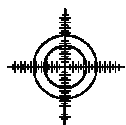


June 2007



YOOPER SCOOPER

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Global Climate Crisis **By J. C. Powers**

It won't take too much more time for the environmental fascists to realize that the earth is constantly cycling through different phases. Once the frenzy settles down on their latest embellishment, global warming, they should come



to the realization they need to have a mantra that doesn't lock them into one type of specific anomaly. May I suggest using the all-encompassing term "Global Climate Crisis"?

Since we're still setting a few record low temperatures and not constantly hitting record high temperatures, it would make sense for them to modify their scheme to be a little more generic.

Most Americans over the age of 40 should

be able to remember the failed push by the blossoming eco-whacks to sign onto their global cooling scare and then onto their multi-trillion dollar requirements to stop acid rain and then their scam just before their latest global warming crisis, which was their need to spend trillions of our dollars to save the ozone layer.

We know the intentions of the whacks are good and we appreciate the fact that if they couldn't come up with new ideas like global warming, invasive species, endangered species, etc., etc., good people like the chick on the Weather Channel would be out of work.

Show Them Your Support

Gaia, a large-breasted Greek goddess representing the earth, is perhaps the only god of liberals; but at least they believe in something bigger than themselves. As a society, we need to reach out to the environmentalist and help each and every one of them. So, what can you do to help?

We can all do little things like help them fold their tinfoil hats. We can also show them our support by perhaps avoiding taking a shower for a week or pulling invasive species like Kentucky Bluegrass or flowers from our yards. Women can stop shaving their pits and legs and men can eat more soy to help feed their effeminate side and wear spandex to crush the boys and keep us in-tune with mother earth. Please. Do your part.

http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Global_warming—<http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Earth>—http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Gaia_%28mythology%29

Returning America from the 1960s

Obama's "quiet riot" and hopelessness that prevails in minority neighborhoods is an indicator that Obama may be an unfiltered and dangerously radical socialist. Words that suggest minorities can't succeed because of some hidden agendas, lack of opportunity and an outrageous failure by government officials to help people out of their state of victimization is not exactly a progressive and positive message. The fact that lower and middle class people all struggle with the same problems as minorities and can't seem to get ahead is an economic reality; not a problem that can be resolved with rhetoric.

It certainly appears as if oppression is the agenda of the socialist Democrats and men like Obama, Jesse Jackson and Al Sharpton are prime architects of continuing high levels of minority oppressions.

Revisionists, like Obama, suggest that while white America prospers, minority America is still looming in the shadows waiting for an opportunity and the only way they can obtain an opportunity is if the government provides it. [Actually, among many minority Americans they did get a leg-up in society with the help of their government; it's called military enlistment.]

Resolving the problems among the lower or even the middle class cannot be solved by narrowing the distance between the poor and the wealthy. What is required is an educational system that assumes the role of teaching responsibility. Good citizenship is only one factor. Simple economics on balancing checkbooks, avoiding credit card debt and calculating the affordability factors should be a required high school course.

Loading the bottom-end with inferior citizens by legalizing illegal immigrants will not help foster equality and economic growth within the nation. Suggesting to the constituency that they are victims is not helpful either. What would be very helpful is a dramatic increase in expectations for all economic classes.

First, get rid of alternative schools. Kids don't benefit by knowing that if they don't like the experience of a valuable education they can quit and go another route. Second, get rid of the inclinations to pass students up the ladder even though they haven't met the basic requirements to do so. Third, bring back authority within the schools to discipline, including corporal punishment. Fourth, build new schools with four floors; senior classes on top.

