rogerkimball/2011/11/26/an-accumulation-of-little-extravagances-william-f-buckley-jr-on-barack-obama/>

Privatize the nation's mail delivery

by George F. Will, 25 Nov 2011

http://www.washingtonpost.com/opinions/privatize-the-nations-mail-delivery/2011/11/23/gIQAe2J7wN_story.html

Obama's EPA is killing the economy with costly rules

Washington Examiner editorial, 27 Nov 2011

<http://washingtonexaminer.com/opinion/editorials/2011/11/obamas-epa-killing-economy-costly-rules>

Inside Oakland bubble, all free speech isn't equal

by Debra Saunders, 27 Nov 2011

<http://www.sfgate.com/cgi-bin/article.cgi?f=/c/a/2011/11/26/INC81LA5P3.DTL>

A splendid 2,473-word summary of the current state of the debate.

Scientists in revolt against Global Warming

by Karin McQuillan, 27 Nov 2011

http://www.americanthinker.com/2011/11/scientists_in_revolt_against_global_warming.html

One of the year's best political essays.

What is Constitutional Conservatism?

by Yuval Levin, 22 Nov 2011 (November 28 issue)

...The difference between these two kinds of liberalism — constitutionalism grounded in humility about human

nature and progressivism grounded in utopian expectations — is a crucial fault line of our politics, and has divided the friends of liberty since at least the French Revolution. It speaks to two kinds of views about just what liberal politics is.

One view, which has always been the less common one, holds that liberal institutions were the product of countless generations of political and cultural evolution in the West, which by the time of the Enlightenment, and especially in Britain, had begun to arrive at political forms that pointed toward some timeless principles in which our common life must be grounded, that accounted for the complexities of society, and that allowed for a workable balance between freedom and effective government given the constraints of human nature. Liberalism, in this view, involves the preservation and gradual improvement of those forms because they allow us both to grasp the proper principles of politics and to govern ourselves well.

The other, and more common, view argues that liberal institutions were the result of a discovery of new political principles in the Enlightenment — principles that pointed toward new ideals and institutions, and toward an ideal society. Liberalism, in this view, is the pursuit of that ideal society...

More: <http://www.nationalreview.com/articles/283326/what-constitutional-conservatism-yuval-levin>

No road leads to peace between Israel and the Palestinians

by Neil Snyder, 27 Nov 2011

...The economic model in place today in the Palestinian community is one of providing labor for a bustling Israeli economy and seeking donations from useful idiots around the world who support the Palestinian cause, which is to destroy Israel. These two economic characteristics are antithetical to building a flourishing national economy. By definition, Palestinians can't seek to eliminate Israel and at the same time expect to thrive as Israel grows and prospers. Similarly, Palestinians can't hope to achieve economic independence if they position themselves as global beggars. Delusory thinking and hatred are not substitutes for sound economic principles, and they don't lead toward prosperity or peace. Absent sweeping changes in Palestinians' thinking, there is no way a Palestinian state will work, and no amount of wishing and hoping for peace and prosperity will compensate for the abiding hatred the Palestinian people have for Israel.

Most people don't have any idea what the "right of return" means. In a nutshell, it means that descendants of so-called "Palestinians" who left their homes when Israel's War of Independence began in 1948 have the right to return to their homes. But this issue is murkier than you can imagine. For instance, consider these facts...

Real history: http://www.americanthinker.com/2011/11/no_road_leads_to_peace_between_israel_and_the_palestinians.html

More More More

How do you like Andrea True's federal government?

by Mark Steyn, 26 Nov 2011

...In return for agreeing to raise the debt ceiling (and, by the way, that's the wrong way of looking at it: more accurately, we're lowering the debt abyss), John Boehner bragged that he'd got a deal for "a real, enforceable cut" of supposedly \$7 billion from fiscal year 2012. After running the numbers themselves, the Congressional Budget Office said it only cut \$1 billion from FY 2012.

Which of these numbers is accurate? The correct answer is: Who cares? The government of the United States currently spends \$188 billion it doesn't have every hour of every day. So, if it's \$1 billion in "real, enforceable cuts," in the time it takes to roast a 20 lb. stuffed turkey for your Thanksgiving dinner, the government's already borrowed back all those painstakingly negotiated savings. If it's \$7 billion in "real, enforceable cuts," in the time it takes you to defrost the bird, the cuts have all been borrowed back.

Bonus question: How "real" and "enforceable" are all those real, enforceable cuts? By the time the relevant bill passed the Senate earlier this month, the 2012 austerity budget with its brutal, savage cuts to government services actually *increased* spending by \$10 billion. More more more, how do you like it?...

All of it: <http://www.nationalreview.com/articles/284111/more-more-more-mark-steyn>

Astounding viral video depicts an unborn baby's full development

by Billy Hallowell, 25 Nov 2011

Alexander Tsiras, an image-maker and the author of the book *From Conception to Birth: A Life Unfolds*, gave a recently-published TED (Technology, Entertainment, Design) talk, during which he unveiled a spectacular video about fetal development.

The video, which graphically shows the process of human progression, begins by showing an egg being fertilized and ends by illustrating a baby's actual birth. Throughout the clip, viewers see the full fetal development, with explanations about what, exactly, is happening at each phase. But the imagery is spellbinding. Watch the astounding video, below...

And more: <http://www.theblaze.com/stories/astounding-viral-video-depicts-an-unborn-babys-full-development/>

Even Obama's cheerleaders are falling away

by David Limbaugh, 25 Nov 2011

President Obama's cheerleaders are starting to peel away along with his approval ratings, and it's a fascinating sight to behold. They offer different reasons, but they all boil down to one obvious thing—Obama is first and foremost about Obama—and one less obvious: He has been a failed president...

More: <http://washingtongazette.com/opinion/columnists/2011/11/even-obamas-cheerleaders-are-falling-away>

Not photoshopped: beam of light shines on fallen soldier's miracle dog

Reported by ABC News' Kimberly Launier, 24 Nov 2011

<http://abcnews.go.com/blogs/headlines/2011/11/not-photoshopped-beam-of-light-shines-on-fallen-soldiers-miracle-dog/>

157 Air Force Majors terminated without retirement benefits

by Thomas Lifson, 26 Nov 2011

One of the best ways to destroy American military capabilities would be to convince career military personnel—both officers and enlisted—that their commitment to service will not be rewarded with the retirement benefits they have earned by their faithful obedience to orders, no matter the personal cost or risks they endure. The Obama administration seems to be ready to destroy the belief that service will be rewarded as faithfully as duty was performed, one step at a time...

More: http://www.americanthinker.com/blog/2011/11/157_air_force_majors_terminated_without_retirement_benefits.html

HRCs Down for the Count?

Baron Bodissey, 25 Nov 2011

Ezra Levant and Mark Steyn discuss **the imminent demise of the infamous Human Rights Commissions**, the Keystone XL Pipeline, and various other sundries. Many thanks to **Vlad Tepes** for uploading this.

Watch (14:00): <http://gatesofvienna.blogspot.com/2011/11/hrcs-down-for-count.html>

Georgian president unveils monument to Reagan

24 Nov 2011

TBILISI, Georgia (AP)—Georgia's pro-Western president has unveiled a monument to Ronald Reagan in the capital of the ex-Soviet state praising the 40th U.S. president for "destroying the Soviet Empire." Mikhail Saakashvili, whose government has for years had tense relations with Russia, also lambasted Moscow's attempts to "restore" the Soviet Union by creating an economic bloc with other ex-Soviet nations...

More, incl. photo: <http://mdn.mainichi.jp/mdnnews/international/news/20111124p2g00m0in070000c.html>

Pepper-spraying taxpayers

"Diversity" boondoggles are the real scandal.

by Heather Mac Donald, 25 Nov 2011

<http://www.nationalreview.com/articles/284064/pepper-spraying-taxpayers-heather-mac-donald>

Spending Wars

by Randall Hoven, 25 Nov 2011

The ideas that federal spending exploded under George W. Bush, that "Bush's wars" account for our spending explosion, that Reaganism died with Reagan, and that we are on a spending binge that started decades ago are all nonsense. Our current spending binge is a very recent phenomenon with a very specific starting point: the year Democrats started writing budgets (or continuing resolutions), compounded by Barack Obama's inauguration.

Look at the chart below...

More: http://www.americanthinker.com/2011/11/spending_wars.html

The Grover Norquist tax myth

by Charles Krauthammer, 24 Nov 211

...Nice theory. Except for the following facts:

Sen. Tom Coburn last year signed on to the Simpson-Bowles tax reform that would have increased tax revenue by \$1 trillion over a decade. During the debt-ceiling talks, House Speaker John Boehner **agreed to an \$800 billion revenue increase** as part of a Grand Bargain. Supercommittee member Pat Toomey, a Club for Growth Republican, proposed increasing tax revenue by \$300 billion as part of \$1.2 trillion in debt reduction.

Leading, very conservative Republicans proposing tax increases. So why does the myth of the Norquist-controlled anti-tax monolith persist? You might suggest cynicism and perversity. Let me offer a more benign explanation: thickheadedness — the inability to tell the difference between tax revenue and tax rates...

More: http://www.washingtonpost.com/opinions/the-grover-norquist-tax-myth/2011/11/23/gIQAsuJhtN_story.html

The NLRB Putsch

The labor agency tries to ram through quickie union elections.

Wall Street Journal editorial, 25 Nov 2011

...Mr. Hayes has said that he may boycott Wednesday's meeting, and that without his participation or agreement to delegate authority the Becker-Pearce hijacking may be illegal under the Supreme Court's guidelines for quorum requirements in 2010's *New Process Steel v. National Labor Relations Board*. But Messrs. Pearce and Becker will probably proceed anyway. If Mr. Hayes resigned from the NLRB before Wednesday's vote, then the two Democrats would have a harder time ignoring the law. It's a disgrace that an NLRB member should have to contemplate resignation to prevent an abuse of regulatory process, but Mr. Hayes deserves support if he does. A resignation would draw attention to the way the power of this supposedly nonpartisan agency is being twisted to save unions from the consequences of their antibusiness excesses.

More: <http://online.wsj.com/article/SB10001424052970204443404577054513557012398.html>

The Simpletons

David Brooks, Thomas L. Friedman, and the banal authoritarianism of do-something punditry.

by Matt Welch, 22 Nov 2011 (December issue)

4,385 scathing words: <http://reason.com/archives/2011/11/22/the-simpletons>

A World of Gifts

by Rich Lowry, 24 Nov 2011

Eventually social science works its way around to confirming eternal verities. So it is with gratitude...

More: <http://www.nationalreview.com/articles/284061/world-gifts-rich-lowry>

Thanksgiving in America, 2011

by Gary Aminoff, 24 Nov 2011

...The background for understanding Thanksgiving Day is found in records kept by the governor of the Plymouth colony, William Bradford. He informs us that the colonists' English sponsors had arranged for all crops and goods to be

held "in the common stock," from which they would be supplied to each family according to its needs (sound familiar?).

As with many other recorded instances of collectivism in the history of mankind, there were disastrous results.

Governor Bradford **wrote** that this experiment reflected a belief of his that common ownership of property would allow the colony to flourish. Instead, it was soon found that communal sharing resulted in unintended consequences. The colonists, as many others have discovered over time, found that individuals work harder within an incentive system that allows them to maintain and enjoy the fruits of their own labor.

Desperate not to repeat the mistakes made by the failed communal settlement in Jamestown, Virginia, where half of the original settlers were lost to starvation or disease, the colonists met to find ways to escape a similar fate. They decided to abandon their communal arrangement for the distribution of goods...

Read it all: http://www.americanthinker.com/2011/11/thanksgiving_in_america_2011.html

Thanking America:

When Americans save lives overseas, it doesn't make the textbooks

by Jeff Lipkes, 24 Nov 2011

http://www.americanthinker.com/2011/11/thanking_america_when_americans_save_lives_overseas_it_doesnt_make_the_textbooks.html

The Pilgrim Story: vital insights and lessons for today

by Dr. Judd W. Patton

http://jpatton.bellevue.edu/biblical_economics/pilgrimstory.html

The Search for Marizela: a Thanksgiving note

The kindness of complete strangers has been boundless.

by Michelle Malkin, 23 Nov 2011

<http://www.nationalreview.com/articles/283878/search-marizelabr-thanksgiving-note-michelle-malkin>

Book Title of the Decade

Neil Snyder is a chaired professor emeritus at the University of Virginia. His blog, SnyderTalk.com, is posted daily. His latest book is titled *If You Voted for Obama in 2008 to Prove You're Not a Racist, You Need to Vote for Someone Else in 2012 to Prove You're Not an Idiot*.

You can buy it here: <https://www.createspace.com/3723193>

Evolutionary Hymn

by C.S. Lewis (1898-1963)

<http://www.poemhunter.com/poem/evolutionary-hymn/>

Dishonesty and Pretense

by Baron Bodissey, 22 Nov 2011

We **reported a couple of days ago** on the recently averted terrorist attack involving a lone mujahid in New York City. Osama Hussein (who had other aliases) was arrested last Saturday by the NYPD when he came close to building a working bomb, with which he intended to kill returning American soldiers.

In the **video** below Ezra Levant and David Harris discuss the mainstream media's systematic (and evidently intentional) unwillingness to discuss the role played by Islamic ideology in the motivation of the would-be bomber.

Watch: <http://gatesofvienna.blogspot.com/2011/11/dishonesty-and-pretense.html>

Thoughts on the AEI-Heritage-CNN debate

by Michael Barone, 23 Nov 2011

<http://campaign2012.washingtonexaminer.com/blogs/beltway-confidential/aei-heritage-cnn-debate>

Occupy Wall Street crowd blind to benefits of capitalism

by Gary Wolfram, 11 Nov 2011

...Every semester I ask my students: “What would you rather be? King of England in 1263 or you?” Turns out, students would rather be themselves. They enjoy using their iPhone, indoor plumbing, central heating, refrigerators and electric lighting. All of these things are available to the average person in America today and none of them were available to the aristocracy when the West operated under the feudal system.

How is it that for thousands of years mankind made very little progress in increasing the standard of living and yet today half of the goods and services you use in the next week did not exist when I was born? It wasn't that there was some change in the DNA such that we got smarter. The Greeks knew how to make a steam engine 3,000 years ago and never made one. The difference is in how we organize our economic system. The advent of market capitalism in the mid 18th century made all of the difference. We need not just rely on historical data. Look at cross-section evidence...

A classic: http://www.mrc.org/bmi/commentary/2011/Occupy_Wall_Street_Crowd_Blind_to_Benefits_of_Capitalism.html

White Air Force vet prohibited from registering to vote because of race

by J. Christian Adams, 21 Nov 2011

...Some will claim that the law only limits participation to “native inhabitants,” essentially those who can trace their ancestors back to Guam before 1950. A well disguised racial test is still a racial test.

Imagine if Jim Crow had decided that only those who could trace their ancestors back to anyone who could show title to land, or a contract of indentured servitude, from before 1860 could vote. No mention of race there, but the effect would be to exclude almost all blacks from voting. Nobody would dare claim such a law was free from racial discrimination. Even if the law we are challenging in Guam really is nothing more than an ancestral test, it still has racially discriminatory effects. If a racially neutral law has racially discriminatory effects, it violates Section 2 of the Voting Rights Act, period...

More: <http://pjmedia.com/jchristianadams/2011/11/21/white-air-force-vet-prohibited-from-registering-to-vote-because-of-race/>

Invisible Gorillas in the Political Mist

by Jeffrey Lord, 22 Nov 2011

The Invisible Gorilla. There it is, right there, in plain sight. See? Right there in the political mist. Actually, make that plural. In reality there are multiples of Invisible Gorillas right there in the open, for everybody to see.

