

# Yooper Scooper

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## Uranium and Fluoride Advisory

Scattered drinking water sources on the Keweenaw Peninsula east of the Keweenaw Fault have been found to contain uranium and/or gross alpha in amounts that exceed the proposed federal Maximum Contaminant Levels. The source of the uranium may be the shale deposits that run inconsistently through the sandstone formation. The supplies with known radioactivity are north of Jacobsville in Houghton and Keweenaw Counties.

There is no direct data on other water supplies located elsewhere in the same bedrock formation, but it is possible that they could also be affected. Over time we will gain a clearer picture of the extent of the problem and the health consequences, if any.

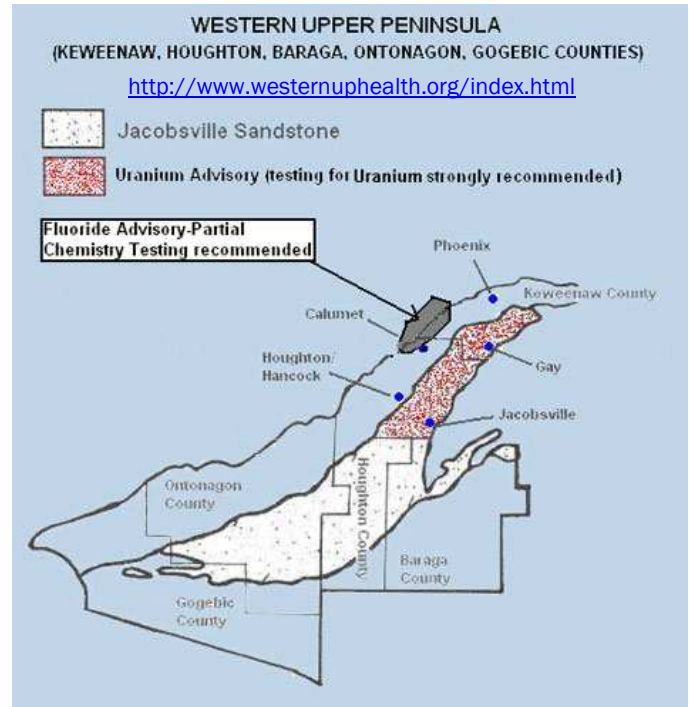
In the meantime, we caution people in the suspect area that the possibility of uranium contamination exists and advise that their water be tested for uranium by a certified lab. The Michigan Department of Community Health Lab in Lansing is certified to test for ura-

nium. Bottles for testing can be obtained at the Community Health Lab in Houghton on the Michigan Tech campus (1410 Cliff Drive). Ask for a 36ME bottle at the lab and explain that you want to test your water for uranium. Testing cost is \$16.

The Health Effects of uranium exposure in the amounts that we have seen are mainly limited to kidney damage with long-time use. There is also a very small possibility of an increased risk of cancer over a lifetime of exposure.

The area of between McLainState Park and Five Mile Point along Lake Superior has produced high Fluoride levels in some private wells. This has prompted the health department to encourage testing of existing and new private wells in this area for Fluoride.

Elevated levels of Fluoride may cause dental fluorosis, a brown staining and/or pitting of the permanent teeth in young children. Dental fluorosis occurs only when developing teeth (before they erupt from the gums) are exposed to elevated fluoride levels.



Map of Uranium and Fluoride Areas

Exposure to drinking water levels above 4.0 mg/L for many years may result in some cases of crippling skeletal fluorosis, a serious bone disorder. Testing for Fluoride can be accomplished by using a partial

chemistry test from the Michigan Department of Community Health Lab in Houghton on the Michigan Tech Campus for \$14. Partial Chemistry bottles are also available at the health department.

## NIMBYs—GO HOME; No Surprises; Please

CJ has been working constantly on fitting the pieces together in regards to the previously hushed uranium reserves.

The area indicated on the map above is part of the Superior Province and several Canadian mining companies have shown more than just an interest in the mining of uranium in the UP.

Various environmental groups like the Nature Conservancy and Keweenaw Land Trust are perhaps the least suspected, but the most active in obtaining titles and sustainable easements on a great deal of acreage, especially in the mineral rich areas.

Easements will dictate how the property is used and by whom.

In that capacity, environmental

groups hold the mining interests by their sustainable parts and in order to mine, the companies will have to come up with some type of agreement with the TNC, KLT, and other land trust groups. That would either be a direct piece of the pie or a slice through benevolent, guaranteed, donations. Either way, the theft of property eventually pays off.

The deadly combination of greed by those wanting what's beneath the soil and those wanting bills to restrict invasive species, which includes non-native humans and their menacing pets and cattle, will setup a virtual barren landscape that will be open for exploration and mining without any scrutinizing by those insignificant, nosey, invasive little NIMBYs. ~JP

## Owl Be Damned By JIM PETERSEN February 18, 2006

Last month the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service published a call for proposals to develop a recovery plan for the northern spotted owl. It's about time: The owl was added to the nation's burgeoning list of threatened and endangered species nearly 16 years ago. That it took so long helps explain why only 10 of the 1,264 species listed under the federal Endangered Species Act (ESA) have ever recovered.

If my gut reading is correct, the owl won't be No. 11. It is already doomed across much of its range, and the reason is well known among field biologists who have been observing the bird for some 20 years. More aggressive barred owls are pushing them out of their 21-million-acre home range, or killing them, or both. In any case, spotted owls are fighting a losing battle, a fact that has me wondering if the Fish and Wildlife Service isn't whistling past the graveyard.

Barred owls, not to be confused with common barn owls, migrated from their native East Coast environs a century or more ago. No one knows why, and until they started killing already-threatened spotted owls, no one cared.

Now they do. Just how long it will take the barreds to finish off their brethren isn't known, but the situation has become so precarious that a federal biologist recently opined that shooting barred owls might be the only way to save spotted owls.

