

Observing Obama • The Welfare State Is Socialism in Disguise • Crazy Horse Memorial

January 23, 2012

# The New American

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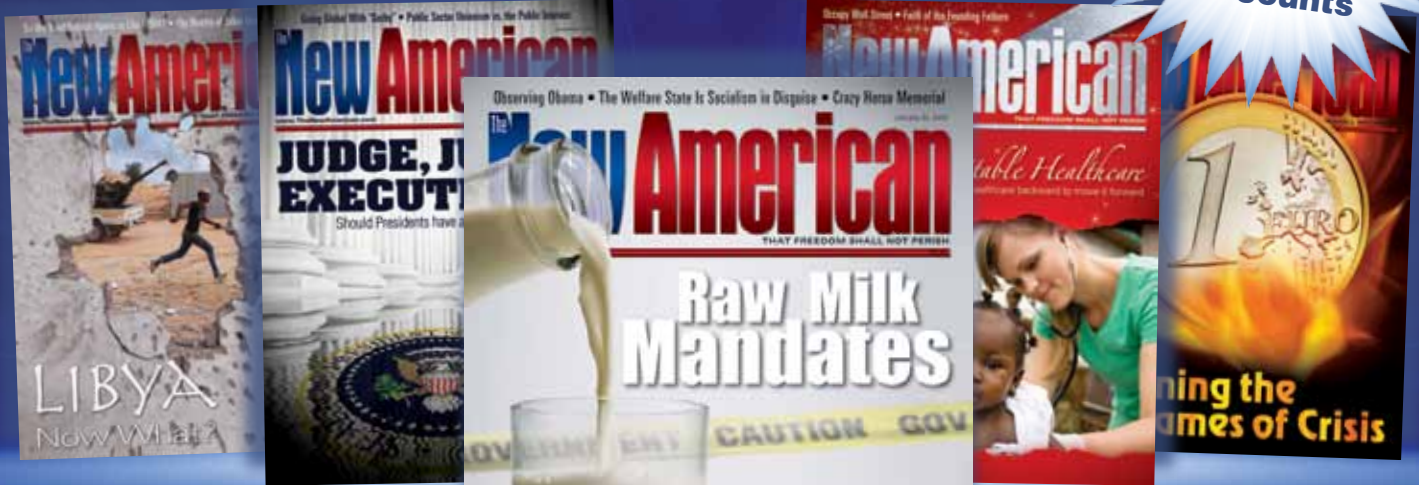
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## Raw Milk Mandates



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## Libya: Now What?

Though it is presented as a win for democracy and the international community, the defeat of Moammar Gadhafi in Libya is not likely a victory for the masses, in any way, shape, or form. (November 21, 2011, 48pp) TNA111121

## Judge, Jury, and Executioner

President Barack Obama recently had a 16-year-old American boy, who was living in a foreign country, assassinated — without a trial of any sort. Should Presidents be allowed to kill with impunity? (December 5, 2011, 48pp) TNA111205

## Raw Milk Mandates

The U.S. government purportedly protects people's rights to "choose" what they wish to do with their own bodies, but when it comes to ingesting items one wishes — such as raw milk — government persecutes Americans. (January 23, 2012, 48pp) TNA120123

## Charitable Healthcare

Governments have a poor track record of providing healthcare to the masses going back to the 16th century. Private charitable organizations have a record of success going back even further. (December 19, 2011, 48pp) TNA111219

## Fanning the Flames of Crisis

Considering the likelihood of a euro crash, Europe's very rich are making travel plans, while political elites are maneuvering to use the crumbling euro to centralize all power in Europe. Here's what the elite know. (January 9, 2012, 48pp) TNA120109

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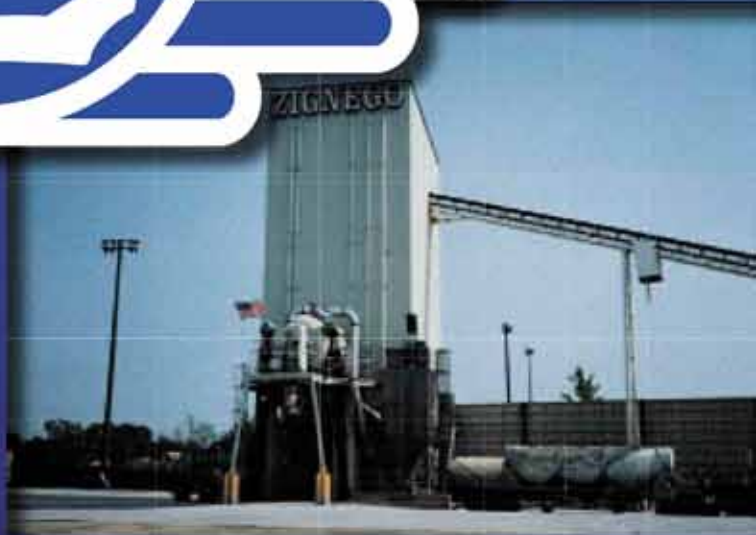
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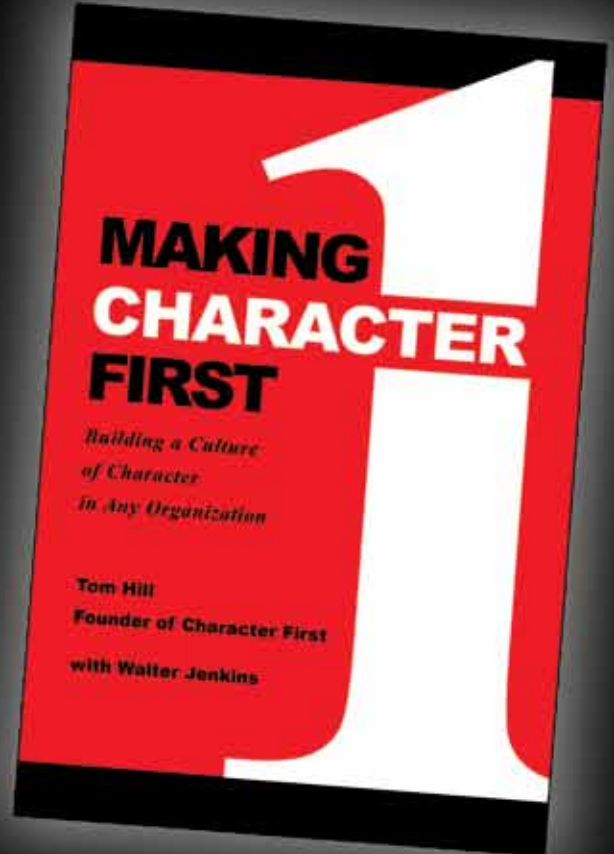
Sam Antonio

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## The New American

Printed in the U.S.A. • ISSN 0885-6540  
P.O. Box 8040 • Appleton, WI 54912  
920-749-3784 • 920-749-3785 (fax)  
www.thenewamerican.com  
editorial@thenewamerican.com

Rates are \$39 per year (Hawaii and Canada, add \$9; foreign, add \$27) or \$22 for six months (Hawaii and Canada, add \$4.50; foreign, add \$13.50). Copyright ©2011 by American Opinion Publishing, Inc. Periodicals postage paid at Appleton, WI and additional mailing offices. Postmaster: Send any address changes to THE NEW AMERICAN, P.O. Box 8040, Appleton, WI 54912.

**JBS.org** THE NEW AMERICAN is published twice monthly by American Opinion Publishing Inc., a wholly owned subsidiary of The John Birch Society.

## Refuse the Rationale

In an article entitled “Judge, Jury, & Executioner” (December 5 issue), Thomas Eddlem makes many statements and arguments that, frankly, I think make very little sense.

One of his arguments seems to be that, if an American citizen joins forces with an enemy at war with the United States and takes up arms against the United States, that all of that citizen’s Bill of Rights rights still need to be respected. In other words, a citizen’s act of allying with an armed enemy of the United States and waging war against the United States does not affect that citizen’s status or rights as a citizen at all.

He even goes so far as to write, “Today, with the ability for special forces strike teams to fly across the globe quickly to any location, the U.S. government can apprehend anyone it can target with a cruise missile.” But, honestly, does this make sense? Is it practical? Is this really required by the Constitution?

If an American citizen has joined a group of enemy combatants that is attacking and killing American soldiers, is it really Eddlem’s contention that the U.S. government is not allowed to take military action against that group of enemy combatants because an American citizen happens to be part of the group? In my opinion, this is complete nonsense. It is the right and the responsibility of the American military to prosecute war and to execute whatever military strategies are deemed most effective in achieving its military objectives. That an American citizen may be a part of a group that is targeted for military action deemed necessary is of absolutely no consequence whatsoever! If that American citizen has chosen to participate in that hostility against the American military and against the United States, then that citizen has completely forfeited any claim to constitutional rights or protections.

RODERICK CLAY  
Westerville, Ohio

Thomas Eddlem’s October 10 articles — “The Rights of Accused Terrorists” and “Military Commissions Throughout U.S. History” — were at times informative and thought-provoking.

Over many years I have repeatedly read and studied the U.S. Constitution, and I am a staunch advocate of “original intent” in my understanding of that document. However, in my view, common sense and rational thought suggest that it was the clear intent of

our Founding Fathers that the rights, privileges, and protections enshrined in our U.S. Constitution and Bill of Rights could only apply to U.S. citizens, or to a non-citizen who has committed a crime or prohibited act on U.S. soil.

Does Eddlem seriously suggest that our Founding Fathers wrote and intended the Bill of Rights to apply to, for example, the Barbary Coast pirates (i.e., “terrorists,” “enemy combatants”)? Or to the those terrorists who plant IEDs and intentionally and indiscriminately kill and maim our American servicemen?

Fortunately our nation’s perfectly rational responses to the above-cited incidents were as follows: (1) We sent our Marines to kill and neutralize the pirates, and (2) our military snipers simply “executed” these terrorists as they carefully prepared to plant the explosives!

While many of Eddlem’s concerns were quite valid, e.g., U.S. Presidents who display their blatant contempt for the Constitution; the enactment of unconstitutional laws, such as the Patriot Act; and the attempted federalization of our nation’s police, his contorted legalistic musings as to why the Bill of Rights might or should apply to the world’s professional terrorists is beyond me.

P.J. CORR  
Wesley Chapel, Florida

Thomas R. Eddlem responds: *Messrs. Corr and Clay make no argument that the language of the Sixth Amendment provides exemptions from the requirement for jury trials for all “persons” (not only U.S. citizens) when they can be taken into government custody.*

*Also I did not write that the U.S. military shouldn’t attack actual enemy combatants — just those people deemed combatants at the whim of the executive branch regardless of whether or not they actually participated in any attacks.*

*Finally, taking a presumed “enemy” prisoner (instead of killing him) is not required by the Constitution, but it is clearly part of long-held “Christian just war” principles that are enshrined in several treaties the United States has adopted. Civilized people don’t kill unless they have no other recourse.*

Send your letters to: THE NEW AMERICAN, P.O. Box 8040, Appleton, WI 54912. Or e-mail: editorial@thenewamerican.com. Due to volume received, not all letters can be answered. Letters may be edited for space and clarity.

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## Persecution May End Christian Mideast Presence

Leonard Leo, chairman of the U.S. Commission on International Religious Freedom (USCIRF), warned in a video interview with Terry Jeffrey at CNSNews.com last month that despite the long-term U.S. military occupations of Iraq and Afghanistan, Christianity may well be wiped out in the region because of, as CNSNews put it, “severe and persistent persecution of Christians there” by Muslims: “Unfortunately, that is sort of the pattern throughout the Middle Eastern region.”

In its annual report, USCIRF observed: “In 2003, there were thought to be 800,000 to 1.4 million Chaldean Catholics, Assyrian Orthodox, Assyrian Church of the East members, Syrian Orthodox, Armenians (Catholic and Orthodox), Protestants, and Evangelicals in Iraq. Today, community leaders estimate the number of Christians to be around 500,000.”

Leo told Jeffrey that the situation for Christians in Afghanistan is also grim. The USCIRF report noted:

Conditions for religious freedom remain exceedingly poor for minority religious communities and dissenting members of the majority faith, despite the presence of U.S. armed forces

in Afghanistan for almost 10 years and the substantial investment of lives, resources, and expertise by the United States and the international community. The 2004 Afghan constitution has effectively established Islamic law as the law of the land.

Speaking personally ... I think one of the sources of the problem was way back when we helped hammer out a constitution for the new Afghanistan. In that constitution, there is what we call a repugnancy clause, which basically says anything that’s inconsistent with Sharia principles is violative of this constitution.

Leo called the process of drafting the Afghan constitution “a disaster.” He noted that there is just one remaining Jew in Afghanistan and that the last Christian church in the country was closed.

Pakistan, which still has a significant Christian population, is among the worst nations in its persecution of Christians.



AP Images

Iraqi Christians now make up three percent of Iraq’s 30 million people.

## China, Japan Agree to Reduce Reliance on U.S. Dollar



AP Images

Chinese yuan

The government of Japan and the communist dictatorship ruling mainland China announced a landmark agreement last month to facilitate trade between the two powers without using the U.S. dollar, relying instead on the Japanese yen and the Chinese yuan.

According to the terms of the deal, the two governments agreed to encourage trade directly in yen and yuan without having to use American dollars as an intermediary — the current practice. Companies in Japan and China will soon be able to convert the currencies directly. And the Japanese government also agreed to hold Chinese yuan in its foreign-reserves portfolio.

It remains unclear exactly how and when the agreement will be implemented. But according to news reports, both governments have already set up a working group to iron out the details. Officials said the move was aimed at reducing risk and transaction costs.

The new currency deal comes as the communist Chinese dictatorship takes increasingly bold steps to expand the international role of the yuan. The regime’s officials have also become ever more vocal in attacking the dollar’s global reserve status, calling instead for a more international system managed by a world entity such as the International Monetary Fund (IMF).

Of course, China and Japan are the second and third largest economies on Earth. And their governments are the two largest foreign holders of U.S. government debt. So the deal has huge implications — at least in the long term.

“The run on the dollar that could sink its value and bring surprise hyperinflation to the U.S. has just become a lot more likely,” observed Alfdi Capital CEO Anthony Alfdi, who said the bilateral move would eventually mean higher U.S. interest rates.

Other commentators implied that the deal should be seen as a signal aimed at American authorities. “The larger message this pact sends is economic and it is directed at America: ‘We have no faith in your leadership,’” wrote Michael Moran in Slate, saying the two Asian giants had taken another “baby step” toward dethroning the U.S. dollar. He also suggested that, despite official denials, Japan was starting to increase its diversification out of American assets and currency.

In August, the communist Chinese dictatorship blasted U.S. policymakers. The regime called for global supervision of the dollar and eventually the creation of a global currency. In April, leaders of the so-called BRICS — Brazil, Russia, India, China, and South Africa — also demanded a new international monetary system.

The value of the Chinese yuan is still highly controlled by authorities. Among other problems, it is not readily convertible, diminishing any potential role it may be able to assume in the global economy — at least for now. However, if the regime in Beijing were to loosen its grip over foreign exchanges, that could change quickly.

The effect of such a move would immediately reverberate across Asian markets and the world. And the U.S. dollar, along with the entire American economy, would almost certainly be the primary victim.

## Mossad Spy Chief: Iran Nuke Would Not Be an “Existential Threat”

Hysteria over Iran’s alleged nuclear-weapons program has been steadily rising among some U.S. and Israeli officials. But Tamir Pardo, the chief of Israel’s intelligence service known as the Mossad, said December 29 that a nuclear weapon in the hands of the Iranian government would not necessarily pose an “existential threat” to the Jewish state.

“What is the significance of the term ‘existential’?” Pardo was quoted as asking in an article by the *Washington Times*. Citing Israeli diplomats who met with the spy chief in a closed-door session, the paper reported that, according to Pardo, the danger posed by a hypothetical nuclear weapon in Iranian hands was being overblown.

“If you said a nuclear bomb in Iranian hands was an ‘existential’ threat, that would mean that we would have to close up shop,” the Mossad boss told the gathering of about 100 Israeli ambassadors. “That’s not the situation. The term is used too freely.”

Speaking to the Israeli newspaper *Haaretz*, several diplomats said Pardo had stated that a nuclear-armed Iran would “absolutely” pose a threat to the nation. But even if the Iranian regime were to acquire a bomb, the intelligence chief was quoted as saying, it would not mean the destruction of Israel.

Still, Israeli officials are already working to disrupt Iran’s supposed nuclear-arms program using various measures, Pardo reportedly told the ambassadors. And they will continue to do so indefinitely.

The head of Israel’s powerful spy agency did not comment on the much-discussed possibility of a military attack on Iran, according to ambassadors cited in press reports. But other U.S. and Israeli officials have become increasingly vocal in promoting a preemptive strike, with some lawmakers and leaders open-

ly proposing an armed confrontation to prevent Iran from acquiring the hypothetical bomb.

Tough international sanctions have already been imposed on Iran, and many experts view such measures as akin to an act of war. In mid-December, Israeli Defense Minister Ehud Barak

also said his government and U.S. officials were determined to stop the Iranian regime from developing the nuclear weapon it is allegedly seeking.

President Obama, meanwhile, has refused to rule out military intervention against Iran even as the U.S. government turns up the heat on the Syrian government.

But despite the heated rhetoric, more than a few respected voices in Israel and the United States have publicly opposed an attack on Iran. Former Mossad chief Meir Dagan, who was succeeded by Pardo last year, has very publicly opposed a military strike. He also criticized Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu for banging the war drums, saying an attack on Iran would have devastating consequences.

Ex-Israeli military chief of staff Gabi Ashkenazi is also against attacking Iran, according to news reports. And U.S. Defense Secretary Leon Panetta has warned about the consequences of such a strike, too, though he later insisted that the Iranian regime would not be “allowed” to develop a bomb.



Tamir Pardo

AP Images

## Obama Signs National Defense Authorization Act Into Law

President Barack Obama signed a law on New Year’s Eve granting himself absolute power to indefinitely detain American citizens suspected (by him) of being “belligerents.” With the President’s signing of the National Defense Authorization Act (NDAA), the writ of habeas corpus — a civil right so fundamental to Anglo-American common-law history that it predates the Magna Carta — is voidable

upon the command of the President of the United States. The Sixth Amendment right to counsel is also revocable at his will.

The United States, as Senator Lindsey Graham declared during floor debate in the Senate, is now a theatre in the War on Terror and Americans “can be detained indefinitely ... and when you say to the interrogator, ‘I want my lawyer,’ the interrogator will say, ‘You don’t have a right to a lawyer because you’re a military threat.’”