Except, of course, everybody doesn't see them. Which is why the fretting over everything from the Super Committee and Occupy Wall Street to climate change to Penn State. What is an Invisible Gorilla? Glad you asked...

3,300 fascinating words: <http://spectator.org/archives/2011/11/22/invisible-gorillas-in-the-poli>

We all can learn a lot from the second-greatest president of the 20th century.

Lessons for Obama from Silent Cal

by Charles C. Johnson, 22 Nov 2011

<http://spectator.org/archives/2011/11/22/lessons-for-obama-from-silent>

Pelosi bashes Catholics: “They have this conscience thing”

by Steven Ertelt, 22 Nov 2011

Former House Speaker Nancy Pelosi is at it again, bashing Catholics for their pro-life position when she has promoted abortion in defiance of Catholic Church teaching at every turn. This time, Pelosi is upset that the nation's Catholic bishops are protesting a potential Obama administration decision forcing insurance companies to cover birth control, contraception and drugs that could cause abortions...

More: <http://www.lifenews.com/2011/11/21/pelosi-bashes-catholics-they-have-this-conscience-thing/>

Uh oh, global warming loons: here comes Climategate II !

by James Delingpole, 22 Nov 2011

Breaking news: two years after the Climategate, a further batch of emails has been leaked onto the internet by a person—or persons—unknown. And as before, they show the "scientists" at the heart of the Man-Made Global Warming industry in a most unflattering light. Michael Mann, Phil Jones, Ben Santer, Tom Wigley, Kevin Trenberth, Keith Briffa—all your favourite Climategate characters are here, once again caught red-handed in a series of emails exaggerating the extent of Anthropogenic Global Warming, while privately admitting to one another that the evidence is nowhere near as strong as they'd like it to be.

In other words, what these emails confirm is that the great man-made global warming scare is not about science but about political activism. This, it seems, is what motivated the whistleblower 'FOIA 2011' (or "thief", as the usual suspects at RealClimate will no doubt prefer to tar him or her) to go public...

More: <http://blogs.telegraph.co.uk/news/jamesdelingpole/100119087/uh-oh-global-warming-loons-here-comes-climategate-ii/>

Politics and Pepper Spray

by Bruce Whatsitt, 22 Nov 2011

...The important thing to remember is that pepper spray is almost universally *safe*. There are no lasting effects, and it does no permanent physical damage. I suppose that someone with a compromised respiratory system might be endangered, but in general, getting doused with O.C. spray is a decidedly unpleasant but benign experience. Police and military personnel are routinely sprayed in training in order to understand the effects of O.C., and are taught to fight through the pain. If it caused injury, these warriors would not be training with it. **It's hard to know what the Chancellor would prefer.** Batons? Tasers? Tear gas? Or just to leave the poor Occupiers alone and let them continue to disrupt campus activities? ...

Read the rest: http://www.americanthinker.com/2011/11/politics_and_pepper_spray.html

Revisiting the Kennedy assassination: Frank Rich and the paranoid style

by James Piereson, 22 Nov 2011

...In the latest effort to recycle the Camelot myths, Frank Rich has published a delusional article in *New York Magazine* under the title, "What Killed JFK: The Hate That Ended His Presidency is Eerily Familiar" in which he draws a straight line from Kennedy's assassination to imagined threats against President Obama arising from conservatives and the tea party movement. His tortured logic runs like this: President Kennedy was a victim of hatred coming from the far right; President Obama ran for election in 2008 as a reincarnation of JFK, supported by surviving members of the Kennedy family; his mission was to restore the ideals of Camelot, and thus to reinvigorate liberalism; now he is the target of the same vitriol from the right that brought down Kennedy. Therefore, the tea party movement, the far right, and conservatives in general are dangers to the public welfare. It is probably useless to point out to Mr. Rich that none of the things he believes about Kennedy or the Kennedy assassination is remotely true so that none of them has anything to do with the politics of the present time...

More: http://www.realclearpolitics.com/articles/2011/11/22/revisiting_the_kennedy_assassination_frank_rich_and_the_paranoid_style_112154.html

Only an election can break Washington's gridlock

Washington Examiner editorial, 22 Nov 2011

<http://washingtonexaminer.com/opinion/editorials/2011/11/only-election-can-break-washingtons-gridlock>

Obama and his band of cowards

by Mercer Tyson, 22 Nov 2011

...That's what you should do: Take care of things that are necessary and are required, and get to the fun stuff later. Right? Isn't that the way you do it? Apparently not if you are President Obama and his merry band of Democrats. They had two years of complete Federal control, including a 60-seat, filibuster-proof Senate, to do whatever they wanted.

Did they present a budget? Nope. Budgets are a primary function of government—but not fun or showy. In fact, budgets only upset people if there is any hardship and somebody loses. Since Democrats can't make hard choices, they kicked the proverbial can down the road.

They showed their cowardice right there. They could have passed the tax increases they so eloquently call for now.

But then they would have had to own them, and when the economy shrank, they would have been held responsible.

And they could have made spending cuts. They say they want cuts, but we all know that's a joke...

More: http://www.americanthinker.com/blog/2011/11/obama_and_his_band_of_cowards.html

Why the Super Committee failed

by Rep. Jeb Hensarling, 22 Nov 2011

<http://online.wsj.com/article/SB10001424052970204531404577052240098105190.html>

The double standard on booing

by Dana Loesch, 21 Nov 2011

<http://bigjournalism.com/dloesch/2011/11/21/the-double-standard-on-booing/>

November 22 is the third anniversary of V.I. Day! But sadly, Barack Obama is abandoning the country America liberated. And if the jihadis rush back in after our troops have left, it'll go down in history as **all his fault**. We sure wish he would abandon America!



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/

Alice in Liberal Land

by Thomas Sowell, 21 Nov 2011

Alice in Wonderland was written by a professor who also wrote a book on symbolic logic. So it is not surprising that Alice encountered not only strange behavior in Wonderland, but also strange and illogical reasoning — of a sort too often found in the real world, and which a logician would be very much aware of. If Alice could visit the world of liberal rhetoric and assumptions today, she might find similarly illogical and bizarre thinking. But people suffering in the current economy might not find it nearly as entertaining as *Alice in Wonderland*...

More: <http://frontpagemag.com/2011/11/21/alice-in-liberal-land/print/>

President Obama's hopeless 'malaise' moment

by Richard Salsman (and Jean-Baptiste Say) 20 Nov 2011

If the Obama administration really cared about fostering a new willingness by America's top wealth-creators to be more ambitious, work harder, and create a more prosperous economy, he'd be less hostile to wealth-creators and would rescind his wealth-destroying policies, while adopting truly pro-capitalist ones. He'd heed capitalism's greatest economist, Jean-Baptiste Say (1767-1832), who said it best two centuries ago:

"The healthy state of industry and wealthy is the state of absolute liberty, in which each interest is left to take care of itself." "In times of political confusion and under arbitrary government, many will prefer to keep their capital inactive, concealed and unproductive, either of profit or gratification, rather than run the risk of its display. This latter evil is never felt under good government. The interference of authority is not the road to affluence, which results from activity of production, seconded by the spirit of frugality and of frugality tending to accumulation of capital." "Capital naturally flows to those places that hold out security and lucrative employment, and gradually retires from countries offering no such advantages."

More: <http://www.forbes.com/sites/richardsalsman/2011/11/20/president-obamas-hopeless-malaise-moment/>

Over Our Heads: an analogy on healthcare, good intentions, and unforeseen consequences

by Dr. Rulon Stacey, published 24 May 2011

http://www.amazon.com/Over-Our-Heads-Healthcare-Consequences/dp/098285031X/ref=sr_1_1?ie=UTF8&qid=1321921529&sr=8-1

Occupiers' war on police

by Tina Trent, 20 Nov 2011

More: http://www.pittsburghlive.com/x/pittsburghtrib/opinion/s_768070.html

The Tipping Point and the Crossroads

by Steve McCann, 21 Nov 2011

... While the GDP has more than tripled during these past 48 years, median income has remained stagnant thanks in part to government spending, which grew fivefold. Government now siphons off 41% of the GDP as compared to 28% in 1963. This is an untenable trajectory, one that can no longer be justified or sustained. But instead, it is destined to dramatically accelerate and further erode the standard of living for all Americans if the policies of Barack Obama remain intact.

The Obama administration has already accumulated over \$4 trillion in debt in just three years, adamantly refusing to curtail spending and pursue policies designed to grow the economy. As the European Union marches toward an inevitable collapse, which will impact American banks and financial markets, and as the world economy falters, there is no fall-back position for the United States; it has spent, printed, borrowed, and committed itself to massive guarantees which have placed the country into a position of potential insolvency...

Read it all, including a stunning table:

http://www.americanthinker.com/2011/11/the_tipping_point_and_the_crossroad.html

Are tent cities free speech?

The First Amendment does not protect behavior that threatens health and safety.

by L. Gordon Crovitz, 21 Nov 2011

<http://online.wsj.com/article/SB10001424052970203699404577046591489468470.html>

The Freeloader Myth

by Ramesh Ponnuru, 21 Nov 2011 (Nov. 28 issue)

<http://www.nationalreview.com/articles/283265/freeloader-myth-ramesh-ponnuru>

The Inconvenient Truth about species extinction

by James D. Agresti, 21 Nov 2011

http://www.americanthinker.com/2011/11/the_inconvenient_truth_about_species_extinction.html

Dangers follow from Congress's coming cuts to Defense spending

Congress is poised to slash defense spending. Great idea—as long as China remains our buddy and the Middle East embraces brotherly love.

by Niall Ferguson, 21 Nov 2011

<http://www.thedailybeast.com/newsweek/2011/11/20/dangers-follow-from-congress-s-coming-cuts-to-defense-spending.html>

Teacher union's missing funds: a pattern of stonewalling?

by RiShawn Biddle, 21 Nov 2011

Who stole more than \$227,000 from America's public school teachers? And how did the National Education Association fail to notice this for five years? These are among the questions that the nation's largest teachers union refuses to answer...

More: http://www.realclearpolitics.com/articles/2011/11/21/teacher_unions_missing_funds_a_pattern_of_stonewalling.html

Center-right in Spain wins captaincy of the Titanic

by Rick Moran, 21 Nov 2011

http://www.americanthinker.com/blog/2011/11/center-right_in_spain_wins_captaincy_of_the_titanic.html

Obama's growing disdain for American worker

by Joseph Curl, 21 Nov 2011

<http://www.washingtontimes.com/news/2011/nov/20/curl-obamas-growing-disdain-for-american-worker/>

Democrat pollsters: Obama should abandon run for second term

by Michael Catalini, 21 Nov 2011

President Obama should abandon his run for a second term and turn over the reins of the Democratic Party to Secretary of State Hillary Clinton, two one-time Democratic pollsters wrote in Monday's Wall Street Journal...

More: <http://nationaljournal.com/2012-presidential-campaign/democratic-pollsters-obama-should-abandon-run-for-second-term-20111120>

It's the Obamacare, Stupid

by Jeffrey H. Anderson, 20 Nov 2011 (Nov 28 issue)

...Obama knows he cannot win a referendum on Obamacare. His best hope is that Republicans will continue to join him in pretending that this will be a run-of-the-mill election centered around the economy, rather than a historic election in which the citizenry's verdict will largely determine the future course of the nation.

More: http://www.weeklystandard.com/articles/it-s-obamacare-stupid_609226.html

Devastating!

Secrets of the American Nomenklatura

by Clarice Feldman, 20 Nov 2011

...Only one political figure has spoken out against the nomenklatura and its corrupt actions, and too many stood silent while the nomenklatura nailed her to the wall. If you didn't understand this before, this op ed in the **Wall Street Journal** makes clear why Sarah Palin aroused their considerable enmity...

http://www.americanthinker.com/2011/11/secrets_of_the_american_nomenklatura.html

Essential.

Softly, softly: Beijing turns other cheek — for now

by *Walter Russell Mead, 19 Nov 2011*

...Rarely has a great power been so provoked and affronted. Rarely have so many red lines been crossed. Rarely has so much face been lost, so fast. It was a surprise diplomatic attack, aimed at reversing a decade of chit chat about American decline and disinterest in Asia, aimed also at nipping the myth of "China's inexorable rise" in the bud. The timing turned out to be brilliant...

More: <http://blogs.the-american-interest.com/wrm/2011/11/19/softly-softly-beijing-turns-other-cheek-for-now/>

The Absent-Minded Energy Secretary

by *Debra Saunders, 20 Nov 2011*

Rep. Henry Waxman, D-Calif., came to Chu's defense. "We have lost the money," he announced. "It's unfortunate, but there's no scandal there."

No scandal? In February 2009, former Solyndra CEO Chris Gronet was so sure he'd get the loan that he set 10 conditions for the administration to meet to help him raise another \$147 million. No. 9: "Fundraising support after conditional commitment: Steven Chu visits Solyndra with press interviews (target by end of March)."

Just who worked for whom?

More: <http://www.sfgate.com/cgi-bin/article.cgi?f=/c/a/2011/11/19/INC81LA5G3.DTL>

Why do Catholics keep funding the radical Left?

by *Kathryn Scharplaz, 20 Nov 2011*

Every November, including this one, American Catholics—who constitute approximately 25% of the U.S. population—are asked to contribute to the Catholic Campaign for Human Development (CCHD). The Catholic faithful have been told that their donations will go to fight poverty. Little do most of them realize what their money will actually fund. CCHD is the **brainchild** of Saul Alinsky, the "father of community organizing."...

More: http://www.americanthinker.com/2011/11/why_do_catholics_keep_funding_the_radical_left.html

Kicking our Federal spending habit

by *Jeff Jacoby, 20 Nov 2011*

...As a candidate for president in 2008, Barack Obama properly blasted what was then a \$9 trillion national debt as **"irresponsible" and "unpatriotic."** Just weeks after moving into the White House, he vowed that by the end of his first term **he would cut the \$1.3 trillion federal budget deficit in half**. "We cannot simply spend as we please and defer the consequences to the next budget, the next administration, or the next generation," **Obama told a White House summit on fiscal responsibility**. "You don't spend what you don't have."

But Washington continues not only to spend what it doesn't have, but to do so at **a record-setting pace**. In the fiscal year that ended on Sept. 30, the federal government burned through a staggering **\$3.6 trillion** — "well above amounts recorded before 2009," as the Congressional Budget Office dryly noted. The budget deficits of the last three years have been **the largest in American history**, whether measured in dollars or as a percentage of GDP. For all the hyperventilating in recent months about **"Draconian" cuts** and **"slashing spending"** and the **"brutal" scope** of the automatic reductions that are supposed to take effect if Congress doesn't approve an alternative, the bottom line is unchanged...

...Sequestration — the triggering of automatic spending cuts if the supercommittee's required deficit trims don't materialize — will barely slow the spending train. Between 2013 and 2021, the federal budget is expected to grow by another \$1.7 trillion. And if the sequester trigger is pulled? **By another \$1.6 trillion**. If that's "brutal," I'm Katy Perry...

More: <http://www.bostonglobe.com/opinion/2011/11/20/kicking-our-spending-habit/blh14zdnOIq0rmfy06sOqM/story.html>

Cuccinelli and Kyl.

Time for another look at the GOP bench

by *Chet Arthur, 19 Nov 2011*

http://www.americanthinker.com/2011/11/time_for_another_look_at_the_gop_bench.html

Trust, don't verify

Trust the Russians to take Obama for a ride.

by Ken Blackwell , 17 Nov 2011

<http://spectator.org/archives/2011/11/17/trust-dont-verify>

Is there no limit to Congress's power?

by George F. Will, 18 Nov 2011

... "We acknowledge some discomfort with the government's failure to advance any clear doctrinal principles limiting congressional mandates that any American purchase any product or service in interstate commerce...

