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Digest

Friday, October 16, 2009

The Foundation

"Enlightened statesmen will not always be at the helm." --James Madison



Baucus and Pelosi work on their health care potion

Government & Politics

Double, Double, Toil and Trouble

The headlines triumphantly announced Tuesday that the Senate Finance Committee had passed its version of the health care takeover bill with the help of Republican-In-Name-Only Olympia Snowe of Maine. But as the Heritage Foundation's [Brian Darling writes](#), there *is* no bill. In fact, Darling says, "The Senate is using a non-transparent and rare -- if not unique -- process to pass Obamacare."

Though Sen. Max Baucus (D-MT) gathered Democrats and Republicans to craft a bill, they couldn't do it, even after weeks of meetings. So, Darling continues, "Baucus then scheduled a markup of an outline of his version of health care reform. Many call it a 'Vapor Bill,' because it's only a description of legislation. No member of the Committee has seen actual legislation, just a 262-page description. That Vapor Bill never will be voted on in the Senate, so many detractors are calling this a 'make believe markup.' It's to fool people into thinking the Senate is actually crafting a bill."

Not only that, but Darling adds, "I have called around Capitol Hill to find out who has a copy of the bill and none of my high-level contacts know." Now *that's* transparency.

Meanwhile, based on what language is actually accessible, the PricewaterhouseCoopers accounting firm performed an analysis commissioned by America's Health Insurance Plans (AHIP), a group representing the industry. Warning that the Baucus bill will saddle everyone who has insurance (including the Democrats' beloved middle class) with a load of new taxes in various forms, the report highlights an excise tax on employer-provided high-value health plans, Medicare payment cuts that would result in cost-shifting to the private market, and new taxes on the health industry that will inevitably be passed on to consumers.

According to [Investor's Business Daily](#), "The study estimates that the average family-coverage cost of about \$12,300 [per year] could reach \$17,200 in 2013 if these provisions were implemented, \$21,300 in 2016 and \$25,900 in 2019. Meanwhile, average single coverage -- \$4,600 today -- could reach nearly \$10,000 in 2019." No wonder Democrats are afraid to discuss the details of this witch's brew.

Still, AHIP is no stalwart defender of the Constitution and Rule of Law. As [The Wall Street Journal writes](#), "The irony is that AHIP is now arguing for a more left-wing bill, claiming the Baucus plan isn't 'universal' enough." Obviously, insurance companies are looking out for their own best interests. It's too bad they don't understand that those interests are best served by the free market.

The BIG Lie

"[The AHIP report is a] hatchet job ... bought and paid for by the same health insurance companies that have been gouging too many consumers for too long as they stand in the way of reform yet again." --Sen. Max "The Gouger" Baucus, who predicts that all Democrats and possibly more than one Republican will support his bill

This Week's 'Braying Jenny' Award

"When you think of the campaign that's been launched against the public option by the insurance industry -- because they can't take the competition. Anyone who had any doubts about the need for such an option need only look at the health insurance industry this week." --House Speaker Nancy Pelosi (D-CA)

Pelosi is reduced to taunting and threatening anyone opposed to her schemes, saying that it only further makes the case for a government-run "public option" for health insurance. But how could *any industry* compete with the federal government's ability to run at a deficit forever? She went on to mock the "discredited" AHIP report. No one has *actually* discredited the report, mind you, Pelosi only *says* it's been discredited.

Hope 'n' Change: About That Free Lunch

Creative accounting allows Washington to get away with a lot, and the current health care debacle is no exception. Recent analyses of House and Senate proposals by the Congressional Budget Office rely upon static scoring (i.e., not factoring in behavioral changes caused by the legislation,) fantastically optimistic projections and simple omissions of unfavorable facts that trumpet deficit-neutral bills having no basis in reality. The libertarian [Cato Institute](#), for example, took a close look at the CBO's numbers and discovered a variety of unsupportable claims.

For starters, the 10-year projection that measures out the trillion-dollar House bill in itself is misleading. Most of the bill's major provisions don't kick in until 2014, making for a 6-year projection in which costs ramp up slowly. After the first three years of the program, around the time of the 2012 election, costs would accumulate to about \$100 billion, relative chump change that will allow Obama's re-election campaign the opportunity to pledge that health care has been a cost-saving success. But four years beyond that, long after the current president passes the threshold of electoral accountability (assuming he wins, perish the thought), costs catch a fever. Cato estimates a \$2.4 trillion tab (even Sen. Harry Reid [admits as much](#)), double what the House bill and the CBO project. And what happens after 2019 is a true horror story.

The Baucus bill, all the rage on Capitol Hill these days, is another fraud of epic proportions. It claims to have no impact on the deficit by assuming, in part, that growth rate cuts in Medicare's physician payments will help offset its \$829 billion price tag. All well and good, but Congress never makes those cuts because no one wants to be on record as cutting an entitlement for one of America's most powerful voting blocs. Just by taking these cuts out of the equation, the bill automatically goes \$200 billion into the red. Additionally, there is no reckoning of the built-in costs that will hit consumers, including penalties for high-price insurance plans, penalties for not having insurance and the general rise in cost of various health care procedures over the span of several years.

Obama and his Democrat lackeys have either bullied or beguiled the CBO, once a reliably non-partisan entity, into fabricating analyses concluding that Congress has produced sweeping legislation that does not negatively affect the deficit. If ever the phrase "voodoo economics" applied, it's now.

This Week's 'Alpha Jackass' Award

"I will actually give you a speech made up entirely -- almost at the spur of the moment, of what a candidate for president would say if that candidate did not care about becoming president. In other words, this is what the truth is, and a candidate will never say, but what candidates should say if we were in a kind of democracy where citizens were honored in terms of their practice of citizenship, and they were educated in terms of what the issues were, and they could separate myth from reality in terms of what candidates would tell them:

'Thank you so much for coming this afternoon. I'm so glad to see you, and I would like to be president. Let me tell you a few things on health care. Look, we have the only health care system in the world that is designed to avoid sick people. [laughter] That's true, and what I'm going to do is I am going to try to reorganize it to be more amenable to treating sick people. But that means you -- particularly you young people, particularly you young, healthy people -- you're going to have to pay more. [applause] Thank you.'