However, even though the President now wields this enormous power, he adamantly denies in his signing statement that he will ever “authorize the indefinite military detention without trial of American citizens.” But the President still signed the bill, though his signing statement is not the same thing as a law, irrespective of how unconstitutional that law may be. In fact, the signing statement itself is unconstitutional, since the President has no constitutional authority to legislate. Moreover, the language in the signing statement, even if the current President were to abide by it, does not contradict the new law’s authorization for the U.S. military to engage in law enforcement in the United States in contravention of the Posse Comitatus Act. Nor does it specify the kind of “trial” — that is, civilian as opposed to military. ■



Lindsey Graham

AP Images

### Are You No Longer a “Decent” American If You Support Ron Paul?

“I think Ron Paul’s views are totally outside the mainstream of virtually every decent American.”

After stating that he would not vote for Ron Paul if Paul were to become the GOP’s nominee, **Newt Gingrich** cast a slur on all who favor the views held by the Texas Congressman in the race for the nomination.



AP Images

### Government Aid Always Requires Following Government’s Dictates

“In the name of tolerance, we’re not being tolerated.”

For several decades, Catholic Charities in Illinois has accepted state funding that helped place poor and neglected children in foster and adoptive homes. Rather than comply with the new requirement to accept requests for these children from same-sex couples, the organization decided instead to close its facilities, according to Bishop **Thomas Paprocki** of Springfield, Illinois.

### Wisconsin Congressman Urges a Different Focus in This Year’s Election

“[The 2012 election] is a referendum on the American idea, not on Barack Obama and his handling of the economy. It is ‘Do you want to reclaim the founding principles that made us exceptional and great, an opportunity society with a circumscribed safety net? Or do you want the cradle-to-grave welfare state?’ This is the most important election in our lifetime.”

Urging that the winner of the GOP nomination should attack the President’s ideas, not him personally, Congressman **Paul Ryan** (R-Wis.) says that the 2012 election will give voters the opportunity to choose one of two very opposite views of the future.



AP Images

### Is the United States Inducing Cancer in Latin American Leaders?

“It would not be strange if they had developed the technology to induce cancer and nobody knew about it until now.”

Venezuela’s **Hugo Chavez** responded to reports that the leaders of Argentina, Paraguay, and Brazil, as well as Brazil’s former leader, have all recently contracted the dreaded disease. His own cancer problems took him to Cuba for treatment, where Fidel Castro suggested to him that the United States might well be the cause of cancer outbreaks among Latin America’s leftist leaders.

### Climate-change Skeptics Becoming More Vocal

“My professional credentials have been challenged. I’ve been called a dupe for the UN.”

Unaccustomed to being challenged about his view that climate change will cause a rise in sea levels, Middle Virginia planning commissioner **Lewis Lawrence** faced area residents who complained that he was implementing the planning contained in the UN’s massive Agenda 21.

### Requiring Photo ID to Vote Ruled Illegal by Justice Department

“It is outrageous, and we plan to look at every possible option to get this terrible, clearly political decision overturned so we can protect the integrity of our election process and our 10th Amendment rights.”

Accusing the Obama administration of “bullying” her state, South Carolina Governor **Nikki Haley** intends to fight back in order to maintain honest elections.



AP Images

### Iraqi Leader Very Pessimistic About His Nation’s Future

“The political process is going in a very wrong direction, going toward a dictatorship. People are not going to accept that, and most likely they are going to ask for the division of the country. And this is going to be a disaster.”

Deputy Prime Minister **Salah al-Mutlaq**, a Sunni Muslim, sees that hardline Shiite Muslims led by Prime Minister Nouri al-Maliki don’t intend to share power with Sunnis, Kurds, or secular Shiites. ■

— COMPILED BY JOHN F. MCMANUS

**COVER  
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# Raw Milk Mandates

**CAUTION**  
**GOVERNMENT**



AP Images

The government has been raiding raw-milk sellers, purportedly for selling a dangerous product. But the FDA is holding the sellers to a higher standard than other producers.

**Udderly delicious:** Cows await milking at Jasper Hill Farm in Greensboro, Vermont, where the unpasteurized liquid will be made into artisanal cheeses.

by Michael Tennant

On the morning of August 3, 2011, armed agents of the U.S. government and the Los Angeles County Sheriff’s Office conducted a raid on a small private club in southern California, seizing the substances being sold therein and arresting three individuals on felony charges. It was the second raid on the club in two years and the culmination of a yearlong investigation by 10 local, state, and federal agencies that, according to the *Los Angeles Times*, “used high-tech video equipment hidden on a utility pole for round-the-clock surveillance and undercover agents to make covert buys.”

In what nefarious substances was the club trafficking? Marijuana? Cocaine? Heroin? No, the members of Rawesome Foods of Venice, California, were accused of the heinous crime of consuming milk and other dairy products that had not been pasteurized — products that the Food and Drug Administration and other government agencies insist are so dangerous that individuals must not be permitted to ingest them.

Advocates of unpasteurized (“raw”) milk consumption beg to differ. They argue that raw milk is nearly as safe as pasteur-

ized milk and that its benefits outweigh its slightly increased risks. Many go to great lengths to obtain raw milk, joining private food clubs like Rawesome, entering into agreements whereby they purchase shares in cows and in turn receive the cows’ milk (called “herd sharing”), and, in some cases, openly defying the FDA’s ban on interstate raw milk sales.

Farmers take even greater risks in supplying raw milk to their willing customers. Two of the “Rawesome Three,” as the arrestees are popularly known, were suppliers. (The third was the club’s owner.) Other farmers across the country have been raided and threatened with prosecution.

It all adds up to a war on raw milk, pitting proponents of natural, unprocessed foods against nanny-state bureaucrats who declare, as the FDA did in response to a lawsuit challenging the interstate raw milk ban, that individuals “do not have a fundamental right to obtain any food they wish.” Instead, they may consume only those foods that government has approved.

**Ratcheting Up Regulations**

How did we get to the point where raw milk became illegal? After all, for thousands of years prior to Louis Pasteur’s innovation, humans consumed unpasteurized milk from various animals, and in many parts of the world — including Europe, where raw milk not only is legal in most countries but is even sold in vending machines — it is still commonplace. If raw milk were really as unsafe as the government would have us believe, surely the human race would have been wiped out millennia ago.

In the United States, the initial wave of mandatory pasteurization laws came about as a result of urbanization combined with carelessness and ignorance,

**Authorities pulled over Richard Hebron and confiscated about \$7,000 worth of food, including 453 gallons of raw milk, that he was delivering to the co-op. They also searched his home office and seized his computer. “When they tested the milk, they couldn’t find any problems with it.”**

**Pasteurization kills pathogens in milk by heating it to 71.7° C (161° F) for 15 to 20 seconds. Unfortunately, it also destroys beneficial bacteria, and with them milk's disease-fighting properties.**

according to David Gumpert, author of *The Raw Milk Revolution: Behind America's Emerging Battle Over Food Rights*. As Americans moved into the cities in the late 19th century, cows were brought in to supply them with milk, Gumpert explained in an interview with *THE NEW AMERICAN*. The cows, he said, were "being raised in really miserable conditions in cities, fed the leftovers from distilleries, and they produced a terrible quality milk." Moreover, he added, "the workers who milked them often had diseases of their own. So you had this combination of circumstances that really lent themselves to the spread of diseases ... and you had these terrible outbreaks among children especially. And lots of that's because we didn't have any ways of treating those illnesses.... There wasn't any understanding of the importance of sanitation, refrigeration, those kinds of things."

Pasteurization, then, was a godsend under such circumstances, and mandating its use undoubtedly saved many lives. New York and Philadelphia led the way, with other cities soon following their lead; but, said Gumpert, "that was about the extent of it." Raw milk continued to be sold and consumed widely outside these cities without leading to any major outbreaks of illness. Even some urban milk producers cleaned up their acts and were able to sell safe raw milk again.

Toward the end of World War II, however, a concerted effort to require pasteurization got under way. Beginning in 1944, a series of fraudulent "news" articles helped frighten the public into submitting to yet another intrusion on its liberties. As Ron Schmid, N.D., recounted in *Green Living Journal*:

*Ladies' Home Journal* began the campaign with the article "Undulant Fever," claiming — without any ac-

curate documentation — that tens of thousands of people in the US were suffered [sic] from fever and illness because of exposure to raw milk. The next year, *Coronet* magazine followed up with "Raw Milk Can Kill You," by Robert Harris, MD. The

outright lies in this article were then repeated in similar articles that appeared in *The Progressive* and *The Reader's Digest* the following year.

Harris later admitted that his article was fictitious, but by then the damage had been done. "The undulant fever epidemic lies and many others like them were repeated in subsequent magazine articles read by tens of millions of people, as well as in countless newspaper articles in the ensuing years," Schmid lamented. Soon many states, beginning with Michigan in 1948, began passing laws mandating milk pasteurization. Today, said Gumpert, "you have about 20 states that don't allow the sale of raw milk, you have about 20 states that do allow the sale of raw milk, mostly from the farm, then you have 10 states that allow the sale of raw milk at retail." Some

of the states that prohibit raw milk sales do, however, permit private arrangements such as herd sharing.

The feds got into the act in 1987 with an FDA regulation banning the interstate sale of raw milk — a rule that went mostly unheeded for nearly 20 years. But with increasing interest in natural foods, including raw milk, has come increasing scrutiny from both state and federal authorities.

### Milk Militancy

The first prominent crackdown in recent years occurred in Michigan in 2006. Following an undercover investigation of a farming cooperative in Ann Arbor, authorities pulled over Richard Hebron and confiscated about \$7,000 worth of food, including 453 gallons of raw milk, that he was delivering to the co-op. They also searched his home office and seized his computer. "When they tested the milk, they couldn't find any problems with it," Hebron told *Time* magazine. "It seems like they're just looking for some way to shut us down." Six months after the incident, following an enormous amount of public protest, the state settled with Hebron on relatively favorable terms.

Significantly, the settlement with Hebron "approv[ed] in principle the valid-



**Risk-free food?** "There is no such thing," David Gumpert told *THE NEW AMERICAN*. "All foods can potentially make you sick." In his book *The Raw Milk Revolution*, Gumpert makes the case not only for raw milk as compared to pasteurized milk, but also for food rights.



Newscom

**No bull:** At the May 2011 “Rally for Food and Farm Freedom,” protesters served up glasses of fresh milk to show their support for dairy farmers who supply raw milk.

ity of cow share agreements,” Gumpert wrote on his blog the day the settlement was announced. Thus, Michiganders now have official legal cover for obtaining raw milk in that manner.

Hebron’s milk supplier, Amish farmer David Hochstetler of Middlebury, Indiana, was visited by the FDA shortly after Hebron’s cargo was seized. He came to the government’s attention again in 2010 when 25 people were sickened by *Campylobacter*, a foodborne pathogen that can cause diarrhea or dysentery, that public health officials claimed had come from milk supplied by Hochstetler’s dairy. Extensive testing of the milk by both Hochstetler and the state of Michigan found no evidence of *Campylobacter*. Nevertheless, he was graced with the presence of more FDA agents, who tried to get him to sign an agreement stating that he would no longer ship milk out of state. Hochstetler declined.

Now Hebron and Hochstetler are again in the feds’ sights. In November each received a subpoena to appear before a federal grand jury in Detroit in connection with a federal criminal investigation. The investigation appears to be part of a concerted effort on the part of the FDA and state officials to — pardon the pun — cow producers of raw milk into submission. Raw milk advocate Max Kane obtained

an e-mail summarizing a 2009 conference call about raw milk that included officials from the FDA, Wisconsin, Michigan, Indiana, and Illinois. The e-mail clearly shows that these officials wanted to crack down on raw milk sales. “They prefer to address one person or group at a time,” the e-mail said, “and want to start with” Hebron and Hochstetler.

The government seems hesitant to pursue its investigation, however. Hochstetler — perhaps thanks to his county sheriff, who threatened to arrest any federal agents trying to search Hochstetler’s property without a warrant from a local judge — was released from his subpoena. Hebron’s appearance before the grand jury was canceled, but as of this writing, he has not been fully released.

Pennsylvania Amish farmer Dan Allgyer was the target of another high-profile FDA operation. The agency suspected Allgyer of selling raw milk to individuals in Maryland, a state that prohibits the sale of raw milk, through a private food-buying club. To prove its case, the FDA sent agents to join the club pseudonymously. These agents placed orders for raw milk and then picked up their milk, supplied by Allgyer, at private residences. They had the milk analyzed to prove it was unpasteurized (and found it was also perfectly safe to drink). Then, evidence in hand,

armed agents conducted a pre-dawn raid on Allgyer’s farm in April 2010, locating coolers that were marked for delivery to various Maryland locations. The FDA is now trying to obtain a permanent injunction against Allgyer prohibiting him from selling his milk in Maryland.

The FDA’s sting operation on the club and its raid on Allgyer’s farm generated such outrage among club members and other natural-foods enthusiasts that they staged a “Rally for Food and Farm Freedom” on Capitol Hill in May 2011. In addition to the usual protest signs and speakers, including Gumpert, organizers actually trucked in a cow and served up glasses of moo juice straight from the udder, “playfully daring one another to drink what, if sold across state lines, would be considered contraband product,” the *Washington Times* reported.

The rally, which drew over 400 people, also highlighted the disagreements between raw milk enthusiasts and “the non-dairy creamer people,” as speaker Sally Fallon Morell labeled the bureaucrats at the FDA and the Department of Agriculture.

### Wondering About Warm Milk?

“The FDA and USDA promulgate two falsehoods,” Morell, president of the Weston A. Price Foundation, a natural-foods activist group, said. “One is that there is no nutritional difference between raw and pasteurized milk.”

Indeed, a “Food Facts” page on the FDA’s website specifically states: “Research shows no meaningful difference in the nutritional values of pasteurized and unpasteurized milk.” But is this true? Apparently it depends on one’s definition of “meaningful.”

“There is approximately a 10% loss of vitamins B1, B6, B12 and folate and a 25% loss of vitamin C” when milk is pasteurized, according to a 1997 paper by Dr. B. M. Pickard of the Department of Animal Physiology and Nutrition at the University of Leeds. Furthermore, wrote Pickard: “Pasteurization destroys the ability of certain proteins in milk to bind the important vitamin folate and hence help its absorption. Heat treatment might also cause a similar inactivation of other protein carriers, for example those for zinc and vitamin B12.”

To the FDA such differences may not



AP Images

**Farming in the raw:** Mark McAfee, owner of Organic Pastures Dairy Co., the nation's largest raw milk seller, has battled government regulators with help from his very loyal customers.

qualify as “meaningful,” but to anyone not part of the nanny-state apparatus, they appear quite significant indeed.

Perhaps even more harmful than the loss of vitamins, which can be obtained through supplements or other foods, is the loss of bacteria. Pasteurization kills pathogens in milk by heating it to 71.7° C (161° F) for 15 to 20 seconds. Unfortunately, it also destroys beneficial bacteria, and with them milk’s disease-fighting properties.

“Untreated milk contains varying amounts of anti-microbial proteins and other anti-infective agents which are designed to protect the young animal from infectious disease,” Pickard observed. “It is not only newborn animals which may benefit from this protection. Studies have shown that consumption of untreated milk by various tribes favored the suppression of infection.” In other words, raw milk can help strengthen the human immune system; pasteurized milk, owing to its lack of (good) bacteria, cannot.

Recent studies from Europe have also found that raw milk consumption is a significant factor in preventing allergies and asthma.

“I have seen so many of my patients recover their health with raw milk that I perceive this as one of the most profoundly healthy foods you can consume,” alternative-medicine expert Dr. Joseph Mercola told *Time*.

“The other lie [from the government] is that raw milk is inherently dangerous,” Morell said at the rally. “We know that raw milk is inherently safe. There are numerous components in raw milk that kill pathogens. You cannot get pathogens to grow in raw milk.”

The FDA demurs, saying that “raw, unpasteurized milk can carry dangerous bacteria such as Salmonella, E. coli, and Listeria” and arguing with as much fervor as Morell that “raw milk DOES NOT kill dangerous pathogens by itself.”

Both sides are employing a bit of hyperbole. “There is no such thing” as “a risk-free food,” Gumpert told *TNA*. “All foods can potentially make you sick,” he added, including both pasteurized and unpasteurized milk. The question is whether raw milk is significantly more likely to cause illness than pasteurized milk.

Based on CDC data, Gumpert estimated that “there are between 50 and 150 report-

ed illnesses from raw milk each year.” Meanwhile, there are 20,000 to 25,000 foodborne illnesses reported annually, which means raw milk accounts for no more than 0.5 percent of all foodborne illnesses. In 2007, the CDC conducted a survey which found that 3 to 3.5 percent of Americans were consuming raw milk — a percentage that has probably increased since. “So you’re talking about one half percent or less of the illnesses, foodborne illnesses, for three to three-and-a-half percent of the population consuming the product,” Gumpert said. “I don’t see any evidence that raw milk is a serious public health hazard.”

Pickard, too, found that unpasteurized dairy products accounted for an exceedingly small fraction of the total foodborne illnesses in any given year, noting: “Over the 31 years from 1951-1982 only 6 deaths were attributed to infections from untreated milk. Yet in one year alone, 1982, there were 67 deaths from other types of bacterial food poisoning.”

Moreover, he pointed out, “Contrary to popular belief, contamination with pathogens can occur in pasteurized milk.” A 1982 outbreak of gastrointestinal infection in the United States from pasteurized milk is thought to have affected about 800 people. Additionally, in 1984-85 there was an incident of food poisoning in pasteurized milk from a plant in Illinois that may have affected nearly 200,000 people. As recently as 2007 three people died from an outbreak from pasteurized milk in Massachusetts.

Contrary to Morell’s claims, raw milk is not “inherently safe.” It can carry pathogens that pasteurized milk is unlikely to carry. However, contra the FDA, raw milk does have “components which inhibit the proliferation of bacteria before it is consumed,” according to Pickard. On the other hand, he stated, pasteurized milk’s “ability to restrict bacterial growth is lost or severely curtailed.... This means that bacteria contaminating milk after pasteurization (e.g., from filling machines, from the air, or even entering under the bottle cap) can grow more rapidly than they would in untreated milk.” In other words, pathogen-free raw milk is likely, though not certain, to remain pathogen-free, while pasteurized milk stands a greater chance of becoming infected.

### Singling Out Small Producers

Raw milk partisans are quick to point out that the government's alleged concerns about food safety seem to be applied selectively. Gumpert recalled: "There are a couple of producers of raw milk cheese that were discovered by the FDA or by the states to have either *Listeria* in the cheese or *Listeria* in the plants.... No one had gotten sick in either of these places, but ... they essentially shut these places down." Meanwhile, he noted, "*Listeria*'s been found at, say, Kellogg's or Dole, and those places are not shut down.... [The government gives] them warning letters and they go in and inspect, and they keep giving them another chance to make things right. They don't do that in cases involving raw dairy."

