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 $\underline{http://www.catholicvote.com/} - \underline{http://www.catholicradiodramas.com/Lent\%20HTML\%20pages/ezekiel.htm}$ 

## No Cool Heads—No One Arrested

The "Rescue Bill" that left the Senate for the House on Wednesday October 1, was quickly passed by the House and signed by President G. W. Bush on October 3. Obama, McCain and Biden equalized their votes by voting aye.

Comrade Pelosi allowed congressmen in close races to vote no—Bart Stupak took her up on her offer despite the fact Stupak had voted along party lines to force poor lending practices among the Government Sponsored Enterprises (GSE). No cool heads prevailed. Although those in Congress was inundated with calls from voters not to support the bill, the Democrats lead by Pelosi shrugged-off the callers as being idiots who knew nothing. It doesn't matter they were concerned with whoring-out their money.

The predictions were easily surmised; if the bill was not passed the markets would resolve the situation. Jim Hafeman, YS contributor, warned citizens that their money was heading over to Europe to bail-out the collapsing Euro and Euro Banks and to help large investors, not the common 401K investors.

\*On October 4th, European leaders vowed to fight their economic crisis. \*\*Right after GWB signed the bill, the European leaders who met in emergency mode headed home with no European bail out proposal—no European bail out plan was necessary because of the generosity of Congress with America's money.

As a result of the bail-out the Euro recovered nicely and the oil speculators who lost billions over the last 40 days as \*\*oil market prices began to fall were rescued on America's dime. Ohio Congressman Dennis Kucinich revealed on FOX News Sunday that a significant portion of the bail-out money was heading overseas to offset the losses of foreign investors.

The ramifications of a \$700 billion tab on the books of the American government will have long-term and dramatic affects on the US Stock Market. Particularly, those who have been investing for an early retirement or at least a comfortable retirement will be impacted by the actions of an inept Congress and presidential financial advisors.

As banks and financial institutions with loses due to excessively poor management were being bought-out by competent banks and financial entities, the government courts have now stepped-in to interfere with those competing bids. The latest battle for the acquisition of \*\*\*\*Wachovia by Wells Fargo was blocked by a New York judge because Citigroup said they had dibs on buying the failed institution for \$1.00 per share. The judge intervened even though Wells Fargo had bid seven-times the offering Citigroup.

The interference of the lowly NYC judge in a major acquisition deal reflects the same sustained mentality of America's big-brother government. While Congress jumps-in and single-handedly destroys our economy, a simple judge steps-in to prevent recovery.

No matter what the Democrats told us, no one would lose their homes except those who bought-into the exceptionally poor lending programs which included balloon payments. The fact is that the "Rescue Bill" is in-place to bail-out foreign investors.

As the value of the US dollar once again begins to plummet, large portfolio holders will enjoy massive profits, including George Soros. Those with mediocre portfolios, like 401K-types, may stand to lose at least 40% of their portfolio's value. DO NOT BAIL!!!

Even though the predictions on this end are seemingly grim, there needs to be a long-term commitment among those who hold those smaller portfolios. The temporary down-swing will last for about six to eight months, unless the Democrats return to Congress and we put one of them in the White House; then we destined to experience an FDR-type of sustained depression.

The Department of Treasury asked for the \$700 billion package with no facts or figures; they just wanted it to be high. So now comes the filtering period since it's a done deal. Who gets what and what do we do with those who responsible for this mess—generally the Democrats and a handful of Republicans? Specifically, will Frank, Dodd, Schumer, Gorelick, Clinton, Obama, Pelosi, Stupak, Levin, countless other Democrats, Wall Street insiders, corporate portfolio managers and numerous financial mangers go to prison?

It is unlikely there will be any revealing investigation and if there is it will be like the 9-11 Commission where Congress investigates their own interests. The bill had nothing to do with main street and everything to do with Wall Street and the transfer of control of US dollars to the World Bank. Under the Federal Reserve Bank, we are now down to Chase, J. P. Morgan and Bank of America as the three major banks in the United States—not wholly owned by Americans by any stretch of the imagination. The bail-out was reactionary and a poor decision.

\*http://www.reuters.com/article/topNews/idUSTRE49267J20081004?feedType=RSS&feedName=topNews

\*\*http://news.yahoo.com/s/nm/20081004/ts\_nm/us\_financial1\_36 \*\*\*http://tonto.eia.doe.gov/dnav/pet/pet\_pri\_wco\_k\_w.htm

\*\*\*\*http://dealbook.blogs.nytimes.com/2008/10/05/judge-puts-temporary-halt-on-wachovia-wells-fargo-deal/
Sponsored by the Drunken Patrick Kennedy (D-RI): http://www.govtrack.us/congress/bill.xpd?bill=h110-1424

GSE: http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Government\_sponsored\_enterprise

OINK, OINK: http://www.nypost.com/seven/10022008/news/nationalnews/piggy\_pols\_in\_hog\_heaven\_with\_pork\_packe\_131770.htm

#### McCain Vacates Michigan

Presidential primary candidate John McCain stood before a crowd and bluntly offered them no optimistic view about saving the disappearing autoworkers' and feeder jobs in Michigan. Unfortunately, his observations were the work of advisors who viewed Michigan through a Democrat's eyes. It's a tough reality for Michigan residents to hear there's little hope for the State to return to some form of an industrial-based economy, but Granholm and her cohorts in both the State and Detroit-area legislative bodies have quickly led Michigan in the direction of a service-based economy.

In a State where citizens actually reelected Jennifer Granholm despite her obvious excessive ineptness, it's pretty easy to understand why McCain's campaign wouldn't waste any more money in the socialists' Michigan block where welfare trumps jobs.

Barack Obama gave up on Alaska, North Dakota and Georgia earlier. We can easily understand the first two, but Georgia?

Now Michigan voters feel the impact of McCain's abandonment. Gov. Palin was shocked by the McCain decision and offered to campaign for him in the State with her husband Todd. We hope they're afforded the time to visit the entire State, not just Detroit.

The question now centers on the "why's" that would compel McCain to pull out. Mitt Romney won the State in the primary and McCain won the State in 2000 against GWB. The polls may indicate one thing, but those who rely on polls this early or even this late in the game are ignorant purists.

If road signs are an indicator, Obama has very little support north of Detroit. Michigan is also heavily populated with veterans.

The State may have lost 10% of its voters due to disenfranchisement of Ron Paul, but it's very unlikely those voters would have leaned toward McCain anyway, even if Ron Paul had endorsed McCain.

The only other explanation lies at the feet of the McCain advisors. McCain has an overwhelming tendency to believe his advisors and take their bad advice. More than a few are actually Democrats and reluctant supporters. McCain will have to convince voters during the debates that he's worth supporting and why Michigan conservatives shouldn't vote for Bob Barr instead. At this point, only Governor Palin can save McCain's campaign, but she's not being utilized. We'll see the ramifications from bad decisions come November.