'And by the way, we are going to have to -- if you're very old, we're not going to give you all that technology and all those drugs for the last couple of years of your life to keep you maybe going for another couple of months. It's too expensive, so we're going to let you die.' [applause]

'Also, I'm going to use the bargaining leverage of the federal government in terms of Medicare, Medicaid -- we already have a lot of bargaining leverage -- to force drug companies and insurance companies and medical suppliers to reduce their costs. But that means less innovation, and that means less new products and less new drugs on the market, which means you are probably not going to live that much longer than your parents. [applause] Thank you.'" --Robert Reich, President Clinton's labor secretary, in a [speech at Berkeley](#) in 2007. Democrats, death panels and dying early -- it's all in there, folks.

From the Left: The War on Fox News

The Obama administration is clearly not content to have a majority of American news media in its back pocket. It wants total obedience and has now openly declared war on Fox News Channel, which White House Communications Director Anita Dunn recently accused of being "a wing of the Republican Party." She added that from here forward, "We're going to treat [Fox News] the way we would treat an opponent. ... We don't need to pretend that this is the way that legitimate news organizations behave."

Consider the source, though. Dunn is also [on the record](#) saying that one of her "favorite political philosophers" was Mao Tse Tung, who was responsible for more than 70 million deaths in Communist China.

Obamanauts are furious with Fox for being the only major broadcast news outlet that has not toed the party line. Apparently, the administration thinks the way "legitimate news organizations behave" is to out-and-out lie about the opposition, like CBS News with its "fake but accurate" hatchet job on President George W. Bush just prior to the 2004 election, and like the outrageously phony quotes attributed to Rush Limbaugh in recent days (more on that later).

Fox, on the other hand, has recently exposed the corruption of ACORN and the extreme leftism of former Green Jobs Czar Van Jones, but this doesn't make it anti-Obama. Rather, it makes Fox *pro-information*, as the ACORN exposé and Van Jones's public insults about Republicans were real and noteworthy events, though most of the media chose not to report them.

The White House attack on Fox News goes beyond the simple cowardice of the Obama administration. Not only are they afraid to field tough questions from an aggressive news organization but government appointees in high places like Mark Lloyd, the FCC's Associate General Counsel

and Chief Diversity Officer, are calling for ways to address the "structural imbalance" of talk radio and, presumably, the manner in which FNC does business. For his part, Lloyd is on record as being enamored of Hugo Chavez's "democratic revolution" and his takeover of the Venezuelan media. All aboard for the "Fairness Doctrine."

Message to GOP: Don't Take Tea Partiers For Granted

It's the dream of every political strategist: a large and highly motivated group of voters ready to get out, work for, and financially support a slate of candidates whom they align with politically. True to form, the national Republican Party missed the opportunity to take full advantage of the Tea Party movement, mainly because the GOP is continuing to back candidates who don't always work for lower taxation and less government.

Tea Party protesters angered by Republicans supporting Wall Street bailouts and the Waxman-Maloney cap-n-tax bill are also bitter at the GOP establishment -- particularly the National Republican Senatorial Committee -- for backing certain incumbent or anointed candidates who are working with Leftists in Congress.

To that end, conservatives and political activist groups such as Club for Growth are throwing their support behind candidates whom the GOP establishment has shunned, such as Chuck DeVore in California for U.S. Senate; Marco Rubio in Florida for U.S. Senate (who is in a primary battle against the "moderate" outgoing governor Charlie Crist); and Doug Hoffman of New York, who, as we [reported last week](#), opted to run under the Conservative Party banner after being spurned by local Republican officials. Instead, ACORN-backed Dede Scozzafava, whose positions make the *Democrat* candidate look like Ronald Reagan, is the official Republican candidate running in the upcoming Nov. 3 special election in New York's 23rd Congressional District, though her campaign is [out of cash](#). Backing ACORN candidates is unfortunately illustrative of the elite GOP's mindset.

In a year where the political winds and poor performance of Democrats both favor a Republican resurgence, their treatment of this motivated voter bloc shows the national party is doing itself no favors by listening to the Beltway insiders rather than the people. GOP big shots may look back after next November and lament a lost opportunity.

National Security

Warfront With Jihadistan: Troop Increase

While the Teleprompter-in-Chief dithers over whether to win the war in Afghanistan by increasing the number of combat troops requested by his commanders, more troops have already started to join the fight. These troops were already in the deployment pipeline before the recent request by General Stanley McChrystal for up to 80,000 additional combat troops. Most of the new troops are support and logistics forces, including engineers and medical personnel, as well as intelligence officials and military police. They will sustain the 21,000 combat troops Obama sent in March. Total U.S. troop strength in Afghanistan now numbers about 65,000.

Great Britain also appears ready to raise its troop levels in response to the increased Taliban resistance, according to Prime Minister Gordon Brown. Five hundred additional British troops may join the 9,000 already in Afghanistan, providing "certain conditions" are met by the Afghan government. Why isn't the presence of jihadis enough of a condition?

As for the jihadis, it appears that the Taliban are in a better financial situation than their al-Qa'ida brethren. David Cohen, a Treasury Department specialist on terrorist financing, recently said that the Taliban use bribery to raise significant funding from Afghanistan's poppy farmers and heroin traffickers. They also earn money by offering "protection," for a price, from legitimate Afghan businesses. On the other hand, al-Qa'ida is apparently cash-starved and losing power and influence, the product of, according to Cohen, a long-running effort by the U.S. and its allies to target rich donors and interfere with the group's ability to move money between borders. Sounds like a good strategy to apply to the Taliban.

Department of Military Correctness: Show & Tell

For those thinking tyranny comes dressed solely in economic packages, think again: evidently it now comes in hot pink, too. This, after The Anointed One's announcement at a human-rights dinner that he remains firmly committed to scrapping the military's 16-year-old "Don't Ask, Don't Tell" policy. That policy was itself an erosion of the military's rule completely barring homosexuals, a policy spanning more than two centuries, notwithstanding leftist arguments to the contrary. What's next: a "Show & Tell" policy?

This week's [Wall Street Journal](#) covered the announcement and debate under the headline, "Support Grows to End 'Don't Ask, Don't Tell.'" Evidently, "don't tell" includes not telling DoD leadership that the military "supports" ending the policy. Senate Armed Services Committee Chairman Carl Levin (D-Andromeda) also stated as much, claiming it was now possible "to get a buy-in from the military."

From our own analysis, however, we think most in the military favor getting a "Bi-out" over giving a "buy-in," but the ultra-left senator has already shown his contempt for the opinions of the military, so offering these would yield no fruit -- or fruits, for that matter. We would also like to know which "military" the senator is referring to -- the Gay Army? The Flower Brigade? Lambda Defense? In any case, it's not the U.S. military.