... *Some* discomfort about saying limited government is essentially a fiction? Silberman's distinction between interpreting the scope of a government power and recognizing a right is spurious because *rights begin where powers end*. So argues Florida International University's **Elizabeth Price Foley**, constitutional litigator for the Institute for Justice. She is amazed by Silberman's disregard of "the inherently symbiotic relationship between the scope of government powers and individual rights."

She says Silberman has two false assumptions. One is that Congress *compelling* acts of commerce is "symmetrical" with prohibiting or regulating commerce. The other is that the lack of any principle to limit Congress when purporting to regulate interstate commerce is unimportant because it concerns only government power, not an important liberty interest of individuals.

More: http://www.washingtonpost.com/opinions/is-there-no-limit-to-congresss-power/2011/11/17/gIQA1REtZN_story.html

This isn't just gee-whiz fluff about gadgets taking over our lives. Serious legal problems arise.

Curiouser and curiouser

by Roger Scruton, November 2011 issue

<http://spectator.org/archives/2011/11/18/curiouser-and-curiouser>

Making homes affordable makes others poor

by John Sohne, 19 Nov 2011

http://www.americanthinker.com/2011/11/making_homes_affordable_makes_others_poor.html

America before the Entitlement State

by Yaron Brook and Don Watkins, 18 Nov 2011

<http://www.forbes.com/sites/objectivist/2011/11/18/america-before-the-entitlement-state/>

Greasing the solar skids

New York Post editorial, 19 Nov 2011

http://www.nypost.com/p/news/opinion/editorials/greasing_the_solar_skids_yf8pKoJEcktj7gUSFOWurO

Rumpole at his best

by Larry Thornberry, 17 Nov 2011

How better the world would be if all liberals were like John Mortimer and Horace Rumpole.

<http://spectator.org/archives/2011/11/17/rumpole-at-his-best>

The accountability charade

In this White House, the less you know, the better.

by Michelle Malkin, 18 Nov 2011

You can't spell "accountability" without A, C, and T. But in Washington, government officials routinely get away with "taking personal responsibility" by mouthing empty words devoid of action. Heads nod in collective agreement that mistakes were made. But heads never roll. The Obama administration has raised this accountability charade to an art form...

More: <http://michellemalkin.com/2011/11/18/the-accountability-charade/>

The lone Stalinist cries "Wolf"

by Baron Bodissey, 18 Nov 2011

...The practice of calling one's political enemies "fascists" was perfected by Iosif Vissarionovich Dzhugashvili, a.k.a. Joseph Stalin, in the 1920s and 1930s. He was so effective at characterizing his "deviationist" fellow Socialists as "right-wing" that the Western political establishment, the mainstream media, and most of the academy have considered Nazis and Fascists as "conservative extremists" ever since. Recognizing Fascism and Nazism — National *Socialism* — as left-wing socialist ideologies is the first step towards rousing us from the stupor to which the Marxists have consigned us over the past eight decades. If we're going to fling names at people, Øyvind Strømme could with justification be labeled a "Stalinist." Given his left-wing ideology and his propensity for calling people with whom he disagrees "fascists," the description is a good fit...

MSM bias in Scandinavia: <http://gatesofvienna.blogspot.com/2011/11/lone-stalinist-cries-wolf.html>

Lithwick's fallacious musings

by Carrie Severino, 17 Nov 2011

...Federal law requires a judge who previously participated as counsel for the government in a case to recuse herself. By involving the solicitor general's office in Obamacare-defense strategizing, by hand-picking her political deputy to manage the issue for her office, and by receiving internal, privileged information regarding defense strategy, Justice Kagan participated as counsel and therefore cannot sit on the case as a judge...

More: <http://www.nationalreview.com/bench-memos/283425/lithwicks-fallacious-musings-carrie-severino>

Lithwick's illogic on Kagan and recusal

by Ed Whelan, 17 Nov 2011

...Lithwick first seems to imagine that it's bizarre that anyone would think that Kagan would have to recuse herself because she "called meetings and sent e-mails and did other stuff that was her job—all in anticipation of lawsuits over the law." But that's exactly what section 455(b)(3) addresses. Remarkably, she doesn't cite or quote section 455(b)(3) or explain why Kagan's established activities don't qualify as "participat[ing] as counsel [or] adviser."

A few paragraphs later, Lithwick acknowledges that "Kagan would have to step aside if she had, while in government service, worked on strategies and tactics on health care." But she doesn't bother to note that Kagan made the strategic decision to assign her deputy to the matter and that she was copied on substantive legal advice, much less to explain why these actions wouldn't trigger the obligation to step aside...

More: <http://www.nationalreview.com/bench-memos/283432/lithwick-s-illogic-kagan-and-recusal-ed-whelan>

The Brain-Dead Left

Obamaville's incoherence is a symptom of intellectual exhaustion.

by James Taranto, 17 Nov 2011

"They paused to scream at the walls of a Citibank branch."

To our mind, that sentence more than anything we've read encapsulates the spirit of Obamaville. It originally appeared in a [San Francisco Chronicle](#) story about an incident in which "dozens of college students" invaded a Bank of America Branch, "pitching a tent and chanting 'shame, shame' until they were arrested." (The original Web version of the story is available [here](#).)

What do we want? Uh . . .

On the way to B of A, they paused at Citi to scream at the walls. These are college students, acting like 2-year-olds throwing a tantrum. What does that tell you about their critical thinking skills—and about the standards of American higher education? The likes of the *New York Times* expect us to take such incoherent spasms of rage seriously as a political "movement." What does that tell us about the standards of the liberal media? ...

More: http://online.wsj.com/article/SB10001424052970203611404577044352579113824.html?mod=WSJ_Opinion_MIDDLETopOpinion

Depends on what the meaning of 'Recall' is

by Christian Schneider, 18 Nov 2011

"[Recalling the governor] will create a circumstance where nobody ever makes a hard decision again ... I don't want you to become a laughingstock, a carnival or the beginning of a circus in America where we just throw people out whenever they make a tough decision ... [A recall] would spread instability and uncertainty among your people and across the country."

"This nation was founded on the proposition that we, the people are best able to chart our own destiny. We, the people are the ones who ought to have the right to make decisions about what happens to us and to our families and to our communities. And when we vote and when the majority votes to have a particular set of policies and ideas and individuals to be controlling the course of our future, then nobody ought to overturn the say of the people. The people ought to govern themselves and have a right to make the decisions ... The people who want to see this recall take place are disrespecting the majority... who voted in the election last year, disrespecting the right of the majority to engage in self-governance. "

"New rule: No do-overs. Once you elect an official, unless he runs off with public funds or gets caught with kiddie porn, you're stuck with him. He's the governor, not some dude you married in Las Vegas. [...] Maybe he's a lousy governor, but he was the one elected by voters who bothered to show up at the polls. Their efforts shouldn't be undone by disgruntled shoppers signing a petition on their way out of Target. Anyone who thinks this recall is some great affirmation of democracy should review early American history. This is precisely the kind of direct involvement by the howling masses that the framers wanted to avoid."

Don John sez: The three quotes cited above by Mr. Schneider, so very relevant to the current moonbat attempt to recall Wisconsin's great governor Scott Walker, didn't come from another Republican. They were actually spoken years ago, in other circumstances, by Bill Clinton, Al Gore, and Bill Maher!

This is just as relevant today as it was 13 months ago.

The Fourth Dimension of Warfare

Part 1: Intelligence, Subversion, Resistance.

by Seneca III, 13 Oct 2010

...In increasing numbers indigenous Europeans see this rapidly spreading plague for what it is. Either intuition or a resurgent survival instinct leads them to acknowledge, despite a torrent of disinformation to the contrary, that Islam is not a symbiont, it is a parasiticide — an organism that kills its host by slowly consuming it — and one that must be swiftly wrenched from the teats of our culture. If it is not, it will continue to suckle until it has drained us lifeless...

Full essay: <http://gatesofvienna.blogspot.com/2010/10/fourth-dimension-of-warfare-part-1.html>

Court rules Prop 8 campaign has standing to defend law

by William C. Duncan, 17 Nov 2011

Last year, federal court judge Vaughn Walker ruled that California's Proposition 8 was unconstitutional because the U.S. Constitution mandates same-sex marriage. That decision is on appeal to the Ninth Circuit, but that court sent it over to the California Supreme Court to allow those judges to weigh in on whether state law allows the organization that campaigned for Prop 8's passage to defend the law in court. This is necessary because neither the attorney general nor the governor will defend Proposition 8.

Today, the state supreme court **decided** that the Proposition 8 campaign has standing to defend the law, noting that California courts have consistently allowed "official proponents" of an initiative to "to defend a challenged voter-approved initiative measure in order 'to guard the people's right to exercise initiative power.'" The court explained that doing this...

Read on: <http://www.nationalreview.com/corner/283426/court-rules-prop-8-campaign-has-standing-defend-law-william-c-duncan>

Why BEST will not settle the climate debate

by *S. Fred Singer, 17 Nov 2011*

Global warming has re-entered public consciousness in recent days, partly because of the buzz surrounding the release of warming results from the Berkeley Earth Surface Temperature (BEST) project. The reaction of the "warmistas" has been jubilant, yet hilariously wrong. Will they ever learn? ...

More: http://www.americanthinker.com/2011/11/why_best_will_not_settle_the_climate_debate.html

Islam and the Greco-Roman cultural heritage

by *Peder Jensen, a.k.a. Fjordman, 17 Nov 2011*

...The only aspect of the Classical heritage that proved more compatible with Islamic culture than with European Christian culture was slavery...Basic algebra already existed in ancient Mesopotamia. Algebraic symbolism was employed by Diophantus in Greco-Roman times. Muslims never made use of such symbols. These were developed by Europeans, from Viète to René Descartes in the 1600s who, together with Fermat, established analytical geometry.

The Arabian Peninsula, the cradle of Islam, has contributed next to nothing of value to human civilization throughout Islamic history. Persians, who retained a few links with their pre-Islamic heritage after the conquests, produced some decent scholars, whereas Turks, who identified almost entirely with Islam after their conversion, produced practically none of any significance. If we combine these various factors, a very clear picture emerges: The rather modest — now often exaggerated — contributions made by certain Middle Eastern scholars during the Middle Ages were generally made in spite of Islam, not because of it. Orthodox Muslims rejected the Greek heritage...

More: <http://gatesofvienna.blogspot.com/2011/11/islam-and-greco-roman-cultural-heritage.html>

Occupy Blue Wall Street?

by *Walter Russell Mead, 6 Nov 2011*

...The good government upper middle class, the entrenched groups with a solid stake in the status quo and the marginalized working or non-working poor with no prospects for advancement apart from the patronage of the state: this is the mass base of the blue electoral coalition — and the groups in the coalition don't seem to like each other very much. What all three groups share is a burning desire for more: a hunger and demand for ever larger amounts of government revenue and power...

Read it all: <http://blogs.the-american-interest.com/wrm/2011/11/06/occupy-blue-wall-street/>

Penn State's scandal and the truth about power in academia

by *Abraham H. Miller, 17 Nov 2011*

...Then emerged the great bureaucratization of the university. A series of government intrusions and demands for record-keeping—dramatically enhanced by affirmative action—required not reluctant administrators, but a group of people who could actually thrive on detail, who could become seriously involved in the application and assessment of rules, writing memos, and holding pointless and ritualistic meetings...

...This new class produced a new culture, one that was small-minded, isolated from societal norms, and despotic. Joe Paterno no more thought of reporting pedophilia to the police than would a member of an ecclesiastical order, and for all the same reasons. The institution is more important than the individual, even if the individual is a child being exploited for sex. This is not to excuse Paterno, for there is no excuse for his behavior. Paterno's behavior is to be understood as emblematic of the culture of the new class of university administrators. These are the modern-day academic **Gletkins** who demand loyalty first to the institution, which usually means loyalty to themselves because they are one with the institution...

More: http://www.americanthinker.com/2011/11/penn_states_scandal_and_the_truth_about_power_in_academia.html

It's time to show Cain and Perry the red card, for peristent choking. They're off.

If not Romney, who? If not now, when?

by *Ann Coulter, 16 Nov 2011*

...There may be better ways to stop Obamacare than Romney, but, unfortunately, they're not available right now.

(And, by the way, where were you conservative purists when Republicans were nominating Waterboarding-Is-Torture-Jerry-Falwell-Is-an-Agent-of-Intolerance-My-Good-Friend-Teddy-Kennedy-Amnesty-for-Illegals **John McCain-Feingold** for president?) Among Romney's positives is the fact that he has a demonstrated ability to trick liberals into voting for him... Also, Romney will be the first Republican presidential nominee since Ronald Reagan who can talk. Liberals are going to have to dust off their playbook from 30 years ago to figure out how to run against a Republican who isn't a tongue-tied marble-mouth...

Read the rest: <http://www.anncoulter.com/columns/2011-11-16.html>

Hat tip: Ann Marie

The Abuser in Chief

by Ed Lasky, 15 Nov 2011

http://www.americanthinker.com/2011/11/the_abuser_in_chief.html

Spending's ascending — with or without a budget sequester

by George F. Will (and Veronique de Rugy), 17 Nov 2011

...Suppose the sequester occurs. Ignore loose talk about "draconian" spending cuts. Veronique de Rugy of George Mason University's Mercatus Center has a **graph** you should see. It shows two lines. The top one charts spending, 2013-2021, without the sequester; the other shows spending with the sequester. Both lines are ascending. Both show annual spending rising from less than \$4 trillion to more than \$5 trillion. The space between them is so narrow that it is difficult to see that there are two lines. Without the sequester, spending will increase \$1.7 trillion; with the sequester, spending will increase \$1.6 trillion. Here are categories of spending:

<u>Ten-year spending increases</u>	<u>Without</u>	<u>With</u>
Defense	20%	18%
Nondefense discretionary	14%	12%
Medicare	62%	62%
Other mandatory	51%	51%
Net interest	152%	136%

The supercommittee's difficulties are not shocking. *This* is shocking: Amid a darkening fiscal crisis, Energy Secretary Steven Chu, whose department has become a huge and incompetent venture capital fund, has not resigned as penance for complicity in the administration's "green graft" and crony capitalism...

More: http://www.washingtonpost.com/opinions/spendings-ascending—with-or-without-a-budget-sequester/2011/11/15/gIQAQpWXSNS_story.html

A super tax hike spells disaster: better to fall back on the trigger

Larry Kudlow, 17 Nov 2011

...All this leads me back to this question: Where are the super spending cuts? Nowhere. So why not fall back on the across-the-board budget-cutting trigger known as sequestration? That's the \$1.2 trillion backup plan if a \$1.5 trillion deal cannot be reached. (Hensarling called the \$1.2 trillion backstop very important.)

Then at least some spending will be cut. And the trigger is probably better than a deal that uses Iraq and Afghanistan spending cuts that would happen anyway or fiddles around with the current-services baseline from which reductions are measured.

For defense hawks who object—since 50 percent of the trigger would come out of national security—any spending measures would have a shelf life of only one year: 2013. After that, new presidents and Congresses will do what they will.

More: http://www.realclearpolitics.com/articles/2011/11/17/a_super_tax_hike_spells_disaster_112095.html

Generational wealth gap

by Jeffrey Folks, 15 Nov 2011

...In the same vein, a **report issued** by the Conference Board noted that younger workers lack "basic knowledge and skills." But it is not just preparation. Managers complain that the "**generational characteristics**" of millennials include the need for instant gratification, unwillingness to work long hours, and a lack of respect for rules and authority. As a group, younger workers are just not as disciplined or hardworking as their elders.