How and why the government failed so miserably in its costly attempt to protect spotted owls is a sordid tale that illustrates what happens when science is politicized. Begin with the fact that protecting owls was never the objective: Saving old-growth forests from chainsaws was. The owl was simply a sur-

rogate – a stand-in for forests that do not themselves qualify for ESA protection. But if a link could be established between harvesting in old-growth forests and declining spotted owl numbers, the bird might well qualify for listing – a line of thinking that in 1988 led Andy Stahl, then a resource analyst with the Sierra Club Legal Defense Fund, to famously declare, "Thank goodness the spotted owl evolved in the Northwest, for if it hadn't, we'd have to genetically engineer it. It's the perfect species for use as a surrogate."

Indeed it was. But to back their play, the Sierra Club, the Audubon Society and their friends in the Clinton administration needed a good story for the judge. They found it in three obscure reports: a 1976 master's thesis written by wildlife biology major Eric Forsman at Oregon State University; Mr. Forsman's 1980 doctoral dissertation; and a 1984 report written by him and two other biologists. All three reports suggested a strong link between declining owl populations and harvesting in old-growth forests. Unfortunately, the hypothesis has never been tested, so despite 16 years of research, no link between old-growth harvesting and declining owl populations has ever been established.

Moreover, we know little about the relationship between harvesting and owl populations. One such study – privately funded – infers an inverse relationship between harvesting and owls. In other words, in areas where some harvesting has occurred, owl numbers are increasing a bit, or at least holding their own, while numbers are declining in areas where no harvesting has occurred.

This news will come as no surprise to Oregon, Washington and California timberland owners who are legally required to provide habitat for owls.

Their actively managed lands are home to the highest reproductive rates ever recorded for spotted owls. Why is this?

One possible answer is that the anecdotal evidence on which the listing decision was based is incomplete. No one denies the presence of owls in old-growth forests, but what about the owls that are prospering in managed forests and in forests where little old growth remains? Could it be that spotted owls are more resourceful than we think?

We don't know – and the reason we don't know is that 16 years ago federal scientists chose to politicize their hypothesis rather than test it rigorously, to flatly reject critiques from biometricians who questioned the statistical validity of the evidence on which the listing decision was based, and to declare with by-god certainty that once the old-growth harvest stopped owl populations would begin to recover.

Some biologists believe that spotted owls still have a fighting chance for survival east of the Cascades in Oregon and Washington, but there is a problem: White fir is pushing native Douglas fir out of these forests in the same way barred owls are pushing spotted owls out of their home range. Minus a long-term thinning program, opposed by many of the same environmental groups that pushed the owl's threatened species listing, the birds will probably vanish from these forests, too.

No doubt one or more environmental groups will use the government's call for recovery plans to demand that even more habitat be set aside for



Photo by Rob Bennetts

spotted owls. When that demand is made, someone ought to remind Congress of a recent U.S. Forest Service estimate that an additional 1.1 million acres of federal forestland in the Pacific Northwest have grown into old-growth status since the owl's listing. But owl numbers continue to decline.

Perhaps the untold story of the northern spotted owl will lead the U.S. Senate to endorse changes in the Endangered Species Act ratified by the House of Representatives last fall. Among other things, the House version mandates immediate development and implementation of recovery plans for all listed species. To avoid repeats of the spotted owl fiasco, it would also be nice if the scientists selected to peer-review listing proposals represented all sides of inevitably controversial questions.

It should not take 16 years to write a recovery plan. The fact that it did ought to prompt some very pointed questions about what went on behind locked doors in the Portland, Ore., U.S. Bank Tower – nicknamed the "Tower of Power" by government scientists who gathered there, beyond public and congressional scrutiny, in the spring of 1990 to sift through the pieces of their story. Congress ought to ask for their notes. I'm told they were shredded daily. *Mr. Petersen is the founder of the nonprofit Evergreen Foundation and the publisher of Evergreen Magazine in Montana.*

## Welcome to River City Part I by Katie O'Brien, YS Supporter

This article started out to be a diatribe against our congress critters and the president because of the proposed takeover of six port cities by Dubai, a member of the United Arab Emirate, until it struck me that we are being played like the proverbial harp! Oh, the situation is real enough and the danger real enough — but this is not new. We are being worked up over a situation that has been staring us in the face for a minimum of ten years! So, why should we get upset now?

Let me explain by reminding you of a play from fifty years ago. Meredith Wilson's "The Music Man" was a wonderful Broadway musical, filled with tuneful melodies and thought-provoking lyrics. For those not familiar with this Broadway musical (1957) and blockbuster movie (1962), the story is set in the fictitious town of River City, Iowa, in 1912, and centers on one Harold Hill, a traveling salesman who in his flight from a group of angry fellow salesmen on a train decides to work his con in the

next town on the train route: River City. There is a scene where he is talking to the town blacksmith, a former grifter named Marcellus Washburn, who tells 'Professor' Hill that he will never be able to work his music con in River City because of the town librarian — also the town music teacher — who is very bright and will see right through his chicanery.

In order to work his con, 'Professor' Hill must get the townsfolk worked up over something by changing their perception of an existing town feature and in his stroll to the center of River City, he comes across a pool hall. He approaches the mothers of the town and proceeds to point out to them that "Ya' Got Trouble in River City" in the form of a pool hall. There follows a marvelous stirring of the pot in several scenes, resulting in many clever songs, one of which, "Pick A Little", is performed by the mothers of the town. In the movie, the bridge for the song opens with a flock of hens in a barnyard, pecking and scratching, mindlessly with heads down, in the sand.

Well, we are those hens and if you have ever seen a chicken dance, squawking and wings flapping in a blind panic, you have a fair idea of what is happening now over the port takeover. And who is leaving us do this are the very people who put us in this situation in the first place: our gubmint.

This purported takeover of container operations in six US ports, including New York, Baltimore and New Orleans, is nothing new. P&O Ports, a division of London-based Peninsular and Oriental Steam Navigation, has 29 container and stevedore operations in over 100 ports, worldwide, including the Port of New York/New Jersey, where they have been in charge of container onloading and offloading for many years. If you want to see the full scope of their operations in just the Port of New York/New Jersey, please see the detailed map at

<http://www.panynj.gov/AboutthePortAuthority/FacilitiesandServices/>.