Considering that advocacy groups and the homosexual community at large heavily supported Obama during his campaign, it's no wonder that many homosexual activists are now demanding payback. Though Obama did not provide a timetable for repealing Don't-Ask-Don't-Tell, he affirmed his support for legislation ending the policy.

From a strategic standpoint, we actually welcome the introduction of that legislation, too. Of course, it would be thrown into the rest of the heap, included with the additional government bailouts and bailout regulation, ObamaCare, imminent inflation and tax increases, and a host of other distinguishing legislative missteps from an ideologically bankrupt cesspool of statist. In turn, this mound of legislative buffoonery currently coursing through the corridors of Congress and the White House will serve to draw clear lines for the American public between the two sides of these issues, and highlight the urgent need to correct past mistakes made at the voting booths.

Bunker Buster Bomb

MOP up on aisle 3... A new conventional bomb, the Massive Ordnance Penetrator (MOP), is about to join the Air Force inventory, and not a moment too soon. Designed to penetrate farther into solid rock than previous 2,000-pound bombs, the MOP will dress out at a staggering 30,000 pounds, of which more than 5,000 pounds is high explosive. Dropped from a B-2 bomber at 30,000 feet, with a GPS guidance system steering it onto the target, the MOP can reportedly penetrate more than 120 feet of solid rock before detonating. Patriot readers can probably recommend some initial targets for the MOP -- Iranian and North Korean buried nuclear programs, mountain cave hideouts in Tora Bora, and the like. While the Defense Department denies any specific targeting requirements that would call for the MOP, the timing is certainly interesting.

In other news this week, Secretary of State Hillary Clinton tried and failed to make lemonade out of lemons when the Russians refused even to pretend to favor additional sanctions on Iran. Russian Foreign Minister Sergei Lavrov could only bring himself to say that "all efforts should be made to support further talks." Clinton then cited this clear rebuff as proof of the "reset" in U.S.-Russian relations. Guess it depends how you define "reset." See what dropping our missile defense plans and betraying our Polish and Czech allies got us?

Business & Economy

Income Redistribution: Taxing the Patience of Business

Realizing its free-money-for-everyone policy has become problematic now that it has met the enemy -- that is, reality -- the Obama administration has been putting the full-court press on ways to pay for its government-granted bounty. The latest proposal, beamed down directly from Planet Obama, was to raise taxes more than \$200 billion on those "evil" multinational companies -- you know, like Microsoft, General Electric, IBM and the others that led Western civilization to be the first out of the back-breaking Industrial Age and into the Information Age. Wait, we're getting a mental flash: something about goose ... golden egg -- well, whatever, it escapes us at the moment. It was nothing, really.

Never mind the fact that the existing confiscatory taxes against U.S.-based multinational corporations have helped to make them as competitive as "Team Prius" at the Funny Car Nationals. No, Obama's answer is not to lower domestic corporate taxes to entice businesses to operate principally within the U.S., but rather to raise taxes for all companies that do business here, wherever they are based. Um, brilliant.

Business is a particularly juicy target for the administration, because liberals suffer from a love-hate relationship with business: namely, they love to hate it. However, they also realize that "big business" also implies jobs (read: votes) and "big money," which can wield big political power, especially when provoked.

Accordingly, the administration has tabled -- for now, at least -- the squeeze-more-blood-from-business-turnips proposal. Still, faced with a \$12 trillion national debt -- \$2 trillion of which accrued just this year alone -- don't look for the administration to scrap these money-grabbing schemes for long. In fact, aides have pointed out that although the administration has ditched the idea for now, it may (read: will) revisit the plan as part of a "broader tax overhaul sometime next year."

In defending their position, business critics -- including the president -- swipe that U.S. multinationals "ship jobs overseas" and ought to get no tax breaks, period. They further label these companies "tax cheats." Of course, even the most basic, emperor-has-no-clothes introspection would beg the question as to why these companies had shipped any jobs overseas, but apparently answering that question amounts to tensor calculus for Capitol Hill's smooth-brains.

We hope, however, that this answer will reduce to simple math, once legislators start learning first-hand from the thinning of their ranks about how subtraction works.

Payroll Parodies

Driven by a sense of panic over the need to be seen doing something about the high unemployment rate, Democrats are working hard to prove the truth of Ronald Reagan's observation that the most frightening words in the English language are, "I'm from the government and I'm here to help." Instead of pursuing tried-and-true methods of job creation by making a favorable business environment via low taxes and low regulation, liberals think businesses would rather put their time to "good use," filling out government forms. Complete enough forms, jump through enough hoops and comply with arcane regulations, and employers will eventually receive a gubmint check as part of a payroll tax reimbursement scheme only a bureaucrat could love. Although this ridiculous idea validates the utter failure of the Democrats \$787 billion stimulus debacle to rescue the economy, it's worth noting this same idea was tried without success by the Carter administration.

Not content with merely serving out Carter's second term, the Obama administration pretends to be mystified about the future recovery predicted by some economists as being jobless despite the normalization of credit markets. More similarities with the economic implosion of the late '70s are sure to follow so long as the government continues to believe the economy is nothing more than a command-and-control phenomenon. As President Reagan once presciently quipped, "Government's view of the economy could be summed up in a few short phrases: If it moves, tax it. If it keeps moving, regulate it. When it stops moving, subsidize it." What we need are free-market politicians and fewer bureaucratic meddlers to get in our way.

U.S. Cedes Control of Internet

Global access *to* the Internet is poised to become global control *of* the Internet. With little fanfare, Washington has quietly ceded control over the technology the United States developed and shared with the rest of the world in the first place. According to the [UK Guardian](#), the change came in the form of a contract negotiated between the U.S. Department of Commerce and ICANN, the California-based company that "ultimately controls the development of the internet thanks to its oversight of web addresses such as .com, .net and .org." In essence, the new agreement ended the old

one between ICANN and the U.S. government, "opening the door for a virtual United Nations, where many officials gather to discuss potential changes to the internet."

This means that, while the United States previously held some sway over ICANN's actions, decision-making authority will now be expanded internationally, including to countries with histories of [censorship and human rights abuse](#) as well as to those with a penchant for [global regulation and taxation](#).

Of course, the EU welcomed the cession, no doubt satisfied that its recent whining over too much American control was rewarded (surprise!) with appeasement from the Obama administration.

Culture & Policy

Climate Change This Week: Follies Continue

There's something about climate change that brings it to headline status at a time when parts of our nation are enduring colder-than-normal weather. With the early onset of fall in the East, naturally we have plenty of news about the scam called man-made global warming.