# In God's Time; not ours



The old cliché says that behind every successful man there is a good woman. Ronald Reagan benefited greatly from his wife Nancy and politically from England's first stateswoman, Margaret Thatcher.

Today, candidate John McCain has his loving wife Cindy by his side and they both now have a new addition in their support group, Sarah Palin. Behind Sarah Palin is a very strong and confident man, Todd Palin. Of course we can't forget the entire Palin and McCain family. The optimism among the families is not only quite evident, but contagious. Exactly what we need today.

Now that the communist media has crossed over to that island denouncing Palin and filling us with negative vibes, there's no coming back. Like a pack of wolves on a moose, the liberals have tried to bring Palin down through accusations of nominal experience and statements that suggest they don't know where she stands on the issues (See links below).



The media burned their own canoes and are stranded on their own little island.

What is unique among the media is their efforts to show the contrast between Obama and Palin, not Obama and McCain, as is usually the case in the midst of great presidential battles.

The Sept. 7, 2008 Marguette Mining Journal, captured front page on the right, had an above-the-fold article on mortgage bailouts; they covered Obama and Palin. Very unusual for an extremely lazy enterprise, but an obvious attempt to qualify Obama and raise him to a level equal to or above Sarah.

We certainly can't blame Democrats for trying to find a verifiable reason to give their support to Obama; it's elusive. Voting "Present" does not demonstrate a clear ability to make a decision. In fact, Obama's selection of Joe Biden as his VP is a strong indicator of his ambivalence.



But, because we remain primarily a nation devoted to God and accept His divinity, He often presents us with an opportunity to establish a national direction upon a vessel He has made. Palin may be our Margaret Thatcher.

#### Your Problem Ain't Our Problem

America does have its own moron class, but they're not as big of a majority as the news media would lead us to think. When a neighbor puts in a pool it's not your responsibility to run a hose over to his house to fill it from your faucet; this is especially true if you're paying municipal rates for the water you use.

The U. S. automakers have been in bed with big oil for decades. While they still haven't succeeded in making an American car as comfortable, safe and as appealing as cars made by the Japanese, the Big-3 have been pouring money into research and development (R&D) every step of the way. Unfortunately, the R&D guys couldn't, or more accurately, wouldn't come up with an internal combustion engine that can get great mileage.

Not to beat a dead horse, but remember when Ford put their thumbs under their lapels and bragged that they were making \$15,000 on every Explorer? Consumers began to wonder why they paid \$30K for a \$15K SUV. Then the automakers, in close cooperation with the banks, extended new car loans to 72 months; that's six years, folks!

After owning and driving a car for six years, by the time you make the final payment the vehicle is worth about 25% of the original price at best. Trade-in value is even less. So, that means most vehicles you purchase are a really bad investment—but there's more.

Most people start to experience the cost for parts and service after only four-years, which isn't previously figured into the monthly payments. Consumers come to the conclusion that it's time for another new vehicle. So, the dealership makes them a great offer; they give them 60% of the real value of their used vehicle, tack-on the 40% difference to their new car loan and make it appear that through incentives and discounts they're getting a great deal. The only problem is they're still paying for their old vehicle.

The big-scam among dealers in Michigan is they base the value of used vehicles on what they can get for them at auction; Blue Book is evidently only to be used by those who give out loans to the dealerships' victims.

So, the consumers finally wake-up and have no interest in buying new vehicles unless they have so much discretionary money it doesn't matter anyhow. Then, all of a sudden, the "Big 3" have more new cars than buyers. What's their answer? Start selling cars at employees' prices!

Even though companies offered a 60K or 60month warranty and they still make a good profit even at employee prices, buyers have learned to be leery.

Obviously, the turn in the economy has helped reduce any incentives to acquire a long-term loan for a bad investment, like a new vehicle, but the reality is that this is the 21st Century and we're way behind where we should be, especially where we are as a nation regarding transportation, heating and cooling.

Poor management, poor planning, poor R&D programs does not equate to a loan. Your problem ain't our problem; start by firing the inefficient and hiring good people.

## Too Big to Fail? WTHDTM?

The dot-com bubble explosion on March 10, 2000 helped dissolve investment portfolios. The basis of the overall value was based on an intangible; a computer server is not a tangible. Today, Google—GOOG—is trading near \$435 per share while Charter Communications—CHTR—is trading under one dollar per share. Charter has cables, buildings, trucks, digital receivers and millions of dollars of tangible items in their asset portfolio. Charter also employs thousands and provides service to millions of households. Google is a series of servers with a bunch of ITs. So, which one is too big to fail?

Enron and MCI Worldcom were dysfunctional entities that cost investors billions—the Enron fiasco also cost their employees billions in retirement investments. These failures occurred seven years ago and it was obvious that reform was needed to prevent retirement investments from going into one organization, or even a few. People actually went to jail and lost a significant portion of their personal worth. Of the two, which one was too big to fail?

As our inept Congress stumbles through the formalities that began in 2008 with tumbles in the real estate brokerage firms and ultimately ended at the doorstep of mortgage companies, we have to wonder what the DC Wizards were doing being involved in the first place.

Citizens understand quite clearly that the woes of the United States of America can be traced back to the floor and committees of our own congress. It's a good idea to secure the value of investments of individuals, but not the investments of corporations who are supposed to be specialists.

It's not a good idea to protect the value of an over-priced home and bail out people who made really bad financing and refinancing decisions based on 150% to 250% the value of their homes. In fact, they need to be charged with fraud and sent to prison.

Double in-fact, those who authorized the loans should be sentenced to twice the amount of time as the ones who received the loans.

The residuals of bad loans equates to bad investments by investment firms who invest in mortgage companies. Thank God major portions of most portfolios are diversified so mortgage investments are only a fraction of their value. Investors in 401Ks and other retirement accounts should not burden themselves with thoughts of a portfolio that may bottom-out, unless the manager of your portfolio is an idiot who buys high and sells low. Long-term, things will recover nicely and values will increase accordingly.

"Too big to fail"?

What-the-heck-does-that-mean?

Evidently, if you're a well-supplemented politician and receive some generous donations and benefits from mismanaged companies you can easily view companies as too big to fail. If you only can afford to give a political party \$100 per year, you don't qualify. The citizen is locked-out of the political mixture when their politicians are bought-and-paid-for by benevolent enterprises.

As far as successful politicians go, it is evident that a prospective candidate has to bilk millions from government coffers and endowments. Once you've become recognized as a buyable commodity, your campaign fund coffer begins to fill with money from mortgage companies, credit unions, banks, trial lawyer groups, insurance companies, labor and environmental organizations and lobbyists.

