

FAMILY BULLETIN ALERT

Faith, Freedom & Citizenship Class

January 8, 2006

Kempsville Presbyterian Church

The views expressed herein are the views of the Editor, Vernon Fix. FBA on the Web at <http://hrcc.exis.net>

"Merry Christmas" Made a Significant Comeback in 2005

After suffering years of politically correct exile, that joyous greeting 'Merry Christmas,' made a significant and salutary comeback in 2005. The U.S. House of Representatives, which in the 1990s had begun calling the Capitol Christmas tree a "Holiday Tree," finally went back to calling it the "Capitol Christmas Tree."

The trend for years among commercial giants such as Wal-Mart, Sears, Costco, Target, Best Buy, and Home Depot has been to abandon "Merry Christmas" signs and advertisements for secularized expressions that proclaim "Happy Holidays" or "Season's Greetings." A common excuse given for banishing public mention of Christmas from the marketplace is the fear of offending atheists, Muslims, Jews, Hindus, and other non-Christians. However, many of the same stores that have problems with reference to Christmas don't seem to have problems with displays and signs that say "Happy Kwanzaa" or "Happy Hanukkah."

During the 2005 Christmas season, however, the big retailers heard from many shoppers who are offended by their snub to this sacred Christian celebration. Organized efforts by the American Family Association, the Liberty Counsel, the Catholic League for Religious and Civil Rights, FOX TV's Bill O'Reilly, and others started a snowball effect that was felt by many of the "big box" stores. Lowe's, which operates 1,175 home furnishing and builder's supply stores nationwide, quickly changed its "holiday trees" signs to "Christmas trees" after hearing from disgruntled customers. "We wanted to call a Christmas tree what it is," Lowe's spokeswoman Chris Ahearn told reporters in explaining the store's reversal. Other retailers who got the Christmas message included Federated Department Stores - owner of Macy's and Bloomingdale's - Sears, Panera restaurants, and Dillard's department stores. From the New American.

Comment: Christians did good this year. We need to increase the pressure throughout the year, stand up for our faith. Ed.

Follow the (Anti-Alito) Money

The *Wall Street Journal* has done some solid research on how left-wing groups get their money. The National Education Association (NEA) is the nation's largest teachers union. NEA gives to the Human Rights Campaign, the largest gay advocacy group in the world. It also funds the National Women's Law Center, an anti-Alito feminist group. The NEA got \$295 million of last year's \$341 million annual income from member dues. Many teachers



are *required by law* to join the NEA and pay dues. The Journal reports that People for the American Way (PFAW) last year got \$51,000 from the NEA. PFAW has led opposition to conservative judicial nominees since Judge Robert Bork was named nearly twenty years ago. To this point, at least, Americans don't seem to be buying what the NEA's liberal grantees are selling. A pre-Christmas Washington Post poll showed 54 percent of Americans favor confirming Judge Sam Alito for the Supreme Court. Still, we expect to face hostile protestors at Philadelphia's Greater Exodus Baptist Church for Justice Sunday III this Sunday. I expect all their fury to be unleashed against Judge Alito next week--and against any who stand up for a fair hearing for a fair judge. From FRC.

Teachers' Pets

The NEA gave \$65 million in its members' dues to left-liberal groups last year. When George Soros does this sort of thing, at least he's spending his own money. The NEA is spending the mandatory dues paid by members who are told their money will be used to gain better wages, benefits and working conditions. - *Wall Street Journal*

CIA is Working!