The whole argument that the young are the unfortunate victims of bad timing, unfair trade practices, or generational wealth transfers does not hold up. Every generation has faced challenges (the Great Depression, World War II, the Vietnam War, the severe recession and inflation of the 1970s and early 1980s), but earlier generations prepared for hard times by studying and working hard, obtaining stable employment, avoiding debt, and saving for retirement. What separates the young today from earlier generations is their choices, not their luck...

More: http://www.americanthinker.com/2011/11/generational_wealth_gap.html

NYT defines ObamaCare success: fewer options, but better coordinated

by Tim Cavanaugh, 15 Nov 2011

Contrived in secrecy; approved in a sordid backstairs intrigue that took place, like all true debauchery, in the deepest hours of a Saturday night; signed in a muted, regretful ceremony; unpopular with voters; hated by states; inflationary, monopolizing and cruel: The Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act yet reigns, according to *The New York Times'* Reed Abelson, Gardiner Harris and Robert Pear. The 2,000-word piece sings the triumph of the state...

...A song to government triumph does not seek to prove the rightness of the crown's cause. It is enough to praise the state's triumph and marvel at its desolating grandeur...

More: <http://reason.com/blog/2011/11/15/nyt-defines-obamacare-success-fewer-opti>

Whither the White Working Class?

by Christopher Chantrill, 15 Nov 2011

...All in all, the white working class has had a raw deal. First, it escaped the frying pan of rural laboring only to land in the fire of the factory system. But it didn't give up. It organized its own social safety net, with labor unions, fraternal associations, and ethnic clubs, and was well on the way to making its factory fate bearable when the Serpent turned up in the Garden of Eden, this time disguised as an educated progressive elite. "You chaps are being screwed," said the Serpent. "Why, if you vote for us, we will force the bosses to give you More..."

Read on: http://www.americanthinker.com/2011/11/whither_the_white_working_class.html

On waterboarding: Let's stick to the facts

by Marc A. Thiessen, 15 Nov 2011

http://www.washingtonpost.com/blogs/post-partisan/post/on-waterboarding-lets-stick-to-the-facts/2011/11/15/gIQAHHiiON_blog.html

The Politics Of Sycophancy: Arianna's attempt to kill Congressional insider trading scandal 'falls flat'

by Larry O'Connor, 15 Nov 2011

<http://bigjournalism.com/sright/2011/11/15/the-politics-of-sycophancy-ariannas-attempt-to-kill-congressional-insider-trading-scandal-falls-flat/>

Supercommittee, heed the Tea Party

Orange County Register editorial, 15 Nov 2011

...We believe that, after four years of economic calamity, Congress should stop playing games with the country's economic future. For starters, they should start with the proposal by Sen. Rand Paul, R-Ky., to cut \$500 billion from the budget—immediately. Next, the Bush tax cuts should be made permanent. Tax increases now would dump us back into another recession...

More: <http://www.ocregister.com/opinion/tax-327153-republicans-budget.html>

The coming GOP crack-up over the Toomey-Hensarling Tax Hikes

by Hugh Hewitt, 15 Nov 2011

...Jeb Hensarling and Pat Toomey have been frequent guests on my radio show over the past couple of years, and both are sound conservatives. Neither of them ever appealed for support or votes or campaign contributions so they could go to D.C. and cripple the housing market and everyone's home value by limiting the mortgage interest deduction on so-called high-end homes. Neither of them urged capping the charitable deduction so that churches, synagogues, hospitals and tens of thousands of other non-governmental agencies would see contributions decline. Neither of them urged that state and local taxes be made non-deductible so that those Americans already bearing the highest costs of government would bear even more. They didn't do so. No one did. And that's the biggest problem.

Both men seem to have forgotten that they were not sent back to D.C. to re-engineer the government or "reform" the tax code so that millions would pay more and millions would pay less and more total revenue would flow into it, but so that spending would be drastically cut. They were not sent there to be part of the all-knowing, all seeing Committee of Oz...

More, including phone numbers and Twitter tags:

<http://www.hughhewitt.com/blog/g/a825e11e-a890-4a74-b088-e7c91073b14c>

I'm posting this piece for a second time. The reason can be found below.

Obama orders drug shortages

He wants increased production of life-saving drugs while looking to punish any price increases. Good luck to us all.

by Robert M. Goldberg, 4 Nov 2011

...In other words, the same companies the President is encouraging to increase production will also be suspected of criminal activity if they work together or raise prices in ways that—to FDA or DOJ lawyers—seem illegal. The only way to reduce your risk of being prosecuted or investigated is to keep prices where they are or ask permission to raise them first...

More: <http://spectator.org/archives/2011/11/04/obama-orders-drug-shortages>

UPDATE—On Monday I received an e-mail from a mother of four, who's already having trouble with drug shortages. The e-mail reads, in part:

"My son has combined form ADHD (worst kind you can have). He has little or no impulse control without medication. For this reason, I can not send him to school without medicine. If I can't send him to school, I can't work part time to pay my tax bill, among other things. Why can't there just be a free market with supply and demand? Here I am **demanding**, and there is no **supply** because of the government. It's trickle down poverty, and I have Barack Obama to thank for it!

"I was told, after many calls to doctors, pharmacists, and pharmaceutical companies, that the shortage is due to government regulations that went into effect last year. I can no longer purchase my son's medicine, not because there is a problem with his medication, but because the government LIMITS the amount of medicine a company can make and sell in any given year. So not only do I have to scramble to try to find another medicine that can help my son, I very likely will have to switch to another 'class' of medications that will act completely differently in his system. I will not know until we try the medicine out if his ADHD will get worse on a different medicine; if he will lose more weight and become dangerously thin; or if it will make him catatonic and lethargic.

"Additionally, I have just taken a part time job, one of 2 part time jobs I have. (Not for fun, mind you; to pay the bills that are extensive in a family with 2 children with special needs). If I can not get medicine for my child that works safely for him, I will have to quit my 1 of my part time jobs, so I can take care of him. Thank you for all the government controls!"

What's at stake in the Net-Neutrality fight

by Bill Frezza, 14 Nov 2011

... Are we not all better served if Internet providers are free to discriminate in favor of time-sensitive traffic like voice and video over bulk delivery services like email, spam, and stolen copyrighted movies, which can be transported in the background? As new services are invented in the future, will innovators be required to petition the FCC for permission to treat their packets differently, giving incumbent competitors—along with free riders, lawyers, and armchair academics—an opportunity to lobby and object?

Which brings us back to the freedom of speech argument. The first amendment to the Constitution states that, "Congress shall make no law ... abridging the freedom of speech, or of the press." It says nothing about giving out free printing presses, nor does it command newspapers to make space available to all comers on a non-discriminatory basis. Freedom of speech does not mean subsidized speech, which is what net neutrality rules would create...



Michael Ramirez, 14 Nov 2011
<http://news.investors.com/EditorialCartoons/Cartoon.aspx?id=591663>

Note to Mr. Gerson: there is no such thing as a pro-choice Catholic. If you're one, you are not the other. Exhibit A: Kathleen Sebelius. Exhibit B: Joe Biden. Exhibit C: the "devout" Nancy Pelosi. And so on *ad nauseam*.

Obama turns his back on Catholics

by Michael Gerson, 15 Nov 2011

http://www.washingtonpost.com/opinions/obama-turns-his-back-on-catholics/2011/11/14/gIQABHCKMN_story.html

Storm clouds ahead: why conflict with public unions will continue

by Daniel DiSalvo, 14 Nov 2011

... Notwithstanding the demise of reform in the Buckeye State, conflict over government labor relations is far from over and is very likely to continue. This is especially the case in states where the public workforce is heavily unionized and where slow economic growth will cause persistent budget problems—especially as pension and health benefits for retired workers crowd out other parts of their budgets. These conditions spell trouble for New York, California, Illinois, Rhode Island, Michigan, Ohio, and Washington State, among other states...

... While public employee unions may be able to stave-off major efforts to address employee compensation costs, the need for states to address these issues will remain...

2400 words, and 6 charts: http://www.manhattan-institute.org/html/ib_13.htm

Kagan emails show she was 'excited' about ObamaCare passage

by Rick Moran, 15 Nov 2011

The case for Supreme Court Associate Justice Elena Kagan recusing herself from voting on the upcoming decision regarding Obamacare would seem to be an open and shut one. Emails show that she harbored definite opinions about the law while serving as Obama's solicitor general...

Read on: http://www.americanthinker.com/blog/2011/11/kagan_emails_show_she_was_excited_about_obamacare_passage.html

ObamaCare and the limits of government

When asked if the health law was constitutional, then-Speaker Nancy Pelosi sneered, 'Are you serious?' Now the Supreme Court has decided it's a worthy question.

by David B. Rivkin Jr. and Lee A. Casey, 15 Nov 2011

<http://online.wsj.com/article/SB10001424052970204323904577038232724779286.html>

ObamaCare goes to court

A historic showdown on the constitutional limits of federal power.

Wall Street Journal editorial, 15 Nov 2011

...The law is already speeding the ruin of U.S. health care, increasing costs and reducing competition. It is easily the most unpopular major reform in decades and the most unpopular entitlement expansion ever. More broadly, it is impossible to duck the matter of whether this law's powers would stop at health care, as its backers insist, or whether it will be merely the first wave of other such mandated enforcements, if the federal government is given the power to compel individuals to participate in commerce, rather than merely regulate it...

More: http://online.wsj.com/article/SB10001424052970204323904577038252658343724.html?mod=WSJ_Opinion_AboveLEFTTop

The Lord High Obama's recent **Rasmussen** numbers have been shockingly higher. My theory has been "It's the debates, stupid"—there've been far too many GOP debates, the formats are mostly awful, and so are the moonbat media hosts. Mr. Trende explains some additional factors.

What's behind Obama's uptick in job approval—and will it stick?

by Sean Trende, 14 Nov 2011

http://www.realclearpolitics.com/articles/2011/11/14/whats_behind_obamas_uptick_in_job_approval_-_and_will_it_stick_112058.html

He's always calm, but also forceful and brutally honest. And he bears some resemblance to Bill Buckley. But Lord Monckton would never "plaster" someone like Gore Vidal; he'd just slice him to bits with his tongue.

Leaders, with Ginni Thomas: Lord Christopher Monckton

13 Nov 2011

The left despises Lord Christopher Monckton.

A domestic and science policy adviser to then-British Prime Minister Margaret Thatcher in the 1980s, Monckton has become the bane of the radical environmental movement. He articulately debunks the intellectual foundation of global warming theory for the layperson.

Though former Vice President Al Gore has so far ignored Monckton's repeated challenges to debate the science behind climate change, Monckton's arguments have spread far and wide...

Watch: <http://dailycaller.com/2011/11/13/leaders-with-ginni-thomas-lord-christopher-monckton/>

(Nine segments: 8:33, 2:07, 2:15, 6:02, 5:36, 4:44, 7:26, 5:09, and 5:00)

Did the Mossad target Iran's military in blast last weekend?

by Rick Moran, 14 Nov 2011

US intelligence officials say yes—it was a Mossad operation carried out at not just any ammunition dump but a base for the sophisticated Shahab missiles. The Shahab 3 is the missile mentioned in the IAEA report that was being sized up for a nuclear warhead by Iranian scientists...

Read on: http://www.americanthinker.com/blog/2011/11/did_the_mossad_target_irans_military_in_blast_last_weekend.html

Grover Norquist and the Iran Lobby

by Clare M. Lopez and David Reaboi, 14 Nov 2011

A report by the International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA) released this week shows that Iran has made **considerable progress** in its nuclear weapons program. This alarming move toward a deliverable nuclear capability also demonstrates the dangerous consequences of the efforts—from 2007 through at least 2010—by a group of Washington anti-Israel activists and lobbyists who went to bat for the Islamic Republic through an organization known as the Campaign for a New American Policy for Iran (CNAPI).

This report is about the ways that Grover Norquist's Americans for Tax Reform (ATR) supported CNAPI activities, through support for a second organization, the American Conservative Defense Alliance (ACDA), a founder and leader of the CNAPI campaign. The policies for which CNAPI lobbied became the do-nothing Iranian policies of the Obama campaign in 2008 and of the Obama administration to the present day: no support for the Iranian Green movement and Iranian democracy activists, few or no economic sanctions, and no military option. And advocacy for unconditional negotiations, as Obama had advocated during the 2008 campaign...

More: http://www.americanthinker.com/2011/11/grover_norquist_and_the_iran_lobby.html

If you contribute any money to the Smithsonian, or subscribe to its magazine, now would be the time to **STOP**.

Smithsonian 'sent representatives' to collect 'Occupy' memorabilia to 'document spirit of American democracy'

by *Lucas Zellers, 11 Nov 2011*

The National Museum of American History sent representatives out to collect materials from the Occupy Wall Street protests and "its various offshoots" to "document the spirit of American democracy and the American political process," according to a statement released by the museum which is part of the federally funded Smithsonian Institution...

Be sure to read the Comments:

<http://www.cnsnews.com/news/article/smithsonian-sent-representatives-collect-occupy-memorabilia-document-spirit-american>

Union-bought Democrat calls for end of Congressional probe into Obama's NLRB

LaborUnionReport, 10 Nov 2011

Rep. Elijah Cummings (D) is from Maryland. He doesn't like the fact that Lindsay Graham (R) from South Carolina is fighting the union appointees at the National Labor Relations Board and their attempt to shut down Boeing's new 787 assembly line *in Graham's own state*. As a result, Cummings is accusing Boeing of unduly influencing Graham and is demanding that Congress step aside for the NLRB...

More: <http://www.redstate.com/laborunionreport/2011/11/10/union-bought-democrat-calls-for-end-of-congressional-probe-into-obamas-nlr/>

Hat tip: Ann Marie

Technology rewrites the Fourth Amendment

Do police need a warrant to put a GPS tracking device on a citizen's car?

by *L. Gordon Crovitz, 14 Nov 2011*

Technology has changed how information flows, how people communicate, and even the meaning of "friend," which has become a verb. Now, add to the imperial reach of technology the power to rewrite constitutional protections.

A case argued last week in the Supreme Court hinges on what Americans consider "reasonable" under the Fourth Amendment's prohibition of unreasonable searches and seizures. Not even Mark Zuckerberg of Facebook has always correctly anticipated how much privacy people expect, so imagine how hard this is for nine people trained as lawyers, not engineers or online marketers...

More: <http://online.wsj.com/article/SB10001424052970204358004577032023518347912.html>

California — toxic for business

Unless Sacramento moves to improve the business climate, California's reputation as one of the country's most toxic business environments will make it hard for the Golden State to regain its luster.

by *Wendell Cox and Steven Malanga, 14 Nov 2011*

<http://www.latimes.com/news/opinion/commentary/la-oe-cox-malanga-california-business-20111114,0,1011551.story>



November 14, 2011 is the 103rd birthday of a great American.

Whom Do You Trust?

by Don John

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

With friends like these...

by Caroline Glick, 10 Nov 2011

... When has Netanyahu ever lied to Sarkozy and Obama? This week the UN International Atomic Energy Agency's report about Iran's nuclear weapons program made clear that Israel—Netanyahu included—has been telling the truth about Iran and its nuclear ambitions all along. In contrast, world leaders have been lying and burying their heads in the sand. Since Iran's nuclear weapons program was first revealed to the public in 2004, Israel has provided in-depth intelligence information proving Iran's malign intentions to the likes of Sarkozy, Obama and the UN. And for seven years, the US government—Obama included—has claimed that it lacked definitive proof of Iran's intentions...

...It was the US intelligence community that purposely deceived the American government and people about the gravest immediate threat to US national security. Israel, including Netanyahu, was telling the truth.