#### http://www.opencongress.org/

While Congress made it even more difficult for the average American to file for bankruptcy, Congress has no problem handing-over taxpayers' money to bail out the companies that drove citizens into poverty without batting an eye.

# The Party of Snobs

Please read this contrary viewpoint first: Blue Bloods v. Red Bloods: http://www.spectacle.org/0503/price.html

The United States of America severed ties with the English blue bloods in 1776. The main reason for ousting snobbery was to give the citizens inalienable rights. Gradually the new system, designed to prevent the snobs from taking over the political realms of America, was confiscated by groups of blue bloods and blue-blood wannabes.

We have neglected to do our duty behind the curtain to prevent individuals from taking over the nation through careers in politics.

During the 1st 2008 Presidential Debate, Jim Lehr, the moderator from the liberal PBS network, asked Obama and then McCain how they would rule the nation. Excuse me? Rule the nation? I expected nothing short of full government control over the people as the response from Obama, but I nudged forward in my chair hoping McCain would defy the notion that the President rules anything or anyone. But alas, disappointment settled-in though I hope McCain overlooked the point of the question, not intentionally averted it. Regardless, the mentality prevails.

The principles conjoining the conservatives suggest that citizens are quite capable of achieving both failure and success. Conservative principles also include the belief that the citizen is quite capable of providing quality decisions regarding their own governance and the direction they want to take for themselves, their families, communities, state and nation. President Lincoln was accurate when he said all the citizen needs to make a good decision is truthful and accurate information.

So that leaves the final analysis of exactly which political party is the party of snobs. The Kennedy and Kerry clans inherited their wealth. Both Bush presidents earned their own way. The Clintons built their worth on the backs of the taxpayers and continue to reap rewards from their years in "public service".

Barney Frank and Chris Dodd are two of the prevailing conspirators in the nation's recent economic crisis. The deals brokered among the know-nothing liberals began under Carter and concluded under Clinton. The policies of trying to do the right thing ended horribly wrong.

The blue bloods refused to heed the warnings of DC outsiders like GWB. They even ignored insiders like John McCain and Lindsey Graham. Those that are as close to blood bloods as Americans can get without marrying into a family of elitists are compelled to provide assistance to the little people. Of course assistance does not include any actual personal input, effort or disbursement-that is better handled through government programs.

Just to be clear at this point, America's blue bloods are not family-lines entrusted with the governance of the people, blue bloods are escalated through the dynamics of the individual political parties.

President Lincoln was also confident that even if his presidency were incompetent or foolish, the checks and balances incorporated in our system of government would prevent him from doing too much damage. Of course, that was way before Congress and the Supreme Court was loaded with the modern breed of politician.

## Racism versus Sexism tial election within the

Truth is truth; the Republicans have been the formidable force behind equality for both minorities and women for generations. Most conservatives may have abandoned their defending tendencies when it comes to homosexuals' impositions and advocacy of same-sex marriage and they may not jump to any acceptance of the annihilation of the unborn without so much as a court order. But what about the Democrats; aren't they the party of tolerance? In some ways, yes, they are

During Abraham Lincoln's tenure, the Democrats fought the Republicans to prevent slavery from being abolished and eventually to allow blacks to vote and to provide clear standards to permit minorities to "earn" a good education. The Democrat Party, which consists of the dregs of society and represents perverts, scam artists and the under-enthused, is indeed the Party of tolerance in every way that the Republican Party isn't. But some in the GOP have issues as well, just not publicly.

The 2008 presiden-Democrat Party should be very interesting to

say the least. The Party Nazis won't vote for a black man and those who prescribe to the communist viewpoints are not quite satisfied that Barack Obama is truly one of their comrades. Being on the take and subjugating the masses in Chicago's minority neighborhoods just isn't enough to prove that he is one of their own. Obama needs to make more than promises to squelch success.

Regarding the issue of sex, most Americans are quite aware there are few discernable differences between a liberal dude and a liberal babe; they're pretty much exactly the same except liberal men tend to cry more and have limper wrists. Barack Obama is the Poster Child of the liberal metro-sexual.

Women. Contrasting the difference among the female sex is relatively easy. Granted, there are many conservative women who are not college graduates or vindictive because they didn't get their way. The conservative women just don't have the same fight in them that the liberal chicks do.

Conservative women will confront an issue or an individual. Conservative women often find themselves in the corporate board room because of their analytical skills, deliberation and even their sense of humor. Conservative women don't want accolades, but quickly accept any blame they deserve.

They are also compelled to attribute successes to those who have produced the suc-

Liberal babes tend to go behind peoples' backs to get their way, often undermining the system and those that have experience on how things should be done correctly. The liberal chick will always take the accolades, but never the blame. Liberals babes hang in groups in order to help them feel they are in charge. They are never wrong or sincere.

The liberal mechanism is saturated with double standards. While they subscribe to the notion of equality among the races, they are ardently defiant of minorities who have earned their way to the top like Justice Thomas. Sarah Palin makes their skin crawl since she is not a typical liberal babe; she's strong, articulate, intelligent, accurate and able to take on a man without swearing.

## What does it take to get you mad?

By Ron Ewart, President—National Association of Rural Landowners
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Good God Folks! What does it take to get you mad? What does it take to get you to rise up and say enough is enough? When will you stop capitulating to the inept, negligent and corrupt managers of your money, your property and your freedom? If you had a money and property manager that was doing as bad a job as your government is doing and is as corrupt as they are, you would have fired them long ago, sued them for everything they had and then filed criminal racketeering charges against them for corruption and fraud.

We are where we are today because for generations, too many good, intelligent Americans sat around and watched their own financial destruction and watched as freedom, liberty and property rights evaporated before their very eyes. They watched as their leaders took apart the Constitution one article and one amendment at a time. It's almost as if we were in the electric chair and pulled the switch ourselves that collectively electrocuted us. We have essentially committed national suicide by our inaction, apathy and disinterest. And we call that smart? Another word comes to mind.

We aren't free Americans anymore, with unalienable rights under a Constitutional Republic. We are serfs and our lives, our earnings, our property and our liberty are owned by Government, special interest groups, giant corporations, Wall Street and every Tom, Dick and Mary who have their hands in our back pockets because they are poor, or lack good judgment. And because they are poor or lack good judgment, they have an absolute right to your hard work and sweat equity. After all, government tells them they are poor and forgives them for their bad judgment. And government tells us, the taxpayers that these folks are poor and therefore that is government's rationale for taking our money, by force and transferring it to those who are poor, or lack good judgment.

How many of you have failed in business due to negligence, inexperience, market down turns, or just plain bad luck? Or how many of you have lost a job to such an occurrence? Who bailed you out? No one. If you are struggling right now to pay the bills and you are paying the bills, who is going to give you a helping hand. No one. But now, on top of your own bills, you get to pay for corporations and Wall Street's negligence and bad judgment. Now you get to pay because a million idiots bought a house they couldn't afford, aided and abetted by your own government's policies that provided incentives to people, mortgage brokers and banks for handing out loans to people who couldn't pay them back. That's fair, isn't it? Of course it's not fair, it's stupid. It's criminal!