The Washington Post on Friday reported the existence of a massive covert program within the CIA to catch, detain and interrogate terrorists worldwide. Like President Bush's NSA program to eavesdrop on terror suspects without waiting for a warrant from the notoriously sluggish FISA court, the CIA program has drawn its share of short-sighted condemnation, as if 9/11 never happened. Here is how the *Post* described the nation's ability to gather intelligence on terrorists nearly four and a half years ago: 'The CIA faced the day after the 2001 attacks with few al-Qa'ida informants, a tiny paramilitary division and no interrogators, much less a system for transporting terrorism suspects and keeping them hidden for interrogation.' President Bush changed all that. He has, according to the *Post*, created the largest covert CIA program since World War II. And it has been highly successful. 'Indeed, the CIA, working with foreign counterparts, has been responsible for virtually all of the success the United States has had in capturing or killing al-Qa'ida leaders since Sept. 11, 2001,' the *Post* reported. Pardon us if we don't become outraged that the President of the United States transformed a weak CIA into an impressively effective tool for finding and defeating America's enemies." —*New Hampshire Union Leader* reported in the *Federalist*.

Comment: You need to know that the New York Times and the Washington Post are the most LIBERAL news sources we

Senator Warner 441-3079 and Senator Allen 518-1674.
Congresswoman Drake 497-6859, Cong. Randy Forbes
382-0080. Cong. Robert "Bobby" Scott - 380-1000

have. Take anything they say with a big grain of salt. Ed.

The Constitution

"As I've often observed, the U.S. Constitution poses no serious threat to our form of government... And liberals aim to keep it that way." —Joseph Sobran

Comment: This is also true for the Republicans both liberal and conservative. Ed.

Pity Poor Hollywood

"*Variety* reported a disappointing Christmas box office Tuesday. Hollywood can only blame itself. When the plot lines include girl meets ape, two gay cowboys, and a singing and dancing Hitler, the Red States are just grateful to have football." —Argus Hamilton

"Now is the accepted time to make your regular annual good resolutions. Next week you can begin paving hell with them as usual." —Mark Twain

Illegal Immigration

"If we allow a guest-worker program to pass, it will be 1986 all over again—amnesty first, enforcement never, and an unending wave of illegal immigration. Strict enforcement is the only way to stop illegal immigration. Sadly, that won't happen until the White House and congressional leaders stop seeing illegal immigration as a political problem to be finessed rather than an invasion to be stopped." —Rep. J.D. Hayworth

Action Alert: Register today for Marriage Lobby Day!

Time is running out to register to be part of Marriage Lobby Day, Monday, January 16, beginning at 8:30 a.m. Marriage Lobby Day will be hosted by va4marriage.org, a coalition of [organizations](#), including The Family Foundation and The Family Foundation Action, that will lead the fight to pass the state marriage amendment.

We are excited to announce that [Kelly Shackelford](#), President of the Free Market Foundation, the Texas family policy council, will be our guest speaker in the morning session. Kelly, an attorney, led the fight to pass an amendment in Texas. He will tell us about how Texas passed the amendment with 76 percent of the vote and what to expect from the opposition.

It is extremely important that we have citizens from around the Commonwealth attend marriage lobby day. Citizen involvement and action is absolutely essential to passing this amendment. We're hoping to have hundreds of pro-family, pro-marriage citizens circulating through the halls of the General Assembly building! Wouldn't you love to be part of that! Last year, the state's largest homosexual group had over 200 people attend their lobby day. We need to send the message that we care about this issue!

Please mark your calendar today and plan to be with us on Monday, January 16.

If you would like to attend Marriage Lobby Day:

1. Call or email The Family Foundation to place your reservation at 804-343-0010 or

steve@familyfoundation.org

2. When you call, give us the name of your state senator or delegate. If you don't know, you can look it up [online here](#) or we will look it up for you.

3. We will set up a meeting with your elected official for you! You don't have to do anything else but be here on Monday, January 16th! (*THE LEGISLATIVE SESSION STARTS WED. JAN. 11, 2006.Ed.*)

Registration for Marriage Lobby Day begins at 8:30 a.m., and the program will begin promptly at 9:00 a.m. in the 12th floor conference room of our offices at One Capital Square, corner of 9th and Main Streets in downtown Richmond.