The change now is that the London-based, publicly traded Peninsular and Oriental Steam Navigation has been bought by a firm in Dubai, a member of the United Arab Emirates, effectively handing

over control of everything that comes into and goes out of our Country to the same church, different pew, we are fighting in Iraq, Afghanistan, Kuwait --- you name it! (Are you mad or just confused at this point?)

This silent takeover of our assets, approved by our gubmint, has been going on for fifty years. We just have not been paying attention because the companies that control all of this traffic are our allies, supposedly, so that makes it okay. (Keep the chickens quiet.) One of these assets is the oil we use to run everything in our Nation, but because the environmentalists (really?) don't want Americans to pollute America, we IMPORT our oil from the UAE nations through ports now to be controlled by UAE companies based halfway around the world — all of which has been approved by our gubmint! Oh, and the companies refining the crude oil, once American-owned, are now owned by the British (BP Amoco); the Dutch (Shell Oil), and so on. (Are you starting to get mad?) To be continued

## States of America By J. Powers

Oh, shame on us. We have let the world dictate our direction as a nation. Former presidents and president-wanna-be's insist on going overseas to badmouth our President, troops and country. We have become so divisive that it is difficult to really understand why we continue to fool ourselves by calling this once great nation the "United" States of America.

It seems as if everyone entering a polling booth has an ulterior motive that is not conducive for the survival of a republic. As too many people and organizations, like the ones they write about in the Yooper Scooper, are sucking off the government teats, the government is in-turn neglecting their responsibilities to the local governments and the tax-paying, hard working people. This is no more than a lose-lose situation.

As the EPA, Bureau of Land Management and countless other bureaucracies dole out the money, which we send to the IRS, to groups that have no meaningful purpose, state governments are pinching pennies to fund schools, fix their roads and keep up their infrastructure.

Here in Michigan, the liberals are cooing over large land takeovers by environmentalist groups, working on legislation to control water rights in order to ruin our agricultural industry and buy up more land through special wildlife funds. Granholm and her leftwing cronies are spending like drunken socialists. They find money to give for "Cool Cities" programs, but can't find money to pay their delinquent PILT (Payment in Lieu of Taxes) money to local governments.

The State has cut the critical revenue sharing money, so while state employees in the capitol are enjoying a high level of job security, local governments are forced to cut back the hours of their employees.

Stealing a page from the Liberal Handbook for Visceral Tantrums, as kids are dropping over in the playground at school from the inadequate hot lunch programs, Granholm is giving our money to Detroit to ensure support of her Party.

While Granholm is flying off to Japan to drum up some interest for companies to open an operation in Michigan, she has neglected the simple task of retaining the businesses and industries we already have. In fact, she threatens to veto any tax reform, especially the Sin-

gle Business Tax (SBT).

Personally I can't rule out ever voting for a woman to occupy an executive office, but I think we all need to rule out ever having a liberal woman holding any office whatsoever.

The States of America have become a four tier outhouse and the citizens have to use the bottom stall as the governments over them demand they send up what little toilet paper they have left.

It all boils down to one very common denominator; the liberal leftwing extremists doing battle with moralists and patriots. How can conservatives compete in an election when the liberals offer the public huge, money filled breasts? People, from all levels, have become way too dependent on the government. ~ JP

## Twenty Years In Prison For Having Sex With His Wife by Phyllis Schlafly

William J. Hetherington has been incarcerated in Michigan prisons for more than 20 years for having sex with his wife Linda. In 1986, he became the first man in Genesee County convicted of the new Michigan crime called spousal rape.

Linda was not a battered wife; she testified at the trial that he had never beaten her in their 16 years of marriage. Hetherington was honorably discharged from the U.S. Air Force, received a National Defense Service Medal, and had no police record of any sort.

The sentencing guideline for this new offense was 12 months to 10 years but, without showing cause, the judge sentenced him to 15 to 30 years (twice the time served by the average convicted rapist in Michigan). Twenty years later, despite an exemplary prison record, the parole board routinely refuses to parole him, giving as its sole reason "prisoner denies the offense."

Hetherington has, indeed, always maintained his innocence. It was a he-said-she-said case during a custody battle; he said it was consensual sex, she said it was rape. The judge used Michigan's new Rape Shield Law to prohibit cross-examination of Linda.

No physical evidence of rape was produced at the trial. A pelvic examination of Linda at the hospital three hours after the alleged offense showed no evi-

dence of injury or forced penetration. Apparently what persuaded the jury to convict was the testimony of two police officers that they had observed tape marks on Linda's face.

The court-designated psychologist who examined Hetherington, Dr. Harold S. Sommerschild, Ph.D., concluded: "This is not a man who would force himself sexually or hostilely on another individual, as this would be foreign to his personality dynamics. ... his histrionic personality ... would substantiate his explanation of what has occurred in regards to the relationship with his ex-wife."

The rape charge was prosecuted simultaneously with the custody case, and the divorce court had frozen all Hetherington's assets so he had no money to hire a lawyer or make bond. Nevertheless, the criminal court ruled that he was not indigent and refused to provide him with a lawyer.

For 12 years, the court refused to provide Hetherington with a transcript of the trial. Without funds, he was unable to buy one, so he was effectively denied his right of appeal, and no appeal has ever been heard on the substance of this case.

At the sentencing, prosecutor Robert Weiss called Hetherington's alleged offense equivalent to "first degree murder" and falsely accused him of beating Linda. Weiss was running for a judgeship, and observers sized up his prejudicial statements as grandstanding for support from the feminists.

Linda walked away with custody of their three daughters, the marital home, and all marital assets.

Ten years after Hetherington's conviction, a volunteer attorney, Jeff Feldman, using the Freedom of Information Act, obtained copies of five photographs taken of Linda by police at the alleged crime scene immediately after the alleged offense. The photographs were in a locker in a police garage, and the prosecution had never disclosed them to the defense.

The photographs were then examined by a forensic photographer in Miami, John Valor, using all modern techniques. Valor's four-page notarized report detailed his impressive expertise, including service as the lead forensic photographer in the trial of serial-killer Ted Bundy.