Because a person is poor or exercises bad judgment does not give them a right to the fruits of our labors. Because a person is poor or

exercises bad judgment does not give the government the right to take money from us, by force, and turn it over to someone else. That is Marxism, socialism and communism. Because a large company or financial institution is on the brink of bankruptcy, or already bankrupt, due to negligence, bad judgment or corruption, does not give them a superior right to your life, labor, liberty and property. Because a large company is going broke does not give the government the right to take your money and hand it over to the broke company, to save them from, or pull them out of bankruptcy. That's elitism and cronvism. That's backroom deals. That's a dictatorship! For the government to do this, they have violated the sacred bonds of our constitution. For any politician or government officer to agree to this, they have violated their solemn oath to preserve, protect and defend the Constitution of the United States. That folks, is treason.

We have been down this road before, way too many times. During the Reagan administration, in the early 1980's, the government passed laws to provide tax incentives to those investors who would invest in constructing office buildings and retail centers, to stimulate the economy. So what happened? A building boom ensued for office buildings and retail centers that were not based on sound economic principles and market demograph-In just a few short years the totally predictable, disastrous result was empty office buildings (called see-through buildings) with no tenants and retail centers with no shoppers. The buildings and retail centers failed and the lenders, mostly savings and loan banks and the unwise investors who were suckered into this government-instituted Ponzi scheme, took a major financial hit. The government's reaction to save the Savings and Loan Institutions was the Resolution Trust Corporation. This is just another large government bureaucracy to suck up more taxpayer dollars to manage an abject financial failure, created by government in the first place. Does the term deja vu come to mind? We never seem to learn from our mistakes. AXIOM: Everything that government touches, in violation of the constitution, turns into a stinking pile of ma-

What has transpired over the last week is nothing short of the tip of many icebergs that lie in our path and the good ship America/Titanic has struck the first iceberg and is sinking. With only one hole in her side, we might save her. But with the next looming iceberg on our horizon, that we will surely not be able to avoid, will definitely sink her. That iceberg is the Medicare, Medicaid and Social Security insanity, created by the socialists that gave us the New Deal, Medicare, Medicaid, Social Security, the Great Society and a zillion other federal, state and local programs that were built on quicksand and unfunded promises. These icebergs were deliberately manufactured by the failed and fiscally negligent policies of liberals (Democrats) who played on

human weakness, for the sole purpose of buying votes to stay in power. Clever these little socialists!

Unfortunately, nothing is going to change until the grass roots that are paying the freight for all this folly, negligence and corruption, rise up, en masse and quit funding this criminal enterprise, fire the perpetrators and replace them, or rest control from them. If that does not take place and soon, there is only one alternative left, if freedom and liberty are to be maintained. For far too long a bought-off, naive minority and aggressive special interests that are both dreadfully wrong, and the politicians who give that minority and the special interests their power, have controlled the political scene. On this path, America's destruction is all but assured.

Once again we must reiterate:

"OUR MONEY IS GOVERNMENT'S MAJOR POWER OVER US: The first power that government has over us is OUR perception that OUR money is their money and government can spend it anyway they like. The second power that government has over us is by using the money they take from us by force and unconstitutionally transfer it to someone else, with no obligation to pay it back. The third power that government has over us is that we will religiously obey their laws, even if those laws are in direct violation of our Constitution."

"Only when the people realize that their tax money is being used to environmentally enslave them; only when the people realize that their tax money is being used to "feed" a growing population of other people (including illegal aliens, corporations and Wall Street) dipping their wideopen mouths in the government "pig trough" and those "takers" voting for or contributing to, those very same politicians who take our tax money by force to keep the "trough" full; only when the people realize that our government is using our tax money to merge America into the one-world-order and sell our sovereignty: only when the people realize that the only way to stop this insanity is to resist government in every legal way possible. Perhaps then, constitutional freedom will be in our grasp."

The question for all of us is, will we, who fund this sinking ship and who know better, allow America to strike the remaining icebergs without lifting a finger to change course?

We are lifting a finger. Why don't you join us?

Ron Ewart, President
NATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF RURAL LANDOWN-ERS

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Website: www.narlo.org

# Will history repeat itself? Something to think about. Profile In Incompetence: The Worst President In American History By INVESTOR'S BUSINESS DAILY | Posted Wednesday, September 10, 2008 4:20 PM PT

Jimmy Carter became our 39th president at the young age of 52. He was a one-term governor from Plains, GA, where he managed the family peanut farm and taught Sunday school. He was also a graduate of the Naval Academy and served seven years in the Navy, leaving as a lieutenant.

He came to power in the aftermath of the Vietnam War and the resignation of President Nixon. The public wanted change and someone new, and Carter was an ambitious, hands-on politician who promised better days. As good as his intentions were, however, the things he tried were not successful. In fact, he created far more serious problems than he ever solved.

The centerpiece of Carter's foreign policy was human rights, and he did achieve one noble successa peace treaty between Egypt's Anwar Sadat and Israel's Menachem Begin.

Unfortunately, that later led to Sadat's assassination at the hands of Muslim radicals.

Many people felt Carter was a good man who worked hard and meant well. But he was naive and incompetent in handling the enormous burdens and complex challenges of being president.

He wrongly believed Americans had an "inordinate fear of communism," so he lifted travel bans to Cuba, North Vietnam and Cambodia and pardoned draft evaders. He also stopped B-1 bomber production and gave away our strategically located Panama Canal.

His most damaging miscalculation was the withdrawal of U.S. Support for the Shah of Iran, a strong and longtime military ally. Carter objected to the Shah's alleged mistreatment of imprisoned Soviet spies who were working to overthrow Iran's government. He thought the exiled Ayatollah Khomeini, being a religious man, would make a fairer leader.

Having lost U.S. Support, the Shah was overthrown, the Ayatollah returned, Iran was declared an Islamic nation and Palestinian hit men were hired to eliminate opposition.

The Ayatollah then introduced the idea of suicide bombers to the Palestine Liberation Organization, paying \$35,000 to PLO families whose young people were brainwashed to kill as many Israelis as possible by blowing themselves up in crowded shopping areas.

Next, the Ayatollah used Iran's oil wealth to create, train and finance a new terrorist organization, Hezbollah, which later would attack Israel in 2006.

In November 1979, Mahmoud Ahmadinejad and other Iranians stormed the U.S. Embassy in Tehran and took 52 Americans hostage for 444 days. Not until six months into the ordeal did Carter attempt a rescue. But the mission, using just six Navy helicopters, was poorly executed. Three of the copters were disabled or lost in sandstorms. (Pilots weren't allowed to meet with weather forecasters because someone in authority worried about secu-

rity.) Five airmen and three Marines lost their lives

ever, the things he tried were not successful.