So if Netanyahu never lied about Iran, what might these two major world leaders think he lies about? Why don't they want to speak with him anymore? Could it be they don't like the way he is managing their beloved "peace process" with the Palestinians? The fact is that the only times Netanyahu has spoken less than truthfully about the Palestinians were those instances when he sought to appease the likes of Obama and Sarkozy... There was never any chance for peace because the Palestinians have no interest in making peace with Israel. As the West's favorite Palestinian "moderate," Fatah leader and Palestinian Authority chairman Mahmoud Abbas said in an interview with Egypt's Dream TV on October 23, "I've said it before and I'll say it again. I will never recognize the 'Jewishness' of the State [of Israel] or a 'Jewish state.'" That is, Abbas will never make peace with Israel...

More: <http://www.carolineglick.com/e/standard/articles-1/>

De-Christianizing Dr. King

by Peter Heck, 13 Nov 2011

On the surface, I suppose it does sound incredible: they created a monument to honor an influential Baptist minister and they omitted any reference to God or Jesus in the featured quotations throughout the memorial...

...It's clear that the purpose of this monument was to further imbed into our national psyche a caricature of Dr. King that the left has been creating for the last few decades. By scandalously projecting their own modern liberal

interpretations of 'social justice' onto him, they have redesigned King to fit the mold of a secular humanist warrior. We shouldn't be surprised then that the monument they created in his honor omitted the things that were most important to him... While the left continues making more out of the color of a man's skin than the content of his character, Dr. King's dream slips further and further beyond our grasp...

Read the rest: http://www.americanthinker.com/2011/11/de-christianizing_dr_king.html

Europe's disaster is headed our way

Can America withstand the death spiral of debt?

by Niall Ferguson, 13 Nov 2011

...The third reason Americans should care about Europe is more important even than the risk of a renewed financial crisis. It is the danger that what is happening in Europe today could ultimately happen here. Just a few months ago, almost nobody was worried about Italy's vast debt, which amounts to 121 percent of GDP. Then suddenly panic set in, and Italy's borrowing costs exploded from 3.5 percent to 7.5 percent.

Today the U.S. gross federal debt stands at around 100 percent of GDP. Four years ago it was 62 percent. By 2016 the International Monetary Fund forecasts it will be 115 percent. Economists who should know better insist that this is not a problem...

More: <http://www.thedailybeast.com/articles/2011/11/12/europe-s-financial-crisis-is-headed-to-america.html>

Talking Turkey

by Jeff Lipkes, 13 Nov 2011

There is an illegal occupation that has gone on for decades in the Middle East, and it's not being enforced by the IDF... There is also a nationality in the Middle East without a homeland, and whose struggle to secure one has been brutally suppressed. Not the usual suspects. The people are the Kurds and their oppressor is Turkey, along with Iran...

...Leadership in the Islamic conquest of the West passed from the Arabs to the Turks at the beginning of the 16th century. The Arabs had seized the Mediterranean basin, including Sicily and the other islands, nearly all of Spain, and parts of southern France and the coast of Italy. The Turks then took the Balkans and Hungary and reached the gates of Vienna in 1529 and again in 1683. Now, with the Greeks and Armenians gone, the extirpation of non-Muslims in dar al Islam has passed into Arab hands. Maronites, Assyrians, and Copts have been persecuted and killed. The situation looks especially grim for Copts, if an Islamicist winter follows the "Arab Spring."

Meanwhile, on our watch, about 400,000 Christians, about half the population, have fled Iraq. The elimination of Israel is to be the grand finale of this long campaign. The *bien pensants* of the West are indifferent to the ethnic cleansing of non-Muslims, when they do not actively support it, as in Kosovo...

Fascinating history: http://www.americanthinker.com/2011/11/talking_turkey.html

Both Solyndra and Fast-and-Furious have become impossible to cover up.

Whiff of scandal now taints Barack Obama

by Toby Harnden, 13 Nov 2011

...Cronyism, incompetence, stonewalling, evasion and smears—it is not a pretty picture.

<http://blogs.telegraph.co.uk/news/tobyharnden/100117187/american-way-whiff-of-scandal-now-taints-barack-obama/>

The Devil and Joe Paterno

by Ross Douthat, 13 Nov 2011

http://www.nytimes.com/2011/11/13/opinion/sunday/douthat-the-devil-and-joe-paterno.html?_r=2&ref=opinion

The Penn State scandal echoes a hockey horror

by John Ondrasik, 10 Nov 2011

http://sportsillustrated.cnn.com/2011/writers/john_ondrasik/11/09/penn.state.sandusky/

Deficit-Reduction Fever

by Mark Steyn, 12 Nov 2011

...It turns out that a committee created to reduce the deficit is instead going to increase it. As the Hill reported: "Democrats on the supercommittee have proposed that the savings from the end of the wars in Iraq and Afghanistan be used to pay for a new stimulus package, according to a summary of the \$2.3 trillion plan obtained by the Hill."...Let us note in passing that, according to the official CBO estimates, a whole decade's worth of war in both Iraq and Afghanistan adds up to little more than Obama's 2009 stimulus bill...

...But, aside from that, in what sense are these "savings"? The Iraq War is ended — or, at any rate "ended" at least as far as U.S. participation in it is concerned. How then can congressional accountants claim to be able to measure "savings" in 2021 from a war that ended a decade earlier?

And why stop there? Why not estimate around \$2 trillion in savings by 2031? After all, that would free up even more money for a bigger stimulus package, wouldn't it? And it wouldn't cost us anything because it would all be "savings." Come to think of it, didn't the Second World War end in 1945? Could we have the CBO score the estimated two-thirds of a century of "budget savings" we've enjoyed since ending that war?

We could use the money to fund free master's degrees in Complacency and Self-Esteem Studies for everyone, and that would totally stimulate the economy. The Spanish-American War ended 103 years ago, so imagine how much cash has already piled up! Like they say at Publishers' Clearing House, you may already have won!...

More: <http://www.nationalreview.com/articles/282998/deficit-reduction-fever-mark-steyn>

Media attempt to cover up Obama comments on Israel

by Roger Aronoff, 12 Nov 2011

The incident involving a live microphone that took place last week at the G20 summit in Cannes, France involving President Barack Obama, President Nicolas Sarkozy of France, and the prime minister of Israel, Benjamin Netanyahu, was an important revelation on several levels...

More: <http://www.aim.org/aim-column/media-attempt-to-cover-up-obama-comments-on-israel/>

The Blue Wall Street Blues

by James G. Wiles, 11 Nov 2011

This has been a rough few weeks for the Democratic narrative about what's wrong with America going into the 2012 election cycle. Basically, they've just been mugged by reality...

More: http://www.americanthinker.com/2011/11/the_blue_wall_street_blues.html

The battle begins: The Rise of the Tea Party

by Carl M. Cannon and Tom Bevan, 11 Nov 2011

On January 24, 2009, in Binghamton, New York, four days after President Obama's inauguration, two-dozen college-age protesters showed up carrying placards saying BORN FREE AND TAXED TO DEATH.

They had assembled to protest Gov. David Paterson's proposed "obesity tax" on soft drinks. The protesters were led by Trevor Leach, who had just been named as the first New York state chairman of a group called Young Americans for Liberty, an offshoot of the 2008 Ron Paul for President campaign. Leach, then twenty-four years old, sported a feathered headdress intended to evoke the original Boston Tea Party that helped launch the American Revolution...

More: http://www.realclearpolitics.com/articles/2011/11/11/rise_of_the_tea_party_112035.html

The Middle East Studies establishment vs. Walid Phares

by Cinnamon Stillwell, 11 Nov 2011

When Republican presidential candidate Mitt Romney announced last month that **Walid Phares**—a Lebanese-American Christian, adjunct professor of jihadist global strategies at the National Defense University, and former Middle East studies professor at Florida Atlantic University—would be a **special adviser** on the Middle East and North Africa, it elicited howls of fury from the **usual suspects**. Nihad Awad, executive director of the Council on American-Islamic Relations (CAIR)—an unindicted co-conspirator in the Holy Land Foundation Hamas funding case and the chief **Islamist**

organ in the U.S.—sent a letter to the Romney campaign stating CAIR's predictable objections, while publications such as the *Daily Beast*, *Salon.com*, and *Mother Jones* followed suit with **error-filled hit pieces**.

Phares's moral clarity on Islamism and jihadism do not sit well with those who would rather engage in apologetics and obstructionism. This explains why his fiercest opponents have included some of the worst from the field of Middle East studies...

More: http://www.americanthinker.com/2011/11/the_middle_east_studies_establishment_vs_walid_phares.html

K Street's Super Committee Splurge

by *Michelle Malkin*, 11 Nov 2011

The bipartisan debt panel to nowhere is exactly where K Street lobbyists want it to be: hopelessly deadlocked. A November 23 deadline for agreement on \$1.2 trillion in budget savings is looming, but no real reductions in the size, scope or spending of government are on the table. Instead, we are witnessing another obscene special-interest splurge to preserve the status quo. All in the name of "reform," of course...

More: <http://www.nationalreview.com/articles/282930/k-street-s-supercommittee-splurge-michelle-malkin>

Remembering a Soldier's Soldier

The stellar example of Maj. Dick Winters.

by *Lee Habeeb*, 11 Nov 2011

<http://www.nationalreview.com/articles/282922/remembering-soldier-s-soldier-lee-habeeb>

To the shores of Tripoli

by *Dymphna*, 10 Nov 2011

The day comes 'round once more. Two hundred and thirty six years old and still counting.

November 10, 1775. That's the codified date of the birth of the today's United States Marine Corps. Now, 236 years later, it's still a going concern with far more traditions and tales than any other branch of the military.

For one thing, there's the great founding story of the first recruitment of 'a few good men' during the Revolutionary War. With the approval of the Continental Congress, Captain Nicholas signed up two battalions' worth at Tun's Tavern in Philadelphia. Most Marines find this birthplace — a tavern — most fitting for their gung-ho *esprit de corps*...

Read the rest: <http://gatesofvienna.blogspot.com/2011/11/to-shores-of-tripoli.html#more>

And watch this: http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=YbySCpGtot8&feature=player_embedded

It's time for British Freedom

by *Baron Bodissey*, 9 Nov 2011

...The three major parties — Labour, the Lib-Dems, and the Tories — march in lockstep on the issue of Multiculturalism. Labour was responsible for opening the floodgates of Muslim immigration over the past fifteen years, and the other two parties now fall all over themselves pandering to the powerful new Muslim minority, especially to those worthies who claim to represent the "Muslim community" in the UK. Despite his lip-service to the idea of change, prime minister David "Multiculturalism Has Failed" Cameron has proposed no policies that stand a chance of slowing the country's headlong rush to destruction.

The political class as a whole is morally bankrupt, devoid of meaningful ideas, and completely incapable of charting a new course for the people of the United Kingdom.

Yet the British electorate need not despair — a ray of hope has just appeared on the horizon. That glimmer of light is known as "British Freedom," a party that was founded about a year ago. It recently reorganized itself and elected a new Executive Council...British Freedom issued the following press release earlier today about the new face of the party...

More: <http://gatesofvienna.blogspot.com/2011/11/its-time-for-british-freedom.html#more>

David Axelrod's pattern of sexual misbehavior

by Ann Coulter, 9 Nov 2011

Herman Cain has spent his life living and working all over the country—Indiana, Georgia, Minnesota, Nebraska, Kansas, Washington, D.C.—but never in Chicago. So it's curious that all the sexual harassment allegations against Cain emanate from Chicago: home of the Daley machine and Obama consigliere David Axelrod...

...Bialek's accusations were certainly specific. But they also demonstrated why anonymous accusations are worthless. Within 24 hours of Bialek's press conference, friends and acquaintances of hers stepped forward to say that she's a "gold-digger," that she was constantly in financial trouble—having filed for personal bankruptcy twice—and, of course, that she had lived in Axelrod's apartment building at 505 North Lake Shore Drive, where, she admits, she knew the man The New York Times calls Obama's "hired muscle." Throw in some federal tax evasion, and she's Obama's next Cabinet pick. The reason all this is relevant is that both Axelrod and Daley have a history of smearing political opponents by digging up claims of sexual misconduct against them...

...The only reason Obama became a U.S. senator—allowing him to run for president—is that David Axelrod pulled sealed divorce records out of a hat, first, against Obama's Democratic primary opponent, and then against Obama's Republican opponent...

...And that's how Obama became a senator four years after losing a congressional race to Bobby Rush. (In a disastrous turn of events, Rush was not divorced.) Axelrod destroyed the only two men who stood between Obama and the Senate with illicitly obtained, lurid allegations from their pasts...

Read it all: <http://www.humanevents.com/article.php?id=47438>

(Hat tip: Ann Marie)

Investigator: Herman Cain innocent of sexual advances

WGCL-TV, CBS Atlanta, 10 Nov 2011

...CBS Atlanta's Mike Paluska played Cain's speech for Ward into the software and watched as it analyzed Cain's every word. "If he is hiding something this thing would have spiked way down here," said Ward. "He is being truthful, totally truthful. He is a man with integrity and he talked directly about not knowing any incident he is accused of."

The software analyzes the stress level and other factors in your voice. During the speech, when Cain denied the claims, the lie detector read "low risk." According to Ward, that means Cain is telling the truth.

During the section of Bialek's news conference where she says, "He suddenly reached over put his hand on my leg under my skirt and reached for my genitals he also grabbed my head brought it towards his crotch." During the analysis of that section the software said "high risk statement." Ward said that means she is not telling the truth about what happened. "I don't think she is fabricating her meetings," said Ward. But she is fabricating what transpired."

More: <http://www.cbsatlanta.com/story/16002149/investigator-herman-cain-innocent-of-sexual-advances>

Big Labor's Ohio win doesn't end fiscal crises

by Matt Patterson, 10 Nov 2011

...Reuters sums up the dismal findings... It found that in total, states are in debt for \$4.2 trillion. And keep in mind that state government fiscal calculations, "do not offer a full picture of the states' liabilities and can rely on budget gimmicks and accounting games to hide the extent of the deficit." (If you did that it would be called "illegally cooking the books," but never mind.) Other estimates of state liabilities are lower. The American Enterprise Institute puts public pension shortfalls at \$2.8 trillion; the Pew Center on the States at about \$700 billion, and so on. But that is the truly frightening aspect of this whole debt crisis—no one seems to know how much is really owed.

To put it another way, if you knew you were in debt by about \$4 trillion, you'd be screwed, but at least you'd know how screwed you were. But if you owed so much money that a dozen different accountants couldn't even agree on the amount, well, that's a whole different kind of screwed, isn't it?

How did it get so bad? One clue comes from a joint investigation by the Chicago Tribune and WGN-TV, which has uncovered massive pension abuse by Illinois public-sector unions. Two union lobbyists, Steven Preckwinkle and David Piccioli, reports the Tribune, "... stand to receive more than a million dollars each from a state pension fund," thanks to a legal loophole that allowed them to count their years as union employees toward the teacher pension fund because of a single day of substitute teaching in 2007. And it is a similar story across the country—wherever you find an empty public purse, you will nearby find a bloated but still-ravenous government employee union...

More: <http://washingtosexaminer.com/opinion/op-eds/2011/11/big-labors-ohio-win-doesnt-end-states-fiscal-crises>

Occupy Fannie and Freddie

by Debra Saunders, 10 Nov 2011

...Wall Street greed and hubris resulted in the \$700 billion TARP bailout—with \$309 billion going to banks and financial institutions—during the George W. Bush administration. But the housing bubble was hatched thanks to President Clinton's well-intended plan to boost American homeownership. As Gretchen Morgenson and Joshua Rosner wrote in their book, *Reckless Endangerment*, Clinton's "Partners in Homeownership wound up decimating the middle class."