Valor's sworn statement dated January 8, 1998 stated that the pictures of Linda showed absolutely no scratches, tape marks or abnormalities of any kind, and that marks would have been clearly visible if there had been any. If a government witness gives false testimony, a convicted prisoner should be entitled to a new trial, but Hetherington didn't get it.

Years later, a completely unsolicited letter was sent to the parole board by Melissa Anne Suchy, who had been employed by Linda as a babysitter. Suchy's

letter is hearsay, but it has the ring of authenticity.

Suchy wrote that Linda told her she made up the story about rape because she was then pregnant with the baby of her boyfriend, and he pushed her to press rape charges, saying that she would have to "get rid of Hetherington or he wouldn't take care of the baby."

Over the years, several pro bono lawyers and concerned citizens have tried to secure a pardon or a parole for Hetherington, but Michigan appears determined to make him serve 30 years because he won't admit guilt and because the bureaucracy won't admit it made a mistake.

Almost everyone who reads the record of what happened to William Hetherington concludes that he was unjustly accused, unjustly convicted, unjustly sentenced, unjustly denied his due process and appeal rights, unjustly denied a new trial based on physical evidence of inaccurate testimony by government witnesses, and unjustly denied parole.

A good man's life has been sacrificed, and three children have been denied their father, by the malicious feminists who have lobbied for laws that punish spousal rape just like stranger rape and deny a man the right to cross-examine his accuser. They have created a judicial system where the woman must always be believed even though she has no evidence, and the man is always guilty.

## HISTORY OF SOCIAL SECURITY: <http://www.ssa.gov/history/chrono.html>

Franklin Roosevelt, a Democrat, introduced the Social Security (FICA) Program. He promised:

- 1.) That participation in the Program would be completely voluntary,

- 2.) That the participants would only have to pay 1% of the first \$1,400 of their annual incomes into the Program,

- 3.) That the money the participants elected to put into the Program would be deductible from their income for tax purposes each year,

- 4.) That the money the participants put into the independent "Trust Fund" rather than into the General

operating fund, and therefore, would only be used to fund the Social Security Retirement Program, and no other Government program, and,

- 5.) That the annuity payments to the retirees would never be taxed as income.

Since many of us have paid into FICA for years and are now receiving a Social Security check every month – and then finding that we are getting taxed on 85% of the money we paid to the Federal government to "put away", you may be interested in the following:

Q: Which Political Party took Social Security from the independent "Trust"

fund and put it into the General fund so that Congress could spend it?

A: It was Lyndon Johnson and the democratically controlled House and Senate.

Q: Which Political Party eliminated the income tax deduction for Social Security (FICA) withholding?

A: The Democratic Party.

Q: Which Political Party started taxing Social Security annuities?

A: The Democratic Party, with Al Gore casting the "tie-breaking" deciding vote as President of the Senate, while he was Vice President of the U.S.

AND MY FAVORITE:

Q: Which Political Party decided to start giving annuity payments to immigrants?

A: That's right! Jimmy Carter and the Democratic Party. Immigrants moved into this country, and at age 65, began to receive Social Security payments! The Democratic Party gave these payments to them, even though they never paid a dime into it! Then, after doing all this lying and thieving and violation of the original contract (FICA), the Democrats turn around and tell you that the Republicans want to take your Social Security away!

And the worst part about it is, uninformed citizens believe it!

## First-grader suspended for sexual harassment [Associated Press | February 8, 2006](#)

BROCKTON, Mass. — A 6-year-old boy is getting a lesson on the meaning of sexual harassment long before he'll be able to spell it.

The first-grader was suspended for three days for sexual harassment after he put two fingers inside a classmate's waistband, school officials told his mother, Berthena Dorinvil. The boy told her he only touched the girl's shirt after the girl touched him.

Experts say only in rare, troubling cases can children that young truly sexually harass one another.

"The connotation is you're getting some kind of sexual gratification,

or wanting sexual gratification, or are putting pressure on for some kind of sexual gratification, when a 6-year-old doesn't have that capacity," said E. Christopher Murray, a civil rights attorney who has handled school discipline cases.

Dr. Elizabeth Berger, a Philadelphia-area child psychiatrist, said this case seems to be an overzealous attempt to ensure students feel safe in school after years in which society was not attentive enough.

The boy's mother called the Jan. 30 suspension from Downey Elementary School outrageous. She said she can't even explain to her son what he did wrong because

he's too young to understand.

"He doesn't know those things," she told The Enterprise of Brockton. "He's only 6 years old."

Brockton school officials have not commented beyond a statement from Superintendent Basan Nem-birkow that said sexual harassment charges are always investigated and officials are trained to deal with them.

The Brockton School Committee defines sexual harassment among students, in part, as "uninvited physical contact such as touching, hugging, patting or pinching."

First-graders who repeatedly touch classmates need to be disciplined

and taught what's appropriate, said Nan Stein, a senior research scientist at the Center for Research on Women at Wellesley College. But don't call the apparent discipline problem "sexual harassment" because first-graders just don't get it, she said.

There have been similar cases. In 1996, a New York second-grader was suspended for kissing a girl and ripping a button off her skirt — an idea the boy said he got from his favorite book "Corduroy," about a bear with a missing button. Earlier that year, a Lexington, N.C., 6-year-old was separated from his class after kissing a classmate on the cheek.

## Group discusses local land issues in townhall meeting [By KURT HAUGLIE, Gazette Writer](#)

HANCOCK - Some residents of the Keweenaw area think its natural beauty needs to be protected with some sort of regulations while some residents think too many regulations would just prevent them from doing as they wish with their property.

In an effort to discuss and find a way to reconcile those seemingly opposing points of view, about 30 people, mostly from Houghton County, got together at the Finnish American Heritage Center on the campus of Finlandia University Thursday for another in a series of townhall gatherings sponsored by the Copper Country Citizens for Progressive Change (CPC).

CPC member Carolyn Peterson began the discussions by stating the purpose of the event.

"We have enough development in our area to know development is sure to happen," Peterson said. "The question is how much do we want to happen?"

Peterson said there are often powerful special interests who set development policy and who may be difficult to challenge.