<http://www.mlkonline.net/video.html>—http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Martin_Luther_King

Preparing America

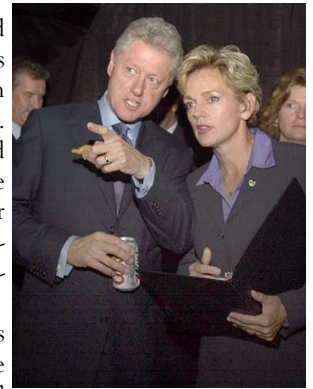
"The emasculation of society by the smothering effects of modern uniformity has precipitated a severely over-managed, sadly under-led, and passionately un-principled culture from top to bottom. The great cry for the renewal of our civilization is for men to arise and be men." —Tristan Gylberd

Let's consider for a moment that Hillary Clinton (formerly Hillary Rodham-Clinton) convinces Barack Hussein Obama to be her Veep since he's young enough to run for Prez in 2016. It should be easy since Obama seems intelligent enough not to cross the Clintons and go the way of Vince Foster, JPK, Jr., Curt Weldon, Imus, etc., etc. What the voters need to ask themselves is not if America is ready for a female president, but more specifically, are we as Americans ready for a liberal female president?



What is most disturbing is that, like the reelection of Bill Clinton in 1996, Governor Granholm was re-elected as the governor again in 2006. Despite her history of dishonesty, citizens bought

household income less than \$30,000. They would also have \$5.00 per plate fund-raising dinners.



Clinton's average "individual"

contribution in New York State is around \$1,600 and in California around \$1,500. A real advocate for the American people would have an average of \$50 per person. The obvious conclusion is that the elitists buy elections, and candidates like Granholm have to imply their opponent is somehow more of an elitist than they are when it comes down to understanding the common man or woman.

An excellent example is the 2002 election right here in Michigan. Many women in the State wanted a female governor; it was time for a woman to shine. Unfortunately, the GOP did not provide a conservative female for a primary against the lieutenant governor, so the only choice was a Canadian-born social communist candidate offered up by the Dems.

into Granholm's mantra that she had a plan to save Michigan and would "Wow" us.

The Clinton "Listening Tour" has now turned into the "Conversation Tour" to get more female support; women prefer to have a "conversation". Will the little conversations reveal how Clinton managed to receive more than 900 FBI files or how the Clintons were able to compel the IRS to audit the women accusing Willy of rape, Little Willy-wagging, and groping? Certainly not!

Make no mistake about it; liberal women are not pursuing political careers because they actually give a damn about the little people. While most people work to pay their bills, Mr. and Mrs. Clinton spent years sucking off the public nipple, unlike Ms. Granholm who evidently married into money.

In American politics it's the job of the political parties to groom and promote candidates, but unfortunately the chosen ones are indebted to the party, especially the party elitists. They effectively buy our vote like midway carneys draw in suckers.

If any Democrat was serious about taking the side of "Joe Six Pack", they would completely eliminate taxes on two people with a

MEDIA OBSESSIONS

FOX and Friends, Rush Limbaugh, Matt Drudge and Glenn Beck, along with too many other media types, seem obsessed with Paris Hilton, the Sopranos, 24, American Idol, and other Hollywood crap. The media is covering these things with more vim and vigor than Codex, Duke players and Scooter Libby atrocities. Why is the media obsessing over all these superfluous non-essentials?



Our incompetent people in Congress are trying to get through some type of fairness doctrine that will regulate the media, particularly talk shows. The fact that the media is obsessing with a bunch of superfluous garbage may be an unconscious act toward some kind of self-

fulfilling prophecy. Congress' evident desire of committing political suicide and becoming an irrelevant component of our government may be a residual.

Perhaps east coast and west coast liberals need distractions from the ailments that have permeated the country, like illegal immigration, pharmaceutical commercials, the threat of some type of national health care, the amero, the superhighway, Agenda 21, the bashing of our military and president by our dysfunctional Congress, astronomically expensive gasoline and the goofball promotion of global warming. All of these problems were brought to us by liberals.

What it really boils down to is that those in the media are lazy. They want elected officials and the government to provide them with easy to read and understand news. Most are probably overloaded with all that is going on around them and elect to avoid the issues.

The freedom of the press is as guaranteed as the protection from confiscation of land for public use and the right of an unborn baby to due process before being deprived of life, and there will be one clear result if the media continues to pursue the lazy route and in many instances insert both fictionalized information and personal commentary; they will be subject to regulation.