But [what happened to global warming](#)? So asked none other than the BBC. With the now-11 year trend toward cooler global temperatures, believers are reduced to saying that this cooling is simply a temporary retreat in a long-term pattern that their models continue to show will occur. It'll warm up, just you wait. It's the Great Pumpkin, Charlie Brown!

The warmers claim that even research that ties global temperature to Pacific Ocean cycles of warming and cooling is part of the model. Their excuses are just more fabrications: They never expected this cooling.

Skeptics ask: What is wrong with having a slightly higher quantity of carbon dioxide in the atmosphere? Geologist H. Leighton Steward notes that since the dawn of the Industrial Revolution in 1860, plant growth and tree growth worldwide have increased 12 percent and 18 percent, respectively. He also asserted, "There is ... not one instance in which carbon dioxide is a pollutant."

What does global warming lead cheerleader Al Gore have to say? In the middle of a rare question-and-answer session at a Society of Environmental Journalists (read: friendly crowd) meeting in Madison, Wisconsin, filmmaker and anthropogenic warming skeptic Phelim McAleer asked about a British court case involving the showing in British schools of Gore's 2007 Nobel Peace Prize-winning film, "An Inconvenient Truth." Gore claimed his side won in court when, in truth, the objecting parent substantially won. Event organizers then rebuked McAleer by cutting off his microphone before he could finish a follow-up question regarding Gore's claim that the polar bear population is declining despite evidence that it's actually *increasing*.

Apparently it's inconvenient only when Gore and his allies are asked about *facts* rebutting their discredited theories.

Second Amendment: Illogical Study Reaches Bad Conclusion

In a [study](#) cited by the anti-gun lobby as showing "the risks of gun ownership," University of Pennsylvania School of Medicine epidemiologists found that people with guns were 4.5 times more likely to get shot than those who were unarmed. Examining 677 shootings in Philadelphia from 2003 to 2006, the study found six percent of victims had a gun in their possession when they were shot. Of course, that means that 94 percent of victims did *not* have a gun, which, in our humble shop, provides proof positive for our favorite mode of defense.

As blogger [Clayton Cramer notes](#), however, beyond the bias or ignorance of conducting the study in a homicide hotbed where gang violence is no secret (but unaccounted for *in* the study), researchers apparently failed to ask two pivotal questions: "Are you more likely to be shot because you own a gun? Or do people buy guns because they perceive that they are in danger of being attacked?" *Post hoc ergo propter hoc* (after this, therefore because of this) may sound intelligent, but as logical fallacies go, it's among the most elementary.

Jumping to the Left Coast, Governor Arnold Schwarzenegger (RINO-CA) made glad the gun-control zealots this week by signing legislation regulating the sale of ammunition. Individuals buying ammo will now have to be fingerprinted, and dealers will have to keep sales records for at least five years. The governor claims, "Utilized properly, this type of information is invaluable for keeping communities safe." Ah, the utilitarian approach to Second Amendment encroachment. Now there's a new one -- or not.

Finally, the State Department announced that it will abandon U.S. opposition to the so-called Conference on the Arms Trade Treaty and commence negotiations. The treaty would regulate conventional arms sales. The communists at Amnesty International are pleased; *The Patriots* at the Heritage Foundation and the NRA are not.

From the 'Non Compos Mentis' File

Conservative radio talk-show host Rush Limbaugh has endured attacks from the Left for decades. But wild-eyed leftists took it a step further by derailing the Missouri native's bid to buy the St. Louis Rams' NFL franchise (as a minority partner, yet). On Wednesday, the group attempting the purchase dropped Limbaugh.

The anti-Limbaugh charge was led by a lineup of CNN and MSNBC "journalists," race hustler Al Sharpton and other dimwitted leftists (but we repeat ourselves). MSNBC's tingly-legged Chris Matthews fantasized that, like James Bond villain Mr. Big, "at some point somebody's going to jam a CO₂ pellet into [Limbaugh's] head and he's going to explode like a giant blimp." But that's not the end of it.

These two networks, along with the sports channels and who knows how many locals, repeated a concocted quote attributed to Rush as evidence of

his racism: "Slavery built the South. I'm not saying we should bring it back; I'm just saying it had its merits. For one thing, the streets were safer after dark." The only problem is Limbaugh never said it. Retractions or corrections of the record have been relegated to such places as Twitter, where CNN's Rick Sanchez tweeted, "we didn't confirm quote. our bad." Classy.

The minor detail of the quote being fake didn't stop David Zirin, sports editor of The Nation, a magazine described by its staff as the "flagship of the left," from calling Limbaugh an "unreconstructed racist" and a "swine" who views black players "with naked and open contempt because of the color of their skin." Nor did it stop Al Sharpton from crowing that the group's decision to drop the radio host "is a moral victory for all Americans -- especially the players that have been unfairly castigated by Rush Limbaugh."

(Newsbusters has more on this character assassination [here](#), [here](#), [here](#) and [here](#).)

So to recap, Rush has been on the air 15 hours a week for 21 years and the best the media could come up with was a fake quote? And that's a "moral victory"? It reminds us of the "Two Minutes Hate" in George Orwell's "1984," in which the "Enemy of the People had flashed onto the screen" and the people were conditioned to hate him, even using the word "swine." David Zirin, call your office.

On Cross-Examination

"The CNN and MSNBC 'news' networks are guilty of promoting outright falsehoods and purposely using fabricated disinformation created by left-wing radicals to destroy a conservative leader. There is no grey area here. ... Perhaps if they spent less time fact-checking SNL comedy skits and more time fact-checking what they laughably call 'news,' they would have a chance to salvage their tattered reputations, sinking even faster with this intentional character assassination." --Media Research Center president Brent Bozell



And Last...

"Police say an Ohio woman being driven around in a limousine announced at a coat store she'd won the lottery and would pay for everyone's purchases but ended up causing a riot when customers realized it was a hoax," reports the [Associated Press](#). For some reason, that made us think of the limousine liberals in Congress promising health insurance for everyone. More from the AP: "Columbus police Lt. Michael Deakins says the woman announced Tuesday she'd spend \$500 on everyone at a Burlington Coat Factory, prompting customers to gather at registers and call relatives. When police arrived, 500 people filled the store and another 1,000 were outside." That's nothing. According to Democrats, 47 million "Americans" (or is it 30 million -- we never can keep track of their statistics) are beating down the doors and demanding ObamaCare for all.

"Cashiers rang up sales before discovering the woman had no money. Angry customers grabbed clothes without paying," said the AP report. These thieves, no doubt, were Democrat constituents. And finally, the woman was arrested on three other warrants but hasn't yet been charged for the coat chaos, "pending a mental health evaluation." Before any more is done with ObamaCare, perhaps we should schedule 535 of those same evaluations for Congress.