In fact, he created far more serious problems than he ever solved.

The centerpiece of Carter's foreign policy was human rights, and he did achieve one

So, due to overconfidence, inexperience and poor judgment, Carter undermined and lost a strong ally, Iran, that today aggressively threatens the U.S., Israel and the rest of the world with nuclear weapons.

But that's not all. After Carter met for the first time with Soviet leader Leonid Brezhnev, the USSR promptly invaded Afghanistan. Carter, ever the naive appeaser, was shocked. "I can't believe the Russians lied to me," he said.

The invasion attracted a 23-year-old Saudi named Osama bin Laden to Afghanistan to recruit Muslim fighters and raise money for an anti-Soviet jihad. Part of that group eventually became al-Qaida, a terrorist organization that would declare war on America several times between 1996 and 1998 before attacking us on 9/11, killing more Americans than the Japanese attack on Pearl Harbor.

On Carter's watch, the Soviet Union went on an unrestrained rampage in which it took over not only Afghanistan, but also Ethiopia, South Yemen, Angola, Cambodia, Mozambique, Grenada and Nicaragua.

In spite of this, Carter's last defense budget proposed spending 45% below pre-Vietnam levels for fighter aircraft, 75% for ships, 83% for attack submarines and 90% for helicopters.

Years later, as a civilian, Carter negotiated a peace agreement with North Korea to keep that communist country from developing nuclear weapons. He also convinced President Clinton and Secretary of State Madeleine Albright to go along with it. But the signed piece of paper proved worthless. The North Koreans deceived Carter and instead used our money, incentives and technical equipment to build nuclear weapons and pose the threat we face today.

Thus did Carter unwittingly become our Neville Chamberlain, creating with his well-intended but inept, unrealistic and gullible actions the very conditions that led to the three most dangerous security threats we face today: Iran, al-Qaida and North Korea.



On the domestic side, Carter gave us inflation of 15%, the highest in 34 years; interest rates of 21%, the highest in 115 years; and a severe energy crisis with lines around the block at gas stations nationwide.

In 1977, Carter, along with a Democrat Congress, created a worthy project with noble in-

tentionsthe Community Reinvestment Act. Over strong industry objections, it mandated that all banks meet the credit needs of their entire communities.

In 1995, President Clinton imposed even stronger regulations and performance tests that coerced banks to substantially increase loans to low-income, poverty-area borrowers or face fines or possible restrictions on expansion. These revisions allowed for securitization of CRA loans containing subprime mortgages.

By 1997, good loans were bundled with poor ones and sold as prime packages to institutions here and abroad. That shifted risk from the loan originators, freeing banks to begin pyramiding and make more of these profitable subprime products.

Under two young, well-intended presidents, therefore, big-government plans and mandates played a significant role in the current subprime mortgage mess and its catastrophic consequences for the U.S. and international economies.

Hardest-hit by the mortgage foreclosures have been the citizens that Democrats always claim to help mostinner-city residents who fell victim to low or no down payment schemes, unexpected adjustable rates, deceptive loan applications and commission-hungry salespeonle

Now we're having to bail out at huge cost Fannie Mae and Freddie Mac, the very agencies that were supposed to stabilize the system. In time, this should improve the situation. But the party of Carter and Clinton that midwifed our mortgage mess now wants to be trusted to take over and have the government run our entire system of health care!

Who ever the writer was that did this piece, forgot another Important point of the Carter legacy, and is the betrayal of President Marcos of the Phillippine Islands and how Carter screwed up that nation. Carter is a great humanitarian, but when it comes to politics, he is just a peanut picker.

# How High's the Water Momma?

It's really complicated, kind of like World-Com and Enron. It all began shortly after the Federal Reserve Bank took over the role of government in issuing money. The Great Depression led to the closure of banks, which prevented employers from paying employees and kept citizens from accessing their savings and paying their bills, especially their mortgages. The banks now under the authority of the Federal Reserve Bank foreclosed on the homes and land, especially farms and farmland.

Congress, feeling compelled to become the savior of the Federal Reserve Bank, bailed out the S&L corporations in the 1980s. That was to the tune of about \$160 billion; \$124.6 billion came from taxpayers through the benevolent and very generous Congress. \*Congress relaxed restrictions on lending so that S&Ls could make higherearning investments. In particular, Congress allowed S&Ls to engage in consumer, business, and commercial real estate lending."

History repeated itself and once again Congress is compelled to become involved in the business of public finance. It started with Bear-Sterns, then Freddie Mac and Fannie Mae, then came Lehman, then AIG, and not to be outdone by Jimmy Carter, the Michigan's Big Three Automakers have their hands out. \*\*Feudalism: A political and economic system of Europe from the 9th to about the 15th century, based on the holding of all land in fief or fee and the resulting relation of lord to vassal and characterized by homage, legal and military service of tenants, and forfeiture.

In his article, "A Step Toward Feudalism", David R. Henderson asks, \*\*"Should the U.S. government let Chrysler fail? Let's reword the question: Should the government force taxpayers to subsidize a company whose products do not meet the market test? The answer becomes clear: No. Why should taxpayers have to pay to keep a firm in business?"

Readers should be intrigued with the article by Henderson since it was published on January 15, 1980—that was a year and five days before Ronald Reagan's inauguration on January 20, 1981.

The bail-out scenario becomes quite complex if you rule out poor planning, incompetent management and the involvement by a government that has no business being involved since they surrendered any authority to manage the world of finance to the Federal Reserve Bank nearly 100 years ago.

But Congress thinks citizens have deep pockets and will embrace and understand the trillions of taxpayers' dollars going to bail out these inept institutions while pretending Congress-supported policies weren't at fault. While citizens are wondering how they're going to pay for gasoline and home heating fuel, Congress is looking for reelection.

\*http://economics.about.com/od/governmenttheeconomy/a/savings\_loan.htm—http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Savings\_and\_Loan\_crisis http://www.fdic.gov/bank/historical/s&l/index.html—http://bigpicture.typepad.com/comments/bailouts/index.html http://www.cato.org/pub\_display.php?pub\_id=865—\*\*http://www.answers.com/topic/feudalism

## REPLACE CONGRESS; REAL CHANGE WE NEED

Americans are really suspicious about the lack of accountability in Congress. The deadened silence on mainstream media programs about who was really responsible for the economic crisis sends resounding signals that they are in the business of protecting those who should be tried for treason.

The bitterness among the citizens is that Congress just can't seem to get enough of their money and spend it on foolish programs. Congress is addicted to dispersing taxpayer money all over the world and handing-it-out to those organizations that can't seem to get any or enough donations from citizens.