Bowing to Washington, banks dropped traditional down payments and longstanding underwriting criteria. More people could afford to buy homes. Home prices rose past the point the market could bear. The banks did not act alone. Government-sponsored entities Fannie Mae and Freddie Mac were great enablers—the government's contribution to crony capitalism.

Banks have repaid most of the TARP bailout. As a result, the expected tab to taxpayers, according to Investors Business Daily, could be as little as \$19 billion. But the Fannie and Freddie bailouts have cost U.S. taxpayers close to \$170 billion...

More: <http://www.sfgate.com/cgi-bin/article.cgi?f=/c/a/2011/11/09/ED001LS5EH.DTL>

J. Edgar the film falls for KGB disinformation

by Bernie Reeves, 9 Nov 2011

The rumor that J. Edgar Hoover was gay is repeated in the new biopic *J. Edgar* opening this week. And herein lies a useful lesson worth noting: Hoover's alleged homosexuality was contrived by the KGB in the 1960s...

More: http://www.americanthinker.com/blog/2011/11/j_edgar_the_film_falls_for_kgb_disinformation.html

The real J. Edgar Hoover

by Elise Cooper, 9 Nov 2011

http://www.americanthinker.com/2011/11/the_real_j_edgar_hoover.html

OWS: Plato bets on Tyranny

by Ed Kaitz, 9 Nov 2011

It might be worth everyone's while in these troubled times to set aside an evening in order to carefully read Book VIII of Plato's *Republic*. The dialogue is nothing less than chilling in its illustration of what happens in a popular government when corrupt politicians inflame the vices of undisciplined citizens in order to destroy the business class and establish a tyranny.

Here's a [link](#) to Book VIII. Plato's objective is to show how highly self-disciplined regimes gradually devolve into more inferior and immoderate governments. Socrates begins the discussion showing how Aristocracies (rule of the wisest) devolve into Timocracies (rule of the military) which then descend into Oligarchies (rule of the wealthy). Oligarchies descend into Democracies (rule of the people) which in turn become Tyrannies...

Read on: http://www.americanthinker.com/blog/2011/11/ows_plato_bets_on_tyrranny.html

This is what Anarchy looks like

More stories of violence at Obamaville.

by James Taranto, 8 Nov 2011

http://online.wsj.com/article/SB10001424052970204554204577026282449099506.html?mod=WSJ_Opinion_MIDDLETopOpinion

These worthless morons should all be rounded up and gassed—no, not like Hitler's victims, but like the worthless, crazed, marauding animals they are. However, we wouldn't have to gas anyone who tried to block MY car.

Occupy DC pushes grandma down stairs

conservARTive, 5 Nov 2011

Occupy DC attack victims interviewed

conservARTive, 6 Nov 2011

"Occupy DC" violently raids Tea Party's "Defending the American Dream Summit"...many injured

777jesusrox, 5 Nov 2011

Unions win a round in Ohio; ObamaCare goes down bigtime

by Thomas Lifson, 9 Nov 2011

http://www.americanthinker.com/blog/2011/11/unions_win_a_round_in_ohio.html

But that headline DOESN'T mention a third, more significant part of the story. A Reagan-appointed judge in the DC circuit has gone communist. In a 2-1 opinion claiming ObamaCare to be constitutional, he has written some seditious garbage worthy of Nancy Pelosi:

... "That a direct requirement for most Americans to purchase any product or service seems an intrusive exercise of legislative power surely explains why Congress has not used this authority before—but that seems to us a political judgment rather than a recognition of constitutional limitations," Judge Laurence Silberman, an appointee of President Ronald Reagan wrote in the court's opinion. Silberman was joined by Judge Harry Edwards, a Carter appointee. But, they added, "The right to be free from federal regulation is not absolute and yields to the imperative that Congress be free to forge national solutions to national problems."

One woman who accused Cain of sexual harassment now works for Obama

8 Nov 2011

... Karen Kraushaar, a 55-year-old former journalist who currently works for the Obama administration, was outed today as one of the three women who had filed sexual harassment complaints against Cain... Until now, three of the four women who had lodged complaints against Cain had remained anonymous. Kraushaar now serves as a communications director at the Inspector General's Office of the Treasury Department, a position she has held since 2010...

More: http://www.nypost.com/p/news/national/woman_obama_accused_herman_cain_YUPqjDLbeq89nhLTER8V6N

The only good occupation...

by James Lewis, 8 Nov 2011

... Is taking responsibility for your own neurotic hangups, and not blaming your gnawing feelings of inferiority on the most miraculous, creative, and popular economic system in the world—including the parts of China, India, and Russia that actually work.

Is learning about capitalism, before revealing your fathomless ignorance to the world. And no, *Das Kapital* is not about capitalism. It's about the personal alienation and greed of an angry kid who grew up in Prussia almost two hundred years ago, and who thirsted to make the whole world like the Prussian Empire, complete with millions of marching robots. (See North Korea today).

Is not getting manipulated by a sinister cabal of billionaire lefties who want to buy political power for themselves, and thinking that you're doing something noble, idealistic, and unselfish. You're not. You're just flattering your own neurotic egomania, the personality disorder that kept getting you in trouble with your family, your friends, and your impersonal sex partners.

Is growing up.

Is respecting other human beings, who know a lot more about living than you, in your arrogance, think you do.

Is understanding that the Nazi Occupation of Europe, the Chinese Occupation of Tibet, the Soviet Occupation of Eastern Europe, and the Radical Occupation of American Universities are all the same, evil, and deeply selfish thing. They always lead to tyrannies and dictatorships...

More: http://www.americanthinker.com/2011/11/the_only_good_occupation.html

Media fails a sobriety test on Rick Perry

Investor's Business Daily, 8 Nov 2011

...The "bizarre" video was a selectively edited YouTube version that ignored the totality of a speech well-received by an audience that gave it a standing ovation.

Schieffer ignored the substance of the speech, preferring to concentrate on Perry's perhaps awkward attempts at humor and some gratuitous slaps at the candidate's character.

Schieffer, in the highest traditions of his network and profession, told his guests that "Democrat Steve McMahon just came right out and said I think he was drunk." And to be fair and balanced, he said of GOP consultant Charlie Black that "it was his understanding that Rick Perry had back problems and maybe this was something to do with the medication he was taking."

We haven't seen such objectivity since perhaps Dan Rather ended his career with a bogus story based on forged documents about how former F-102 fighter pilot and then-President George W. Bush used family influence to allegedly dodge service in Vietnam...

More: <http://news.investors.com/Article.aspx?id=590861&p=1>

Islamists in power; what could go wrong?

by Barry Rubin, 6 Nov 2011

The *New York Times* has run an op-ed entitled, 'The Overblown Islamist Threat.' Big surprise: There's no Islamist threat! They're all moderates! Just like in 1979 Iran or in Turkey more recently. Do you think we might see an op-ed in the *New York Times* entitled, 'The Islamist Threat is Very Real?' Of course not.

But the real surprise is the author's identity. It's former Jordanian foreign minister Marwan Muasher. Huh? Jordan's policy on Islamism has been based precisely on the idea that letting them take power would be the end of the regime and a disaster for the country. How has Jordan handled the Islamists? By assuming they would win any fair elections, thus ensuring that elections were fixed, the Muslim Brotherhood constantly intimidated and never able to get any real power. Otherwise, Muasher and his friends would be shot or on trial; Jordan would stumble into a disastrous war with Israel, and the country turned into a ferociously repressive dictatorship. But since Muasher is now in Washington DC, he wouldn't have to flee into exile. Like George Costanza in *Seinfeld*, everything Muasher says in the article is the opposite of reality...

Read on: <http://www.jpost.com/Opinion/Columnists/Article.aspx?id=244616>

The Great Recession is now the Great Restructuring

by Christopher Chantrill, 8 Nov 2011

...Even Walmart is dedicated to the principle of giving its lower-level workers the power to make significant decisions. So when well-intentioned educationists start to think about saving the poor "workers whose skills are limited to following directions in well-defined jobs," you start to worry. Is it possible that the people that brought us crony green capitalism, failed stimuli, bankrupt Fannies and Freddie's, and government high schools from which 50 percent of the graduates need remedial help at college have *anything* to teach us on how to restructure the economy?

Elites have a role to play in modern society, and they can help with the Great Restructuring. But the path forward will be cleared by millions of ordinary Hayekian strivers and the innovation of a few unheralded geniuses, not by the credentialed great and good. The best thing our intelligent elite can do is go to Hippocratic reeducation camp and resolve to "do no harm."...

More: http://www.americanthinker.com/2011/11/the_great_recession_is_now_the_great_restructuring.html

Mitt Romney loves Medicare very much and won't ever let anyone take it away, no matter what

by Peter Suderman, 7 Nov 2011

At a Friday speech in Washington, Mitt Romney complained once again that "President Obama is the only president in history who has cut Medicare for seniors" and promised with a straight face to "Protect Medicare. Improve the program. And keep it sustainable for generations to come."

His plan to save the program from eventual bankruptcy? As is so often the case with Romney's policy proposals, the details are still vague. Even still, there's an easy way to describe the basic framework: It's ObamaCare for seniors—

but with the addition of a government-run "public option," also known as traditional Medicare.

The plan bears all of the now-familiar hallmarks of a Romney policy proposal. It's vague. It's designed for maximum pandering. And Romney was against it before he was for it...

Continue: <http://reason.com/blog/2011/11/07/mitt-romney-loves-medicare-very-much-and>

Unions: good for bad teachers, bad for kids

by John Stossel, 6 Nov 2011

...Tenure is bad. Some teachers are more effective than others—yet the union frowns on giving the best teachers extra pay for excellence. They even frown on paying lousy teachers less. They snarl at the idea of ever firing a teacher. Public school teachers typically get tenure once they've taught for about 3 years. After that, the union and civil service protection make it just about impossible to fire them. They basically have a job for life.

In Patterson, NJ, it's ex-police detective Jim Smith's job to investigate claims against bad teachers and to try to go through the union-created, insane process of trying to fire REALLY bad ones. He says it's so hard to fire anyone that it took years to fire a teacher who hit kids. "It took me four years and \$283,000. \$127,000 in legal fees plus what it cost to have a substitute fill in, all the while he's sitting home having popcorn," said Smith.

This is not how it works in real life: the private sector...

More: <http://www.foxbusiness.com/on-air/stossel/blog/2011/11/06/unions-good-bad-teachers-bad-kids>

A Good Progressive War

by Daniel Greenfield, 1 Nov 2011

Finally after ten years of bitter debates over when the United States is allowed to go to war, what a legitimate war is and how much intelligence, indignation and international approval is required before we go to war, the Obama administration has hand delivered the progressive definition of what a good liberal war is. If we can just analyze and break down the elements of what a good liberal war is, then we can be sure to have the support of the left in any future military campaign...

Devastating: <http://frontpagemag.com/2011/11/01/a-good-progressive-war/>

Jobless & shameless gal going for gold

by Andrea Peyser, 8 Nov 2011

Gold diggers—unite! Sharon Bialek is 50, out of work and, according to one who knows her, she's a smooth operator living way above her means. From the look of her heavily painted face, she's also soon to be in acute need of a new tub of eyeliner.

Enter Herman Cain. Bialek pranced into the Friars Club yesterday with lawyer—who else?—Gloria Allred aboard patent-leather do-me pumps. She proceeded to spill a dirty little secret she claims to have harbored these last 14 years—presidential front-runner and fellow Republican Herman Cain made a pass at my junk!

With that, she became the fourth woman to accuse the GOP presidential front-runner of sexual harassment—and the first to proudly show her face. She did so with the breathy giddiness of a gal who's read too many bodice-rippers. Bialek, who had her bleached-blond hair set in waves for the occasion, recounted with a broad grin the night back in 1997 when she flirted like a tart with the "inspirational" Mr. Cain...

More: http://www.nypost.com/p/news/national/jobless_shameless_gal_going_for_EODvX4qUTV8XoJwYqVF0LJ

Witness: Sharon Bialek hugged Herman Cain during Tea Party meeting a month ago

by Michael Sneed, 8 Nov 2011

...The encounter: "It looked sort of flirtatious," said Jacobson. "I mean they were hugging. But she could have been giving him the kiss of death for all I know. I had no idea what they were talking about, but she was inches from his ear."

The introduction: "It all began when I took a convention break and joined my pals at the hotel bar. Sharon was drinking Mimosas with them. She said she was a Republican, a Tea Party member, had once dated [White Sox sports announcer] Steve Stone and had worked at WGN radio."

The rendezvous: Sharon also said she was anxious to meet Cain again and had once gone to an afterparty with him and her boyfriend years ago. But she never mentioned he had sexually harassed her."

The upshot: Bialek has since applied for employment in sales at WIND radio and is scheduled for a second interview Thursday. So it goes.

More: <http://www.suntimes.com/8592168-417/sneed-witness-says-cain-accuser-hugged-him-during-tea-party-meeting-a-month-ago.html>

Cain accuser Sharon Bialek lived in same building as David Axelrod

8 Nov 2011

http://www.realclearpolitics.com/video/2011/11/08/cain_accuser_lives_in_same_building_as_david_axelrod.html

How low can one sink?

Don John, 7 Nov 2011

I used to enjoy reading columns and articles by Jennifer Rubin. A few months ago, she moved from *Commentary* to the *Washington Post*, a paper which, though not conservative, features several conservative writers and a number of other fair-minded people. Erick Erickson's **Oct. 26 column** at Redstate, titled "Washington Post puts a Romney blogger on the payroll to attack Romney's opponents," sounded an alarm about Miss Rubin's true agenda—one that *Commentary* would never have countenanced. Two subsequent Rubin pieces, "**Is Cain's denial plausible**" and "**Cain's noxious racial politics**," certainly bolstered Mr. Erickson's notion. And three obnoxious posts she published today, "**Cain doesn't get to determine 'We're moving on,'**" "**A new and serious allegation against Herman Cain**," and "**The new Cain allegation is a narrative-changer**," conclusively confirm Rubin's lack of good faith and journalistic integrity.

The pieces I posted yesterday (see **Joseph Curl**, **Toby Harnden**, and **Agence France Presse**, below) show that the scurrilous, unproven, and still largely nebulous charges against Mr. Cain seem to be drawing a collective yawn from the nearly everyone to the right of Nancy Pelosi. At such a time, why would any conservative journalist keep on riding the same old hobbyhorse—unless she's a shill for one of Cain's G.O.P. competitors?

I freely admit that the best candidate *may* actually turn out to be Mitt Romney instead of Cain, Gingrich, Perry, or any of the others. But to assault one's fellow Republicans is always a waste of effort, especially when the Democrats are so deserving of attack. It's bad enough when the GOP debates turn into a "circular firing squad" on matters of policy. We shouldn't give aid and comfort and co-operation to America's enemies (the Dems and the media) when they try to foist flimsy tales on the public.

Today, for the first time, a woman actually "came forward," as the media have been saying for a week about the two or three others who actually *haven't* yet come forward with their names or any other specifics. Still, even if every word of Sharon Bialek's statement turns out to be true, does anyone—of any persuasion—really think that the sum total of Herman Cain's transgressions will sink anywhere near as low as serial ejaculations into a young intern's mouth, or getting drunk and driving off a bridge and leaving a young woman to drown?

The general public, by its continued support of Mr. Cain in opinion polls and cash contributions, seems to be saying three things to the Dems and the media:

"F*ck Bill Clinton, F*ck Teddy Kennedy, and F*ck You!"

Dittos, general public! And another round for Jennifer Rubin!

It appears more likely than ever that the president's actual father was someone other than Barack Obama Sr.—and that the president really was born in Hawaii. A fascinating piece.