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Comments

[FreeNorth](#)

"When you think of the campaign that's been launched against the public option by the insurance industry -- because they can't take the competition." - Nancy Pelosi

Wrong again, Madame Speaker. The ultimate competition is the ability to say, "No deal. That costs too much." Your mandatory insurance coverage scheme takes that option away from the people, and yes, it costs too much.

The Congressional focus on insurance is completely misplaced and will only make the real problem worse. Excessive insurance coverage (e. g., for everyday items such as physical exams and maternity expenses) removes the market incentives to keep prices down. Universal insurance is therefore akin to treating a burn by cauterizing it with a blowtorch. It's too bad we can't sue members of Congress for malpractice.

Posted October 16th, 2009 at 11:12:49 AM

[Eric](#)

EAST AFRICAN STANDARD: SUNDAY JUNE 27, 2004 SAYS:

"KENYAN-BORN OBAMA SET FOR U.S. SENATE"

WELL?????!!

DO SOMETHING TO GET THE BALL ROLLING!!!

Posted October 16th, 2009 at 11:46:49 AM

[karl anglin](#)

There is no free lunch in life!

Sooner or later, some body pays!

Posted October 16th, 2009 at 11:56:53 AM

[David C Roberts](#)

Thank You, Mark Alexander, and everyone else connected with the Patriot Post with the excellent job you do in keeping us informed. When I read your Briefs, Chronicles, Essays, & Digests every week, it's like my mind is being refreshed. I would say that I get "a thrill up my leg", but I guess that line has already been taken. Are you reading, "countdown to no ratings, Chris Matthews?"

Posted October 16th, 2009 at 11:57:12 AM

[James Kiser](#)

In regards to Republicans and taxes/business I wonder why the elephant continues to push this when 50% of the so called citizens don't pay any taxes and yet collect rebates. People who don't pay taxes don't care about taxes. Also business (big) does itself no favors as long as it and Wall Street take home huge bonuses for the execs and ship jobs overseas yet claim it isn't their fault that people can't find work. Many of us in the teaparty groups find republicans no better than dems. Even Michael Moore can be right twice a day. Jim Kiser

Posted October 16th, 2009 at 12:12:50 PM

[C E Pemberton](#)

Please publicize to the voters to start RECALL PETITIONS for those congressmen and senators who ignore their wishes.

The politician eats and breathes to be re-elected.

Starting RECALL PETITIONS would get their attention.

Also, RECALL PETITIONS would give them an excuse to reject pressure from the Rohm Emmanuel and others "You can understand that if I vote against their will I will be voted out of office.:

As they scramble for campaign funds the last thing they want is a RECALL PETITION

started in their district.

Posted October 16th, 2009 at 12:23:10 PM

[BuzzG](#)

It's interesting is it not, that in all the blather, bloviating, fabricating ad nauseum regarding "Obamacare" no one, absolutely no one has brought up the fact that it is unconstitutional from the git go. Nowhere in Article 1, Section 8 will you find any permission for Congress/Government to provide health/medical care in any form. In fact, much of what has already been done by the current Administration, is unconstitutional. The government is not allowed to disburse funds from the treasury for special interests, businesses etc. Dear Leader has no authority to dictate what a corporation is supposed to do with their current CEO and the list could go on. The GOP are predictably silent on the issue. So we now have a de facto one party

system and a Dear Leader with his own Politburo. Does any of that sound familiar?

Posted October 16th, 2009 at 12:33:37 PM

[JTC in Texas](#)

The Obamanation is not satisfied with destroying our nation from within, he is giving away our technologies, our military secrets, and our sovereignty as well.

I'm afraid there will be no "Reagan" to clean up after Obamanation like we were so blessed with after that clown Carter.

Posted October 16th, 2009 at 12:35:24 PM

[Frank E. Waterstraat](#)

10/16/09

When a person in court has taken an OATH to tell the truth "SO HELP YOU GOD", If that person LIES, that is called "PERJURY". There is a PUNISHMENT BY LAW! For that person. WHEN "OBAMA" TOOK THE OATH TO UPHOLD THE CONSTITUTION OF THE UNITED STATES, HE HAS NOT DONE SO. So he COMMITTED PERJURY! Why has the Supreme Court not brought charges against OBAMA the LIAR!

Posted October 16th, 2009 at 1:00:29 PM

[Cathy](#)

Was that PhotoShop or just naturally Nancy before makeup?

Posted October 16th, 2009 at 1:02:29 PM

[Tobyjeanne](#)

I have spent a long two years at home alone while my husband was, first, in Iraq training Iraqi police officers, and now, in Kosovo, training members of the Kosovo Police Service. He believes if law and order can be restored to those countries, they have a much better shot at eventually creating a true democracy there. I hope he is right. Meanwhile, I have come to regard The Patriot Post as a sort of companion, to keep me occupied during those many long, lonely nights. You keep me informed, keep my spirits up, and challenge me to do all I can to make my own contributions to my country while I wait for his return. I have volunteered for candidates, called members of Congress, e-mailed thousands of like-minded Patriots, bought my young grandsons gifts from The Patriot Store, and said my prayers every night that God will save this great country from this never-ending assault on our freedoms. Thanks, Patriot Post, for being there for me. Toby duCellier, Mineral Wells, WV

Posted October 16th, 2009 at 1:13:27 PM

[Al Larrabee](#)

Almost missed the "Yellow Tie". I was sure you were just showing another "empty-suit" - as the one that currently resides in Our House.

Posted October 16th, 2009 at 1:30:06 PM

[Burned Once, Twice Wary](#)

The only good reason for the New York Republican Party to run a sociocrat for Congress is to split the leftist vote in hopes of electing a third party candidate. It is unlikely that this is intentional; the NYRP has a long history of running imitation Democrats, going back at least as far as when RINO Nelson Rockefeller ran against Richard Nixon for the presidential nomination in 1968.

This is bad strategy; why vote for the Republican who imitates a Democrat when you can vote for a real socialist? The only people who get fooled are the rank and file Republicans who hope their candidate doesn't mean what he says when he espouses leftism.

Posted October 16th, 2009 at 1:38:32 PM

[Rick Krebs](#)

Why only 535?

Why not 536 and include the President for the evaluation. :O)

Posted October 16th, 2009 at 1:38:49 PM

[W. R. McWilliams](#)

A CO2 pellet will not make your head explode.