Directions are available on our [web site](#). Pro family leaders will address the details of the amendment and give lobbying tips, followed by lobbying meetings. Local restaurant opportunities are available for lunch. In the afternoon, we plan breakout sessions where you can learn what you can do through the year to ensure that Virginians overwhelmingly support the amendment once we get it on the ballot. Please make your plans today to attend Marriage Lobby Day!

Comment: When KPC was blessed to have the CNTF active and a Sunday School Class each Sunday we would have been able to send a busload to Richmond, VA to support important family legislation. Can we still do it? Call Betty Hansel at 424-5544.

WTO Aims for Global Governance

The December WTO agenda puts American jobs, food production, and immigration in the UN's world government cross hairs. by Cathie Adams, president of the Texas Eagle Forum.

When President Bush appointed former Ohio Congressman Rob Portman to be U.S. trade representative in 2005, he made it clear that one of his missions would be to help get Congress to approve the 34-nation Free Trade Areas of the Americas (FTAA) agreement. Another top mission for Mr. Portman would be to step up the push for the elimination of all tariffs and subsidies, the target of the General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade (GATT) and the World Trade Organization (WTO). The president put this program before the American people, asserting, "Millions of American jobs depend on exports... and America's farmers and workers can compete with anybody, anytime, anywhere in the world so long as the rules are fair."

My observations of global meetings since 1995 have convinced me those global rules are never fair. And the president's professed confidence in American workers cannot overcome them. Besides, it is unconstitutional for the *executive* branch or a global body like the WTO to direct and regulate U.S. trade policies; instead, it is the responsibility of the U.S. Congress, the *legislative* branch. Likewise, it is the responsibility of *Congress* - not the White House or the WTO - to determine U.S. immigration policy. However, the WTO has presumed to designate this a "trade" issue also, under the rubric of regulating what it refers to as "the movement of natural persons."

America's presence at the WTO meeting in Hong Kong gave credibility to the wholly unaccountable UN that

supervised the infamous "Iraqi oil-for-food" trade debacle. The WTO, which is a UN specialized agency, is actually the most powerful global body in the world, since it has the authority to sanction countries that fail to adhere to its trade rules.

Typical of UN and WTO conferences, the Hong Kong confab was a completely stage-managed affair, with WTO head Pascal Lamy and his corps of "facilitators" orchestrating a preordained outcome to give an appearance of global "consensus."

The chief aim of the Hong Kong meeting was to complete negotiations aimed at eliminating farm subsidies that hit an impasse in Doha, Qatar, in 2001. The WTO and World Bank have led the attacks on farm subsidies; they hope to see billions of dollars that now go to farmers in the U.S. and the European Union transferred instead to the world's "poor" - funneled through the offices of the World Bank and other UN agencies, of course.

World Bank Vice President Danny Leipziger complained that during the first three days of the Hong Kong meetings, "rich" countries gave \$2 billion in subsidies to their farmers. During that same time period, Leipziger said, the "poor" countries in Africa collectively earned less than \$1 billion in total income from all sources among them. The European Union joined the World Bank and WTO to demand that the U.S. give cash to starving people around the globe, instead of subsidized food to the hungry.

While there is no indication yet as to whether the administration will give in to the extortion demands for cash, the U.S. nonetheless committed to eliminate export subsidies on agricultural products, possibly by 2010. These WTO commitments and agreements turn out to be a form of international legislation, which WTO tribunals can later adjudicate and enforce. As a result, U.S. citizens lose their constitutional protections and the accountability of their elected officials.

The GATT- WTO "free trade" treaty is not only unfair, it is impossible! Consider the contrast of "free trade" that exists among the 50 states comprising the United States with the WTO model. "Free trade" works among the 50 states because Article 1, Section 8 of the U.S. Constitution empowers Congress to regulate interstate commerce. Secondly, all 50 states come under the ultimate pronouncements of the U.S. Supreme Court. Thirdly, all 50 states hold to the same federal laws regarding banking, labor, and the environment. Fourthly, all 50 states use the same currency. The fifth reason that "free trade" works among the 50 states is that Article 1, Section 10 of the U.S. Constitution forbids all 50 states from impairing contracts or, according to Amendment V, from confiscating property without due process.