The case against Barack Obama, Sr.

by Don Wilkie, 7 Nov 2011

It is widely held that Barack Obama, Sr., goat herder from Kenya, is the father of President Obama. We now know that this contention is probably false.

In Obama's autobiography, *Dreams from My Father*, he identifies Barack Obama, Sr. as his father. This book has been the primary source of information for all who have written about him. Yet two strong supporters of the president—David Remnick, author of *The Bridge*, a biography of Obama, and Janny Scott, author of *A Singular Woman*, a biography of Ann Dunham—have expressed doubts about the factual basis of *Dreams*...

More: http://www.americanthinker.com/2011/11/the_case_against_barack_obama_sr.html

A big win for farmers, consumers, California, and freedom.

Farmers 1, Smelt 0—for now

by Peter Hannaford, 7 Nov 2011

Nearly four years after environmentalists launched a campaign to kill farming in California's huge Central Valley, ostensibly to save a two-inch fish, the Delta Smelt, a U.S. District Court judge has ruled that the federal government's restrictions on farm water were "unworthy of the public trust."...

Read on: <http://spectator.org/archives/2011/11/07/farmers-1-smelt-0-for-now>

Politico and the Cain story that wasn't

by Joseph Curl, 6 Nov 2011

<http://www.washingtontimes.com/news/2011/nov/6/curl-politico-and-the-cain-story-that-wasnt/>

A funny thing happened on the way to the Herman Cain lynching

by Toby Harnden, 5 Nov 2011

<http://blogs.telegraph.co.uk/news/tobyharnden/100115731/american-way-a-funny-thing-happened-on-the-way-to-the-herman-cain-lynching/>

Cain emerges unscathed from US harassment storm

Agence France Presse, 6 Nov 2011

http://www.breitbart.com/article.php?id=CNG.850bcd3404f997227ec4dc17b232e8bb.3a1&show_article=1

Some very good ideas:

When I am President...

by Gov. Rick Perry, 3 Nov 2011

<http://www.washingtontimes.com/news/2011/nov/3/one-year-to-go-860941799/>

The Euro elite are totally out of touch with the modern world

The realities of 21st-century politics are finally catching up with the guardians of the single currency.

by Matthew d'Ancona, 6 Nov 2011

...Though its internal contradictions may yet have appalling economic consequences, the euro was always a political project, and one based on a quasi-religious, providential view of history and Europe's destiny. After 1989, the EU and the idea of the euro filled the Marx-shaped hole in the world-view of the Left, and presented a new teleology in which a whole continent was going to be bound together, inexorably, by a single currency.

It is astonishing to hear the very same people who said Britain would be consigned to irrelevance outside the euro now insisting that we have a neighbourly duty to prevent its implosion: we do have such a duty, but it is based on hard-nosed self-interest, not obligation to the continental sages who—betraying their ignorance of history and its magnificent unpredictability—once insisted that their grand *projet* would inevitably succeed. One of the many errors the Founding Fathers of the euro made was to underestimate the resilience of the nation state...

More: <http://www.telegraph.co.uk/news/worldnews/europe/eu/8871973/The-Euro-elite-are-totally-out-of-touch-with-the-modern-world.html>

Schoolkids need an education lobbyist

by Brian Calle, 6 Nov 2011

...For example, she said, "SAT scores were the lowest in the history of the test." And, perhaps more consequentially, she said, "We are not making the kind of progress and leaps that other countries are."

Why? "There are lots of special interests driving the agenda," Rhee said. "Testing companies, textbook companies and teachers unions" all play a role but there is "no organized national interest group for kids. Since there is no such entity," Rhee explained, "laws and policies skewed to those special interests which have billions of dollars and millions of people at their disposal."

Paul Peterson, director of the Program on Education Policy and Governance at Harvard University, characterized an "education-industrial complex, most notably the powerful teacher unions, that pour vast sums into political campaigns." Petersen, in a 2008 essay laid out the evolution of educational special interests: "Around 1970 or

thereabouts, the educational-industrial complex was hammered into place: School boards gave teachers collective bargaining rights. State governments assumed greater responsibility for financing the schools. The courts instructed schools on the civil liberties of their students. Regulations multiplied. America gained a federal Department of Education. And state and federal dollars poured into the system." With so much money at stake, economically interested parties sought to feed from the trough...

More: <http://www.ocregister.com/opinion/education-325483-rhee-teachers.html>

Obama becomes 'Silent Cal' on Libya, sharia

by Gregory Kane, 3 Nov 2011

With each passing day, we're learning more and more about the people President Obama tossed us into bed with in Libya. Here's a headline from the London Daily Mail, a British newspaper: "Now the rebels impose Shariah law as Islamic rules become 'basic source' of Libyan legislation."

In the story below the headline, readers learn from the chairman of Libya's National Transition Council that the country's new parliament will have "an Islamist tint," that "any existing laws contradicting the teachings of Islam would be nullified" and that men would be allowed to have as many as four wives.

Again, the question must be put to Barack Hussein "American Values" Obama, president of the United States: exactly how do Shariah law and polygamy reflect American values?

Remember, when Obama justified American and NATO airstrikes in Libya to support the rebel forces that toppled the regime of Moammar Gadhafi, he claimed that preventing bloodshed was an "American value." But there was bloodshed aplenty, as least on the side of Gadhafi forces. Gadhafi himself was a victim of the bloodshed, and the circumstances of his death that have come to light shed more light on what a sham Obama's claim of acting to preserve American values really is...

More: http://washingtonexaminer.com/opinion/columnists/2011/11/obama-becomes-silent-cal-libya-sharia?utm_source=TEMPLATE:%20Washington%20Examiner%20Opinion%20-%202011/03/2011&utm_medium=email&utm_campaign=Washington%20Examiner:%20Opinion%20Digest

Corporate Collaborators

Standing with "the 99%" means supporting the destruction of civilized society.

by Mark Steyn, 5 Nov 2011

Way back in 1968, after the riots at the Democratic Convention in Chicago, Mayor Daley declared that his forces were there

to "preserve disorder." I believe that was one of Hizzoner's famous malapropisms. Forty-three years later Jean Quan, mayor of Oakland, and the Oakland city council have made "preserving disorder" the official municipal policy. On Wednesday, the "Occupy Oakland" occupiers rampaged through the city, shutting down the nation's fifth-busiest port, forcing stores to close, terrorizing those residents foolish enough to commit the reactionary crime of "shopping," destroying ATMs, spraying the Christ the Light Cathedral with the insightful observation "F**k," etc. And how did the Oakland city council react? The following day they considered a resolution to express their support for "Occupy Oakland" and to call on the city administration to "collaborate with protesters."

That's "collaborate" in the Nazi-occupied-France sense: The city's feckless political class are collaborating with anarchists against the taxpayers who maintain them in their sinecures...

More: <http://www.nationalreview.com/articles/282280/corporate-collaborators-mark-steyn>

Are these the labour pains of a New Renaissance?

by Seneca III, 3 Nov 2011

...The giant Ponzi scheme that is European monetary union is on the verge of a well-deserved and long overdue collapse. It was always going to fail, of course, because it is a false construct designed not for the financial and fiscal benefit of the ordinary men and women of the Union but in order to enable the ushering in of a continent-wide socialist police state by means of subterfuge and stealth...

...The great Global Warming scam (a revealed belief system built on nameless fear and used to justify and enable the transfer of the fruit of our labours into the pockets of Multinational Industrialists, third world kleptocrats and offshore bankers) is now in its third incarnation, and stumbling as more and more of its premises are exposed as creative wishful thinking rather than the rational analysis of a few and often contradictory physical facts...

...The collective atrocity that is Multiculturalism, asylum-seeking, and immigration — those seemingly innocuous

categorisations of the deliberate, iniquitous process of our ethnic cleansing — is more and more being seen for what it is, and more and more of us have lost our fear of saying so in public...

More: <http://gatesofvienna.blogspot.com/2011/11/are-these-labour-pains-of-new.html>

Why our blacks are better than their blacks

by Ann Coulter, 2 Nov 2011

By spending the last three decades leveling accusations of "racism" every 10 seconds, liberals have made it virtually impossible for Americans to recognize real racism—for example, the racism constantly spewed at black conservatives. In the last year alone, a short list of the things liberals have labeled "racist" include:

- Being a Republican;
- Joining the Tea Party;
- The word "the" (Donald Trump's statement that he has a "great relationship with *the* blacks");
- References to Barack Obama's playing basketball (Trump again);
- Using Obama's middle name;
- Scott Brown's pickup truck;
- Opposing ObamaCare;
- Opposing Obama's stimulus bill;
- Opposing Obama's jobs bill...

Continue: <http://www.humanevents.com/article.php?id=47287&s=rcmp>

Outstanding conservative books of 2011:

Don't Let the Kids Drink the Kool-Aid by Marybeth Hicks

Left Turn: How Liberal Media Bias Distorts the American Mind by Tim Groseclose

After America by Mark Steyn

The Secret Knowledge: On the Dismantling of American Culture by David Mamet

Your Teacher Said WHAT?! by Joseph and Blake Kernan

Reckless Endangerment by Gretchen Morgenson and Joshua Rosner

If I were a liberal ...

by Ann Coulter, 26 Oct 2011

...Dozens and dozens of prisoners released from death row have gone on to murder again. No one knows exactly how many, but it's a lot more than the number of innocent men who have been executed in America, which, at least since 1950, is zero.

What is liberals' evidence that there will be more rapes and murders if Obama's jobs bill doesn't pass? Biden claims that, without it, there won't be enough cops to interrupt a woman being raped in her own home—which would be an amazing bit of police work/psychic talent, if it had ever happened. (That's why Americans like guns, liberals.)

Obama's jobs bill tackles the problem of rape and murder by giving the states \$30 billion—for public school teachers.

Only \$5 billion is even allotted to the police, but all we keep hearing about are the rapes and murders that Democrats are suddenly against (as long as being "against" rape and murder means funding public school teachers and not imprisoning or executing rapists and murderers). ..

Read the rest: <http://www.anncoulter.com/columns/2011-10-26.html>

If Israel strikes...

by Ken Blackwell, 4 Nov 2011

...Ehud Barak's comments are most interesting. He was the Labor Party Prime Minister in 2000 who offered the Palestinians 97 percent of the territory they claimed as theirs, reserving only those limited regions thought absolutely essential to Israeli security. The Palestinians balked and commenced yet another "intifada" uprising. The leaders of the PLO (Palestine Liberation Organization) preferred to send stone-throwing teenagers to confront armed Israeli soldiers

and tanks rather than engage in serious negotiations for peace. ..

...One thing should be clear: If Israel strikes Iran's nuclear weapons facilities, it will not be a first strike. Iran has been waging war against Israel for decades. Iran's Ahmadinejad has announced to the world that Israel will be "wiped off the map." Tehran has been arming Hezbollah in Southern Lebanon and Hamas in Gaza for years. These cats' paw terror groups have been doing Iran's bidding in murdering Israelis, kidnapping their soldiers, and raining rockets down on Israeli settlements.

Israel's dovish Defense Minister Ehud Barak is giving fair warning to the Obama administration: Israel will act to defend itself whether other powers take part or not. The right of self-defense is an inalienable right...

More: <http://spectator.org/archives/2011/11/04/if-israel-strikes>

Gov. Jan Brewer wins a round in the Great Arizona Redistricting Battle

by Elise Cooper, 5 Nov 2011

Governor Jan Brewer once again shows she is at the forefront of doing what is right for Arizona. The state's 5-member re-districting committee's Democrats and chairwoman wanted to turn a red-state congressional delegation blue by redrawing the boundaries of the state's congressional districts so that the Democrats would end with a 5-to-4 advantage.

Brewer called for the legislature to meet in a special session on November 1 to provide comments and recommendations regarding the congressional draft maps and for the state Senate to vote on removing the chairperson, Colleen Mathis. This was done with 21 Republicans voting yes, 6 Democrats voting no, and 3 Democrats not voting. Because Mathis did not perform the duties of her office, she was justly removed....

...From the very beginning, Mathis was a "closet Democrat." On her application she did not disclose that her husband was the treasurer for the campaign of a Democrat, which smells of fraud...

More: http://www.americanthinker.com/2011/11/gov_jan_brewer_wins_a_round_in_the_great_arizona_redistricting_battle.html

Obama orders drug shortages

He wants increased production of life-saving drugs while looking to punish any price increases. Good luck to us all.

by Robert M. Goldberg, 4 Nov 2011

...The executive order notes, "An important factor in many of the recent shortages appears to be an increase in demand that exceeds current manufacturing capacity." So the order directs the FDA to look for and report on potential drug shortages earlier and more regularly, speed up the review of applications needed to expand or start production and tell the Justice Department when about "possible instances" of collusion or price gouging.

In other words, the same companies the President is encouraging to increase production will also be suspected of criminal activity if they work together or raise prices in ways that—to FDA or DOJ lawyers—seem illegal. The only way to reduce your risk of being prosecuted or investigated is to keep prices where they are or ask permission to raise them first...

More: <http://spectator.org/archives/2011/11/04/obama-orders-drug-shortages>

Careful, OWS envy-mongers! The one percent have got your number

by Kyle-Anne Shiver, 5 Nov 2011

"...Go ahead and continue to take us down, but you're only going to hurt yourselves. What's going to happen when we can't find jobs on the Street anymore? Guess what: We're going to take yours.

"We get up at 5am & work till 10pm or later. We're used to not getting up to pee when we have a position. We don't take an hour or more for a lunch break. We don't demand a union. We don't retire at 50 with a pension. We eat what we kill, and when the only thing left to eat is on your dinner plates, we'll eat that.

"For years teachers and other unionized labor have had us fooled. We were too busy working to notice. Do you really think that we are incapable of teaching 3rd graders and doing landscaping? We're going to take your cushy jobs with tenure and 4 months off a year and whine just like you that we are so-o-o-o underpaid for building the youth of America. Say goodbye to your overtime and double time and a half. I'll be hitting grounders to the high school baseball team for \$5k extra a summer, thank you very much.

"So now that we're going to be making \$85k a year without upside, Joe Mainstreet is going to have his revenge, right? Wrong! Guess what..."

More: http://www.americanthinker.com/2011/11/careful_ows_envy-mongers_the_one_percent_have_got_your_number.html

Moral Abdication

by *Mona Charen, 4 Nov 2011*

...When the topic of human sacrifice was broached in the classroom, my son reported that none of his classmates was comfortable condemning the practice as immoral. "It was their culture," his classmates said. And it's wrong to impose your values on someone else's culture...

...The products of a culture that dares not condemn even human sacrifice for fear of transgressing multicultural taboos, these young people are morally adrift. Six out of ten told the authors that morality is a "personal choice," like preferring long or short hair. "Moral rights and wrongs are essentially matters of individual opinion."...

More: <http://www.nationalreview.com/articles/282206/moral-abdication-mona-charen>

WH rejects subpoena request for Solyndra docs

by *Philip Klein, 4 Nov 2011 (7:20pm EDT)*

President Obama's attorney sent a letter to Congressional investigators on Friday, saying the White House would not cooperate with a subpoena requesting documents related to its doling out a \$535 million loan guarantee to now bankrupt solar panel manufacturer Solyndra...

...Committee chairman Rep. Fred Upton, R-Mich, blasted the White House response: "We have been reasonable every step of the way in this investigation, and it is a shame that the Obama Administration and House Democrats continue to put up partisan roadblocks to hide the truth from taxpayers..."

More: <http://campaign2012.washingtonexaminer.com/blogs/beltway-confidential/wh-rejects-subpoena-request-solyndra-docs>

Who lost Iraq?