Posted October 16th, 2009 at 1:42:59 PM

[Tim](#)

The Burlington Coat Factory hoax provided a dazzling view into the psyche of the average Democrat. Upon finding out that it was a hoax- leaving them no better or worse off than before-a riot ensued. This is to say that when Democrats hold out their hands for a freebie-albeit one they did not earn nor are entitled to-there darn well better be something put in them.

Posted October 16th, 2009 at 1:45:29 PM

[Longhorn](#)

Bring back the Guillotine! For the 535!

Posted October 16th, 2009 at 1:50:15 PM

[Robert T. Szacik](#)

Many people site different reasons on the how and why Obama got elected and how he gets away with the crap he is doing. Very simple:

We have, for many years, been robbing Peter to pay Paul. Paul has now been elected.

Posted October 16th, 2009 at 2:09:13 PM

[Manuel Enos](#)

I guess I have lived too long and given to much of my youth to the defense of my country. 23 years in the Navy half that time riding ballistic missile submarines on deterrent patrol. I listen everyday to pundits that do not know what they are wishing for in government run health care and wondering where in our Constitution and Bill of Rights does it say Americans are entitled to Health care payed for by there neighbors!! No where!! People have to learn that the government has no money they can only print money; any money they get comes from you and your neighbor the taxpayer!! Only God can save us from the far left wing liberals shoving things we don't want down our throats because evidently they are going to pass this piece of garbage bill whether we like it or not. It's all about control and unfortunately they are in control at this time but 2010 elections are coming and they won't be around much after that!!

Posted October 16th, 2009 at 2:13:19 PM

[Len](#)

I think that all of the Liberals need to read what Norman Mattoon Thomas wrote back in 1944 in a speech. He was a leading American Socialist who aspired to become President. He is quoted as saying that "I no longer need to run as a Presidential candidate for the Socialist Party. The Democrat party has adopted our platform". This administration is truly an 'abomination' to the country. I can't believe that so many Americans are so stupid, ignorant of the facts and rely on the news networks to listen to lies and not the truth!

Posted October 16th, 2009 at 2:18:45 PM

[Terry Dillard](#)

Regarding your article about the GOP taking Tea Partiers for granted, I made up my mind on the subject after last November's election when I held my nose and voted for Moderate John McCain. Never again will I waste my vote on a Moderate. If the GOP insists on putting Moderates and/or Liberals on the ballot, I'll skip that race and move to the next one on the ballot. I'll only vote for CONSERVATIVES henceforth. Are you listening, GOP?

Posted October 16th, 2009 at 2:36:22 PM

[Preston Adkins](#)

It grieves me that even The Patriot continues to refer to our constitutional form of government as a "Democracy". It was, after very serious consideration of the "Tyranny of the Masses", established as Republican form of government.

While I grant that over time, and with the aid of progressives and other proponents of a "living constitution" may be incrementally becoming a "Democracy", the process is not yet complete, and we still some hope that the citizens will wake up and begin to take electoral responsibility to correct the situation.

Posted October 16th, 2009 at 3:10:26 PM

[Robert Gray](#)

I hear a lot of talk from Demoncrats (sic) about savings in the waste of Medicare. No one has asked why they were so incompetent as to not correct that waste before. If it could have been done why wasn't it, and in any case why should we accept their word that it would be done simply because they "promise" it. Provides an argument that they can't have a sustainable reply for, doesn't it?

Posted October 16th, 2009 at 3:16:33 PM

[Robert Gray](#)

Manuel Enos ... Thank you for your service.

I was in the Air Force for 8 years. When I was a kid I walked behind my uncle plowing fields in New Jersey. I loved to look for cannon shot, uniform buttons and other American Revolution artifacts. I even found parts of old muskets. The Revolution was always about 3 inches under my feet. Years later I found myself in Guam walking on beaches where brave Marines were trapped and died on the invasion and eventually the liberation of that island. I went from there to Vietnam where I served for almost a year. I came back without a scratch. Some of my friends were not so lucky.

Sometimes I wonder whether it was worth it ... for just a moment ... then I realize I would do it again. We who served are all protectors of that freedom being threatened today, or we were fools!

Posted October 16th, 2009 at 3:39:52 PM

[Lawrence Pate](#)

http://finance.senate.gov/sitepages/leg/LEG%202009/100209_Americas_Healthy_Future_Act_AMENDED.pdf

Senator Nelson,

I have been looking through the so-called Chairman's Mark of proposed legislation.

I find many interesting and insidious ideas contained therein.

Something that stands out...if a proposal may tend to buy a vote it takes effect in 2010 or 2011, but if it leads to a tax or other costs to taxpayers it does not take effect until July 2013, which is after the next presidential election..

Again this is not about health care but about control of American's daily lives.

Posted October 16th, 2009 at 3:44:34 PM

[Paul H](#)

Regarding AHIP support for universal coverage you wrote, "Obviously, insurance companies are looking out for their own best interests. It's too bad they don't understand that those interests are best served by the free market." That is not necessarily so. The free market primarily benefits consumers, not producers. Producers have to work hard every day to give consumers what they want - they have to entice rather than coerce. Their only alternative is to use the shock and awe power of the government to force consumers to take what they offer. You ran a cartoon recently in which the partner of the lemonade stand girl was away in Washington trying to get a lemonade mandate rather than working at something productive. Entrenched business interests want regulation because it protects them from competition from smaller companies who can't afford to work the system. Big business pretends they don't want to be thrown into the briar patch of government regulation, but regulation frees them from competition. Liberals have been so successful in spreading the myth that regulation helps consumers and hurts entrenched business interests that it even occasionally infiltrates The Patriot Post.

Posted October 16th, 2009 at 3:54:56 PM

[Lawrence Pate](#)

A recent issue of Leatherneck magazine contained an article about "Kilo" Company of Marines stationed in southwestern Afghanistan. Three platoons were charged to man three outposts. One platoon to each outpost..with the outposts THIRTY miles apart. No way they could support each other if one was attacked by a strong Taliban force as has happened before.

Obama dithers while our military die because there are not enough of them to defend themselves.

Posted October 16th, 2009 at 4:03:09 PM

This comment has been removed.

This comment has been removed.

[Bruce from Andromeda, MI](#)

Yes, I'm one of those from the People's Republic of Michigan (aka Taxigan). And yes - referring to your identification of Sen. Carl Levin as being from Andromeda - he is about that far from reality. I keep praying that he'll lose the next time he's up for re-election, but so far it hasn't worked.