Little wonder, then, that fans of raw milk see themselves as Jack trying to fend off the giant corporate interests.

"The laws against raw milk have nothing to do with safety and everything to do with economics, with supporting the pasteurized milk cartel," Morell asserted. "About 80 to 90 percent of the milk is controlled by four companies, who are very efficient ... at accumulating wealth at the top. And the heads of these companies make millions of dollars a year while their cronies at the FDA go after poor Amish farmers to try to put them out of business."

There would seem to be something to Morell's assertion. The National Milk Producers Federation, which represents the big dairy companies, issued a press release on November 1 entitled "NMPF Urges Food and Drug Administration to Defend Laws Against Raw Milk Sales." The release began: "The nation's top public health organization needs to stand firm in the face of mounting pressures to further legalize the direct sale to consumers of a potentially dangerous product: raw milk."

Even mainstream news outlets have figured out who's behind the war on raw milk. Reporting on the Rawesome raid, the *Los Angeles Times* wrote that raw milk "has drawn regulatory scrutiny, largely because the politically powerful dairy industry has pressed the government to act" in the face of increasing "demand for all manner of raw foods."

In addition to dairy interests, Gumpert suggested two other factors driving the at-



AP Images

**The raw milky way:** Many families have switched from pasteurized milk to raw milk, which they argue has more nutrients, immunity boosters, and health benefits.

tacks on raw milk. First, "the public health community in particular, as well as the medical community, have just been taught for so long that raw milk is not safe that they can't accept the possibility that that isn't true." Second, "it's part of an overall movement in our culture ... that involves a combination of ... fearmongering and efforts by the government in particular to exert greater control over the population. And they're doing it in a number of ways, but I think certainly control of the food supply is a key part of all of it." Those sentiments were echoed by a Rawesome volunteer who told the *San Jose Mercury News* at the time of the raid, "I guess that's [the government's] bone of contention, that they can't control us."

With the corporations and the bureaucrats working hand-in-hand, is there any hope for Americans to regain their freedom to consume the foods they desire? "I think the positive sign or the hopeful sign is that consumers are beginning to get involved, and that is going to be essential if this food rights movement is going to have any chance of success," Gumpert said. "Farmers cannot do this by themselves." Consumer involvement is especially important "because the regulators and politicians in particu-

lar don't want to deal with the consumers because this is something that could cost politicians votes," he explained.

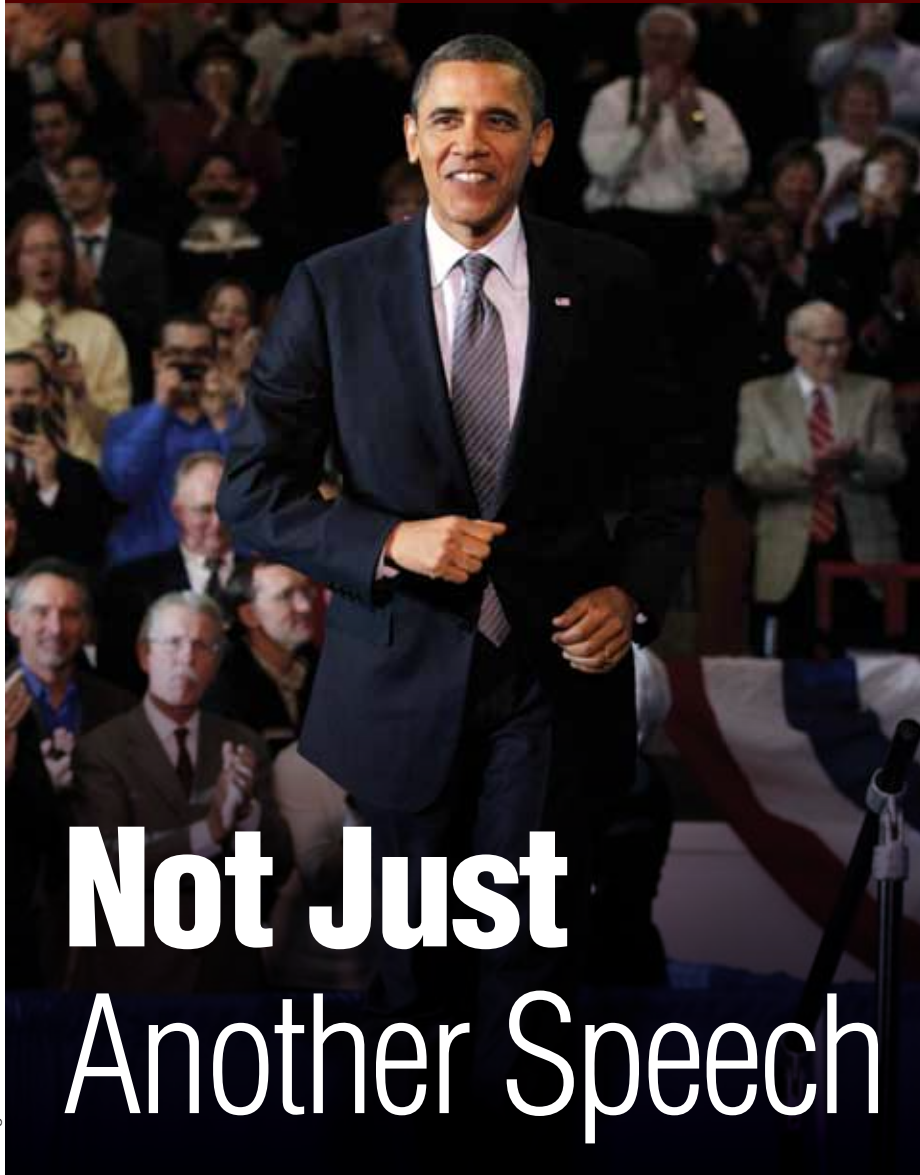
One politician who has taken notice of consumers' desire to choose their own foods is Rep. Ron Paul (R-Texas), who introduced legislation to rescind what he called the FDA's "unconstitutional misapplication of the commerce clause for legislative ends," namely its ban on interstate raw milk sales. Paul has even referred to his bill more than once on the presidential campaign trail; one MSNBC reporter remarked that Paul was cheered "like a rock star" after mentioning it in New Hampshire.

With more people drinking raw milk every day, some engaging in civil disobedience, and a popular presidential candidate taking up their cause, the prospects for food freedom just may be improving — something that should make constitutionalists say "cheese." After all, as Ron Paul inquired, "If we are not even free anymore to decide something as basic as what we wish to eat or drink, how much freedom do we really have left?" ■



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# Not Just Another Speech

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President Obama gave a speech in Osawatimie, Kansas, that clearly highlighted where he and other progressives want to take the country and that it's time to opt in or out.

by *Ralph Reiland*

President Obama started off his speech in Osawatimie, Kansas, on December 6 with a few nods to some traditional American values and free-market economics.

Speaking of hardworking and responsible Americans of past generations, including his Kansas-born grandparents on

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his mother's side, he said: "They believed in an America where hard work paid off, responsibility was rewarded, and anyone could make it if they tried — no matter who you were, where you came from, or how you started out. And these values gave rise to the largest middle class and the strongest economy the world has ever known. It was here in America that the most productive workers, the most innovative companies turned out the best products on Earth."

Pointing to Theodore Roosevelt's beliefs, Obama acknowledged that the free-

**President Barack Obama** arrives on stage to speak about the economy at Osawatimie High School in Osawatimie, Kansas.

market system has been the most successful system in history in delivering the highest standard of living to the greatest number of people: "He believed then what we know is true today, that the free market is the greatest force for economic progress in human history. It's led to a prosperity and a standard of living unmatched by the rest of the world."

But then Obama added a disclaimer, a large one. "But Roosevelt also knew that the free market has never been a free license to take whatever you can from whomever you can. He understood the free market only works when there are rules of the road that ensure competition is fair."

Unsaid here, but nevertheless clearly evident: If businessmen cannot take what they want in a *voluntary exchange* with consumers, the possibility is then open to government to decide what people and entities can take and what they can't. That opens the door to more than putting Bernie Madoff in jail. Given the degree of elasticity in so-called progressives' egalitarian and redistributive goals, it can give a free license to politicians to take whatever they can from whomever they can.

## Dishing Out Derision

The difference today, compared to the time of his grandparents when "hard work paid off," asserted Obama, is that "for most Americans the basic bargain that made this country great has eroded."

In those earlier days, "every American shared in that pride and that success" of the nation's economic triumphs, he said, but then "those at the very top grew wealthier from their incomes and investments, wealthier than ever before," while "fewer and fewer of the folks who contributed to the success of our economy actually benefited from that success."

Obama's claims need serious fact checking. In fact, a Census Bureau report shows that prior to the financial crisis and economic crash of 2008, income inequality in 2007 had fallen to its lowest level in six years and that median income, adjusted for inflation, had increased for the third year in a row.

The share of total national income

going to the top 20 percent of households declined to its smallest share since 2002, reported the Census Bureau, producing greater income equality as the middle class got richer and the top quintile received a smaller piece of the pie.

Then came the 2008 financial collapse and subsequent recession or, as Obama put it in his speech in Osawatomie, “the house of cards collapsed.”

Obama described the collapse: “We all know the story by now: Mortgages sold to people who couldn’t afford them, or even sometimes understand them. Banks and investors allowed to keep packaging the risk and selling it off. Huge bets, and huge bonuses, made with other people’s money on the line. Regulators who were supposed to warn us about the dangers of all this but looked the other way or didn’t have the authority to look at all.”

In short, explained Obama, the “breath-taking greed of a few” in the private sector caused the problem, along with some inept or underpowered government regulators. He said nothing about the breath-taking greed for votes and power by politicians who started the toxic balls rolling through the private sector by pushing for nothing-down loans on home mortgages for fully unqualified buyers through such bills as the Community Reinvestment Act of 1977, which when rigorously enforced in the 1990s forced banks to both lower their lending standards and reduce down-payment requirements for home buyers.

Rather than pointing to the housing collapse as a classic lesson in how unintended consequences flow from ill-conceived government policies and top-down social and economic engineering, Obama focused only on “mortgage lenders that tricked families into buying homes they couldn’t afford.”

And so things collapsed as the bubbles burst and the banks ruptured, generating increased levels of unemployment, foreclosures, poverty, bailouts, and income inequality.

“And ever since,” said Obama, “there’s been a raging debate over the best way to restore growth and prosperity, restore balance, restore fairness” — restore more spreading of people’s money around, as candidate Obama explained on an Ohio street to Joe the Plumber, Joe Wurzelbacher, in 2008.



AP Images

**Boom gone bust:** President Obama claims that the housing bubble and its bursting were caused by private-sector greed. But without the Fed’s low interest rates and government policies forcing banks to give loans to unqualified buyers, the artificial boom wouldn’t have taken place.

### **Make-or-break Moment**

But “this is not just another political debate,” proclaimed Obama in Osawatomie. “This is the defining issue of our time. This is a make-or-break moment for the middle class.”

Obama is likely correct here: It is a make-or-break moment. So what do we now do in terms of economic policy in this make-or-break moment for the average household, for the middle class, with 13.3 million workers officially unemployed in the latest count by the United States Department of Labor for November, not counting the official count of another 8.5 million persons who are working part-time but seeking full-time (labeled “involuntary part-timers” by the Labor Department), and not counting another 2.6 million persons who are officially referred to as “discouraged” or “marginally attached to the labor force,” individuals who are available for work but haven’t been sufficiently active in looking for work?

The answer for more jobs from this administration is to siphon, through taxes and more regulations, more money away

from those in the private sector who are the largest job creators in the economy.

As evidence of the failure of America’s economic system and justification for a larger role for government, Obama cited the rising poverty rate and the lack of upward mobility.

“You know, a few years after World War II, a child who was born into poverty had a slightly better than 50-50 chance of becoming middle class as an adult,” Obama stated. “By 1990, that chance had fallen to around 40 percent. And if the trend of rising inequality over the last few decades continues, it’s estimated that a child born today will only have a one-in-three chance of making it to the middle class — 33%.”

Obama chose to blame “the rich” for this lack of mobility out of poverty, seeking to focus on collective guilt at the top in order to win political points by appealing to class divisions, ignoring other, more likely causes. Obama conveniently overlooked how the economic future and upward mobility of children is directly impacted when 40 percent of children in America are now born out of wedlock. In

the black community, 70 percent of children are currently in single-parent households. Current U.S. Census Bureau data show that 34.2 percent of female-headed households are in poverty, compared to 7.6 percent of married-couple households.

In contrast, back to when President Obama says there was more upward mobility among the poor, more economic “fairness,” only 7 percent of children in the United States were born out of wedlock in 1963.

In his November 1 column, “The Wrong Inequality,” *New York Times* columnist David Brooks stated that “it is easier to talk about the inequality of stock options than it is to talk inequalities of family structure, child rearing patterns, and educational attainment. That’s because many people are wedded to the notion that our problems are caused by an oppressive privileged class that perpetually keeps its boot stomped on the neck of the common man.” The growth in wealth of the top one percent, said Brooks, is “not nearly as big a problem” as the “disorganized social fabric” at the bottom when it comes to inequality and stagnant social mobility.

### Fiscal Illusion Versus Reality

Obama moved on, charging that those who don’t agree that bigger government and more mandates on business, more regulations and higher taxes on the wealthy are the solution, are “suffering from a kind of collective amnesia.” “After all that’s happened, after the worst economic crisis, the worst financial crisis since the Great Depression, they want to return to the same practices that got us into this mess. In fact, they want to go back to the same policies that stacked the deck against the middle class for way too many years. And their philosophy is simple: We are better off when everyone is left to fend for themselves and play by their own rules. I am here to say they are wrong.”

We are, of course, far from a *laissez-faire* society where people are left to fend for themselves.

Slightly over half of all Americans now receive significant income from government programs, up from approximately a fourth of the population in 1950. Tax Freedom Day in 2011, according to the Tax Foundation’s current calculations, ar-



**Socialist status quo:** Despite insinuations from President Obama that a free-market economy is to blame for America’s ills, America hasn’t had a *laissez-faire* economy for decades. Over half of Americans receive significant income, such as food stamps, from government.

rived on April 12, the 102nd day of the year, meaning that Americans, on average, worked well over three months of the year before they earned enough to pay their federal, state, and local taxes.

Further, if the federal government had collected enough additional taxes to pay for its trillion-dollar-plus 2011 deficit, the Tax Foundation estimates that Tax Freedom Day would have arrived this year on May 23, adding 41 more all-tax, no-pay days to the year.

Continued Obama: “Now, just as there were in Teddy Roosevelt’s time, there is a certain crowd in Washington who, for the last few decades, have said, let’s respond to this economic challenge with the same old tune. ‘The market will take care of everything,’ they tell us. If we just cut more regulations and cut more taxes, especially for the wealthy, our economy will grow stronger. Sure, they say, there will be winners and losers. But if the winners do really well, then jobs and prosperity will eventually trickle down to everyone else. And, they argue, even if prosperity doesn’t trickle down, well, that’s the price of liberty.”

Despite the implication made in Obama’s mocking tone, in fact, things do trickle down, as in the case where a business investment creates jobs, or when the research of pharmaceutical firms prolongs

our life span. They pour down. It’s obvious, easy to see, unless one is blinded by an anti-capitalist mentality, an anti-rich, anti-profit, anti-business mindset.

The benefits trickle down each time a capitalist invests in new equipment that increases productivity and raises wages. The benefits trickle down each time an entrepreneur creates a new product or service and hires new workers.

Simply stated, a growing pie delivers the goods to more people than a centrally controlled and shrinking pie. It’s why the guys scrambling over the Berlin Wall from East Germany to West Germany never saw anyone climbing in the opposite direction. It’s why the guys paddling an inner tube from Cuba to Key West never saw anyone paddling in the opposite direction. It’s why South Korea has lights at night and ample food, and North Korea doesn’t. It’s why Hong Kong under British rule was an economic powerhouse while neighboring communist China stagnated.

Nevertheless, Obama continued his attack on what he called “You’re on your own” economics:

Now, it’s a simple theory. And we have to admit, it’s one that speaks to our rugged individualism and our healthy skepticism of too much gov-

ernment. That's in America's DNA. And that theory fits well on a bumper sticker. But here's the problem: It doesn't work. It has never worked. It didn't work when it was tried in the decade before the Great Depression. It's not what led to the incredible postwar booms of the '50s and '60s. And it didn't work when we tried it during the last decade. I mean, understand, it's not as if we haven't tried this theory.

### Booms and Busts

Again, Obama seems to be referencing an economic textbook filled with imaginary facts. Shrinking the size of government and unloading its burden from the backs of taxpayers and businesses has worked again and again. Let's start with the incredible boom of the '80s, initiated by Ronald Reagan and described by the National Bureau of Economic Research in 1999 as "the longest sustained period of prosperity in the twentieth century."

Reaganomics cut tax rates on labor and capital, slowed the growth of government, controlled the growth of the money supply, and rolled back anti-growth regulations.

The top marginal tax rate was reduced from 70 percent to 55 percent to 28 percent. Tax brackets were indexed for inflation, preventing higher taxation on illusionary gains in income. The corporate income tax was cut from 48 percent to 34 percent, the capital gains tax rate was lowered from 28 percent to 20 percent, and most of the poor were exempted from federal income taxes.

The result? Business investment increased, productivity increased, the rate of new business formation rose sharply, economic growth increased, real wages increased, the unemployment rate dropped from 7 percent in 1980 to 5.4 percent in 1988, and the inflation rate declined 10.4 percent in 1980 to 4.2 percent in 1988.

In short, the benefits of tax cuts at the top, middle, and bottom trickled down to the overall society in the form of lower price increases, more jobs, and less unemployment.

"We call this period, 1982-2007, the 25-year boom — the greatest period of wealth creation in the history of the planet," write Stephen Moore, Arthur Laffer, and Peter Tanous in *The End of Prosperity*. "In 1980

the net worth — assets minus liabilities — of all U.S. households and businesses, according to the Federal Reserve Board, was \$25 trillion in today's dollars. By 2007, the Fed calculated net wealth was just shy of \$57 trillion. Adjusting for inflation, more wealth was created in the 25-year boom than in the previous 200 years." Critics, however, might contend much of this gain is illusory because Fed loose-money policies created a real estate bubble.

In 1984, the Democratic Party selected Walter Mondale to run against Reagan in his reelection campaign. Mondale repeatedly berated Reagan for his "tax cuts for the rich," as if an unemployed guy facing double digit inflation didn't benefit when he got a job and inflation dropped to 4 percent. Reagan won an overwhelming victory, carrying 49 states.