Those habits don't sit well with those who go to work everyday and then see a sizeable portion of their paychecks going to the government wastrels.

Putting aside all the social ideas, we have to hold up the economic patterns of our current Congress and reflect on how our Senators and Congressmen have responded to their obligations. There is only one direction for us to go if the people want to reward incumbents with a renewed contract; the North American Union (NAU) and the new amero currency: One Peso = \$1.00.

America cannot afford to send many of the members of Congress back to DC to fix the problems they've created. Only the loyal and the competent should be returned to DC, and by the looks of it only a few will qualify for reelection. The notion that he's an idiot, but he's our idiot cannot be a reason to rehire him.

In all honesty America, wouldn't it be wonderful to flush the entire Congress effective January 1st, 2009? And wouldn't it have been wonderful to have two experienced executive managers on the ballot like Romney and Palin? At least we'll get half of the ticket right.

We're in dire straits here in the US. The Democrats and the neo-con RINOs have virtually destroyed our way of life and they think they should return to DC because now they're interested in making promises? People like Bart Stupak could play the same campaign video he played when he first ran in 1992—nothing has changed, except it's all become far worse. East Coast and West Coast voters need to step-up and redefine themselves or all is lost.

#### Stupak: Taking Credit Where Credit Isn't Due By C. J. Williams

As a gaggle of Rep. Stupak's Democrat cohorts were posturing and preening before the major television network cameras on Sept. 29<sup>th</sup> and wailing their siren song to woo voters away from the Republican ticket after a failed vote on the financial bail out balderdash, Mr. Stupak was craftily composing words to a siren song of his own.

Within only a few hours after the defeat, he shared the lyrics with his 1st District of Michigan constituents who have opted to receive his e-mailed newsletters, which come more frequently now that it's an election year for the incumbent.

He wanted his flock to know he'd gone against his party's position and voted "nay" to the \$700 billion Wall Street bail out proposal. He failed to mention, however, that it's Queen Nancy Pelosi's pre-election position that her loyal subjects, who might lose their seat to a Republican come November, should feel free to go against the Democrat Party grain to appease the wrath of voters in their home districts.

Indeed, Mr. Stupak's newsletter siren song message, which also became an egocentric, self-congratulatory press release to some of his district's newspapers, was that he had heard from thousands of his constituents across northern Michigan and had reviewed their messages, emails and letters regarding the bailout.

The bottom line, according to Mr. Stupak, is that "Wall Street executives enjoyed lavish lifestyles and exorbitant salaries while making risky real estate and mortgage investments. Many of these financial transactions were unregulated and no one exercised oversight of these markets or these individuals. Now the American taxpayer is being asked to bail out Wall Street for such things as NINJA mortgages. NINJA mortgages are those granted to individuals with no income, no job and no assets."

He went on to write that he "cannot ask American families – who work hard, play by the rules and struggle to meet their own financial obligations – to bail out Wall Street executives for their reckless, lavish lifestyles.

"For that reason, I voted "no" on H.R. 3997, the Economic Stabilization Act of 2008. This bailout does not represent our northern Michigan values and it rewards excessive financial shenanigans without any accountability for these irresponsible actions."

Be that as it may, apparently northern Michigan values and struggling American families weren't of consequence back on June 28, 2007 when Rep. Stupak voted "aye" on HR 2895, the National Affordable Housing Trust Fund Act sponsored by Barney "there is no financial crisis" Frank. HR 2895 was designed to siphon off from \$800 million to \$1 billion per year from Fannie Mae and Freddie Mac to build, rehabilitate or preserve 1.5 million units of affordable rental housing over the next That scheme included downdecade. payment assistance for first time buyers.

The bill was reliant on several other related bills, among them HR 1852, which Mr. Stupak also approved with a resounding "aye" on Sept. 18, 2007. Referred to as a "modernization" bill, HR 1852 was designed to update the Federal Housing Administration (FHA) loan programs by allowing risk-based premiums, zero-down housing loans, and increased loan limits in high-risk areas, i.e. the poorer inner city neighborhoods. It might better have been referred to as the "Low-Income Sucker" bill.

Although the FHA estimated that the legislators' modernization bill could generate an extra \$342 million in revenue in 2008 and help fund the government's National Affordable Housing Trust Fund, the reality of the situation is that taxpayers are now being hit in the wallet for a potential \$700 billion bail out, which includes some pork for the legislators who helped get taxpayers into this mess in the first place.

Now that the chickens have come home to roost, Mr. Stupak is quick to point his finger at the Bush administration, as if playing the "blame game" will resolve the issue. However, while the 1<sup>st</sup> District representative was voting "aye" on these bills last year, the Bush administration was objecting to relying on surpluses and tapping Fannie and Freddie for an affordable-housing fund, saying that the

plan could backfire and create pressure for unrestrained growth of the lending giants' loan portfolios. Rather than heed that warning, Pelosi's Democrats called on the administration to raise the \$1.4 trillion cap on those loan portfolios.

In fact, on Jan. 29, 2008 Queen Pelosi introduced HR 5140, the Economic Stimulus Act of 2008, which is the piece of legislation that brought taxpavers the wonderful rebate this past summer, the one we can't even begin to pay for. So blinded were taxpayers with the lawmakers' largess that we neglected to watch their left hand, the hand that so skillfully padded the Democrats' bill, HR 5140, with more financial liberties for Fannie and Freddie, thereby enabling the Wall Street executive fat cats, whom Stupak now derides, to live even more lavishly.

Among other things, HR 5140 raised "the statutory ceiling on the maximum original principal obligation of a mortgage that originated between July 1, 2007 and Dec. 31, 2008, that may be purchased by either Fannie Mae or Freddie Mac (sec. 201)." It also temporarily increased the loan limit for FHAinsured mortgages in high cost areas for which a borrower received credit approval prior to Dec. 31, 2008 and granted the Sec. of Housing and Urban Development discretionary authority to increase loan limits in 2008 based upon the size and location of residences in particular areas (sec. 202), and you can bet those particular areas weren't highpriced homes in exclusive gated communities.

HR 5140 quickly passed the House and Senate and was signed into law on February 13, 2008. Among those who voted "aye" was Congressman Bart Stupak.