The real estate market is all dried up. No one can sell a house for what it was worth ten years ago. Everyone wants to move out of state, but nobody can afford to. In ten years, maybe the amount I owe on my mortgage will be less than what somebody's willing to pay to live in this overtaxed h**l, and I can move out with \$1,000 from the sale of my house to start over. Maybe.

Posted October 16th, 2009 at 4:48:29 PM

This comment has been removed.

[Frank E. Waterstraat](#)

10/16/09

When a person in court has taken an OATH to tell the truth "SO HELP YOU GOD", If that person LIES, that is called "PERJURY". There is a PUNISHMENT BY LAW! For that person. WHEN "OBAMA" TOOK THE OATH TO UPHOLD THE CONSTITUTION OF THE UNITED STATES, HE HAS NOT DONE SO. So he COMMITTED PERJURY! Why has the Supreme Court not brought charges against OBAMA the LIAR!

Posted October 16th, 2009 at 4:55:00 PM

[George Mitchell](#)

Those who will not learn from History are doomed to repeat it. -- Santayana

...The largest common denominator among the accused witches was the source of the complaints against them. Eight members of the Putnam family [today's Democrats] were involved in the prosecution of approximately 50 witches. Thomas Putnam, Jr., [Barack Obama] signed ten legal complaints against the defendants and provided testimony against 24 accused witches. His wife, Ann Putnam [Michelle Obama] was the most prominent citizen among those who were purportedly afflicted by witchcraft and his daughter, Ann, was the most prolific accuser [Nancy Pelosi] providing testimony against 48 accused witches. Members of the Porter family [Conservative talk show hosts] attempted to mobilize the village against the witch trials but were stymied when 19 of their allies found themselves facing witchcraft allegations.

...The afflicted girls were normally present during the courtroom proceedings. When an accused witch entered the courtroom, the afflicted girls invariably collapsed into traumatic fits of hysteria [Hillary Clinton] that only ceased when the accused began to confess. [Talking Heads at MSNBC, CNN, CBS, ABC, NPR, NY Times, LA Times, Boston Globe, Atlanta JC] In contrast to the dignified courtroom decorum demanded by most U.S. judges today, the Salem witches were confronted by belligerent magistrates, rabid witnesses, and apoplectic spectators in the gallery. [Keith Olberman, Bill Maher, Maureen Dowd, Jesse Jackson] One defendant was struck in the head with a shoe thrown by an onlooker. [George W. Bush]

...The presiding judges and magistrates [Sonia Sotomayor] frequently asked leading questions designed to elicit answers that would disclose whom the defendants had bewitched and how instead of more neutral and impartial questions aimed at ascertaining whether they had actually bewitched anyone at all. Although juries were impaneled to determine guilt and innocence, in at least one instance the court directed the jurors to reconsider an unpopular verdict they had rendered. After further deliberations, the jury reversed itself, declaring a previously acquitted defendant guilty. No

accused witches were afforded the right to legal counsel and only those defendants who confessed [Conservatives who apologize] were saved from the gallows upon conviction.

<http://law.jrank.org/pages/9985/Salem-Witch-Trials.html>

Posted October 16th, 2009 at 5:13:12 PM

[Rob](#)

Patriot Post is a treasure of information. I read it daily. Every word. I'm in law enforcement, very conservative and also happen to be gay. There aren't a lot of us gay conservatives. But we do exist, probably in every profession, and in the military for the past 250 years. Just because the radical leftists who are pushing the end of "Don't Ask..." are wackos, don't think that every single gay serving his community and country is wacko, as well. A few of us aren't.

Posted October 16th, 2009 at 6:15:53 PM

[jack l eich](#)

osama obama hussein has never in his life accomplished anything. the older folks know he is a talking head with no substance. But the young people of america believe he is the annointed one. He has moved the states to complete financial collapse faster than any president in history. If we had a brain we would have nominated a libertarian to the office. we are teetering on the brink like the greek,roman,alexander the great empires before their demise. most empires lasted around 200 years and we have passed that threshold.

Posted October 16th, 2009 at 7:24:04 PM

[jack l eich](#)

P.S. where is his birth certificate?????

Posted October 16th, 2009 at 7:24:51 PM

[Brant Miller](#)

Interesting MOP item; however, the last I heard, Democrats in Congress refused to fund B2 modifications required to permit it to carry the MOP. So, unless something has changed, the Air Force has a nice weapon but no delivery system. (And no!, dropping it out of a cargo airplane will not work.)

Posted October 16th, 2009 at 7:47:14 PM

[Bill Esbshade](#)

Kudos for your standing up for Rush Limbaugh. He definitely was maligned. But where is your reporting of Michael Savage's situation. He is banned from traveling to Britain--included on a list of skinheads and Islamic murderers no less--all because of his expressed opinions. This is a another whole level above Rush's case.

Posted October 16th, 2009 at 8:01:11 PM

[Traci Jenkins](#)

Can the Patriot Post please compile a list of candidates in each state and for each upcoming election who follow the Constitution and who are true conservatives? An "R" by someones name means nothing nowadays. Thanks!

Posted October 16th, 2009 at 9:30:26 PM

[John Costley](#)

While neither party is responding to the crisis of effective government,"We the People" are being ignored at a rate that lets us know that FUNCTIONAL LITERACY is not at work in the US Congress or House of Representatives. Those who are surely striving to make a difference are as well heard as voices of the Innuin alone on ice above The Arctic Circle.

Posted October 16th, 2009 at 9:49:59 PM

[Robert G.S. Plant](#)

Initiation, and survival, into the order of the US Military "Combat Infantry Badge" is an event one honors. And gives thanks that he may now write

about it! There are awards much elevated; for honor, for service, for heroism, even for simple acts of courage. The CIB is often just over the left breast pocket of a soldier's tunic. No other, just the CIB. Improper? Yes, it is. "All ribbons shall be worn on the uniform." There is a mystique, a demonstrative honor; of courage, fortitude, patience, and endurance. Very few voice, though all have at one time said; "I swear that I will support and defend the Constitution of the United States of America---". Familiar to many, many men who wear, with quiet unspoken pride; a musket, on blue background, encompassed within a wreath, that is the stamp of affirmation to that oath. How is it, then, that those who now feed in the public trough we call Government, having said that same oath, have not bled to defend our Constitution, now promptly disavow the words they raised their "arm of honor" to vow defense of that sacred document? It is time for "change". Indeed, we must change the ranks of the Congress of this Republic!

Posted October 17th, 2009 at 2:25:48 AM

[Sunshine](#)

All of the things going on at the Whitehouse is really frightening. But believers of Jesus Christ know if they read the bible that Jesus has had enough of this battle going on in our world. Things that are happening now are in the bible that were written so so many years ago.