Journalists, a separate breed from those who host talk shows, are as inept as school teachers; the generalized statement doesn't really include all journalists and teachers, but when there appears to be a devolving of standards the perception becomes the reality.

Those who cover the stories, even the superficial Paris Hilton stories, don't know the difference between a jail and a prison and probation and parole. It gets even more complicated when comes down to the law.

HAS INSPECTOR CLOUSEAU MOVED TO LANSING? By: Jon Galt*“Man is the only animal that laughs and has a state legislature.”... Samuel Butler*

Have you seen the latest insanity that a couple of our vagrant legislators have come up with? Since when has locoweed become the main ingredient in legislator's free lunches?

One legislator, after obviously sucking in too much helium from a leaky balloon and being conked on the head by a wayward golf ball, managed to reach into her own personal cesspool of absurdity and flip out a proposal to turn the bottoms of the great Lakes into a giant money sucking State Park. Then, like a lap dog licking its master's face, her bright eyed legislative cohort suggested that a \$15.00 voluntary (Huh?) fee be established for some type of drivel called a “Great Lakes State Park Pass”. Talk about dim light bulbs. These two birds couldn't accumulate a ten watt bulb of common sense between them.

Now it's rumored that the bright eyed cohort is working on a plan to have all pet goldfish be licensed by the state, decree that all indoor plumbing come under the jurisdiction of the DNR maritime division, and in a final attempt to raise taxes, levy a carbon neutral tax on anyone who sneezes. I was tempted to call these two individuals the village nitwits, but I don't like to hand out compliments that freely.

Can you just imagine how many more DNR bodies will be flopping around the U.P. in their little frog flippers, giving underwater tickets for littering the lake with air bubbles and footprints? Will swimmers be carted off to some DNR gulag as they surface and be forced to sign waivers promising to never pass gas within a six mile radius of any wetland swamp?

When the mental midget factory in Lansing first broke news of this groundbreaking legislation, there was so much whooping and hollering in the halls of the Sierra Club and the Flat Earth Society that most people thought they were holding a wake for one of their revered spotted owls, which had met an untimely fate in a quarter cup of hot olive oil combined with a tablespoon of oregano and a dash of Worcestershire sauce. The owl looked absolutely succulent laid out peacefully on

a bed of wild rice.

Now that we are familiar with the type of swill, disguised as legislation, that the good old boys in Lansing keep shoving down our throats for their benefit, let's take a look at how they stock their administrative shelves.

When was the last time you heard that a Valedictorian chose state government as a career choice, unless of course he was an avid adherent of the standard bureaucratic principles: ‘The Law of Diminishing I.Q.’ and ‘The Law of Alternate Reality’? Immediately, upon his appointment to an administrative position, his I.Q. quotient would drop by at least forty points and the word ‘duh’ would become his adverb of choice when asked to express an opinion.

Years ago I heard of one daring young liberal arts major who ventured into the forbidden zone of bureaucracy and landed a plum job as head of pothole protection for the state. He won a rapid promotion when he discovered, after the spring rains, that there were seventeen new species of wildlife that lived in Michigan's potholes. One species resembled a wadded up piece of discarded gum and another, a really strange looking creature, resembled a bent hubcap.

The head pothole protector immediately put a cease and desist order on any pothole filling in the state and it is even rumored that the DNR is holding one county road engineer in captivity for allowing the use of gravel and tar to fill a vicious sinkhole, which had claimed a large bulldozer and two pickup trucks as victims. The man's family is so ashamed of his chosen occupation that they keep introducing him as a reformed purse snatcher. After all, they have a respected standing in the community and they want to keep it that way.

In the real world no one in their right mind who graduates in the top fifty percent of their class will, admittedly, lower themselves to work in Lansing or Washington D.C., so the employment pool is limited to the bottom fifty percent.

These first generation government supervisors, already being sub par and paranoid about hiring anyone more intelligent than they are, pick their replacements from the next lowest level, the bottom 40 percent. Over time, as the new hires become supervi-

sors in their own right, they continue to pick future employees from the lower echelons until they run out and have to cull new recruits from our jungle friends, at which point, the I.Q. level of state administrators will again start to rise. However, this presents another problem as the states' dress code does not allow fur bearing animals to occupy desks in Lansing, unless of course, they are elected to their position.