So while Mr. Stupak is singing his "I Voted Nay" siren song to woo your vote in November, just remember that he's singing it with a forked tongue, and once reelected, will go right back to being one of Queen Pelosi's dutiful knaves.

http://www.sootoday.com/content/news/full\_story.asp?StoryNumber=34761

http://www.inman.com/news/2007/10/4/house-oks-1-billion-year-housing-fund

http://www.votesmart.org/issue\_keyvote\_detail.php?cs\_id=16935&can\_id=26912\_- http://www.newswithviews.com/Williams/carole111.htm

**Bear Stearns financing** 

POSSIBLE TOTAL

AIG loan and nationalization

Mortgage community grants

JPMorgan Chase repayments

#### Bailout bill loops in green tech, IRS snooping—Part 1

Posted by Declan McCullagh - October 3, 2008 10:07 AM PDT

Bailout type Financial bailout package approved this week

Fannie Mae and Freddie Mac nationalization

Loans to banks via Fed's Term Auction Facility

NUMBER OF HOUSEHOLDS PER U.S. CENSUS

Federal Housing Administration housing rescue bill

Loans from Depression-era Exchange Stabilization Fund

Purchases of mortgage securities by Fannie Mae and Freddie Mac

Cost to taxpayers (Source: Reuters)

up to or more than \$700 billion

\$29 billion

\$200 billion

\$85 billion

\$300 billion

\$4 billion

\$87 billion

\$200 billion+

\$50 billion

\$144 billion

\$1.8 trillion+

105,480,101

\$17,064+

http://news.cnet.com/8301-13578\_3-10057618-38.html?tag=nl.e433

Last week, the Bush administration proposed a three-page bill to bail out Wall Street to the tune of \$700 billion. It died in the U.S. House of Representatives earlier this week.

POSSIBLE COST PER HOUSEHOLD

On Friday, though, the House approved a far bigger, broader, and beefier version of the bill-which has ballooned to a remarkable 442 pages. The vote was 263 to 171, with the bulk of the opposition coming from Republicans. Because the Senate already approved the measure, it immediately went to President Bush, who signed it into

On the theory that this would be a way to convince previously skeptical Democrats to approve the measure, one large chunk of the bailout bill is devoted to renewable energy, energy-efficient appliances, and so on (the "Energy Improvement and Extension Act of 2008"). The authors lured Republicans with protections from the alternative minimum tax (via the "Tax Extenders and Alternative Minimum Tax Relief Act of 2008").

That includes, as the New York Post pointed out, millions in tax breaks and related pork for kids' wooden arrows, Puerto Rican rum producers, auto race tracks, and corporations operating in American Samoa. (The likely explanation for the latter: StarKist has a large tuna-canning operation in American Samoa. And StarKist's parent company happens to be located in the district of House Speaker Nancy Pelosi.)

The bill has become, in other words, something almost unrelated to the business of bailing out Wall Street. The Beltway term for this is a "Christmas tree bill," meaning everyone gets to hang their favorite spending projects on it--though by the time Congress gets it through, it more closely resembles a slop bucket.

"We will not Christmas-tree this bill," Sen. Chuck Schumer, a New York Democrat promised a few days ago. "The times are too urgent. Everyone has their own desires and needs. It's going to have to

So much for that idea.

Here's a look a some of the green-tech meas-

- One-year extension for wind and refined coal energy tax credits. A production credit for electricity produced from renewable marine energy sources (meaning through wave power and river power, or by exploiting the differences in ocean temperature). Energy credits for "small wind properties," geothermal heat pump systems, and energy-efficient residential properties.
- New renewable-energy bonds. Up to \$800 billion in energy bonds may be offered to the public, with a third from "public power providers," a third from governments, and the remainder from "cooperative electric companies."
- Tax credits for "cellulosic biofuels" and for "carbon dioxide sequestration." An extension of an alternative fuel credit. Tax credits for "new qualified plug-in electric-drive motor vehicles." Bicycle commuters get a nod, as do regulations aimed at "residential top-loading clothes wash-

#### IRS undercover operations: Privacy invasion?

The bailout bill also gives the Internal Revenue Service new authority to conduct undercover operations. It would immunize the IRS from a passel of federal laws, including permitting IRS agents to run businesses for an extended sting operation, to open their own personal bank accounts with U.S. tax dollars, and so on. (Think IRS agents posing as accountants or tax preparers and saying, "I'm not sure if that deduction is entirely legal, but it'll save you \$1,000. Want to take it?") That section had expired as of January 1, 2008, and would now be renewed.

Starting with the so-called Anti-Drug Abuse Act in 1988, the IRS has possessed this authority temporarily, with occasional multiple-year lapses. A 1999 internal report said the IRS had 126 "trained undercover agents" working in field offices at the time. This is the first time that such undercover authority would be made permanent.

Sens. Max Baucus (D) and Chuck Grassley (R) have been pushing to make it permanent for a while, claiming (PDF) in April that: "Undercover operations are an integral part of IRS efforts to detect and prove noncompliance. The temporary status of this provision creates uncertainty, as the IRS plans its undercover efforts from year to year."

There's another section of the bailout bill worth noting. It lets the IRS give information from individual tax returns to any federal law enforcement agency investigating suspected "terrorist" activity, which can, in turn, share it with local and state police. Intelligence agencies such as the CIA and the National Security Agency can also receive that information.

The information that can be shared includes "a taxpayer's identity, the nature, source, or amount of his income, payments, receipts, deductions, exemptions, credits, assets, liabilities, net worth, tax liability, tax withheld, deficiencies, overassessments, or tax payments, whether the taxpayer's return was, is being, or will be examined or subject to other investigation or processing, or any other data received by, recorded by, prepared by, furnished to, or collected by the Secretary with respect to a return."

That provision had already existed in federal law and automatically expired on January 1,

What's a little odd is that there's been little to no discussion of the IRS sections of the bailout bill, even though they raise privacy concerns. Treasury Secretary Henry Paulson said this week: "I will continue to work with congressional leaders to find a way forward to pass a comprehensive plan to stabilize our financial system and protect the American people by limiting the prospects of further deterioration in our economy." He never mentioned the necessity of additional IRS undercover operations.

#### Bailout bill loops in green tech, IRS snooping—Part 2

POSTED BY DECLAN MCCULLAGH - OCTOBER 3, 2008 10:07 AM PDT

## The bailout: Details, controversy, and loopholes

As my colleagues over at CBSNews.com reported on Friday, the law authorizes the Treasury Department to create a so-called Troubled Assets Relief Program, or TARP, as well as a separate insurance fund.

The TARP program permits the Treasury to purchase mortgage-backed bonds or any other "troubled assets" from financial institutions. The idea is that because banks have become so hesitant to lend to each other, this law will help unstick the gears of the modern financial economy.

Some loopholes exist. It's possible for a bank to buy \$100 billion of bad debt-perhaps in the form of subprime mortgages that are becoming quickly worthless-- declare bankruptcy, and sell it to the Treasury Department for \$120 billion, or \$200 billion. In other words, although the Treasury Department is supposed to look out for the best interests of taxpayers, there's no law forbidding such profits in the case of firms involved in bankruptcy, receivership, or mergers.

The Treasury Department is authorized to "guarantee" home mortgages, essentially becoming a kind of co-signer, to reduce the number of foreclosures. If the home owner stops paying his or her mortgage, taxpayers would be on the hook. The Treasury Department can also eliminate a "reasonable" amount of a home owner's mortgage debt, under section 109 of the new law, which would likely delay the process of house prices falling.