"Money speaks with a very loud voice," she said. "The land speaks, too, only not as loudly."

Peterson finished her introduction by stating what CPC hoped would happen with the discussions.

"I have the faith that when we listen to each other we find we have so much in common," she said.

Moderating the proceedings was Michael Schira, director of the Michigan State Univer-

sity extension office for Houghton and Keweenaw counties in Hancock.

Schira said it can be complicated for community members to decide on the best land use policies for their area because of the possibly divergent opinions of what is best use.

"Planning and zoning are connected but they're separate things," Schira said. "It can be a sensitive issue."

The topic for discussion was prompted by the recent release of the Houghton County Planning Commission's land use plan, and commission Chairman Guy St. Germain was present at the townhall meeting to answer any questions about the process for establishing a land use policy.—End

*Editorette Comments: They are now bringing private property owners into the fold. This is based on a 1994 public opinion questionnaire, but at the time the eco-freaks neglected to advise the people what a UN Biosphere in their*

*area would mean to them in the end. It is social engineering!*

*This is all about visionary planning through building of consensus opinion of "stakeholder" groups so as to prevent urban sprawl by the acceptance of a commie program titled "smart growth". These buzz words are merely an alarm sounded to community minded liberals and their hero worshippers and a possible alternative to alleviate that alarm when the liberals talk about it to their various "stakeholder" groups. It's bull excrement of magnificent proportions spewed forth by the water melon people, but no one who realizes that this is not how we are to be governed will expose it for what it is, which is not of, for and BY the people, and NOT just stakeholder groups and phony community leaders. Again, no ballot initiative, a lack of full disclosure, and an ulterior motive dressed up in purported respectability. ~ CJ*

<http://www.houghtoncounty.net/>

## Houghton County Land Use Planning & Development Report By C. J. Williams

The Houghton County Planning Commission has begun its second round of public meetings regarding their proposed countywide land use/development plan. The southern Houghton Co. meeting held at Alston's Laird Township Hall on February 23rd was, no doubt, an enlightening experience for meeting goers, but may have been even more so for the attending quartet of Planning Commissioners.

The four were soon unable to answer a simple question posed by yours truly: "How can you possibly make a land use plan when industrial land use hasn't been allowed for the Canadian mining corporation that has already formed a venture partnership to extract uranium and other valuable resources in Houghton County?"

Claiming ignorance of the considerable Canadian mining interest in the Western U.P., particularly uranium and other goodies already found east of the Keweenaw Fault in the Jacobsville Basin, was Planning Commission Chairman and Director of the Western Upper Peninsula Health Department, Guy St. Germain, who was chided for removing the tap water/uranium/fluoride alert from the health department's website main page when On Target recently called attention to it.

Accompanying St. Germain were former Isle Royale National Park and Keweenaw National Historical Park Superintendent, Bill Fink; Houghton Co. Commissioner and former Habitat for Humanity Construction Coordinator, Paul Luoma; and General Motors' retiree, Don Van Uum.

Only seven citizens attended, but this was likely due to assumptive advertising by the planning commission, not citizen apathy. Certainly it had much to do with the fact that the southern Houghton County social gathering place isn't the infrequently visited town hall where a meeting notice was posted. Instead, news spreads like wildfire from the Alston Village Bar mahogany whose owner knew nothing about the meeting until less than three hours prior to the 6:30 starting time; and only then because someone happened to read about it in the L'Anse Sentinel and thought to call the proprietor.

Perhaps the north end land use planning gentry aren't in tune with the "countrified" ways of southern county residents whose land use future is also at stake, but someone could have called at least one of the township's shakers and movers to help spread the word so more would turn out than did for the first meeting rounds three years ago.

The pitiful handful of meeting goers were told that without a formally adopted countywide land use plan there could be no township zoning, and also that the adoption of a plan would be at the discretion of the Houghton County Board of Commissioners after any necessary revisions are made following this last round of meetings.

While I could go into detail of what can be found in the glossy covered 52-page plan book, which

attendees were permitted to keep, the allowed land use is based on a 1994 "visioning" workshop at which an undisclosed number of county residents shared thoughts, ideas, and feelings about land use.

If the year 1994 seems familiar, it was then that Comrade Clinton signed the UN Agenda 21/Sustainable Development/Kyoto Treaty, and also the year that the Isle Royale UN Biosphere, which had lain dormant since its 1981 designation, kicked into high gear with bio-reserve building by the Nature Conservancy, et al, in unison with Gaia worshipping stakeholder group members working industrially to eliminate all ecosystem stress caused by human beings.

The "visioning" workshop was followed with a 1997 countywide "Shaping Our Future" land use survey conducted by the M.T.U. Regional Groundwater Education in Michigan (GEM) Center. The M.T.U. center was established in 1991, as a result of a 1988 GEM Program created by the Kellogg Foundation, in association with the M.S.U. Institute of Water Research.

Of the approximate 35,500 Houghton Co. residents in 1997, only 2,000 completed the GEM Center survey used to gauge attitudes toward county land use and development. Of course, few Yoopers completing it would have known anything about UN Biospheres, bio-reserve building, or that eco-environmentalists consider man and his traditional land use as the greatest threat to the environment. They would have known nothing of the true cost of allowing themselves to become social engineered Sheeple covered with eco-green wool through a well-orchestrated and long-term "visioning" process.

During the Alston meeting, an attempt was made by one "planner" to confuse the UN Isle Royale Biosphere issue with World Heritage sites. However, all were informed that boundary-less UN-US Biospheres have been designated in defiance of the wishes of Congress and without knowledge of local citizens; that legislators not only refused to ratify the UN Sustainable Development treaty signed by a less than honorable president, but also refused to allocate any federal money for bio-reserve building programs or projects, which the Great Lakes Basin Restoration and Nature Conservancy Forest Project certainly appear to be. Although the planners were advised that UN-US Biospheres can and should be delisted, it's highly unlikely any will carry that ball since it would put them out of the land use planning business of meeting the UN's Agenda 21 millennium goals.