The policy initiatives and economic results were the same in the 1960s. Democratic President John F. Kennedy cut income-tax rates across the board by 30 percent. The top income-tax rate was re-

**Obama's claims need serious fact checking. In fact, a Census Bureau report shows that prior to the financial crisis and economic crash of 2008, income inequality in 2007 had fallen to its lowest level in six years.**

duced from a confiscatory 91 percent to 70 percent.

The result? Business investment increased, economic growth jumped by 50 percent, federal tax revenues increased sharply, and one million jobs were created in the four years following the enactment of the Kennedy tax cuts.

Again, it's obvious that good things trickled down to the overall population, even with "the rich" newly permitted to keep more than nine cents out of each dollar of their additional earnings. And for those who were jobless, the unemployment rate dropped to its lowest peacetime level in more than 30 years.



AP Images

**From trickle to flood:** Reaganomics, which included tax cuts on labor and capital, ignited a period of prosperity that was the longest in the 20th century. Unfortunately, he didn't also set a precedent of balanced budgets.

**President John F. Kennedy cut income-tax rates across the board by 30 percent. The top income-tax rate was reduced from a confiscatory 91 percent to 70 percent. The result? Business investment increased, and economic growth jumped by 50 percent.**

Using solid economic numbers, we learn that the economic policies of Franklin D. Roosevelt in the 1930s moved in exactly the opposite direction from the Kennedy and Reagan pro-growth initiatives and delivered results that were the direct opposite of the economic recoveries and booms of the 1960s and 1980s.

Roosevelt's forceful expansion of federal regulations and taxation, his intimidation of "the rich," encouragement of labor strikes, and half-baked policy experiments — such as plowing under crops to raise the price of those crops — all discouraged employers from hiring new workers, provided strong disincentives to new business investment, and turned the 1929 stock market crash into the long-running Great Depression.

"From 1929 to 1940, from Hoover to Roosevelt, government intervention helped make the Depression Great," writes Amity Shlaes in *The Forgotten Man: A New History of the Great Depression*. "The trouble, however, was not merely the new policies that were implemented but also the threat of additional, unknown, policies. Fear froze the economy, but that uncertainty itself might have a cost was something the young experimenters simply did not consider."

**To be expected:** An economic maxim says, "Whatever you subsidize, you get more of." Government has subsidized single-parent families, yet it doesn't accept that its actions boost poverty rates, though single-parent homes often lead to poverty.

Roosevelt's goal was to enlarge the power of the public sector, increase revenues to the government, and expand the economic controls of a centralized bureaucracy — even for dubious projects (today's version of equally dubious projects includes federal handouts for the Chevy Volt, more than \$500 million in loan guarantees for politically correct but economically bankrupt Solyndra, Cash for Clunkers, and federally imposed mortgage goals that promoted zero-down loans to unqualified buyers).

As Roosevelt proclaimed in his second inaugural address, he sought "unimagined power."

Those two words alone were enough to turn employers and investors into John Galt, the fictional character in Ayn Rand's

novel *Atlas Shrugged* who, refusing to become a cog in an anti-individualist society, urges the world's producers, including businessmen, to strike, to withdraw their talent and investments from society in order to bring about the collapse of collectivism.

Hoover's and Roosevelt's actions that lengthened the Great Depression included a hiking of the top income-tax rate from 25 percent to 63 percent in 1932, and then to 79 percent, creating increased disincentives for business expansion and ever-higher obstacles to capital accumulation and new investment.

The corporate-tax rate was raised from 11 percent to 12 percent in 1931, 13.75 percent in 1932, and 15 percent in 1936, with a 27 percent surtax on undistributed profits.

The highest inheritance-tax rate was more than doubled in 1932, from 20 percent to 45 percent, and then raised to 60 percent in 1934 and 70 percent in 1935. In 1932, a gift tax was reinstated with a top rate of 33.5 percent, raised to 45 percent in 1934 and 52.5 percent in 1935.

The result was enduring stagnation. "The DOW did not return to 1929 levels until nearly a decade after Roosevelt's death," writes Shlaes, while the unemployment rate did not return to pre-crash levels until the war."

In their 2010 book *Return to Prosperity: How America Can Regain Its Superpower Status*, Stephen Moore and Arthur Laffer issue a clear warning about today's economic policies: "U.S. federal and state tax policies are on an economic crash trajectory, just as they were in the 1930s."

Speaking defiantly from the White House Rose Garden in September 2011, President Obama argued for more money to the government and higher taxes on the rich. "This is not class warfare — it's math," he said.

He's right. It is math. It's the aforementioned lesson in clear and consistent numbers over the past 80 years, a lesson he seems unable or unwilling to comprehend. ■



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# Observing Obama

President Obama doesn't belong to a party calling itself Socialist or Marxist or Communist, but if he were tried in the court of public opinion for socialist views, he'd be found guilty.

by Selwyn Duke

Barack Obama's domestic-policy speech in Osawatimie, Kansas, has certainly made waves. Well received by the mainstream media, the *Baltimore Sun* wrote that the President has finally found "his voice," while the ever-dour political commentator Bill Press said that Obama was "channeling Teddy Roosevelt." Yet if talk-show host Rush Limbaugh is correct, the President was channeling someone also long-dead but a lot more red. The radio giant asserts that Obama has "outed" himself, in that he has "announced to the world in no uncertain terms that he is a socialist, if not a Marxist."

What did Obama say that brought cheers from the Left and jeers from the Right? Among other things, he stated that our relatively-free free-enterprise system not only "doesn't work" — "it has never worked."

The first thing to note is the blindness and ingratitude evidenced by this statement. Our nation enjoys wealth unprecedented in man's history, boasting supermarkets stocked with thousands of products from the world over; and "poor" people who usually have cars, TVs, cellphones, and other

luxuries, as well as bellies that come out and greet you. So while "never worked" may describe Obama's constituents, it can hardly be said about our system.

## Obama on Trial

So our system shouldn't be on trial here — Obama should. But is it really fair to suggest he may be a Marxist? Or was there evidence for it all along?

Well, consider the words of John Drew, Ph.D., a man whom writer Paul Kengor calls "Obama's Missing Link." A contemporary of Obama's at Occidental College three decades ago, Drew says that he himself was a Marxist at the time — and part of Obama's inner circle. And what does he reveal? Obama was an "ardent" "Marxist-Leninist" who "was in 100 percent, total agreement with [his] Marxist professors," said Drew. In fact, Drew states that while he was a more nuanced Marxist who tried to convince Obama that old-style communist revolution was unrealistic in the West, the future President would have none of it and considered Drew a "reactionary."

Dr. Drew doesn't believe the President has changed, either, and I agree. I explained why in a follow-up to Kengor's piece, writing:

Some may say that a person can change markedly over a 30-year period. This is true.... Yet a transition from flat-out "Marxist-Leninist" to someone who rejects the red menace is a pretty big change, don't you think? In fact, wouldn't such a personal evolution — some might say revolution — be a kind of *conversion*? I think so.... There's an interesting thing, however, about conversions. *You hear about them.*

You see, a conversion is a sea change, a rebirth, a turning point in your existence. You may become, as Christians say, a new creation, and you're at least a reformed old one. And you reflect your new state of being and often want to voice it. And those around you will know about it.

As for this writer, everyone who knows me would say that my religious conversion was a seminal point in my life. Now consider something. Barack Obama is one of the most famous, most discussed individuals on the planet. *But we have not heard about any soul-changing conversion in his life.* Not a whisper. Nothing. Nothing that could reconcile the

**Obama appointed communists and their sympathizers to office upon taking power. One of these was Van Jones, another man who called himself a communist; and a second example is former communications director Anita Dunn, who said that Mao Tse-tung was one of her two favorite philosophers.**

flat-out Marxist-Leninist Obama was in his college days with the man he supposedly is today. There's no one who says, "Yeah, he was a radical guy in his youth, and I just couldn't believe how he became disenchanted with his old ideas."

Why, my friends, might this be?

Now, something else about conversions is that they often breed a person who hates what he has rejected as much as he once loved it. This is why ex-smokers can be the most ardent anti-smoking activists or why Christian converts can be the staunchest critics of secularism. But from Obama we see no visceral contempt for communism. What we do see, however, is shocking. And we can start with another little-known Obama association: Apparently, the President was a member

of something called the New Party in the 1990s. What was this entity? The blog Politically Drunk on Power (PDP) explained in 2008, writing, "The 'New Party' was a political party established by the Democratic Socialists of America (the DSA) to push forth the socialist principles of the DSA by focusing on winnable

elections at a local level and spreading the Socialist movement upwards." Not surprisingly, the New Party and DSA tried to aid Obama's rise to the presidency by covering up his ties to them and scrubbing at least one webpage detailing the association from the New Party website. However, PDP was able to access the information through a non-profit Internet archiving service. Here is a smoking-gun excerpt from the discovered page:

New Party members are busy knocking on doors, hammering down lawn signs, and phoning voters to support NP candidates this fall. Here are some of our key races.... Illinois: **Three NP-members** won Democratic primaries last Spring and face off against Republican opponents on election day: Danny Davis (U.S. House), Barack Obama (State Senate) and Patricia Martin (Cook County Judiciary).

And what of the new millennium? Did it bring a new Obama? Hardly. Just a few years ago we saw how he had an alliance with former Weather Underground terrorist Bill Ayers, who *called himself* a "small c communist" and whose terrorist organization matter-of-factly estimated that it would have to kill 25 million capitalists to advance the Marxist program. Even more damnably, we saw how Obama appointed communists and their sympathizers to office upon taking power. One of these was Van Jones, another man who *called himself* a communist; and a second example is former communications director Anita Dunn, who said that Mao Tse-tung — who murdered 60 to 70 million people — was one of her two favorite philosophers.

Yet perhaps even more telling is something that, by most, is unseen. We're told that Barack Obama chose the obscure locale of Osawatomie for his speech because, as Bill Press alluded to, it was the site of a seminal Teddy Roosevelt speech 101 years ago. This may very well be true. Through the distinctively named city of 4,500, Obama could make a symbolic connection with the man who once offered Americans a Hamiltonian conception of state power dubbed the "New Nationalism." Yet, unbeknownst to virtually everyone, Obama is connected to "Osawatomie" through another man. It's a connection that's odd and alarming — and at least a bit spooky. Now, I'd like you to take a gander at the image below and see what jumps out at you.



**As the twig is bent, so grows the tree:** Obama's childhood communist indoctrination was thorough, and his adult life saw him associate with unrepentant Weatherman terrorist Bill Ayers (above), whose group created the "Osawatomie" newsletter.

This was the official newsletter of the terrorist Weather Underground Organization — of Bill Ayers fame. This particular issue sports a picture of Vietnamese Marxist-Leninist leader Ho Chi Minh on the cover. And, as you can see, the name of this communist publication is “Osawatomie.”

Just like the place where Obama decided to give a speech in which he cast doubt upon the merits of economic freedom.

Now, I’m not one to jump to conclusions. To paraphrase Confucius, “Wisdom is, when you know something, knowing that you know it; and when you do not know something, knowing that you do not know it.” It’s certainly possible that Obama is completely unaware of the Weathermen terrorist “Osawatomie” newsletter; this is, after all, the man who indicated that the United States had 58 states and didn’t even correct himself. And even if he does or did know about it, it is entirely possible that his choice of little Osawatomie could have been motivated by a desire to invoke Rough Rider Roosevelt and not recreant Reds.

### Motivated by Marxism

Yes, could have been. But given Obama’s history, another possibility suggests itself to the open-minded. Was there an extra layer of symbolism in his choice of speech venue, one of which only the “initiated” and those shouting in the wilderness would be aware? Was the President sending a message to his long-time socialist allies? “I’m still with you,” perhaps? Is it akin to an inside joke? Are the initiated laughing behind the backs of the gun-and-religion-clinging majority and everyone else who doesn’t “get it”?

Of course, some statisticians will criticize anyone who raises such a possibility. And this is one reason why prominent figures, be they media types or politicians, won’t dare mention that the emperor has red clothes. For to suggest he does is to descend into paranoia at best or the politics of personal destruction at worst. Except, to quote liberal icon Daniel Patrick Moynihan, “You’re entitled to your own opinions, but you’re not entitled to your own facts.” And the fact is that it doesn’t take a behavioral scientist from the FBI to draw proper conclusions from Obama’s profile. We have in the President a man who:

1. Had communist Frank Marshall Davis as childhood mentor.

2. Was a flat-out Marxist-Leninist in college.

3. Was a member of a radical socialist party in the 1990s.

4. Has no known history of renouncing these views.

5. Later in life built an alliance with a “small c” communist and other assorted radicals.

6. Upon achieving high office, appointed avowed communists to his administration.

Given this profile, what is the radical position? That the man is a communist or at least a communist sympathizer? Or that he is just your everyday moderate politician?

Perhaps we don’t have proof beyond a reasonable doubt that would stand up in a criminal proceeding for either of the above propositions. But asking for it is unreasonable and irresponsible. In the court of public opinion, there must be no higher burden than in a civil court: a preponderance of the evidence. And a preponderance of it in the President’s case points to a simple conclusion: Barack Obama is likely a communist or communist sympathizer.

Now, there are many reasons why people would deny what is plain about Obama. The most obvious is partisan loyalty, but there is another factor: The “it”-couldn’t-happen-here mentality.

We see this when people are shocked to learn that a neighbor is a serial killer or child molester and say that “he seemed so normal,” or when there is a heinous crime in a neighborhood and residents just can’t believe that “it” could happen in their little Mayberry. As to the example relevant here, an American President could *never* be a communist sympathizer. Sure, you read in history books about such leaders attaining power in places such as Cambodia, Russia, and North Korea. But the US of A? “It” is something that happens to the other guy’s nation.

Of course, this isn’t reality. Say what we will about American “exceptionalism,” the fact is that we receive no special dispensation from the laws governing man. There is no “it” that can’t happen here. And while we don’t vote for our next-door neighbor, we do choose our President. We’d be wise to make sure that, some years hence, we’re not witnessing disaster with our mouths agape and left saying, “He seemed so normal.” ■

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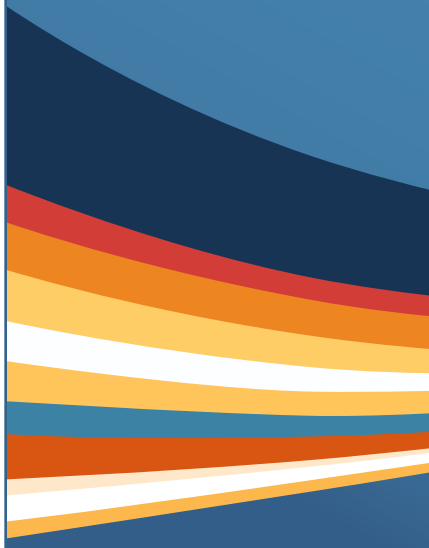


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# The Welfare State Is Socialism in Disguise

Few would claim that American governance was not meant to protect individual rights, but many would disagree over whether public welfare fits in to the American plan.

by Brian Farmer

This topic brings to mind the story about the national politician who campaigned on a party platform promoting the Welfare State. His stump speech was filled with promises of all the government services that he would fight for, if the voters would just elect him to Congress. He promised to meet all of the people's needs relating to childcare, education, nutrition, housing, transportation, healthcare, pensions, and good-paying jobs for every citizen. Finally, at one town hall meeting, a small boy raised his hand and innocently asked, "Why would we need jobs?"

Yes, just as when we were children, everyone wants to ride in the wagon, but nobody wants to pull the wagon. It's a principle that is so simple that even a child can understand it.

It would be worthwhile to set the stage for this discussion by talking a bit about the political spectrum. The left-right political spectrum is a common way of classifying political positions, political ideologies, and political parties. The general

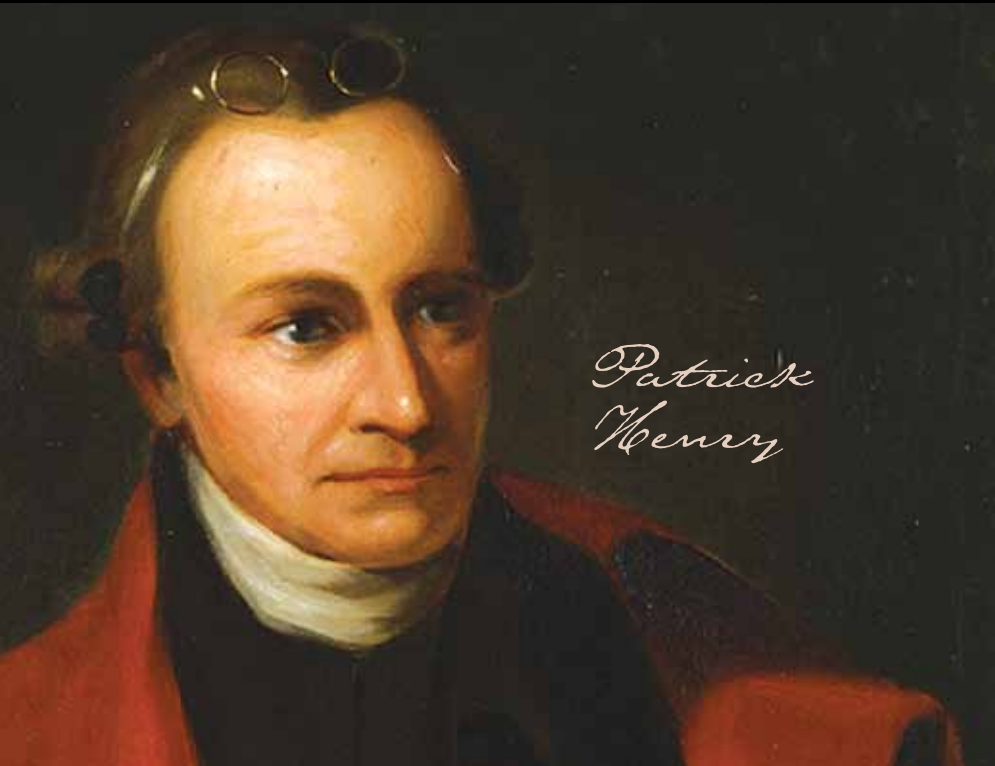
consensus seems to be that, as one moves from the center to the left, the political spectrum is occupied by Democrats, Liberals, Progressives, Socialists, and Communists. And as one moves from the center to the right, one encounters Republicans, Conservatives, Libertarians, Fascists, and Nazis.

However, when one ponders the situation for a while, it becomes apparent that much of this placement has nothing to do with the true relationship among political beliefs. As with other spectra, the political spectrum should be measured from one extreme to the other. One way to do this is by constructing a horizontal line with no government, or anarchy, on the extreme right, and total government, or totalitarianism, on the extreme left. Totalitarian systems include Fascism, Nazism, Communism, and Socialism.