If you really think about it, the total budget of the State of Michigan is approximately forty two billion dollars this year. The running of this mammoth octopus is the equivalent of running a giant corporation with forty-two billion dollars in sales. The qualifications to become a legislator in Michigan are to reach a certain age, not much beyond puberty, and have lots of lobbyist friends who can get you elected; that's it!

It has gotten so bad that it's rumored that when you Google “Michigan Government”, the first forty items to show up are ‘raise taxes’ followed by ten donut recipes, and then a little bird appears that keeps repeating, cuckoo-cuckoo-cuckoo. And speaking of cuckoo, don't you get the feeling that anytime you watch the Michigan Legislature in action that you have walked into an open casting call for the movie “One Flew Over the Cuckoo's Nest”?

One of the major business newspapers in the world has referred to Michigan's economy as the “Mississippi of the Upper Midwest”, and uses our government as a classic case study on how not to run a state efficiently.

Great! Now the entire world knows how incompetent our government is, when before, it was a closely guarded secret that only Michiganders were ashamed of. This is like having your neighbors discover that your crazy Uncle Igor, who you have kept hidden in the attic for years, is now running loose on the street and threatening to run for congress.

Editor's note: Who is Jon (John) Galt? See links below:

Indoctrination; Rest Assured

Public schools are taking children on field trips to mosques and Planned Parenthood offices. They do it without the advance knowledge of parents, knowing full-well that most parents wouldn't condone such field trips.

The secrecy and last-minute notice by teachers speaks volumes on our public school systems. The two articles accessible below, are quite telling and should frighten parents and anyone who pays property taxes to support public education. The road to perdition begins at the schools' front doors.

It's bad enough that kids aren't allowed to be kids any longer; they can't hold hands or even give an innocent peck on the cheek, yet they are fed notions that wildlife have feelings and even a sleeping forest in the middle of winter can be stressed by the sounds of snowmobiles.

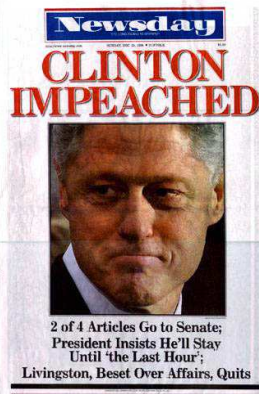
The public educators seem enthralled with keeping God out of schools and finding all sorts of anti-God places to visit like Planned Parenthood offices. Evidently, children need to be socially engineered into comfortableness with the high levels of hatred and disrespect that come out of such places.

The children certainly shouldn't be exposed to personal responsibility, discipline, and any level of critical thinking. What we can be sure of is that the teachers didn't explain that nearly 49 million babies were torn from the safety of their mother's womb since 1973 when the social dictates of *Roe v. Wade* took shape, nor told of the dramatic increase of suicides among women who had an abortion, nor shown videos about partial birth abortion, where the baby is turned in the womb, comes out with its feet kicking and then the skull is punctured so the brain can be sucked out. Oh what tangled webs we weave . . .

<http://www.unionleader.com/article.aspx?articleId=94811d25-7062-4b58-819d-a684c5a2898f&headline=All+eyes+on+Planned+Parenthood+field+trip->
<http://www.wkbw.com/news/local/7851712.html>—<http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Muhammad>—<http://www.nrlc.org/abortion/facts/abortionstats.html>

Stupak; A Michigan Icon or Michigan Moron?

People living in Marquette County were treated to a typical news day on WDMJ-AM and WIAN-AM radio. While the nation was abuzz with the 26 members of Congress, one of whom was Bart Stupak, who voted against any type of congressional investigation of Congressman William J. Jefferson, the AM radio station reported Bart Stupak had thought about running for Governor. The fluff piece even had an actuarial (sound byte) of Mr. Stupak's reminiscent contemplation.