In light of these facts, one can understand that the campaign for global "free trade" is in reality a call for global governance/government that would hamstring American industries and workers to instigate a ruse to redistribute wealth globally.

In spite of that, Ambassador Portman told conferees that President Bush 'envisioned a "free trade" world without subsidies or tariffs, even though the existing GATT- WTO has helped create the biggest trade deficit in U.S. history. Trivializing the trade gap that ballooned 24.3 percent last year and set a record for the third straight year at \$617.1 billion, Portman commented, "Yes, we have a trade deficit. Yes, it is a

political issue as well as a substantive issue back home. This does not mean that the United States is going to back off of our strong promotion of market access, across the board."

The American delegation uttered blind allegiance to the GATT-WTO government managed trade policies even though it is clear that other WTO countries intend to use any agreement to fleece America. Acknowledging U.S. citizens' opposition to the huge deficit, undoubtedly enhanced by GATTWTO, the American delegation boasted about "leaning forward and reaching out" to accommodate the global agenda in tune with the multinational corporations.

The U.S. delegation in Hong Kong said that the "drop dead" date for completion of the Doha Round is mid-2007 when the President's Trade Promotion Authority, also known as "fast track," expires. Fast track is the unconstitutional provision that allows the executive branch to force agreements through Congress with mandatory deadlines, severely limited debate, and no amendments. These trade agreements also evade the two-thirds vote margin requirement for approval of treaties by the U.S. Senate.

Most onerous to the majority of Americans is the "Mode 4, Annex C of the General Agreement on Trade in Services" (GATS) in the Hong Kong document proposal, which would create a global guest worker program. It calls for nations to ride roughshod over their immigration laws, in order to move non-citizens into jobs. Those non-citizens would then not be allowed to move from one job to another, but would be enslaved to the multi-national corporate job they crossed borders to seize.

The global guest-worker scheme would not only put Americans' jobs at risk, it would also undermine our national security, as affirmed by recent terrorist acts by radical Muslims in Europe, a consequence of the European Union's open border policies. It should also concern Americans that Saudi Arabia is the newest member of the WTO, since most of the 9/11 hijackers were Saudis.

Can you imagine a guest-worker program imposed by the WTO that would demand obedience to their corrupt rules or suffer sanctions on our trade? Such a scheme would ravage national sovereignty and national security. The Bush administration is already working to implement many of these WTO objectives piecemeal through its various immigration proposals. Together with his allies in Congress and on Wall Street, President Bush is pushing a WTO-style "guest worker" program that proposes to "match any willing employer with any willing worker." At the same time, the White House-Congress-Corporate alliance has pushed through a huge boost of H-IB visas, which allows hi-tech workers (primarily from India, China, and Pakistan) to flood the U.S. job market. The administration recently backed the legislation to raise the number of *annual* H-IB visas from the already high 65,000 to 350,000!

Americans, you and I must decide whether our country is made great by the quantity of goods we *consume* or by the quantity of goods we *produce*. We must consider the consequences if we are willing to pull the plug on our ability to manufacture goods or to control our own trade.

Comment: This is an important article and should be read carefully by all patriotic Americans. This is also another big reason to get us out of the United Nations. If we don't study

history we are bound to repeat it and all the mistakes made earlier. NAFTA, CAFTA and FTAA are stepping stones to a one-world government. Say goodbye to the United States. Ed.