The extreme on the right, anarchy, where no government prevails, historically has resulted in totalitarians rushing in to fill the vacuum. Because the leap from no government on the extreme right to total government on the extreme left has been shown to be so easy to make, the politi-

cal spectrum might best be portrayed as a horseshoe so that the extremes are close together and the system of limited self government is furthest from both. In either case, line or horseshoe, the traditional American political philosophy of a limited federal government, a free-enterprise economy, and private property rights, bears no relationship to the systems of the Left. Nazism, Fascism, Communism, and Socialism all share a common belief in total government control of one type or another, with more and more government-financed programs leading to government regulation of every facet of life.

From this understanding, we can see that the basic issue is between two principles, the first being Individualism and the second being Collectivism. Individualism holds that human beings have inalienable rights to life, liberty, property, and the pursuit of happiness; that only on the basis of these rights can people have a society of freedom and justice; and that governments are instituted to secure those rights. Does that sound familiar? One could call it Americanism, because the United States of America is an example of a political,



economic, and social system based on the principle of Individualism, or at least it was originally set up that way (except for the institution of slavery in the South, of course, which was later done away with). Collectivism, on the other hand, holds that human beings do not have such inalienable rights, and any rights that they do have are granted by the State. Each person exists not for his own sake, but for the sake of the group.

### Where Does Public Welfare Fit In?

That raises the obvious question, in view of this discussion: Where does the Welfare State fit in to that scheme? To answer that, we first have to define what the Welfare State is. Strictly speaking, a Welfare State is a government that completely provides for the welfare, or the well-being, of its citizens. Such a government is involved in citizens' lives at every level. It provides for physical, material, and social needs, rather than the people providing for their own needs. The purpose of the Welfare State is to create economic equality or to assure equitable standards of living for all. It redistributes wealth by heavily taxing the middle and upper classes, in order to provide goods and services for those viewed as underprivileged. The redistribution of wealth is a socialist concept: From each according to his ability; to each according

to his need. But try to imagine an involuntary transfer of income or wealth, from one person to another, which is not a violation of the right to property, the right to keep the fruits of one's labor. Hence, the Welfare State is the antithesis of personal liberty, which is why the U.S. Constitution grants no such power of wealth redistribution to the federal government.

But some may argue that the Welfare State is not incompatible with Americanism, because the U.S. Constitution authorizes the federal government to address the issue of the general welfare. Indeed, the Preamble to the U.S. Constitution states that the Constitution is ordained and established to, among other things, promote the general welfare. But one must first understand what the framers of the Constitution meant by "the general welfare." At the time the Constitution was written, the general welfare referred to the welfare of all the citizens and not to certain entitled groups. Secondly, one must also understand how the Constitution promotes the general welfare. It does so by severely limiting the powers of the federal government. After all, the United States of America did not become the most successful political, economic, and social experiment in the history of the human race because of what the federal government did. It became the freest, richest, and most powerful nation in the

world because of what the federal government was *prevented* from doing. As Patrick Henry put it, "The Constitution is not an instrument for the government to restrain the people; it is an instrument for the people to restrain the government — lest it come to dominate our lives and interests."

And then there is Article I, Section 8 of the Constitution, which empowers the Congress to "provide for the common defense and general welfare of the United States." Some argue that the semicolon after the words "United States" implies that this phrase stands alone, on an equal footing with the so-called "Enumerated Powers" which follow it, and that this means that Congress can pass any laws it deems necessary and proper, in order to provide for the general welfare. Again, we must keep in mind that the expression "general welfare" refers to the welfare of everyone and not just to certain designated people. In addition, we must keep in mind what James Madison said in *The Federalist*, No. 41, about Article I, Section 8:

It has been urged and echoed, that the power "to ... provide for the common defense and general welfare of the United States" amounts to an unlimited commission to exercise every power which may be alleged to be necessary for the common defense or general welfare. Had no other enumeration or definition of the powers of the Congress been found in the Constitution, than the general expressions just cited, the authors of the objection might have had some color for it.

But what color can the objection have, when a specification of the objects alluded to by these general terms immediately follows, and is not even separated by a longer pause than a semicolon?... Nothing is more natural nor common than first to use a general phrase, and then to explain and qualify it by a recital of particulars. But the idea of an enumeration of particulars which neither explain nor qualify the general meaning, and can have no other effect than to confound and mislead, is an absurdity.

Others may take a different tack and claim that the Welfare State is actually a mix-

ture of Individualism and Collectivism. But individual rights cannot be partially recognized. Either individual rights are recognized in a society, or they are not recognized. What frequently happens is that a society based on Individualism does not have the courage, integrity, and intelligence to observe its own principle consistently in every practical application. Through cowardice, ignorance, or opportunism, such a society passes laws and accepts regulations that contradict its basic principles and violate the inalienable rights of its citizens. Such a society may appear to be working, but it is actually disintegrating. Disintegration takes time. Unless the violations are corrected, such a society eventually collapses into full-blown Collectivism. A famous quote, attributed to Alexander Fraser Tytler, puts it another way:

A democracy is always temporary in nature; it simply cannot exist as a permanent form of government. A democracy will continue to exist up until the time that voters discover that they can vote themselves generous gifts from the public treasury. From that moment on, the majority always votes for the candidates who promise the most benefits from the public treasury, with the result that every democracy will finally collapse, due to loose fiscal policy, which is always followed by a dictatorship. The average age of the world's greatest civilizations from the beginning of history has been about two hundred years.

Finally, some will argue that inalienable rights also include the rights to food, clothing, housing, healthcare, an education, a job, a secure retirement, and so on. But a single question would make the issue clear: At whose expense? Those alleged rights do not occur naturally. In fact, they are goods and services produced by human effort. So who is to provide them?

**Entitled to the good life:** Many people believe they deserve money redistributed by government. One couple in Seattle stands accused of living in this \$1.2 million waterfront home while collecting federal housing assistance.

### What Rights Really Are

Think about what “rights” really are. The concept of “rights” is not just political in nature. It is also a moral concept. It tells us that a certain course of behavior is right and proper, that it must be respected by others and not be interfered with, and that anyone who violates a person’s rights is wrong, immoral, and evil.

Our inalienable rights are the rights to life, liberty, property, and the pursuit of happiness. Why only those specific rights? Because all legitimate rights have one thing in common: They involve unhindered access to certain *actions*, not free access to goods and services from other people. Legitimate rights impose no obligations on other people, except for the obligation to leave you alone. Such a political and economic system guarantees you the opportunity to work for what you want, but not to receive it for nothing

**Some will argue that inalienable rights also include the rights to food, clothing, housing, healthcare, an education, a job, a secure retirement, and so on. But a single question would make the issue clear: At whose expense?**

from somebody else. You have a right to work, but not the right to rob others of the fruits of their work, not to turn others into virtual slaves laboring to fulfill your wants and needs.

The right to life does not mean that your neighbors have to feed and clothe you. It means that you have the right to earn your food and clothing yourself, and that no one is allowed to forcibly stop your efforts to obtain them, or to take them from you, when you finally get them. In other words, you have the right to act, to keep the fruits of your labor, and to do with them what



you wish. But you have no right to the goods, services, and talents of others, except on terms to which they voluntarily agree.

The right to the pursuit of happiness is precisely that, the right to the *pursuit* — to a certain type of action and its result — not to any guarantee that other people will make you happy or even try to do so. If your desire for something imposes a duty on other people to satisfy you, then *their* right to liberty is violated, and the right to pursue *their* happiness is hindered. Your right to happiness at their expense means that they become, in effect, your slaves.

Nowadays, we watch the intellectuals and the politicians abandoning the political, economic, and moral principles upon which this nation was founded. We are witnessing the destruction of the concept of rights. The original American philosophy is being ignored, as if it had never existed. The rule now is for politicians to violate our rights, while arguing for a long list of alleged rights never dreamed of in our nation's founding documents — rights that require no earning, no effort, no action at all, on the part of the recipient.

You are entitled to something, the intellectuals and the politicians say, simply because it exists and you want it. You are entitled to have it provided for you by the federal government, which in turn entitles the federal government to set up a Wel-



**When the Founders drafted the U.S. Constitution**, they drew upon the principles they had outlined in the Declaration of Independence. As a reflection of those principles, the powers that the people gave to the federal government, to exercise on their behalf, were strictly limited.

fare State. But from where does the federal government get what you want? What must the federal government do to private citizens — to their individual rights, to their real rights — in order to carry out the promise of showering free goods and services on the people?

The newly invented rights wipe out real rights and turn the people who actually create the goods and services into servants of the State. It is the same as if the federal government were to proclaim a universal right to a car, or a computer, or a cellphone. It is not that you are free to earn those things by your own effort, but that you have some moral claim to be given those things free of charge, with no action on your part, simply as handouts from a benevolent Welfare State.

Socialism is clearly evident in this process. The Welfare State is not hardcore Socialism per se, because it does not necessarily require the total elimination of private ownership of the means of production and distribution. But enormous bureaucracies have been created to tax, subsidize, and

regulate businesses, and the federal government owns 34 percent of our nation's total land area.

**Socialism in a Sense**

In a traditional and strict sense, the Socialist State owns and directs the means of production. In this day and age, however, the federal government regulates the means of production as if it actually owned them. The federal government does not have to actually own factories, mines, farms, etc., in order to be viewed as a Socialist State, if it has the power to regulate, in minute detail, how business is to be conducted within any sectors of the economy. It should be intuitively obvious that regulation acts as a proxy for direct government ownership of the means of production.

Furthermore, two-thirds of the federal budget is devoted to programs that are engaged in wealth redistribution, taking money from people who have earned it and giving it away to or spending it on people who have not earned it. Hence, it would not be at all inaccurate to claim that the Welfare State is Socialism in disguise. In any case, we can be absolutely certain of this: The Welfare State is not Americanism in disguise! ■

**At the time the Constitution was written, the general welfare referred to the welfare of all the citizens and not to certain entitled groups. Secondly, one must also understand how the Constitution promotes the general welfare. It does so by severely limiting the powers of the federal government.**

# SICK AND SICKER

Will ObamaCare bring us the wonders that Canada's universal healthcare is providing sick Canadians? Yes, it will cause us to wonder.

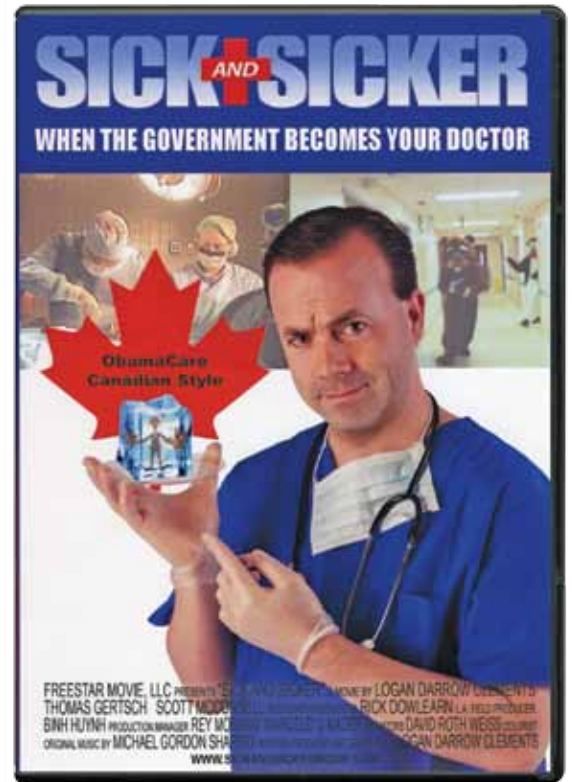
by Fr. James Thornton

*Sick and Sicker: When Government Becomes Your Doctor*, by Logan Darrow Clements, Los Angeles, Calif.: Freestar Media, LLC, 2010.

**S***ick and Sicker*, a DVD, is a powerful refutation of the fiction that citizens of the United States would be better served by a government-financed, government-controlled healthcare system like ObamaCare, or like the Canadian system where the federal and provincial governments fund “free” healthcare for all. Since it has been in operation for decades, and since its performance is predictive of what may soon come to the United States, the Canadian system is the primary focus of the DVD.

It is true that various polls have shown that most Canadians favor their country's socialized health system over a private system. What is not evident in such responses, however, is that most of the people of Canada (as in the United States and elsewhere) are not seriously ill. The truth is that the Canadian socialized system serves the people of Canada fairly well, so long as the people we are discussing are not sick. For those who are sick, who require immediate attention to save their lives, or to mitigate intense pain or severe disability, the Canadian system is most often, simply put, a disaster.

*Sick and Sicker* is a series of discussions with Canadian men and women who are, or have been, seriously ill and who have suffered interminable delays in receiving medical attention, or who have been denied treatment. Some of these people have been forced to seek treatment outside of their country while others — those who cannot afford to go abroad to a private facility — have suffered for years, waiting for needed care. Yet others have died, after having given their testimony in this DVD about the tragic neglect and overcrowding in the Canadian system. In one interview we hear from a man who is bedridden due to degenerative disk disease, which for years has kept him in continuous pain and unable to work. When one day in the month of October he received a phone call for an appointment to see about diagnosis and treatment, he was told that the appointment would be in November, which at first he thought was remarkable since that was only a month away. It was then explained to him that the appointment was for November of the following year! Another patient, an older lady, related that after waiting months to be diagnosed with life-threatening cancer, it took 13 months before the surgery could be done, during which time the cancer spread to other organs. We hear of another Canadian patient, a relatively vigorous young man who was active in sports, who developed an extremely dangerous heart condition. In the United States he would have been scheduled for surgery immediately, without any delay. Sadly, he was placed on a waiting list and died before the Canadian health system could provide the necessary surgical procedure.



## The Right to Ration

Rationing is one of the hallmarks of socialism. In the case of Canada, “free” healthcare results in the rationing of services in order for the system to survive at all. Consequently, Canadian hospitals limit surgical procedures in high demand to a certain number per month, regardless of the needs of patients. That, of course, includes heart-related surgeries, oncological procedures and surgeries, hip and knee replacements, and so forth. Treatment is dependent upon the decisions of government bureaucrats, decisions frequently involving life or death. CT scans, MRIs, and PET scans are either difficult or impossible to obtain, or require lengthy wait times, often as long as many months or years. Many life-saving drugs easily available elsewhere are not available in some Canadian provinces, for example drugs used in the treatment of chronic lymphocytic leukemia. Limitations of those sorts are the rule in socialized systems, hence the tragic stories mentioned above.

In this presentation we also hear testimony from Canadian medical doctors who struggle to help their patients but who continuously run into brick walls of bureaucratic

**Politicians with the right connections often do not have to wait months or years for care and treatment, as do ordinary Canadians, but find ways of jumping to the head of the queue, which means that less-privileged folk are shoved further back.**



indifference and red tape: Among these is Dr. Jacques Chaoulli. Angered that so many dangerously ill patients were being neglected by the government system, the good doctor opened a private clinic to treat those in need. The government promptly responded by calling the doctor's attention to the fact that private clinics were illegal in Quebec. Dr. Chaoulli first went on a 30-day hunger strike to call public attention to this outrage. He then took his case through the Canadian courts and finally, after eight years of struggle, won his case in the Canadian Supreme Court. Legislation to implement the court decision has not yet been passed; however, some private clinics have opened in Quebec to which, so far, the government has turned a blind eye. About Dr. Chaoulli, David Seymour, the director of the Frontier Center for Public Policy in Saskatchewan, said, "Dr. Chaoulli is a Canadian hero. A hero is somebody who goes out of their way to help somebody and I think taking a court case for eight years to help one of your patients is more than we expect from most of our doctors." Indeed so!

*Sick and Sicker* reveals that when the Canadian socialized system was first implemented, the politicians decided that to limit costs it would be necessary to drastically reduce the number of medical doctors practicing in that country. It was assumed, obviously incorrectly, that doctors drive costs higher, when it is, of course, patient demand — sick people needing care, in other words — that drives costs. Older doctors were given huge handouts to close their practices and retire. Medical schools were paid by the government to reduce dramatically the number of medical graduates. The result, as was predicted by critics of the system, has been a severe shortage of doctors in Canada. And as a consequence, 4.1 million

Canadians currently do not have family doctors. Why does that matter? First, it hinders routine medical care, which, when there is no family doctor, is dispensed at walk-in clinics with endless waiting lines. Worse yet, it precludes specialized care since family doctors are the gatekeepers for referrals (that is, they control access) to specialists.

### **No Waits for the Weighty**

Nearly all Canadian politicians vigorously support their country's socialized medicine system since it ostensibly assures that all citizens receive equal care and treatment in Canada's clinics and hospitals. But, to paraphrase the famous line in George Orwell's *Animal Farm*, all Canadians are equal, but some are more equal than others. Politicians with the right connections often do not have to wait months or years for care and treatment, as do ordinary Canadians, but find ways of jumping to the head of the queue, which means that less-privileged folk are shoved further back. Others among the "elite" come to the United States to receive the private care that is outlawed in their own country.

Former Prime Minister Jean Chretien and members of his family have received medical care in the United States. Moreover, it is reported that Chretien flew to U.S. clinics in Canadian government jets, paid for by the taxpayer. When, some years later, Chretien's doctor told him that he needed immediate quadruple heart-bypass surgery, he received it at a Canadian hospital, *the next day!* No waiting lines for him! Newfoundland Premier Danny Williams also required heart surgery and flew to Florida to receive it. The late Robert Bourassa, former Premier of Quebec, chose to avoid his country's

"free" healthcare, receiving cancer treatment at Bethesda, Maryland, instead. That politicians receive special consideration unavailable to the average citizen is another of the hallmarks of socialism. In the old USSR, the *nomenklatura* (members of the upper echelons of the ruling Communist Party) received first-class care in special hospitals, while ordinary Russians went to appallingly primitive facilities the quality of which compared unfavorably with Western hospitals of the 19th century.

One cannot fault Canadian politicians too much for wishing to save their own lives by seeking high-quality care. The trouble is that these same men, while in power, used their positions to defend a system that denied that prerogative to their less-wealthy and less-powerful countrymen. And it will be no different here. Does anyone imagine, should Congress fail to repeal ObamaCare and when our healthcare system deteriorates as it has in Canada, that President Obama or Nancy Pelosi or Harry Reid will wait months or years to receive the same inferior level of healthcare that they have forced on the rest of us?