In response to <u>grassroots pressure</u> from Americans upset about Wall Street executives cashing in, Section 111 is titled "Executive Compensation and Corporate Governance."

It does not include, however, any statutory dollar limit on how high executive salaries of TARP bailout recipients can be. Instead, it lets Treasury Secretary Henry Paulson, the former CEO of Goldman Sachs, come up with "appropriate standards." In addition, only the top five executives will have their golden parachutes limited; all the rest will remain untouched,

even if their second-tier salaries and bonuses happen to be in the millions or tens of millions of dollars.

Bear Stearns CEO James Cayne made \$61.3 million from selling his shares a day after the JP Morgan bailout. Daniel Mudd, CEO of Fannie Mae, was replaced last month; he made \$11.6 million in 2007. Richard Syron was chairman and CEO of Freddie Mac from 2003 until last month. He made \$19.8 million last year. Martin Sullivan was ousted as president and CEO of AIG this summer, and was paid a \$47 million severance package.

While salaries of failed executives will have no statutory limit, TARP-participating companies will lose a tax deduction if they pay their top executives more than \$500,000 a year. The \$500,000 limit only kicks in if the company offloads over \$300 million in assets through TARP.

Section 115 of the law says that the administration can, after notifying Congress and waiting 15 days, purchase and hold \$700 billion of assets "at any one time." (It can buy and hold \$350 billion without waiting.)

This, too, is a potential loophole. It permits the Treasury Department to buy up, say, \$700 billion in 2008, sell those assets off gradually over the next year at a (probable) loss, and repeat the same process in 2009. Losses to taxpayers, in other words, could exceed \$700 billion. Although the Treasury Department is instructed to try to avoid losses, the text of the law does not forbid that scenario.

If the TARP ends up costing taxpayers money, the president may ask Congress to consider enacting a law to recoup "from the financial industry an amount equal to the shortfall," presumably through higher taxes. But Congress is under no obligation to do anything; a mechanism to cover the shortfall does not exist in this law.

Even though FDIC coverage will be boosted from \$100,000 to \$250,000 per account through December 2009, premiums to banks may not take "into account" the higher account coverage. In other words, premiums can't increase for that reason.

#### Also:

- This may be just the beginning of bailouts. California Gov. Arnold Schwarzenegger said Thursday that the state may need a \$7 billion loan from the U.S. Treasury, according to a report in the Los Angeles Times. That's because the state has spent more than it takes in through tax revenue, with an annual budget deficit of \$14 billion or more, even though its individual income tax rate is arguably the highest in the nation.
- CBS News' John Bentley <u>reports</u> from Arizona that Republican presidential candidate John McCain is taking some credit for the bailout's passage: "I'm glad I suspended my campaign and went back to Washington to bring, and help bring, House Republicans to the table," he said on Friday. Democratic presidential candidate Barack Obama <u>described</u> the law as "absolutely necessary to prevent an economic catastrophe."
- Rep. Ron Paul of Texas, who correctly predicted in 2003 that taxpayers would be "forced to bail out investors," said in a speech on the House floor that the legislation would "only further harm the economy" and was actually worse than the previous version. In a CNN interview, the former Republican presidential candidate said his colleagues are refusing to deal with the underlying problems and spending more tax dollars even though "this country's bankrupt."
- The Dow Jones Industrial Average (-22 percent year-to-date) and the Nasdaq composite index (-27 percent) closed on Friday down 1.5 percent, despite the bailout. Gold ended at \$834.80 an ounce, slightly up for the day and the year. Crude oil futures ended at \$93.88 a barrel, slightly down for the day.
- U.S. jobs <u>fell by</u> 159,000, a decline of 760,000 this year. Technology firms have also contemplated hiring freezes and some, including Hewlett-Packard and Dell, have already laid off employees, as my colleague Ina Fried reports in a <u>separate article</u>.

#### U. P. PATRIOTS

#### DISCLAIMER—KOA STATEMENT

The Yooper Scooper is a private newsletter to be exchanged among friends and like-minded individuals via the internet or through a hard copy printed at personal expense. Even though Democrats can campaign from the pulpit while conservative ministers have to remain silent with threats of being removed from their non-profit status by the Democrats, the freedom of speech still has meaning and relevance among the people. We would like to take this opportunity to stress that if you take offense to the content of this newsletter you are probably indeed a descendent from monkeys. As for the rest of us, we hold the truths of God, Creationism, Free Will, the Ten Commandments and the Constitution close to our hearts and within our souls.

~ J. C. Powers, Editor yoopscoop@yahoo.com



Nostalgia: WOW! Governor Grahnolm promised to Wow residents of Michigan and she did—She also wowed the rest of the world!!!

http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=y6Ty6qe7bkA&feature=related

#### RECOMMENDED LINKS

CONTRAST

http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=TG4fe9GlWS8
http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Ormm9NdBtq8&feature=related
http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=HiJkQmBy1Y0
http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=JqMhBEYGrXU&feature=related
http://www.worldnetdaily.com/index.php?pageId=3012

ECONOMIC BREAK-DOWN

http://www.americanvision.org/blog/?p=187

http://beltwayblips.com/video/burning down the house what caused our economic crisis/



## THIS SIDE TUP BY J. C. POWERS

The Upper Peninsula of Michigan is under attack and one component of our livelihood may be destroyed in short order—our trees!

Soft-needle pine trees like white pine and scotch pine are developing brown needles. Normally this wouldn't be too much of a concern because occasionally pines do have a tendency to shed their needles. But, this trend is suspiciously close to 2005 when several of these soft-needle trees died.

In 2005 a sample of the needles on the dying trees was brought to a DNR biologist who stated that the trees were browning due to the stress of winter and drought. A short time later the trees were dead.

The browning of the pine trees is very widespread this year, extending throughout the Upper Peninsula. They are following the same gradual browning patter that led to the death of several trees in 2005.

With our paper and logging industry in peril, there doesn't seem to be an interest among our DNR biologists to identify the problem of two years ago and attempt to intervene in the possible death of the tree industry in the UP.



Suspicion as to the causes may coincide with the chemtrail spraying. In 2005 the UP was covered with chemtrails on many occasions, the worst being on August 6th. Shortly after that spraying, the white and scotch pine trees began to brown and die. Although our summer was warmer than normal in 2005 and the dying trees weren't widespread, the assessment of the DNR biologist seemed reasonable.

The difference between 2005 and 2008 regarding the weather is very different. In 2008 we were mostly right at the averages throughout the summer months.

The chemtrails have changed, however. In 2005 they were thick—in 2008 they were thinner, but more potent.



August 2005



April 2008

The causes of the browning need to be determined, but we can't help but think the government does not know about the impact. Remember Agent Orange?