According to the land use plan book, those attending the first south end meeting three years ago were primarily concerned about access and trails, and the common thread then was that although recognizable change was occurring whether they liked it or not, "folks like it the way it is", at least on the south end of the county. This wasn't voiced to plan presenters this time

around, but a few who talked with one another after the meeting felt that while Houghton and Hancock might have problems keeping their sprawl under control, this certainly wasn't a problem in Nissula or Alston, and things could be handled well by Laird Township officials by means other than a dictatorial county-wide land use plan.

"Quality of life", a buzz-phrase oft spewed forth when sustainable development is being championed, was briefly discussed after Mr. St. Germain suggested that the land-use plan would enhance it. However, he was advised that not everyone has the same concept of what constitutes quality of life during their time on Earth, and that a "one size fits all" concept would only work if people were willing to forego individuality. For instance, while he might enjoy fine dining in a zoned commercial area, others might find quality of life in eating a bologna sandwich in a motorboat while fishing on an inland lake.

Also discussed was the fact that forcing people into one mold by futuristically envisioned land use mandates can lead to more consensus building, which could easily turn into a form of governance akin to Fascism and dictatorial control of all aspects of people's lives; that one of the most important things to protect is our freedom to choose, within reason, what we feel or know is best for us individually, as well as part of a group.

Of concern, too, was the matter of funding a township zoning board and all the necessary brouhaha that would come with it. Seeking to minimize the onus, one planner suggested that a future township zoning board might want to meet to conduct business only once a year. That being the case, one might wonder if the planning commission's primary concern is with shoving a land use plan through with no consideration as to how individual townships and taxpayers might have to deal with it financially and otherwise.

Regarding Naterra Land Development, Inc, which now owns extensive acreage at the Prickett Dam Flowage, the planners claimed ignorance of Naterra's advertised Keweenaw Hideaway residential land lots east of Lake Linden at Mud Lake, with one saying that Naterra's Prickett Dam development was only conceptual in nature.

Another said he'd heard that Naterra wouldn't be developing a road to the property directly from the M-38/Prickett Dam Road intersection, but through the Baraga Plains instead. Obviously, he's never visited the Sturgeon River Gorge Wilderness area or he'd know how ridiculous this sounded. And all feigned ignorance of eco-land developer, Secluded Lands, and its Rice Lake Condominium Project, although the Houghton County Board of Commissioners reviewed the plan last August.

Please allow me to highly recommend that south end Houghton County residents and others interested in land use planning hike to the March 16th land use meeting at the Chassell Township Hall and voice their two-cents worth to the gaggle of land use and development envisioners. ~ CJ

<http://www.houghtoncounty.net/2006LandUse.shtml> - <http://emml.mtu.edu/gem/About/about.html>

<http://www.nwi.org/Maps/Heritage.html> - <http://www.houghtoncounty.net/minutes/Minutes-08-09-2005.html>

<http://www.coppercountry.com/LairdTownship.php> - <http://www.secludedlandcompany.com/about.html>

## George W. Bush – President or Theocrat? By: Keith Allison, D.Dn.

Under constitutional law, our three branches of government, legislative, judicial and executive, are, in theory, equally empowered. However, the reign of George W. Bush appears to be that of a man struggling with a Napoleon complex that he believes gives him divine authority to rule as he sees fit.

In his recent State of The Union speech, good ole-boy G.W. arrogantly slipped in a sentence about the need for more power being assigned to a centralized government. There are any number of problems associated with such a statement – not the least of which is its unconstitutional premise. But then again, how often has dubya worried about misinterpreting or denying the validity of the constitutional limitation of federal authority over individual state governments? And, isn't it Bush and his cabal of inbred cronies such as Rice,

Cheney and Rumsfeld, each of whom believes the president and his stooges possess the divine right to snoop into the private lives of American citizens; purportedly in the name of "national defense?" Frankly, I believe good-ole Georgie has worn a hole in his national defense excuse for abusing and usurping governmental authority/power.

Ladies and gentlemen, George W. Bush has obviously prostituted his constitutional war making authority under the guise of the War Powers Resolution. Under the Constitution, which is the law of the land, war making authority was given to the legislative branch of government, not the executive branch. In using his perceived authority ensconce within the War Powers Resolution, George W. Bush has dragged this nation into the "war against terrorism;" a war he and his advisors/controllers apparently have no intention of ending.

Since the War Powers Resolution obviously supersedes the authority of the Constitution, it is, in fact, an unconstitutional federal statute (as are many others). Taking literary liberty with the exact words of the late Supreme Court Justice Thurgood Marshall, an unconstitutional statute does need not be obeyed or overturned by legislative action, all one need do is ignore it because of its inherent unconstitutionality.

So, what is the purpose behind our omnipotent leader's endless quest for power and the usurpation of government authority? Is he intent on bringing a socialistic "democracy" to all nations on planet earth? Does he truly see world-wide socialism as a tool that will somehow guarantee peace and prosperity for our American Republic? Is he attempting to bring the United Nations socialist system of One World Government with himself as its leader?

For decades, the courts and the legislature have cowered in sublime submission to presidential and bureaucratic (the bureaucracy is part of the executive branch of government) usurpation of constitutional authority and power. Historically, each has failed miserably to reign in the egotistical, power hungry enslavers of American citizens. Have they not read any history books concerning those who stood by idly while the likes of Stalin, Hitler and Mussolini turned legislative and judicial bodies into little more than their personal servants, and the citizens into chattel? How much longer will they ineffectively stand by before G.W.B. uses his usurped presidential authority to issue another of his infamous Presidential Orders, this one naming him "President for Life?"

*Editor's Note: Better he than Clinton, Gore, Kerry or Clinton.*

## Informing parents of the risks By Unknown Bay News Correspondent



A Florida lawmaker is releasing a new report that links an increase in suicides to psychiatric drugs.

Although the Federal Drug Administration has black box warnings on the medications that advise parents about the risks, state Representative Gus Barreiro said those labels are not enough. He wants new

legislation involving the school system, the parents and accountability for the consequences.

Barreiro said a new study proves that dependence has proved dangerous and at times deadly for Florida teenagers. His report links 97 suicides to psychiatric medication, which is 38 percent of the total youth suicides over a five-year period.