### **Calculating Costs**

Let us now consider the cost of the Canadian system and its long-term viability. Cost is discussed in *Sick and Sicker*, but to enhance our understanding, I wish to explore it here in more detail. The following information comes from a November 2009 report by the Fraser Institute, a Canadian-based independent research organization. Provincial spending on healthcare increases each year by 7.4 percent, while provincial revenue grows at only 6.5 percent and the average Gross Domestic Product grows at a rate of 6.4 percent. These are, incidentally, averages calculated over a 10-year period, from 1999 to 2009. While those figures are bad enough, in the current climate of economic downturn, things look even worse. In Alberta, health spending in 2008/2009 grew at 8.6 percent, while economic growth was a mere 1.1 percent. During that same period, health spending in British Columbia went up by 9.6 percent while economic growth stalled at 1.3 percent. It is crucial to understand that healthcare spending consumes a

huge percentage of provincial revenue, a percentage that continues to rise. According to an article in *The Economist*, that percentage has risen from 35 percent in 1999 to 46 percent today. Based on these data, it is possible to project when health spending will consume half of government revenue and, a bit later, all of it. For instance, in the most populous province, Ontario, health spending, if unchecked, will consume 50 percent of revenues before 2015 and 100 percent by 2030. In Quebec, health spending will consume 50 percent of revenues in 2017 and 100 percent by 2035. Obviously, no national or provincial government can allow healthcare spending to absorb the whole of a government's revenue. Therefore one must conclude that the current system is unsustainable and that increased taxation, spending cuts, longer waiting lists, additional restrictions on treatment options, and further erosion in the quality of care, are inevitable.

Advocates of socialized medicine ignore a basic fact of life, which is that in any system, under any government, and in any country, resources are *never* limitless. Were resources (money, goods, and time) limitless then perhaps one could expect absolute perfection in nearly everything, even socialized medicine. But the fact is that resources are limited, and when those resources are funneled through a government bureaucracy, they inevitably become much more limited. That is so because bureaucracies tend to absorb an immense proportion of resources to sustain themselves, before any are used for the benefit of the people. Moreover (and as everyone knows), those endeavors in which government is involved are always plagued with waste, corruption, and inefficiency. That is true in Canada, the United States, and everywhere else.

*Sick and Sicker* is a tremendously powerful antidote to the blatant lies of self-serving politicians. Those politicians have assured Americans that when ObamaCare becomes fully operational, everything will be perfect and everyone will be happy. Let us remember that, not very long ago, Canadian politicians promised precisely the same. ■

To order *Sick and Sicker*, see the ad on the inside back cover.

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## THE GOODNESS OF AMERICA

### Joy in Partying

Three seniors at West Virginia University — Matt Carpenter, Dom Kroupa, and Harold Vass — showcased the true spirit of the holiday season when they hosted a Thanksgiving party to raise money and collect canned food for the local battered-women’s shelter.

The party included live musical performances by local bands Fletcher’s Grove, Paul Pfau, and the Dimestore Band. Cover charge for the party was \$5, but attendees saw a dollar taken off the price for each canned good they brought in.

This is not the first charity event that the seniors conducted. The students also held a Halloween-themed party that proved to be successful. “After the Halloween event, we were able to donate more than \$500 to charities around town,” explained Kroupa. The success of that event prompted the three seniors to conceive of the Thanksgiving party idea. “Once we realized how successful we could be, we saw no reason not to keep going,” Kroupa said.

For the guys, the party has multiple benefits. First and foremost, it raises money for a worthy cause. Likewise, it’s an opportunity to have a good time. “We wanted to do something for everyone — not just our friends, but the whole community,” remarked Carpenter. Adding to this, Kroupa indicated, “The community is where we live, and I love our community. We like to give back whenever we can, however we can.”

### Fast Work

An unidentified woman in Upper Marlboro, Maryland, is alive today because of the quick response of some bystanders who pulled her from her burning car on Thanksgiving morning.

Her vehicle erupted in flames after being involved in a three-vehicle accident. Several bystanders came to the aid of the driver, pulling her to safety and administering first aid to her while awaiting the arrival of rescue workers.

One of those heroes is Johnnie Whichard of Lothain, Maryland, who documented the event on his cellphone just moments

after he pulled the victim from her burning Honda sedan. Watching the vehicle burn uncontrollably, Whichard recalls, “It crossed my mind, I hope this thing doesn’t blow up.”

A spokesman for Prince George’s Fire/EMS service said, “Firefighters stated that the female pulled to safety by the good Samaritans would have sustained more serious, even fatal, injuries had it not been for these men.”

### Turnabout Is Fair Play

On Halloween, when a car driven by an elderly woman collided head-on with an Energy Police Department squad car and the vehicle caught fire, Rosemary and Joseph Doss of Marion sprang into action.

Rosemary somehow managed to pry open the jammed door of the squad car with her hands. “Just started pulling it, and finally I don’t know where I got the energy, but I just pulled that door a couple times harder. When I finally got it open I kicked it wide open,” she said. She added that she was assisted by another passerby, Daniel Flores.

When asked what compelled him to run toward a burning vehicle, Flores responded, “I don’t know. You can’t leave people in there when there’s a car burning.”

Meanwhile, Rosemary’s husband, Joseph, managed to remove the elderly woman from her car, and then proceeded to do the same for the injured police officer. “This car’s on fire we have got to get you out now,” said Joseph. “I don’t think he could move on his own power, so I just grabbed him underneath the shoulders and got him back where I thought it was a safe enough distance from the car.”

Later, Police Chief Shawn Ladd said that the accident was the most severe officer-involved accident he had seen in all his 21 years on the job. By the time authorities arrived, the vehicle had become so hot that the seats were burned and the keys melted. “It takes a special kind of person to approach a burning vehicle and to help someone out of it, whether it’s a police officer or anyone else. So these people, who for all they knew could have been risking their own lives for a stranger,

I think that deserves recognition,” said Chief Ladd.

Police officer Aaron Anderson, 22, the victim in the accident, concurred: “I just appreciate all the help from everybody, from the civilians that helped me. You know that’s what I get paid to do is help them, and in return, they helped me.”

### It’s a Shoe-in

Students at the St. Joseph School did a good thing in December when they filled the gymnasium of their school in Springettsbury Township, Pennsylvania, to recognize the feast day of St. Nicholas. They took the opportunity to both celebrate St. Nicholas and, in homage to their beloved saint, help others in need.

St. Nicholas is the patron saint of children, sailors, innocents, and others in need. He used his entire inheritance from his parents to benefit others who are in need. A popular tale indicates that St. Nicholas also placed coins in the shoes of children.

St. Joseph students decided to place a little spin on that story and do an equally good deed. They collected 500 pairs of shoes to be given to local organizations.

“He put coins in the children’s shoes, but we decided to just give them the shoes,” said Beth Brennan, director of development and stewardship for the school.

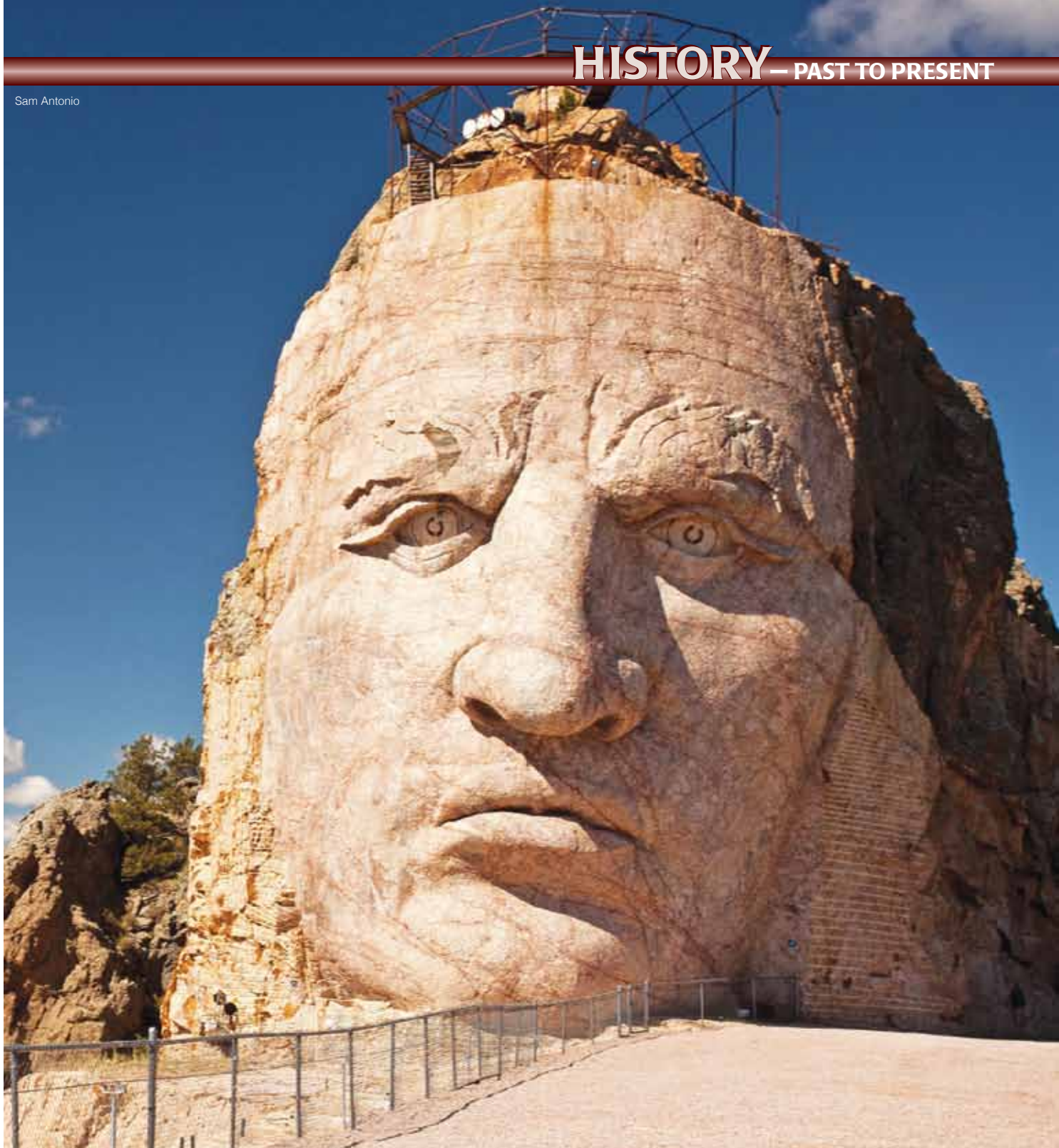
Students were asked to bring in slightly worn shoes for people of all ages, ranging from babies’ shoes to high heels. The idea was conceived by Susannah Gillespie, who volunteers for the enrollment and marketing committee. She asserted that she wanted to give the students an opportunity to be generous and charitable. “Just for kids to really have the sense of giving back,” said Gillespie.

According to the *York Daily Record*, “Fifteen new pairs were given to the Children’s Home of York because they can only accept new shoes. The remaining pairs were donated to the Catholic Harvest Food Pantry and the Lehman Center.”

Delighted by the turnout, Brennan remarked, “We always celebrate St. Nicholas, but never this way. We may have started a new tradition.” ■

— RAVEN CLABOUGH

Sam Antonio



# Crazy Horse Memorial

## A Tale of Two Stories Told in Stone

Most Americans likely can recognize the carvings on Mount Rushmore. But another, even larger carving of the Indian Crazy Horse is less well known but more remarkable.

by Sam Antonio

The Black Hills of South Dakota have long been associated with the four U.S. Presidents who adorn Mount Rushmore. The granite faces of George Washington, Thomas Jefferson, Theodore Roosevelt, and Abraham Lincoln have been etched into the American imagination. Yet a fifth granite face has emerged from the Black Hills in the form of the famous Lakota leader Crazy Horse. Crazy Horse monument, once complet-

ed, will be the largest mountain carving in the world. When finished, this three-dimensional carving will stretch 641 feet long and stand 563 feet high. For size perspective of this unprecedented mountain carving, all four granite heads (each 60 feet high) from Mount Rushmore can fit into the head of Crazy Horse, which is almost nine stories tall. The Crazy Horse monument is taller than the Pyramid of Giza (481 feet) and the Washington Monument (555 feet).

The only thing to rival the monumental scale and size of this mountain carving

would be the man who had the dream and determination to undertake such a task. For in this stone are two stories: one of the American Indian people and another of the sculptor Korczak Ziolkowski.

A mere 17 miles separate Mount Rushmore and the Crazy Horse Memorial, but their stories couldn't be farther apart. Mount Rushmore took 14 years to complete at a cost of \$1 million dollars, of which 85 percent was funded by the government. Crazy Horse is still being sculpted after 60 years. More importantly, the Crazy Horse monu-



Korczak Ziolkowski's 1/34th scale model of Crazy Horse. The world's largest mountain carving is a memorial to the spirit of the famous Sioux warrior, depicted here thrusting his left arm out declaring, "My lands are where my dead lie buried."

ment is being built with private donations and accepts no federal funds.

### Korczak's Path to Crazy Horse

Born in Boston of Polish descent, Korczak Ziolkowski's path to building the world's largest mountain carving was hard, but one built of character and integrity. He was orphaned at age one and grew up in a series of foster homes. At age 16 he was on his own, working odd jobs and teaching himself to work with plaster and clay, having never received any formal training in art,

sculpture, architecture, or engineering. He later moved to West Hartford, Connecticut, where he found success doing commissioned sculpture work throughout New York, Boston, and New England.

In 1939, Korczak's life would change forever as a turn of events would take him from the East to out West. That summer he fulfilled a dream in assisting Gutzon Borglum in carving the Mount Rushmore Memorial in South Dakota. That same year he won first prize at the New York World's Fair for his marble portrait, "PADEREWSKI: Study of an Immortal." This image of the pianist and the politician caught the attention of Lakota (Sioux) Chief Standing Bear, who wrote to Korczak to persuade him to create a lasting memorial to American Indians: "My fellow chiefs and I would like the white man to know the red man has great heroes, also."

They decided to carve a monument rivaling Mount Rushmore, featuring Crazy Horse, a Sioux warrior known for his bravery in battle and service to his people. He led a war party at the Battle of the Little Bighorn. He was killed at Fort Robinson by an American soldier while under a flag of truce. Crazy Horse died on September 6, 1877; Korczak was born 31 years later on that same day. Many American Indians consider that an omen that he was destined to carve Crazy Horse.

Korczak put Standing Bear's invitation on hold when, at age 34, he volunteered

Crazy Horse monument, once completed, will be the largest mountain carving in the world. When finished, this three-dimensional carving will stretch 641 feet long and stand 563 feet high.

for service in the U.S. Army during World War II. He landed at Omaha Beach in 1944, where he was wounded. On May 3, 1947, he arrived in the Black Hills of South Dakota to begin his life's work. Nearly age 40, he had no budget, no running water, no electricity, and no home. It was just Korczak and the mountain. As a rugged individualist, he wouldn't have it any other way.

Thus began an epic undertaking that would challenge Korczak. In his work he would endure four back operations, quadruple heart bypass surgery, diabetes, arthritis, a broken wrist, and a ruptured Achilles tendon. But never a broken spirit.

Korczak stated in an interview that what kept him motivated in his work was what a wise Indian had said to him, "When the legends die, the dreams end. And when the dreams end, there is no more greatness."

With a blast of explosives that shaved 10 tons of rock off the mountain, the memorial was officially dedicated on June 3, 1948. Five of the nine living participants of the Battle of the Little Bighorn were present. Korczak promised that Crazy Horse would be more than a mountain carving; it would be a non-profit educational and humanitari-

an project financed by the people and not with government tax money. He also pledged not to take a salary.

### From One to Many

"He was a great believer in private enterprise and individual initiative," Ruth Ziolkowski, Korczak's widow and president of the non-profit Crazy Horse Memorial Foundation, said in an interview with Liberty News Network (an affiliate of The John Birch Society).

**Korczak and Ruth Ziolkowski** were married for almost 30 years, sharing the same dream.



Korczak's vision was to have Crazy Horse built by the interested public and not the taxpayer. He so strongly believed in the free-market system that he twice turned down \$10 million of federal funding. He knew that federal funds would mean federal control over the project. He felt the government would not complete the carving and not carry out its humanitarian goals.

"He saw how Gutzon Borglum struggled at Mount Rushmore and the long periods of time he would spend in Washington trying to get funds," Ruth said. "He [Korczak] said we're a nation of individuals and I believe in private enterprise and if this project is going to be built it's going to be built by the American people."

Korczak also knew the history of the federal government breaking its treaties with the American Indian. He felt that American Indian history was too important to leave in the hands of a federal bureaucracy.

"He also said he wasn't a very good politician. [If] he had to go to Washington to lie to people, he couldn't remember one day from the next what lie he told so he just decided this was the best way to go."

In the early years, Korczak labored alone most of the time on the granite mountain. For the first seven months, he lived in a tent. He built roads, a well, a studio-home, and a 741-step staircase to the mountain top. He did have some volunteers, and one of them was a young Ruth Ross from Connecticut, who arrived on a summer day in June of 1947.

She had first met Korczak at his home in West Hartford, Connecticut. She and other school friends went to his house to get the autograph of a famous actor who was staying with Korczak.

"Korczak was standing over in the corner very much in the background. I honestly don't remember who, but somebody felt sorry for him and asked him for his auto-



graph. From there on in he started to carve the Noah Webster statue," she recalled.

She and her school friends mowed lawns and did other work to help raise money for the Noah Webster statue, which Korczak carved as a gift for the city. She, along with other volunteers from West Hartford, followed Korczak to the Black Hills when he began work on the Crazy Horse carving in 1947.

## Crazy Horse

by Sam Antonio

Crazy Horse was a legendary warrior and an idealistic leader for his people who defended and preserved the Lakota (Sioux) way of life. He was one of the strategists at the Battle of the Little Bighorn in 1876, where General Custer made his famous last stand. "He was a spiritual leader. He was a warrior," Olympian and member of the Oglala Lakota (Sioux) tribe Billy Mills once stated.

Sources vary on Crazy Horse's birth year, but most experts agree he was born between 1842 and 1849. He was born on Rapid Creek in the Black Hills of South Dakota. As a young man he set out alone on a vision quest in which, he recounted, he saw himself astride a horse and in battle unharmed by bullets and arrows. Behind his ear was a smooth stone, and in his long unbraided hair was the feather of a red hawk. Crazy Horse became convinced that so long as he was dressed this way, he would never be harmed in battle. As a result, Crazy Horse always wore a stone behind his ear and said he would come back to his people in the stone. Although he was regarded as the most daring of Indian warriors, he was never wounded in battle.