There is one thing that all those living in the 1st District can be sure of; Stupak is consistently a Democrat first and our representative last.

During the Clinton impeachment Mr. Stupak voted no on all four articles of impeachment, yet he voted no on allowing an independent investigation regarding the allegations of Newt Gingrich's ethics charges and voted Yes to have the House reprimand Newt, (See voting record on

man.

Overlooking the fact that Stupak still blames President Bush for the jobs lost in Michigan, making us first in the nation for lost jobs (50th in growth if you prefer) since he took office in 2001, and if we ignore the fact that Stupak was in office since 1993, we could buy into his delusions. But what is really most harmful is that Mr. Stupak, along with his ignorant side-kick Mike Prusi, took aim at our troops and their mission in Iraq while we were in the middle of a war. Yet, during the Wag the Dog days of Bill Clinton, Mr. Stupak remained silent. While some may view him as a new icon, others know him to be the State moron.



We have our own reminiscing to do, one of which is our reflection of Mr. Stupak standing behind another William Jefferson who had been impeached by Congress. While the Democrats blasted Ken Starr during his entire legitimate investigation, they stood mute as the Bush-appointed special prosecutor Fitzgerald kept investigating a non-crime. Plame didn't qualify under the protection of a covert operative; she was no more than a desk-jockey. In fact, Fitzgerald kept up his investigation after he learned that Armitage was the one who leaked the info, trapping Libby after-the-fact and ruining his career.

Vote-Smart web site; Executive Branch). Obviously, Stupak remains an ally of the corrupt, unethical, and morally deviant, unless they're Republicans. But his loyalty goes well beyond the minor damage he can inflict as a Congress-

http://www.vote-smart.org/bio.php?can_id=26912

<u>Date</u>	<u>Bill Title</u>	<u>Vote</u>
12/19/1998	<u>Impeachment Resolution: Article One</u>	N
12/19/1998	<u>Impeachment Resolution: Article Two</u>	N
12/19/1998	<u>Impeachment Resolution: Article Three</u>	N
12/19/1998	<u>Impeachment Resolution: Article Four</u>	N
01/21/1997	<u>In the matter of Representative Newt Gingrich</u>	Y
06/27/1996	<u>Speaker Newt Gingrich Ethics Bill</u>	N

Today's Special: Stupak Waffles smothered in Hypocrite Sauce By C. J. Williams

"...I promised to make ethics a priority and am proud that on the first days of the 110th Congress I voted to install the toughest ethics package in the history of the U.S. House. It is time to clean the House so that the concerns of hard-working constituents come first." Bart Stupak, January 5, 2007

While oozing an aura of moral wholesomeness that should encompass zero tolerance for political misconduct, Bart Stupak recently joined a small handful of Democrats who opted not to specifically investigate and censure Rep. William Jefferson (D-LA) for grievous illegal wrong-doing and lack of ethics in upholding the public's trust.

This negative action from a former Michigan State Trooper who should, himself, exhibit zero-tolerance for any and all criminal and/or ethical wrong-doing should cause all sorts of bells and whistles to go off. But, as usual, complacency and the ho-hum attitude of liberal Yooper reporters employed by left-wing daily rags to provide smoke and mirror news accounts and equally liberal minded radio and television newscasters caused little to no adverse public attention to come Stupak's way.

Jefferson, who has been under federal investigation since March of 2005, has finally been charged with racketeering, solicitation of bribes, honest services wire fraud, money laundering, obstruction of justice, violating the foreign corrupt practices act, and conspiracy.

The 16-count, 94-page indictment revolves around an alleged bribery scheme for Jefferson and members of his family, as well as his alleged bribery of a Nigerian official. Among other things, he stands accused of accepting bribes for his help in steering telecommunications contracts to businesses in Nigeria.

The investigation culminated with an FBI videotape of the nine-term, 63 year-old congressman accepting a cash bribe of \$100,000 from Lori Mody, an investor and former technology executive who was wearing an FBI wire; \$90,000 of the marked bills bundled into \$10,000 increments were subsequently found wrapped in aluminum foil and stashed in his freezer when federal agents raided his home.