"The best thing that we can do for parents is to inform them and give them the information before they choose to put their kids on Ritalin and Adderall and other psychotropic medication," Barreiro said. "By informing them that if you do choose to do

that, studies are showing that a large amount of children are committing suicides, that these drugs could lead to suicidal tendencies."

Barreiro filed a bill this week that he said will guarantee parents are fully informed of all the risks from the school system. If passed, parents would be required to sign a five-page consent form that warns there are dangerous side effects and potential suicidal behavior.

Health Team 9 psychologist [Dr. Steve O'Brien](#) agreed parents need to know all of the risks, but he cautions against alarming them. He said the children are already at risk for serious prob-

lems without the medication.

"The very thing that we don't want to have happen, children suiciding, can actually become an increased risk if they don't get the medication they need," O'Brien said. "Anti-depressants exist for a reason."

O'Brien advised against psychiatric drugs as the only option for children. He said parents must monitor their child's medication and include counseling with their treatment.

Barreiro is holding a press conference at the state Capitol this afternoon. Senator Victor Crist is also expected to introduce similar legislation in the Senate.

<http://www.baynews9.com/content/36/2006/2/23/145394.html>

[http://www.sptimes.com/2005/04/20/State/Panel\\_waters\\_down\\_lim.shtml](http://www.sptimes.com/2005/04/20/State/Panel_waters_down_lim.shtml) (2005)

<http://home.tampabay.r.com/sp/FLA.html>: May 2005: Florida State Representative [Gus Barreiro](#) of Miami has been working to insert Scientology beliefs into Florida's law and to fund Scientology programs in prisons.

## NRA Sues Mayor Ray Nagin



Fairfax, VA - The National Rifle Association (NRA) has filed a motion for

contempt against the City of New Orleans, the mayor and the acting chief of police for failure to comply with a temporary restraining order, handed down September 12, 2005, ordering an end to all illegal

gun confiscations.

"With looters, rapists and other thugs running rampant in New Orleans, Ray Nagin issued an order to disarm all law-abiding citizens," declared Wayne LaPierre, NRA executive vice president. "With no law enforcement and 911 available, he left the victims vulnerable by stripping away their only means of defending themselves and their loved ones. Now Ray Nagin thinks he's above the law, and

that's just wrong."

Attorneys for NRA have exhausted all efforts to cooperate with the defendants, Mayor Nagin and Chief Riley, who repeatedly ignored the court's permanent restraining order against their illegal gun confiscations.

"Ray Nagin is a colossal disap-

pointment," said Chris W. Cox, NRA chief lobbyist. "During a federally declared emergency, he abused his power and abandoned the very people he was sworn to protect. He took away the victims' freedom and their basic means of self-defense during an ill-fated and perilous time."

The motion also includes an order that all seized firearms must be returned to their rightful owners.

## Catholic Democrats in Congress Release Abortion Statement, Pro-Lifers Upset by Steven Ertelt

Washington, DC (LifeNews.com) – A group of Catholic Democrats in Congress have released a "Statement of Principles" claiming to respect the sanctity of human life even though they support abortion. The move appears to be an attempt to respond to the nation's Catholic bishops, who have called on churches and colleges not to give a platform to pro-abortion politicians.

The 55 signatories say they "acknowledge and accept the tension that comes with being in disagreement with the Church in some areas."

They declare they are "proud to be part of the living Catholic tradition – a tradition that promotes the common good, expresses a consistent moral framework for life."

However, the lawmakers call abortion a "religious issue" and claim supporting legislation banning or even limiting abortions would be a

violation of the religious freedom of those who back it.

"As legislators, we are charged with preserving the Constitution, which guarantees religious freedom for all Americans," the explained. "In doing so, we guarantee our right to live our own lives as Catholics, but also foster an America with a rich diversity of faiths."

Despite their hesitation to do anything to stop or reduce abortions, they claim to "not celebrate its practice" and talk about it being an undesirable practice.

Father Frank Pavone of Priests for Life said the legislators had "made a big mistake" and introduced "a bundle of contradictions" into the public debate.

"This statement tries to soften the contradiction between creating a just society and tolerating legal abortion," he contended.

"The voting records of these legislators are available to anyone who wants to look them up. To fail to protect the unborn, and then to say that you are 'committed to . . . protecting the most vulnerable among us' is a blatant contradiction," Pavone explained.

The lawmakers also claimed to support programs such as family planning that they claim reduce the incidence of abortion and say that abortion is one of many equally important issues to the Catholic Church such as the death penalty, ending poverty and stopping wars.

That's despite Catholic teachings saying the exact opposite.

Pavone explained that Pope John Paul II's document *Christifideles Laici* says, "Above all, the common outcry, which is justly made on behalf of human rights – for example, the right to health, to home, to work, to family, to culture – is false and illusory if the

right to life, the most basic and fundamental right and the condition for all other personal rights, is not defended with maximum determination."

Rev. Thomas J. Euteneuer, president of Human Life International, joined Pavone in responding to the document.

"The House Democrat so-called 'Statement of Principles' is nothing more than Washington-speak for: 'We support abortion on demand and we do not care what the Church teaches,'" he said.

Euteneuer said the statement "made it clear that they have chosen loyalty to their party's platform supporting abortion on demand over their church's teachings on the sanctity of life and the dignity of the unborn child."

<http://www.lifeneews.com/>

## Tucked Away on Page 8—GWB Moderates? By J. Powers

Notwithstanding the article by Dr. Allison on page 7 which is by all means critical of President Bush and has an undertone that seems to declare more of a clear disappointment that "W" isn't the man we thought him to be, President Bush's supporters have to be wondering what is really going on within the White House. W is pro-life, except in the cases of rape and incest or the life of the mother. Ok, fine.

President Bush was at the helm when we were hit by Arabs on September 11, 2001 and finally a president of ours was willing to do more than just superficially talk about the problem. Then, evidently to his surprise, the UAE was in the process of buying the operational rights of several US ports from a British company. Then, congress being the fuddy-duddies they are, want to have an investigation.