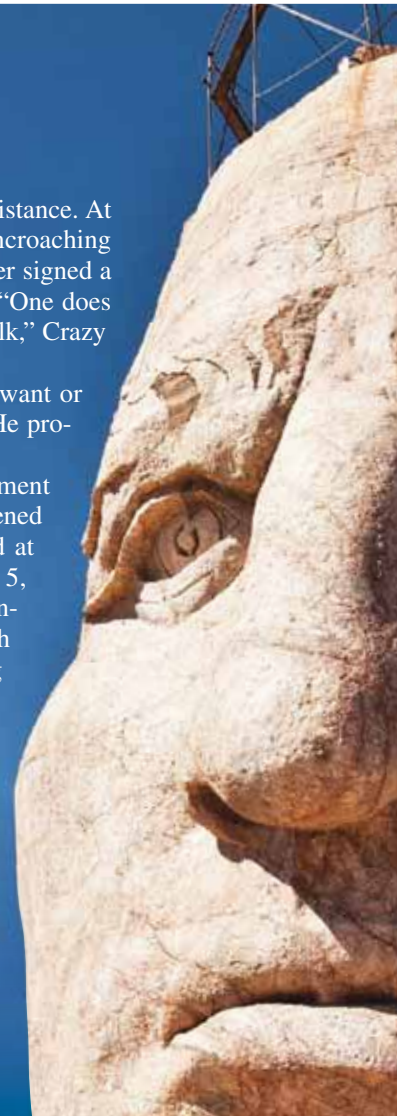
The Black Hills had been promised to the Sioux forever in the Treaty of Fort Laramie of 1868. However, gold was discovered in these lands, and this quickly led to the U.S. government breaking the treaty.

Crazy Horse was a symbol of Lakota resistance. At a time when the U.S. government began encroaching on Lakota lands in the Great Plains, he never signed a treaty and refused to live on a reservation. "One does not sell the earth upon which the people walk," Crazy Horse once said.

Under his leadership his people did not want or need anything from the U.S. government. He protected his people and their way of life.

His defiant stance against the U.S. government took a toll on his people as they were weakened by war and hunger. He finally surrendered at Fort Robinson, Nebraska. On September 5, 1877, while under a flag of truce, in a confused scuffle, he was stabbed in the back with a bayonet by a U.S. soldier as he was being led to a jail cell. He died the next day, September 6, 1877.

Crazy Horse Monument sculptor Korczak Ziolkowski didn't want to portray the Indians as a defeated people, but rather as a noble people. Thus he depicts Crazy Horse as a proud figure with his left arm thrusting out proclaiming, "My lands are where my dead lie buried." Ziolkowski felt both the glory and the tragedy of the American Indian were reflected in Crazy Horse's short life and death. ■





**Building the Crazy Horse Memorial has been a family project:** Six of the 10 Ziolkowski children are involved with the memorial.

In 1950 on Thanksgiving Day, Korczak and Ruth were married. They raised 10 children, five boys and five girls, at the foot of Crazy Horse.

“It was wonderful when you look back on it. You see what life is now. So it was really fun and the children were a great joy; they really were. Korczak loved children, always had.... [He was] so tickled to have some of his own. He was just happy with the kids. He was a good disciplinarian, great father, wonderful teacher, and he played sports with them on Sunday afternoon. He wanted them to listen to opera; they’d teach him Johnny Cash. It was kind of an offset.”

The mountain carving was no longer a solo project, but now a family affair, and Korczak’s unwavering focus and eccentricity ensured the project didn’t get short shrift.

In an interview with *60 Minutes* in 1977, he exclaimed to Mike Wallace how he told his wife Ruth, “Honey, you see that mountain? Never forget, it comes first. You come second. Now the children know that. They know they come third. That’s a common understanding in the house. I didn’t come out here to marry a woman to have a lot of children. I came out here to carve a mountain!”

Ruth’s response was one of understanding: “His work has to come first or he would be just another person doing, selling insurance or cars or something like that.”

The boys grew up helping their father on the mountain, with the girls assisting Ruth in the ever-expanding visitor complex. The Ziolkowski sons and daughters learned from their parents hard work, spe-



AP Images

**Mountain carvers** on Crazy Horse’s face give a sense of scale to the immensity of the project. The eyes are 17 feet, 9 inches wide and 8 feet, 8 inches high. The nose is 27 feet, 6 inches high and 17 feet (widest point).

cial skills of mountain carving, and the vision for Crazy Horse.

Today six of the 10 children are still involved in the project. One daughter not involved in the project, Anne, died, while three others live nearby in Custer.

Two of the children continue to work on the mountain itself, while four others work in the visitor center. Two of the children also serve on the foundation board.

“Casimir works up there. Monique works up there. Adam works down here most of the time. The other girls work here and help me,” Ruth said.

When Korczak passed away on October 20, 1982, at age 74, Ruth assumed the leadership of directing the project. Since the Ziolkowskis today have nine children, 23 grandchildren, and 13 great-grandchildren, the continuity of the vision for Crazy Horse is intact.

“All ten of our youngsters went out and tried something else and came back because each one wanted to, and the three that didn’t [come back], eventually ended up in Custer anyway,” Ruth explained.

In 2007, the Ziolkowski family entered a new phase, with the first member of the third generation joining the mountain carving.

“When you have the grandchildren, they have to live their own lives. A lot of them have worked at Crazy Horse in the summer. It’s a great place to cook, wait tables, or work in the gift shop and they



AP Images

do. We had two grandsons, two oldest grandsons actually, one of them worked on the mountain for one year,” said Ruth.

Many people see the story of the Ziolkowski family to be just as compelling as that of the North American Indian tribes. Many visitors appreciate the family-values aspect of the project when visiting the memorial.

“So many of them [visitors] will comment on the family part of it because the American family is a wonderful institution. So someone said Crazy Horse and your family takes the place of the family farm. You got a job for everybody, you don’t have to make one,” said Ruth.

Casimir is perhaps the child who most identifies with his father, working on

“My lands are where my dead lie buried” — a response Crazy Horse gave when a trader taunted him, asking, “Where are your lands?”

the carving as the mountain foreman. He knows the importance of carrying on Korczak’s dream. “When you give your word to do something you follow through on it no matter what,” he told an interviewer one time.

### A Big Dream

Korczak’s dream wasn’t just to build a colossal mountain carving. He wanted it to be a humanitarian project. He wanted to tell present and future generations the story of the North American Indians. He wanted to tell it in stone.

This is reflected in Korczak’s depiction of Crazy Horse, which shows the Sioux warrior with his left arm extended, finger

pointed, and declaring proudly, “My lands are where my dead lie buried” — a response Crazy Horse gave when a trader taunted him, asking, “Where are your lands?”

That story of the Indian is being told in three major areas: the mountain carving in progress, the Indian Museum of North America, and the Indian University of North America and Medical Training Center. In 1949, the non-profit Crazy Horse Memorial Foundation was established to accomplish these goals.

The Indian University of North America was launched in 2010 with the completion of a student living and learning center and the start of a summer university program through a partnership with the University of South Dakota. The Crazy Horse university program is open to Native Americans and non-natives. Twenty students enrolled that inaugural year.

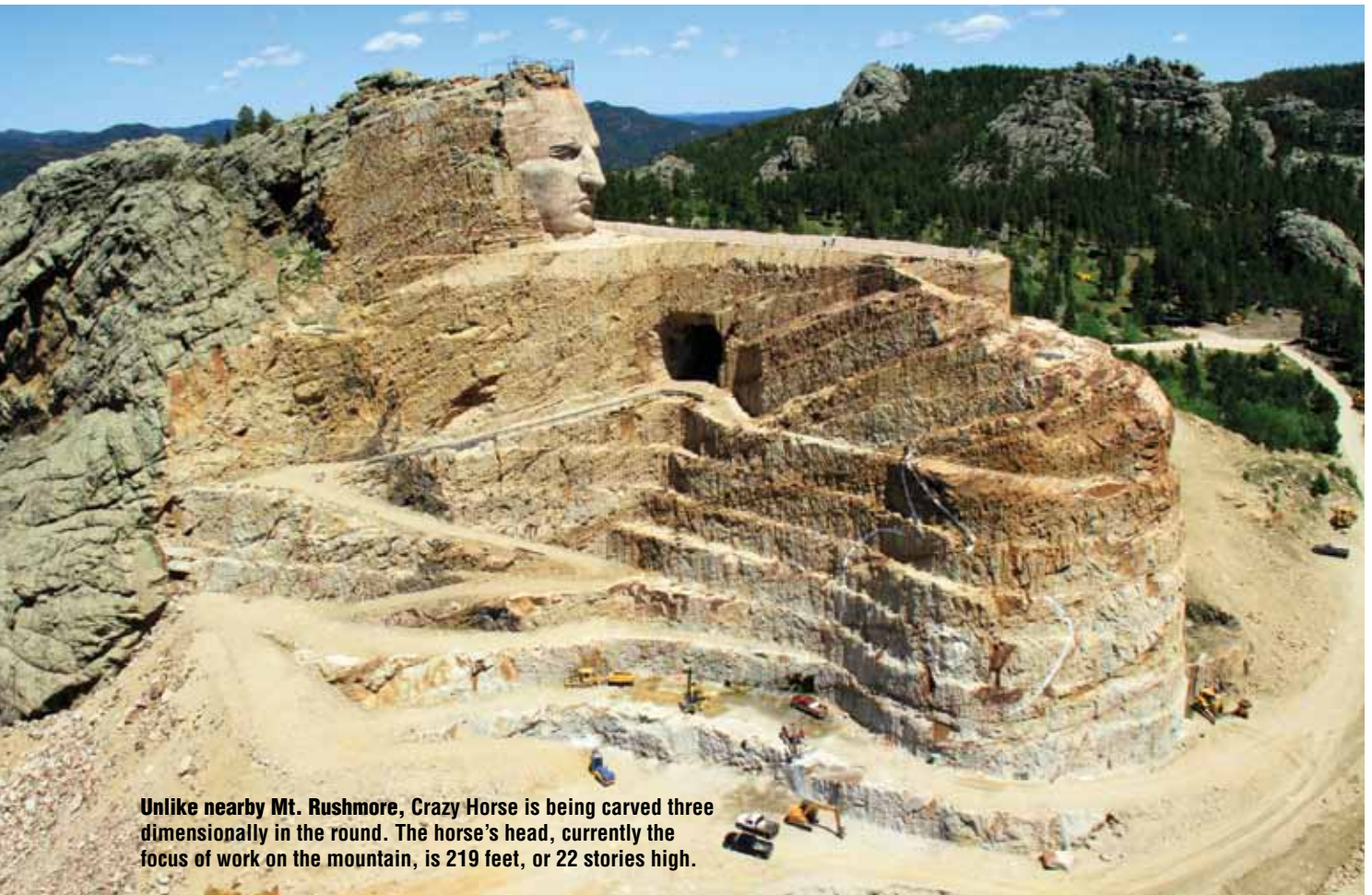
“There were Indian young people



[from] as far away as Alaska, Arizona, New Mexico, North Dakota and South Dakota. They represented thirteen tribes and every one of those young people are in school today,” Ruth explained.

In 2011, 20 students were enrolled at the Indian University of North America, and 18 went on to transfer to an accredited four-year university.

Between paid internships and accred-



Unlike nearby Mt. Rushmore, Crazy Horse is being carved three dimensionally in the round. The horse’s head, currently the focus of work on the mountain, is 219 feet, or 22 stories high.



Sam Antonio

**TNA correspondent Sam Antonio** interviews Ruth Ziolkowski, Korczak's widow and president of the non-profit Crazy Horse Memorial Foundation.

ited classes, students may earn up to 12 academic credits that can be counted toward their degrees in other schools.

"One of the young men stayed here and worked so he could go to the school in January and have enough money to do it," Ruth said.

The Indian Museum of North America was established to complement the story being told in stone on the mountain. It is a repository of the American Indian past, and of the present.

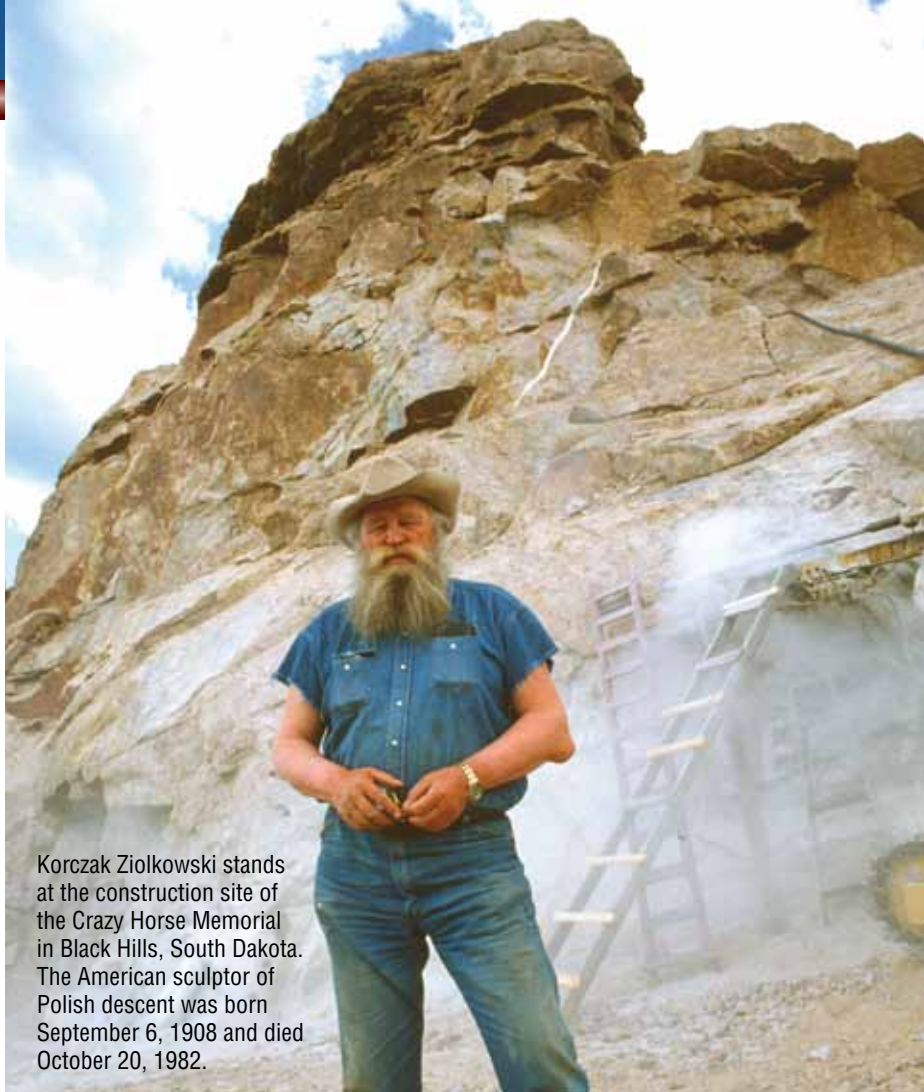
"I always say there are two types of education at Crazy Horse. One is for the students who come and learn. The other is for the other cultures who come in from these doors and learn about the American Indian," Ruth continued. "We are trying to tell the story of the Indian people [and] of their pride of the wonderful way of life they had before we came and changed their whole manner of living by taking over their land."

### Programs and the Passage of Time

From the first blast in 1948 in which 10 tons was removed, to June 3, 1998, the 50th anniversary of the memorial, progress on the carving has been slow. The anniversary marked the completion of Crazy Horse's face. But before Korczak passed away he cautioned his wife and children to "go slowly, so you do it right."

Every year hundreds of thousands of visitors watch the progress and wonder, will it be finished?

"Absolutely! There's no question," Ruth said.



Korczak Ziolkowski stands at the construction site of the Crazy Horse Memorial in Black Hills, South Dakota. The American sculptor of Polish descent was born September 6, 1908 and died October 20, 1982.

Jeff Lowenthal/Lebrecht Music & Arts

Since 2007, the carving has been propelled somewhat more rapidly though a generous \$5 million matching-donation challenge by Sioux Falls philanthropist T. Denny Sanford. That gift is targeted to work on the 219-foot high horse's head. For every dollar given, Sanford gives a dollar.

Ruth stated confidently, "The mountain carving itself definitely will be completed ... [but] really the reason for it [the carving] in a sense, is building a university, a medical training center and the museum, which we have the beginning of, for the Indian people of North America. When did you ever see a university that was finished? I mean they always have another building, another something to build or add, but the mountain, yes, very definitely, but when? I have no idea."

Now 85 years old, Ruth Ziolkowski has worked tirelessly for 64 years, including 29 years after the death of Korczak, to keep the dream alive. She knows she won't live to see Crazy Horse finished in her lifetime.

"Korczak said if it stops because he

died his life would have been wasted," she said. "Nothing is impossible. We put a man on the moon for heaven's sake, carving a mountain, we ought to be able to do that."

It's been said that a painter adds to a canvas while the sculptor takes away. Each day as dynamite blasts away rocks from the mountain, the story of the American Indian people and the Ziolkowski family is being unfolded.

Perhaps Korczak summed up the meaning of Crazy Horse when he said, "I'm a storyteller. I'm a storyteller in stone. When Standing Bear asked me to tell their story of their great chief who was killed many years ago, I wanted to tell the story of the North American Indian. I want to right a little of the wrong that they did to these people because this is part of American history."

Korczak Ziolkowski is buried at the base of the mountain. On the tomb door he wrote his own epitaph:

**KORCZAK**  
Storyteller in Stone  
May His Remains Be Left Unknown ■

## Into the Frying Pan

You know things are going bad for your criminal career when homeless men are stopping your robberies. The ABC affiliate out of Lincoln, Nebraska, reported that a would-be robber entered a liquor store on December 17 and gestured as if he had a gun. To his surprise, an employee came out from the back of the store with a real gun and pointed it at him. The robber fled from the armed clerk in a fright only to be confronted by two homeless men outside the store. The homeless men tried to detain the robber, and one even went so far as to hit him with a hatchet, but the robber was still able to get away and is being sought by the police.

## ATF Regulates Chore Boy Scrub Pads?

WorldNetDaily reported on November 26 about the latest absurdity to come from the U.S. Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and Explosives (ATF). According to a letter that contains remarks from an ATF official, Chore Boy household scrubbers can be considered a component of a gun silencer and, therefore, regulated by federal gun laws. An attorney, on behalf of a client, asked ATF about a repair that a client desired to make on an already-registered silencer for a .22-caliber rifle. Specifically, the attorney inquired whether “sound/gas absorbing materials manufactured from Chore Boy copper clean pads, along with fiberglass insulation, constitute a silencer part as defined in 18 U.S.C 921(a)(24) [the federal firearm law].”

The ATF confirmed that the scrub pads did constitute part of a silencer and that replacement “of any component part or parts of a registered silencer, other than a silencer wipe, would be a violation of the National Firearms Act if performed by a non-licensed manufacturer.” If the attorney’s client wanted to fully comply with the law, he would have to “submit an application to the ATF and pay a \$200 tax.” The letter also stated that it would be against the law if the owner had “a stockpile of sound-absorbing materials for his own use in replacing deteriorated sound-absorbing material.”