A great deal of key evidence against the congressman has been supplied by two of Jefferson's associates who've struck plea bargains with prosecutors in exchange for their cooperation. One is Brett Pfeffer, a former congressional aide who admitted to soliciting bribes on Jefferson's behalf and the other is Vernon Jackson, a telecommunications executive, who

pleaded guilty to paying Jefferson about \$1 million in exchange for the lawmaker's assistance in securing deals in various African nations.

Interestingly, in November of 2006 Nigerian officials indicated that the investigation of the American congressman resulted in the uncovering of a massive corruption scheme involving several members of the Nigerian government and the disappearance of millions of dollars allegedly diverted from that country's government accounts. (see last link)

Jefferson, who has gifted fellow Democrats with thousands of dollars in campaign contributions over the years and violated House rules by commandeering the National Guard to get to his home to retrieve personal items during the height of the Hurricane Katrina rescue, is trying to get rid of some of the evidence against him by claiming that a precedent-setting raid of his Capitol Hill office was unconstitutional because it trampled on congressional independence and violated the constitutionally established separation of powers between the executive, legislative and judicial branches of government. To date, that ruse isn't cutting it with the Court, nor should it cut it with taxpayers who are expected to foot the bill for congressional offices, not sanctuaries for unethical conduct and illegal activities.

Jefferson has pleaded "not guilty", but, if convicted on all charges, his misdeeds are so grave that he could be sentenced to 235 years in prison. Of course, as has happened in the past with some convicted congressmen, he might get a "presidential pardon" up the road a piece should a liberal Democrat or RINO with no regard for ethics park his or her duff in the oval office.

Until just recently, House Democrats had pretty much turned a blind eye to all the accusations of Jefferson's misconduct and the federal investigation of his illegal activities, with Nancy Pelosi going so far as trying to appoint William Jefferson to the House Homeland Security Committee, a committee entrusted with sensitive information that terrorists all over the world would give bags of riches and their first-born son for.

After the Jefferson scandal could no longer successfully be kept under media wrap, two House Resolutions to investigate the matter surfaced. HR-451, an innocuous piece of drivel which Stupak voted in favor of, "directs the Committee on Standards of

Official Conduct (House Ethics Committee) to respond to the indictment of, or the filing of charges of criminal conduct in a court of the United States or any State against, any Member of the House of Representatives by empanelling an investigative subcommittee to review the allegations not later than 30 days after the date the Member is indicted or the charges are filed." HR-451 was approved by a 387 to 10 vote, with 15 members voting as "present".

On the other hand, HR-452, which Stupak voted against, directs the House Ethics Committee to specifically investigate without further delay the alleged illegal conduct and violations of House rules by Representative William J. Jefferson and report its findings and recommendations to the House, including a recommendation regarding whether Rep. Jefferson should be expelled from the House. HR-452 was approved by a vote of 373 to 26, with 13 members voting as "present".

According to a news article by Marquette Mining Journal reporter, Kim Hoyum, who may have been prodded into action by some very irate Yoopers, Stupak's press secretary, Alex Haurek, said his boss "voted for HR 451, the more general of the two resolutions, but voted against the Jefferson resolution because it was unnecessary".

Haurek was quoted as saying that "the resolution Congressman Stupak voted for would apply to any member of Congress who is indicted, including Mr. Jefferson. After the House passed this tougher, more comprehensive resolution, it would not make sense for Congressman Stupak to then vote for a weaker, diluted resolution targeted at only one member, especially when that was already made moot by the first resolution."

Apparently, Bart Stupak, a former policeman who once wrote the names of many offenders on tickets he issued and who is rumored to be aspiring to become the next governor of the State of Michigan, believes that naming names, in this case William J. Jefferson, weakened and diluted HR 452, which would have specifically taken his political crony to task for what amounts to a 16-count indictment for criminal misconduct.