Then congress wants to pass legislation, decades after foreign interests were buying up all kinds of at-risk operations, which W threatened he would veto. Ok, we all probably understand that the President isn't, nor should he be, involved in micromanaging business deals or involved in the daily aspects entrusted to well paid and trained security and legal personnel. But why threaten to veto an unknown?

It appears as if President Bush has moderated lately, leaving his conservative, intellectual evaluation and critical thinking skills at the bedroom door every morning. He has effectively become the idiot that the Democrats said he was; George may have become a liberal. Not to beat a dead horse, but President Carter gave the Panama Canal to the communist way back when and just now Congress is becoming aware of a problem?



## 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 Catholic Priests 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, Ten Commandments and the Constitution close to our hearts and within our souls. ~ J. Powers, Editor

### RECOMMENDED and REFERENCED LINKS

#### A Must Read:

<http://iresist.com/cbg/strong.html>

(Read Nancy Lavant)

<http://www.newswithviews.com/>

(Dangerous Professors)

<http://dangerousprofessors.net/>

[http://www.hkconserve.com/news/newsletters/2001/CO\\_081501.pdf](http://www.hkconserve.com/news/newsletters/2001/CO_081501.pdf)

<http://www.lta.org/>

[http://www.lta.org/sp/prog\\_des/index.html](http://www.lta.org/sp/prog_des/index.html)

[http://www.lta.org/publicpolicy/adv\\_010606.htm](http://www.lta.org/publicpolicy/adv_010606.htm)

<http://multimedia.rockymountainnews.com/slideshow/slideshow.cfm?type=DEFAULT&ID=012006lundstrom&NUM=1>

<http://www.newswithviews.com/Levant/nancy29.htm>

<http://www.soros.org/>

[http://www.citymayors.com/mayors/new\\_orleans\\_mayor.html](http://www.citymayors.com/mayors/new_orleans_mayor.html)

Contact us:

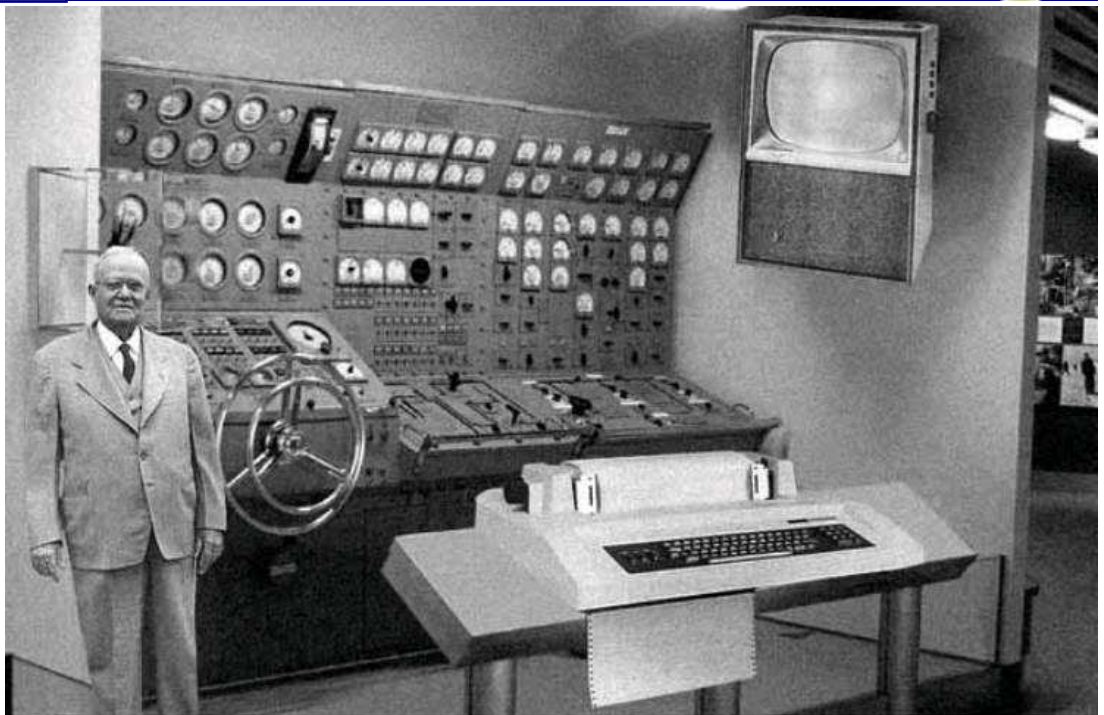
[yoopscoop@yahoo.com](mailto:yoopscoop@yahoo.com)

## COMPUTER

PHOTO: "Scientists from RAND Corporation have created this model to illustrate how a "home Computer" could look like in the year 2004. However the technology will not be economically feasible for the average home. Also the scientists readily admit that the computer will require not yet invented technology to actually work, but 50 years from now scientific progress is expected to solve these problems. With teletype interface and the Fortran language, the computer will be easy to use."

There are probably many of us that would love to go back to our early childhood days, after we've been weaned of course, with the knowledge, ideas and experiences that we have learned in our lives.

Those who were in the military before the 1980s or who worked in some type of data processing center, probably remember computers taking up an entire building or a floor the size of a grocery store. All those computer combined didn't have a fraction of the memory that we now find in a modern lap top computer.



*Scientists from the RAND Corporation have created this model to illustrate how a "home computer" could look like in the year 2004. However the needed technology will not be economically feasible for the average home. Also the scientists readily admit that the computer will require not yet invented technology to actually work, but 50 years from now scientific progress is expected to solve these problems. With teletype interface and the Fortran language, the computer will be easy to use.*

During the last fifty years it has been an incredible journey with all the new technology that has emerged from the best and brightest people that God has put on earth at this particular time in our history. He certainly does work in mysterious ways.

The young have no memory of their dad turning the antenna as the family shouted "better" or "worse" from the living room. They hear horror stories of people actually going up to the TV to change between the two or three channels available back then.

Most of us probably still cherish our superb record collection, even though finding a needle may be the proverbial hay stack saga. But, with technology we lost the crisp sounds from the LPs and too many of us belly up the computer for a days worth of work, emails and neglect.