Jesus is coming and he is coming soon to end this pain and suffering in our world. To stop the fighting and the hate crimes. The government is trying so hard to take our right of freedom. Slaver is gone, it was so many, many years ago. Don't try to bring it back. Everyone is human no matter what color their skin is. Jesus said love thy neighbor, he didn't say look at what color they are first.

He also said remember the world hated me first and I am with you, I will never leave you. But you have to love Jesus, believe in him, worship him, hold him in your heart as I do. If you turn your back on him when he comes back you have a good chance that he will say, You didn't know me and I don't know you. Get ready the government is making him angry and hurt and does not like what they are doing to his children.

Jesus bless us all and I pray that the mess going on with the government will change to the better, we don't belong to any of them and we are suppose to be living in the land of the free and in the land of fear.

Posted October 17th, 2009 at 3:47:35 AM

[Sunshine](#)

We are suppose to be living in the land of the FREE the United States of America and freedom of speech and NOT the land of Obama do what he wants and keep your mouth shut.

Posted October 17th, 2009 at 4:16:00 AM

[Garrett](#)

Why not convince The One and his group to give another performance at the Congress, invite only the troubleson legislators, locking the doors with instructions, "No one leaves the session 'til the Health Plan is dead."

Posted October 17th, 2009 at 8:49:24 AM

[Ruth Ann Wilson](#)

To Mr. Gray & Mr. Enos

Well Done, Sirs. May the Lord see the distress of your hearts for this Beloved Country which you paid a price to defend as my beloved Father did in WWII - Normandy & Battle of the Bulge, and then my wonderful Brother did in Vietnam and another Brother in Okinawa. You did well, Veterans, and the Lord sees your sacrifices.

As you said Mr. Gray, "You would do it again", My father often said that. It is the heart of the American Veterans.

The enemy thinks they are on "top", but that great "treasury of American Veterans" who were blessed in their warfare on behalf of this Beloved Nation is still under Oath today. The Spirit of God was not limited in Ezekial's day and a whole army of "Dry Bones" stood to their feet. God said to Ezekial, "Son of man, can these bones live?" "So I prophesied as I was commanded: and as I prophesied, there was a noise, and Behold a shaking, and the bones came together, bone to his bone...Son of Man say to the wind, thus saith the Lord God..O, breathe, and breathe upon these slain, that they may live." Ezekial 37

Well Done, Sirs. God Bless You. You are under oath to "uphold and defend the Constitution of the United States of America."

For God & Country

Ruth Ann Wilson

Posted October 17th, 2009 at 1:09:01 PM

[Dr. Anthony Scalco](#)

I think Napam has been eliminated in fighting legal nations in Geneva , but does it apply to fighting terrorist. This helped us to get Japanese out of caves and reduced the number of our service men lost and killed in World War 2. This certainly would help our military in Afghanistan in fighting terrorist, who are not included in the Geneva agreement. This would equalize our dealing with caves that are very deep and allow us to better deal with the enemy who recognizes no limitations. I am a Veteran ,we are dealing with people who wish to destroy not only men but women and children and helpless souls.

Posted October 17th, 2009 at 3:42:48 PM

[Heartlander](#)

I see the White House's systematic attack on Fox News as having two political purposes.

First, as everyone who reports the story points out, it is an attempt -- doomed to fail -- to discredit FNC.

Second, and in my opinion more importantly, it is a "demonstration" campaign intended to keep the rest of the media in line.

The President refuses to allow FNC to interview him. By taking that stand, he tacitly signals the other networks that they could suffer the same fate if they didn't toe the line.

No one on FNC or anywhere else seems to be talking about the White House's second purpose; but I think it is much more insidious and dangerous than a hapless attempt to drive down FNC's viewership.

Posted October 17th, 2009 at 6:06:37 PM

[John Hansen](#)

What are we to do? I talk, I listen, I email my friends and my liberal acquaintances, but it seems the media just keeps spreading Obama's lies. What can be done to bring these illegal actions, by our elected officials, to justice? Must we wait for the next election? Are we powerless to do anything else? I am a believer in the constitution, and if we can't enforce the constitution, then all I see left to do is revolution.

Posted October 18th, 2009 at 4:08:38 AM

[Christopher Popham Smith](#)

For all the comparisons of Obama to FDR, we must remember one quote from Pres. Roosevelt that has gone unnoticed. To paraphrase: "Never let the White House or Congress dictate to you, the people; never let those two branches of government be telling you what to do".

And so the MSM and Administration officials continue to liken Mr. Obama to FDR? I rest my case.

Posted October 18th, 2009 at 8:37:42 AM

[Mark Brown, Alabama](#)

Are you sure that Ohio women isn't Pelosi of California? Sounds like the Government's new version of Cash for Coats. After they hit us with cap and trade and the utility prices go through the roof, they give us Cash for Coats to keep us warm! You can feel the love!

Posted October 18th, 2009 at 2:53:42 PM

[Don](#)

Re your comments about 2nd Amendment. I was police firearms trainer for many years. Does anyone know how many contacts that police have with the public that involve firearms?

100%!

They bring the guns with them. So much for "gun facts" from the anti gun crowd.....

Posted October 18th, 2009 at 7:56:04 PM

[Charlie Lyon](#)

I had a fund raiser from the national Republican party call me to help Michael Steele save us from Obamacare. I laughed. I told her that as far as I'm concerned the Republicans have lost all credibility on a national scale. I'm for the state governors like Haley Barbour and Pawlenty, Jindal, et al, leading the way. Washington Republicans have truly lost their way because they want it both ways: to keep their cushy positions while appearing to be indignant at the depravity!

Charlie Lyon

Posted October 18th, 2009 at 10:06:38 PM

[David Jacocks](#)

Climate Change This Week: Follies Continue

> Patriot Post Digest 10/16/09

The AP distributed an article by Elain Kurtenbach "Rising seas threatening Shanghai, major cities" published in The Charlotte Observer" 10/19/09. It seems that everytime I read an article such as "Follies" I find a counter article like "Rising seas". Help us understand how to interpret these conflicts.

Posted October 19th, 2009 at 11:48:38 AM

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Please keep comments civil and brief. Obscene, profane, abusive and off-topic comments will be deleted. Repeat offenders will be blocked.

Name (required, displayed)

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—Thomas Paine · "If ye love wealth better than liberty, the tranquility of servitude than the animating contest of freedom, go from us in peace. May your chains sit lightly upon you, and may posterity forget that ye were our countrymen!" —Samuel Adams

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