You know who.

by *Charles Krauthammer, 4 Nov 2011*

Barack Obama was a principled opponent of the Iraq War from its beginning. But when he became president in January 2009, he was handed a war that was won. The surge had succeeded. Al-Qaeda in Iraq had been routed, driven to humiliating defeat by an Anbar Awakening of Sunnis fighting side-by-side with the infidel Americans. Even more remarkably, the Shiite militias had been taken down, with American backing, by the forces of Shiite prime minister Nouri al-Maliki. They crushed the Sadr militias from Basra to Sadr City.

Al-Qaeda decimated. A Shiite prime minister taking a decisively nationalist line. Iraqi Sunnis ready to integrate into a new national government. U.S. casualties at their lowest ebb in the entire war. Elections approaching. Obama was left with but a single task: Negotiate a new status-of-forces agreement (SOFA) to reinforce these gains and create a strategic partnership with the Arab world's only democracy.

He blew it...

Read the rest: <http://www.nationalreview.com/articles/282201/who-lost-iraq-charles-krauthammer>

I'm sure this had no connection with the fact that Tony LaRussa and Albert Pujols attended Glenn Beck's "Restoring Honor" rally on 28 Aug 2010.

Cards snubbed by Obama?

No traditional White House call following Game 7 win

by *Charlie Brennan and Brett Blume, 4 Nov 2011*

<http://stlouis.cbslocal.com/2011/11/04/cards-snubbed-by-obama-no-traditional-white-house-call-following-game-7-win/>

You will not believe the stuff being taught in American schools by tracts from the Morningstar Center, and communists like Professor Polly Kellogg with her zero-sum, musical chairs notion of economics.

Occupying the minds of our youth

by *Brian Sussman, 4 Nov 2011*

"It cannot be the task of states to regulate opinions"

Human rights activist Elisabeth Sabaditsch-Wolff talks to Felix Strüning about Islamophobia and the OSCE.

...One of the people on the podium was Mrs. Liz Fekete, head of an anti-racism agency in Great Britain, who loudly lamented the horrible Breivik massacre, which allegedly is based on Islamophobia and stigmatizes Muslims even more than before. According to her, strengthening of laws is urgently needed to prevent further massacres. In her rage, she did not mention that Breivik did not invoke the Bible, but some 18,000 Islamic assassins since 2001 have invoked Koranic commandments to kill infidels. No, Islamophobia is the root of all evil.

Another speaker, Doctor Gudrun Harrer, a journalist with the *Austrian Standard*, referred to what she thought of as the ignorance of people about Islam. She knew what was what, since she had on her own time learned Arabic so that she could conclude a program of Islamic studies — a program that qualified her to promulgate the exclusive truth...

More: <http://gatesofvienna.blogspot.com/2011/11/it-cannot-be-task-of-states-to-regulate.html>

Does America deserve Obama?

by *David Deming, 4 Nov 2011*

...At the close of World War II, Germany and Korea were divided into socialist and market economies. Socialism failed dramatically. East Germany had to build the Berlin Wall just to keep people from fleeing. North Korea is still in the stone age. A satellite photo taken at night shows South Korea ablaze with the light of civilization. But North Korea is dark, both literally and metaphorically.

In the U.S., we exist in a curious state of denial. We acknowledge the inferiority of socialism but continue to become more and more socialistic. Every attempt to shrink the size of government or repeal a regulation brings about a shriek, like a bottle being pulled out of the mouth of an infant. I cannot recall a Republican president or Congress who reduced the size of the federal government. No one wants to surrender a special privilege or entitlement. We know what the best system is, but we lack the discipline to return to it.

Ronald Reagan used to say that liberals know only how to tax and spend. If there was ever a man who embodies that aphorism, it is Barack Obama. He has no clue as to how a free-market economy works or why it produces economic prosperity...He was elected democratically, and therefore is nothing more than an iconic representation of our own ignorance, greed, and infantile sense of entitlement...

More: http://www.americanthinker.com/2011/11/does_america_deserve_obama.html

Tommy: no jail time, no ASBO. Kevin: acquitted.

by *Baron Bodissey, 3 Nov 2011*

<http://gatesofvienna.blogspot.com/2011/11/tommy-no-jail-time-no-asbo-kevin.html#more>

The worst president since before the Civil War

by *Steve McCann, 3 Nov 2011*

...A cursory examination of Obama's overall record compared with other presidents reveals someone driven purely by statist ideology, whose narcissism renders him incapable of change regardless of the long-term consequences. He does not seem to care what happens to the American people.

Ronald Reagan and Franklin Roosevelt faced far worse economic conditions when they came into office than were in play when Barack Obama was elected president. Yet with one a fiscal conservative (Ronald Reagan) and the other (Franklin Roosevelt) a liberal Democrat, even though they pursued differing solutions to the dilemmas at hand, neither put the nation squarely and inexorably on the road to bankruptcy and second-class status.

Barack Obama and his apologists continuously claim that he inherited the worst economy since the Great Depression and that if it were not for his policies presently in place, matters would be far worse. The reality is that he did not inherit the worst economy since the 1930s, and his policies have diminished the standard of living for the majority of Americans. The actual factors in play for Barack Obama, Ronald Reagan, and Franklin Roosevelt when they assumed office were as follows...

More: http://www.americanthinker.com/2011/11/the_worst_president_since_before_the_civil_war.html

Death and Taxes 2012

<http://deathandtaxesposter.com/>

(Hat tip: Jim K and Jim D)

Hidden Persuaders

The unheralded gains of the pro-life movement.

by Fred Barnes , 30 Oct 2011 (Nov 7 issue)

http://www.weeklystandard.com/articles/hidden-persuaders_604174.html

Herman Cain's foreign policy muddle

by Lauri B. Regan, 3 Nov 2011

...This is not to say that Cain is an inexperienced ideologue like Obama. But Cain supporters are making the same mistake that Obama supporters made four years ago—they are not looking at the whole package and they are ignoring the devastatingly obvious warning signs. And what is the most glaring indication that Cain is not up to the task of Commander-in-Chief and leader of the free world? He is devoid of even the most basic knowledge of foreign policy and international affairs...

Read it all: http://www.americanthinker.com/2011/11/herman_cains_foreign_policy_muddle.html

Charges against Cain cannot be ignored

by Dean Stephens, 3 Nov 2011

Herman Cain supporters have accepted his narrative that he is an American success story. The question is, just how much of that "success" did he earn on his own? And is it really the Horatio Alger story we are led to believe?

During the late '70s and the '80s, Herman Cain was an employee of big consumer product corporations, starting with Coca Cola. He was not an entrepreneur. He didn't take any risks with his own capital. Cain went from an entry-level analyst position to top management in one decade...

More: http://www.americanthinker.com/2011/11/charges_against_cain_cannot_be_ignored.html

Conformity for Diversity's sake

by George F. Will, 2 Nov 2011

"...Freedom of association therefore plainly presupposes a freedom not to associate." As professor Michael McConnell of Stanford Law School says, "Not everything the government chooses to call discrimination is invidious; some of it is constitutionally protected First Amendment activity." Whereas it is wrong for government to prefer one religion over another, when private persons and religious groups do so, this is the constitutionally protected free exercise of religion. So, McConnell says, "Preventing private groups from discriminating on the basis of shared beliefs is not only not a compelling governmental interest; it is not even a legitimate governmental interest."

Here, however, is how progressivism limits freedom by abolishing the public-private distinction: First, a human right — to, say, engage in homosexual practices — is deemed so personal that government should have no jurisdiction over it. Next, this right breeds another right, to the support or approval of others. Finally, those who disapprove of it must be coerced.

Sound familiar? It should. First, abortion should be an individual's choice. Then, abortion should be subsidized by government. Next, pro-life pharmacists who object to prescribing abortifacients should lose their licenses. Thus do rights shrink to privileges reserved for those with government-approved opinions...

More: http://www.washingtonpost.com/opinions/conformity-for-diversitys-sake/2011/11/01/gIQAUBOmGM_story.html

The End of England?

British police allow Islamists to celebrate 9/11—while disrupting a counter-protest by the English Defense League.
Frontpagemag.com, 2 Nov 2011

Watch: <http://frontpagemag.com/2011/11/02/the-end-of-england/>

The Republicans' rising satisfaction quotient

Conventional wisdom says GOP voters are unenthusiastic with their candidates. The evidence suggests otherwise..

by Karl Rove, 3 Nov 2011

<http://online.wsj.com/article/SB10001424052970203804204577014102546447814.html>

Cain allegations: let the women speak

Chicago Tribune editorial, 3 Nov 2011

...As we've noted before, it's not unusual for sexual harassment claims to be resolved without a finding on the merits. Cain, however, has said more than once that the allegations against him were investigated and found to be baseless. In one version of the story, the U.S. Equal Employment Opportunity Commission made that determination.

It seems to us the restaurant association could back up that claim, if it's true, without compromising anyone's privacy. It could also spell out its policy for dealing with sexual harassment claims and confirm that the policy was followed, if that's true.

Here's something it can absolutely do: Release the women from their pledge of silence. A lawyer for one of them wants the association to do just that so that his client can rebut Cain's public denials. "He's basically saying, 'I never harassed anyone. These claims have no merit,'" attorney Joel P. Bennett told *The New York Times*. "I'm sure my client would have a comeback to that."

By Wednesday, the woman was having second thoughts about going public, according to *The Washington Post*. That's understandable. But she should be free to speak if she chooses. The restaurant association says it can't comment, and Cain says he can't remember. It would be nice to have someone fill in the blanks.

More: <http://www.chicagotribune.com/news/opinion/editorials/ct-edit-cain-20111103,0,5379761.story>

Cain in trouble?

by Quin Hillyer, 2 Nov 2011

...Meanwhile, the list of subjects on which Cain has not just made gaffes, but actually sounded ignorant (NOT stupid; ignorant: There's a big difference) or inane keeps growing by the day. The latest is his apparent lack of awareness that China already is a nuclear power, and has been so for more than 40 years. This follows his absurd citations of two sets of near-polar opposites as the people whose thinking on foreign policy he agrees with most (followed by the bizarre segue into citing Brent Bozell III in the same answer), and his apparent endorsement of a "right of return" for Palestinians, and his openness to negotiating with terrorists...

The full column: <http://spectator.org/blog/2011/11/02/cain-in-trouble>

Controversy punishes Cain all the way to front-runner status

by Jim Geraghty, 2 Nov 2011

<http://www.nationalreview.com/campaign-spot/282011/controversy-punishes-cain-all-way-frontrunner-status>

'Sources Say'

Herman Cain meets the D.C. media's scandal factory.

by Robert Stacy McCain, 1 Nov 2011

<http://spectator.org/archives/2011/11/01/sources-say>

Lincoln's "living dog"

Herman Cain's a threat to both the left and the GOP Establishment.

by Jeffrey Lord, 1 Nov 2011

...A living dog? Yes, and we'll come back to this in a moment because it bears directly on what's happening here. As Herman Cain the "living dog" comes under the inevitable attack from the left, if conservatives understand where they are, where they appear to be heading, where they've been, it becomes easier (although perhaps not easy) to understand

what to do next—and how and with whom to do it. There are two parts to this disgraceful attack. Both must be examined to understand exactly what is going on with this story...

More: <http://spectator.org/archives/2011/11/01/lincolns-living-dog>

The fire-bombing of Sharia Hebdo

Baron Bodissey, 2 Nov 2011

<http://gatesofvienna.blogspot.com/2011/11/fire-bombing-of-sharia-hebdo.html#more>

Payday Loans

by Thomas Sowell, 2 Nov 2011

California is a great place for studying the thinking — or lack of thinking — on the political left.

The mindset of the Left was recently displayed in a big front-page story in the October 30 issue of the *San Mateo County Times*. It was an investigative reporter's exposé of the "payday loan" business and its lobbyists. According to the reporter: "In California lenders charge up to \$45 in fees on a maximum \$300 loan. This amounts to an interest rate of 460 percent, trapping some borrowers into a never-ending cycle of debt." ...

Continue: <http://www.jewishworldreview.com/cols/sowell110211.php3>

Are public-school teachers underpaid?

by Andrew G. Biggs, 1 Nov 2011

<http://www.nationalreview.com/corner/281846/are-public-school-teachers-underpaid-andrew-g-biggs>

From Arab Spring to Springtime for Hitler

by Ben Shapiro, 2 Nov 2011

...Why the sudden urgency from Israel with regard to Iran? The answer doesn't lie in any sort of upswing in Iranian nuclear capabilities—they've been steadily progressing toward nuclear weaponry for years. The answer lies in President Obama's support for Islamist regimes across the Middle East. The Arab Spring, it turns out, wasn't a nice, happy democratic socialist revolution. It was an Islamist revolution of the worst sort, toppling brutal dictators with whom we could deal with in favor of populist Islamist movements that we cannot. And Obama stands behind all of it...

More: http://townhall.com/columnists/benshapiro/2011/11/02/from_arab_spring_to_springtime_for_hitler/page/full/

Capitalism in crisis? Surely you jest!

by Christopher Chantrill 2 Nov 2011

http://www.americanthinker.com/2011/11/capitalism_in_crisis_surely_you_jest.html

Peter Schiff at OWS: "Walmart doesn't hold a gun to your head!"

ReasonTV, 27 Oct 2011

http://www.youtube.com/watch?feature=player_embedded&v=vZr9c1zYaOE

America's 'Oh Sh*t!' Moment

Has the U.S. deleted the very things that made it great?

by Niall Ferguson, 30 Oct 2011

Saving the American Idea: rejecting fear, envy and the politics of division

speech by Rep. Paul D. Ryan at the Heritage Foundation, 26 Oct 2011

...The American Idea is not tried in times of prosperity. Instead, it is tested when times are tough: when the pie is shrinking, when businesses are closing, and when workers are losing their jobs. Those are the times when America's commitment to equality of opportunity is called into question. That's when the temptation to exploit fear and envy returns—when many in Washington use the politics of division to evade responsibility for their failures and to advance their own narrow political interests.

To my great disappointment, it appears that the politics of division are making a big comeback. Many Americans share my disappointment—especially those who were filled with great hope a few years ago, when then-Senator Obama announced his candidacy in Springfield, Illinois.

Do you remember what he said? He said that what's stopped us from meeting our nation's greatest challenges is, quote, "the failure of leadership, the smallness of our politics—the ease with which we're distracted by the petty and trivial, our chronic avoidance of tough decisions, our preference for scoring cheap political points instead of rolling up our sleeves and building a working consensus to tackle big problems."

I couldn't agree more. And yet, nearly three years into his presidency, look at where we are now...

Read it all: <http://blog.heritage.org/2011/10/26/video-rep-paul-ryan-on-saving-the-american-idea/>

You want more equality? Support more capitalism.

by David Harsanyi, 2 Nov 2011

...This childish idea that the economy is a zero-sum game might appeal to the populist sentiments of the so-called 99 percent—or to the envious nature of some others or to the emotions of many struggling through this terrible economy—but in the end, it doesn't stand up to the most rudimentary inspection...

More: <http://www.creators.com/conservative/david-harsanyi/you-want-more-equality-support-more-capitalism.html>

And watch this classic explanation: <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=okHGCz6xxiw>

Yet another foreign policy victory for Barack Hussein Obama.

Flying proudly over the birthplace of Libya's revolution, the flag of Al Qaeda

by Sam Greenhill, 1 Nov 2011

The black flag of Al Qaeda was hoisted in Libya yesterday as NATO formally ended its military campaign. The standard fluttered from the roof of the courthouse in Benghazi, where the country's new rulers have imposed sharia law since seizing power. Seen as the seat of the revolution, the judicial building was used by rebel forces to establish their provisional government and media centre...

More: <http://www.dailymail.co.uk/news/article-2055630/Flying-proudly-birthplace-Libyas-revolution-flag-Al-Qaeda.html>