It would seem that in Bart Stupak's rule book, making ethics a priority and cleaning the House so that the concerns of hardworking constituents come first is fine and dandy as long as it's not a Democrat's ethics, illegal conduct, and/or violations of House rules that are under fire. ~CJ

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Subject Line: **YOOPER**

RECOMMENDED LINKS

Patriot Post

<http://patriotpost.us/>

Rockefeller Republicans

http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Rockefeller_Republicans

Following the Money (2008 Presidential Campaigns)

<http://projects.washingtonpost.com/2008-presidential-candidates/finance/2007/q1/>

<http://www.opensecrets.org/pres08/index.asp?cycle=2008>

<http://www.resourceshelf.com/2007/04/22/us-presidential-election-2008-campaign-finance-databases/>

America's Top Female—Phyllis Schlafly

http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Phyllis_Schlafly

Clinton Impeachment

<http://jurist.law.pitt.edu/impeach.htm>

<http://www.washingtonpost.com/wp-srv/politics/special/clinton/stories/president021399.htm>

Clinton Impeachment: Audio & Video Links

<http://www.washingtonpost.com/wp-srv/politics/special/clinton/audiovideo.htm>

<http://www.historyplace.com/specials/sounds-prez/>

Part-time Legislature Tops Polls

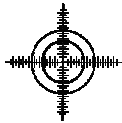
<http://www.detnews.com/apps/pbcs.dll/article?AID=/20070616/POLITICS/706160378/1022>

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, the Ten Commandments and the Constitution close to our hearts and within our souls.

~ J. C. Powers, Editor

editor@voopscoop.com



What's UP By J. C. Powers

The State of Michigan has moved into the honorary position of being 50th in unemployment, 51st if you include the District of Columbia <http://www.bls.gov/web/laumstrk.htm> and, as Michigan radio talk show host Michael Patrick "Panty Shields" Shields made the recent agreement between the legislators and the governor to increase taxes sound as if it were a good thing, we are baffled. Obviously, a super majority of U. P. residents are fond of their political leadership and very supportive of the notion by State Senator Mike Prusi that we need to move into a service-based economy, though many of us think it's better to get jobs that require skills and education.

Perhaps the Democrats are looking forward to the day when the government can provide health care and a retirement package to those who fold towels, wipe-off countertops, stock shelves and retrieve shopping carts, but until then we would be better served with an economy that is driven by invention, production, and manufacturing. Environmentalists and their Democrat supporters may hate mining, logging, paper mills and agriculture, but the industries have benefited us immensely so far.

The coin-toss as to whether we want to keep enabling the environmentalists will occur on November 4, 2008. In the meantime, people living in the Upper Peninsula need to consider that Michigan is the only state to have negative job growth since Granholm took office in 2003; -3.24%.

Governor Granholm used her office to broker a land deal with The Nature Conservancy to purchase and control 271,000 acres which expands through eight counties and joins 2.5 million acres with state, national and "natural areas". We also need to iterate here that less than 14% of the land in the UP is privately owned. But who really cares about those little details, eh?

The overall theme that needs to be deployed around the UP is; "Listen to the applause". We need to start paying attention to who is applauding who and ask the bigger question; why are they being applauded? It's baffling why anyone would offer adulations to an individual who is busily trying to figure out how to get more tax money out of business, industry and ultimately out of consumers and citizens.

Until a concern or an issue can be clearly articulated that substantiates a need for the government to become involved in any matter whatsoever, the government, especially the politicians, need to stay out of our business; both personally and professionally. Although some citizens of the UP can't function without the government giving them guidance, services, or money, others in the UP still have the genes that give dominance to independence.

The citizens of the UP need to stress to all those who are elected to stay the hell out of our business, keep off our property, leave our kids alone and mind their own business. The scope and authority of the government has gone unchecked. The fundamentals of our form of government is limited to the health, safety and welfare of the citizens; not taxing the citizens to ensure the longevity of an over-bearing government.

Finally, perhaps the 109th District State Representative Steven Lindberg has high-hops of getting rid of term limits since he bought a house in Lansing. Will he be able to afford the new home if the legislators go part-time? It's nice to see some optimism on job security.