"'Tis our true policy to steer clear of permanent alliances, with any portion of the foreign world"

- George Washington (1796)

"Commerce with all nations, alliance with none, should be our motto." – Thomas Jefferson (1799)

"I deem (one of) the essential principles of our government (to be) peace, commerce, and honest friendship with all nations, entangling alliances with none" – Thomas Jefferson (1801)

THE ARMED CITIZEN

Following the burglary of her apartment, a Georgia woman refused to be victimized again. She purchased a firearm for protection, and it was not a moment too soon. Police say that a man began climbing into her bathroom window late one night, but she was able to fend him off with her gun by shooting him several times. He stumbled out of the apartment and forced his way into an occupied BMW. The driver later told police that the suspect said, "I need a ride to the hospital because I've been shot. Don't stop because I'm going to jail." Upon his release from the hospital, police planned to charge the alleged burglar, whom they also considered a suspect in the previous break-in at the woman's apartment. (*Savannah Morning News*, Savannah, GA, (8/25/05) .

Homosexual 'marriage' battles rage on into third year across U.S.

By Cheryl Wetzstein THE WASHINGTON TIMES

At least 16 states likely will wrestle with same-sex "marriage" in 2006 as the issue enters its third year at the forefront of national debate since Massachusetts' high court ordered the state to become the first in the country to "marry" homosexual couples. .

As many as 10 states could see campaigns on amendments to uphold traditional marriage as the union of a man and a woman, while homosexual couples in seven states have filed lawsuits seeking the right to marry.

One state - California - already expects to see both lawsuits and amendment campaigns.

Homosexual-rights groups are eager to defeat California's marriage amendments because it would "blunt the momentum of these amendment battles," said Seth Kilbourn, leader of the Marriage Project for the Human Rights Campaign (HRC).

Also, "let's not forget that California lawmakers passed a [homosexual]-marriage bill [in 2005]:" said Mr. Kilbourn, referring to legislation that Republican Gov. Arnold Schwarzenegger vetoed in September.

"If we can defeat the ballot measure, I think we can move forward again with that bill:" he said.

Leaders of California's marriage-amendment campaigns, protectmarriage.com and Vote Yes Marriage.com, have warned that their measures must go before voters so they can speak on marriage.

However, the Vote Yes Marriage.com campaign is still in its fundraising stage and protectmarriage.com officials said they had not collected enough signatures to meet the Dec. 27 deadline.

Elsewhere, four states --- Alabama, South Carolina, South Dakota and Tennessee --- are scheduled to hold votes on marriage amendments in 2006, although Tennessee's proposal has been challenged in court.

In addition, lawmakers in Wisconsin and Virginia are likely to approve marriage amendments while petition drives in Arizona, Florida and Illinois may put amendments before voters as well. .

In the courts, homosexuals' lawsuits are under way in California, Connecticut, Iowa, Maryland, New Jersey, New York and Washington state.

The Washington decision is considered imminent.

Homosexual-rights supporters say a favorable decision would have even more impact than the 2003 Massachusetts ruling because Washington has no residency rules for marriage. In that event, homosexual couples from anywhere would be free to "marry" in that state.

Regardless of state activities, the issue eventually will come down to a federal definition of marriage, says Matt Daniels, president of the Alliance for Marriage (AFM), which is promoting a "marriage protection" amendment to the U.S. Constitution that defines marriage as the union of one man and one woman.

"We're in a race" to see which happens first - adoption of the AFM amendment or a court decision that strikes down that traditional definition and mandates same-sex "marriage," he said.

This race will accelerate in 2006, he added, and "we don't know who will win."

Comment: Get the numbers from the box on page one and call all of your elected officials. Tell them we need an amendment now! Ed.

Gun Control

Montana Governor Brian Schweitzer has redefined gun control. He is quoted "I guess I kind of believe in gun control: You control your gun and I'll control mine."

Comedian Makes Sense

Jay Leno -- "According to a new report, not all immigrants from Mexico move here for work. Well, duh! If they were looking for American jobs they would be seeking in India." (Thank the NAFTA agreement for our loss. Ed.)

Shredding the Constitution

All of our elected officials stand and take an oath before God to "preserve, protect, and defend the Constitution of the United States." Then what happens? Ed.