David Codrea, who posts online as the “Gun Rights Examiner,” told WorldNetDaily that the remarks by the ATF were “ridiculous.... They have created a condition where a Chore Boy pad can be considered a silencer.” In a fashion typical of D.C. bureaucrats, by carelessly responding to an inquiry from someone who actually has to deal with the consequences of federal gun laws in the real world, the ATF is now sending out signals that mere possession of cleaning pads could be open to federal investigations and even possible punishment.

## Simulations and Self-defense

WMBF reports out of Florence County, South Carolina, that a local gun shop is using some innovative techniques to prepare gun owners. Shawn Mizell, a gun instructor at “Oh Shoot” gun shop, told WMBF that there are too many people who fall prey to their attackers in a violent situation because they don’t know how to fight back under pressure. That’s why Oh Shoot started using a simulation program similar to one used by law enforcement to teach gun owners how to react in real-life situations. Frank Mizell, owner of Oh Shoot and Shawn’s husband, explained that the simulations are similar to ones used in police academies. A real pistol is even used. “We use a real glock pistol modified to work with the program, you have to drop the magazine and it has to be racked for it to be live with the system.” The program features parking lots, homes, and even hostage situations for settings to train individuals on the proper use of a gun for self-defense.

Shawn said that the simulations train people to distinguish between situations that require deadly force and ones that do not. “Sometimes you’ll get in there in the simulation and the guy jumps out the window and there’s no risk so you don’t need to shoot.”

The Mizells contend there’s no point in even purchasing a gun if you don’t plan to use it when needed. Some people buy guns but never prepare, and then when the time comes, they end up doing something foolish, which aggravates the situation. “Too

many people shoot warning shots into the air and not only does that make the situation worse, you can be targeting someone else.”

## Went Out Fighting

An 80-year-old Houston woman successfully used her pistol to scare off would-be robbers, but died of a heart attack shortly after the incident. Elizabeth Rita Kuss Erney was extremely active for her age. She attended aerobics classes three times a week, was an avid ballroom dancer, and also was a very good shot. Erney’s husband of 57 years was an avid shooter and owned his own gun shop for a period. Erney had been shooting guns her entire life and was able to fire accurately either right or left hand. The *Houston Chronicle* reports that she used her shooting skills on November 30 when a man and a woman dressed up as utility workers attempted to rob her at her home. The details are sketchy at this point, but Erney apparently let them in at first, not realizing what they were up to. At some point, Erney started to suspect something and attempted to retrieve her pistol. It was around that moment when the two robbers realized that their gig was up and that their intended 80-year-old “victim” wasn’t going to go down without a fight. Perhaps upon seeing Erney holding her weapon like someone who knew how to shoot was enough to send them fleeing. If the sight of the armed Erney didn’t cause them to flee, then the first few shots she fired at them certainly did.

Erney knew something was suspicious and retrieved her pistol before firing two shots at the would-be robbers, who hurriedly fled the scene. Erney called 911 and reported what happened but, sadly, was overcome by the excitement and died of an apparent heart attack. Relatives described Erney as a “cautious woman” who would not “be easily fooled.” Erney’s daughter, Jill Kerr, wanted her mother to be remembered as a fighter and not a victim. Kerr told the *Houston Chronicle* that this “house was her Alamo and she was not going to let them get it.... If she knew she was going to go out, she would have wanted it to be like this instead of being sick.... We are proud of her.” ■

— PATRICK KREY



## Euro Bailout to Become More Costly

ITEM: *The New York Times* for December 9, 2011, reported:

*Europe's worst financial crisis in generations is forging a new European Union, pushing Britain to the sidelines and creating a more integrated, fiscally disciplined core of nations under the auspices of a resurgent Germany. Exactly 20 years to the day after European leaders signed the treaty that led to the creation of the European Union and the euro currency, Chancellor Angela Merkel of Germany persuaded every current member of the union except Britain to endorse a new agreement calling for tighter regional oversight of government spending.*

*"It's interesting to note that 20 years later we have realized — we have succeeded — in creating a more stable foundation for that economic and monetary union," Mrs. Merkel said, adding, "and in so doing we've advanced political union and have attended to weaknesses that were included in the system."*

ITEM: "All across Europe," commented the London-based *Economist* in its issue dated December 17-30, "there are murmurs that Germany, which has benefited so handsomely from the euro, is asking too much of everybody else."

ITEM: European Central Bank President Mario Draghi on December 19 said, as reported by the *Wall Street Journal*, "The existence of the euro zone is 'irreversible' and that speculation about its breakup is 'morbid.'"

**CORRECTION:** There's a lot of whistling past the graveyard going on in an attempt to fend off the evil spirits that might arise if more Europeans and Americans were to recognize the actual facts: The notion of a fiat international currency scheme is as insolvent and dangerous as is the supra-government that is its ultimate goal.

The Europhilic *Economist* has editorialized that the "consequences of the eu-



**Not willing to commit political suicide:** With the EU desirous of implementing new financial transaction taxes to raise money, Britain's Prime Minister David Cameron did not assent to further cede his country's self-rule, because the financial sector is such a large part of Britain's economy.

ro's destruction are so catastrophic that no sensible policymaker could stand by and let it happen." However, when times get tough, it's easier to sell or extend bad ideas — such as having an international authority over what were once sovereign nations, all the while pretending to be fighting profligacy.

British Prime Minister David Cameron has been criticized in some quarters for walking away from a Europe-wide proposal that would have hit the U.K. with about 75 percent of the overall potential tax directed against the financial industry. That sector represents about 10 percent of the entire economy in the U.K., and the move would have put a huge burden on that key industry.

Shockingly enough — or so it apparently seems to the elitists — there are still a few benighted souls who don't see the wisdom of submitting their national budgets for the approval of internationalists sitting in the capital of Belgium before they are considered by the elected representatives of their own governments. The one-Europe crowd does its best to be unresponsive to the people, positively hating those nations, for example, that demand referenda on major decisions and treaties.

Decades of propaganda haven't convinced the bulk of the British public that they should be effectively ruled by Brussels — with about half of Britons wanting Britain out of the European Union and about two-thirds in favor of a referendum on Brit-

ish-E.U. ties, and virtually the same two of three convinced the euro will collapse.

It used to be said that one couldn't argue with City Hall. Actually, it's a lot easier to bring about change at that level than to alter federal policy, let alone to overturn international political decisions.

Consider the follies of most national governments in Europe. David Hannan, a British member of the European Parliament, acknowledges that the "consequences of the better part of 40 years of reckless borrowing have caught up with us."

As the Briton told columnist John Stossel: "On the surface, things do look good on the other side of the Atlantic. Europeans have shorter workdays and longer vacations than Americans. Many of us would say, 'Sounds good.'" But, he continued, the trouble is that "you can't carry on doing that indefinitely.... In the mid-1970s, Western Europe accounted for more than a third of the world's economy. Today, it's about a quarter. And in 2020, it will be 15 percent. That's the reality of burdening yourself with more taxes, more regulations ... deeply uncompetitive practices."

Imagine how much worse it will be when overseas technocrats have even more sway. There is little reason to be comfortable with vital pronouncements being made by foreigners from afar.

Germany's previously strong currency is a thing of the past — with the deutschmark having been tied to the euro in 1999 and tossed overboard altogether three years



# Correction, Please!



later. Opponents of joining the euro “are claiming vindication now that the pressure for money printing and bailouts is rising and the Bundesbank wields but one vote at the European Central Bank, the same as Greece and Malta,” writes Peter Coy in *Bloomberg Businessweek*. The German in the street, meanwhile, resents working extra hours to pay for the vacations of government workers in the squandering nations of southern Europe — also vindicating a prediction made by former British Prime Minister Margaret Thatcher in 1996.

Thatcher’s forecast was recalled not long ago by *Washington Post* columnist Michael Gerson:

Rather than containing German influence, the European project eventually would be a bureaucratic leviathan dominated by Germany. And Thatcher thought the outcome of such integration would be unstable. She wrote that it would leave German taxpayers to provide “ever greater subsidies for failing regions of foreign countries,” while condemning “the south European countries to debilitating dependency on handouts from German taxpayers.” Smaller nations would eventually resent “economic disruption, rule by remote bureaucracies and the loss of independence.”

Keep in mind that this is not just a problem for Europe. The Federal Reserve, pressed by the big banks in Europe as well as the Obama administration, in mid-December slashed the interest rates for currency swaps. In a simple form, this is an agreement to trade or swap specified payment obligations in one currency for a series of payment obligations denominated in a different currency. This, as pointed out by Representative Ron Paul (R-Texas), a GOP presidential candidate, “will flood world markets with more dollars and will soon mean rising prices for every American at the grocery store.” Pumping up liquidity may disguise the underlying problems for a while, but will hurt more in the long run.

Central banks, as Paul has put it, are “grasping at straws, hoping that flooding the world with money created out of thin air will somehow resolve a crisis caused by uncontrolled government spending and irresponsible debt issuance.” What those governments and central banks do not grasp, he observes, is that it has been “their own monetary policies that allowed European banks to become so wantonly overleveraged in the first place. If those banks need liquidity, they should generate it the old fashioned way: by attracting depositors. If they cannot do so, they should be allowed to fail.”

Each bad turn has led to even worse propositions:

- German Chancellor Angela Merkel has indicated that her country is prepared to cede “some” sovereignty in an attempt to buttress the euro-zone nations and common currency.

- The *Financial Times* in London has viewed with equanimity the idea that the European Central Bank (ECB), in essence, should become the lender of last resort — by loaning money to the International Monetary Fund so the IMF in turn can assume the credit risk of the euro zone (thus dodging an ECB rule against bailing out insolvent countries).

- Officials in the European Union have seriously called for banning rating agencies from issuing scores against those countries with “excessive volatility” — akin to fighting crime by forbidding newspapers from reporting on it.

National inflation is not enough these days: It is being internationalized to prolong the shell game. As has been noted in *Bloomberg Businessweek*, “By giving up their currencies, euro zone governments are no longer fully sovereign. They need a backup.”

The *New York Times* and others of similar internationalist stripe happily reported just before Christmas that, following advice pushed by Washington, “European central bankers” had “pumped nearly \$640 billion into the Continent’s banking system. The move raised hopes that the money could alleviate the region’s credit squeeze.” The Associated Press similarly hailed how the ECB had “flipped its credit tap wide open” for hundreds of “nervous banks.”

The crisis in the euro zone — the bloc of 17 nations using the currency — may have seemed to take a Christmas break, but the day of reckoning was just postponed. The European Central Bank’s move, as the *Wall Street Journal* noted editorially, “won’t solve Europe’s sovereign-debt problem,” and the gift of artificially low interest rates “amounts to a de facto bank subsidy.” The accompanying decision to reduce collateral standards “runs the risk of losses down the road. This too is a back-door bank subsidy.”

While such moves may buy a bit of time, they are not curing the debilitating illness of political fiscal irresponsibility. In

fact, as the *Journal* observed, “a huge rally in Italian and Spanish debt driven mostly by emergency central-bank lending could send a false signal that Europe’s crisis is over. That in turn would be a fatal signal to national capitals that they can go back to spending and borrowing as usual.”

No wealth is created via such maneuvers: The gimmicks actually devalue existing wealth. The *Times*, however, appears to believe that pigs could really fly — if only they had wings approved by the appropriate bureaucrats in Brussels. “If it works, the quiet virtue of the European Central Bank’s new lending program will be that it helped buttress banks while easing the pressure on governments — without the appearance of a direct rescue” (December 21, 2011).

More likely: When this latest magic potion doesn’t work, a more onerous supposed solution will be sought. Bailouts are undermining the euro already, as observed by John Cochrane, a professor of finance at the University of Chicago Booth School of Business. The ECB “has been buying Greek, Italian, Portuguese and Spanish debt. It has been lending money to banks that, in turn, buy the debt. There is strong pressure for the ECB to buy or guarantee more. When the debt finally defaults, either the rest of Europe will have to raise trillions of euros in fresh taxes to replenish the central bank, or the euro will inflate away.”

The professor cuts through the scam:

Defenders think that devaluing would fool workers into a bout of “competitiveness,” as if people wouldn’t realize they were being paid in Monopoly money. If devaluing the currency made countries competitive, Zimbabwe would be the richest country on Earth. No Chicago voter would want the governor of Illinois to be able to devalue his way out of his state’s budget and economic troubles. Why do economists think Greek politicians are so much wiser?

The latest plan calls for Europe to be tougher in enforcing deficit rules that are similar to the ones that they blithely ignored for 10 years. Sure, a directive from Brussels is really

**German Chancellor Angela Merkel** is a strong proponent of EU countries giving up sovereignty to save the euro, though it may mean that Germans continue bailing out profligate EU countries.



AP Images

going to get the Greeks to shape up. Imagine how well it would work if the International Monetary Fund or the United Nations tried to veto U.S. budget deficits. (That is, if our Congress passed budgets to begin with.) This plan is mostly a way to let the ECB save face and buy up bad debt with freshly printed euros.

The Obama administration is not unique in seeking to use crises, real or created, to its advantage. Writing in *The Local*, a Swedish publication, Johan Norberg of the European Center for International Political Economy notes that France and Germany have acknowledged that “this is just the first step towards the coordination of tax and labour policy, as well as the entire financial regulatory framework of Europe.” It is, writes Norberg,

nothing more than preparation for a political and fiscal union that many always believed the monetary union presupposed.

It is a union that the people have repeatedly shown they do not want, and which they have voted against every time they got a chance — but which bureaucrats in Brussels have said just as often that they still intend to create.

“I am confident that the euro will force us to create a new set of policy tools,” European Commission President Romano Prodi told the *Financial Times* back in 2001.

“It is politically impossible to propose it now. But one day there will be a crisis and then we will create the tools.”

Now we are there. The predicted crisis is a reality.

Merkel and French President Nicolas Sarkozy in December leveraged the euro-zone crisis as part of a sovereignty power grab. The move, as pointed out by Soeren Kern of the Madrid-based Grupo de Estudios Estrategicos (Strategic Studies Group), transferred “broad new and financial decision-making powers to unelected and unaccountable technocrats in Brussels, the administrative capital of the E.U.”

That new “fiscal compact,” said Kern, is a giant stride “on the road to creating a single economic government in Europe. By giving Brussels more power to codify and enforce debt limits and impose central oversight of national budgets, the agreement takes the E.U. one step closer to consolidated and centralized fiscal authority in Europe. Among other features, the agreement also gives the European Court of Justice the right to strike down national laws that conflict with diktats issued by bureaucrats in Brussels.”

We no longer have two-bit politicians: With fiat money, they cost much more these days. Yet, in whatever language the inflating of currency is accomplished, it is hazardous to our wealth. ■

— WILLIAM P. HOAR

# Courageous Wisconsin Teacher **Threatened**

**E**arly in 2011, news programs and print media nationwide told of the political donnybrook within the Wisconsin state government. Newly elected Republican Governor Scott Walker had looked over the state's financial condition and decided that action was needed to address billions of dollars in red ink. Among the measures he proposed, state employees and teachers would have to pay more for their health coverage and retirement programs. One particularly sticky issue was his proposal to terminate the cozy relationship between the teachers union and a union-favored insurance company. Allowing competition for health insurance would enable numerous school districts to purchase health insurance elsewhere at a considerably lower cost.

The ensuing uproar over all of the Governor's proposals saw the state capital building inundated with anti-Walker protesters. Then, 14 state Senators — all Democrats — fled the state in hopes that their absence would serve to block passage of the key measures favored by the Governor and the GOP. Eventually, the Republicans passed most of the Walker reforms without any input from the absent Democrats, who were actually holed up in neighboring Illinois for weeks.

Possessed with an ability to find their own insurance companies, cities and towns across the state reduced their costs enormously, and the state itself saved millions through less costly benefit programs for state workers. The collective bargaining process enjoyed by the teacher and state-employee unions had been broken. Few teacher layoffs have occurred, and the state's indebtedness, along with the burdens felt by numerous school districts, shrank dramatically. In other words, Wisconsin is in much better shape economically. You would think Wisconsinites would be grateful, but only some were.

Unhappy union leaders promptly mounted recall efforts aimed at the Governor, Lieutenant Governor, and those state Senators they believed to be vulnerable. Other Wisconsinites mounted recall campaigns against the "AWOL 14." The outcomes saw the Democrats gain two additional Senate seats, but the GOP still holds a slim majority. There will now be more recall elections for Senators. Plus, the effort to recall Governor Walker seems likely to force him to stand for reelection later in 2012. To say that voting in the Badger State has become a veritable circus is to state the obvious.

The fallout from this squabble that drew nationwide attention has now become personal. High-school teacher Kristi LaCroix has taught in the schools in Kenosha for 14 years. She recently appeared in a TV ad courageously supporting Governor Walker's reforms and, for her forthrightness, has received an enormous amount of hate mail, some of it downright threatening. An online movement calling itself "Fire Kristi" seeks to



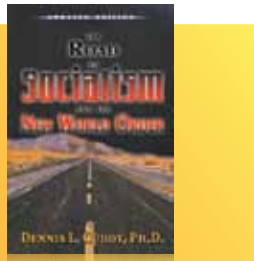
ruin her reputation and get her to quit the profession she has capably served. Over in Waukesha, school board member Karen Rajnicek also publicly sided with the Governor and then invited prank calls and harassment. She received plenty.

Who is behind all of this? The obvious guess is the members of the Wisconsin Education Association Council (WEAC), the state affiliate of the National Education Association (NEA). These people want LaCroix fired, but they still use all their power to keep incompetent teachers from being removed. While they target bullying of students by other students, they have no qualms about bullying a teacher who doesn't toe their line. Public-union supporters have threatened business owners who refuse to put anti-Walker signs in their windows. Some have even targeted a Milwaukee Catholic elementary school where the Governor accepted an invitation to read to the children.

Kristi LaCroix posted the following message on her Facebook page: "I have sat by for 14 years and have been saddened by the amount of non-learning that is allowed to take place in our school. The unions are destroying public education and it makes me sick that these are the people who represent teachers who are wonderful, do a good job, and are a vital part of children's lives." She has indicated that she intends to find a new job. How many other competent teachers have already fled the profession isn't known. But what is known is that the quality of education continues on a downward slide — according to 2009 testing by the National Assessment of Educational Progress, children in Texas, where there isn't collective bargaining, do better than children in Wisconsin — something that can always be expected where monopolies exist.

The beneficiaries of LaCroix's and other courageous teachers' actions include not only the children they instruct, but also the taxpayers whose costs for public education are lower. ■

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