

FAMILY BULLETIN ALERT

Faith, Freedom & Citizenship Class

Kempsville Presbyterian Church

October 19, 2003

The views expressed herein are the views of the Editor, Vernon Fix

It's the Spending, Stupid

"Did you know total federal government spending grew 17 percent during the last three years (inflation adjusted)? This compares with 6.8 percent, 8.3 percent, and 3.5 percent for the first three years respectively of the Reagan, Bush I, and Clinton administrations.

"...President Bush is vulnerable to charges of being irresponsible on the spending front because of the spending hemorrhage on his watch. He can argue he inherited an economy sliding into recession and the September 11, 2001, attacks - both out of his control. But he has in fact supported many questionable domestic spending programs and has failed to veto any spending bills, even though some contained items most reasonable people would view as wasteful, unnecessary or counterproductive.

"...The president's challenge is to...convince the American people he is now serious about getting spending under control. If he does not, he not only puts his re-election but our economic well-being in danger. A good way to begin would be by vetoing some spending bills."

Richard Rahn of the Cato Institute

ACTION: If they continue to spend it is partly our fault. Write today and demand, demand, they stop spending on any program not authorized in the Constitution. That should slow them down. Ed.

Philosophical Drift

"(New York) Conservative Party Chairman Mike Long said the organization found in its annual poll that the state's Democrat and Republican leaders have made an ideological shift. The survey grades the legislature's 212 members on to what degree their votes reflect conservative principles.

'There's usually a pretty good separation between Democrats and Republicans, but this year they've merged into a one-party system,' Mr. Long said."

- Washington Times, 10/17/03

ACTION: Both parties have abandoned us. It is time we put up some new Christian candidates. Do you know of any? It is a huge challenge to run for office. But Christians need desperately to retake the village square so to speak. Ed.

ANOTHER VIEW POINT ON FMA

"More and more principled conservatives are coming out against amending the Constitution to bar any benefits to gay couples in any state or city. Here's the latest - from (Nevada) Republican, Chuck Muth:

"[The Federal Marriage Amendment] is a solution in search of a problem. No state court has yet to rule in favor of recognizing 'gay marriages.' But even if one or more states

do recognize gay marriages, federal law already defines marriage as the union of a man and a woman. And while FMA proponents say the Full Faith & Credit clause of the Constitution would force states to recognize gay marriages from other states, other legal scholars contend it won't. Shouldn't we at least wait to see if something is broken before trying to fix it?'

"More to the point, should the first resort be meddling with the most successful constitution in human history to address a contentious social question? The last time we did that was during prohibition."

Andrew Sullivan's "The Weekly Dish," 10/17/03 In th GOP News.

ACTION: Consider carefully where to put your vote. Do we want to pass an amendment, or not? Ed.

Somebody once figured out that we have
35 million laws trying to enforce
10 commandments.

LIBERALS SMEAR GENERAL

On Friday's Focus on the Family national radio broadcast, Dr. James Dobson will call on Christians to speak out in defense of Lt. General William G. Boykin, a decorated U.S. Army officer, who is under fire from liberals in the media and in government over remarks he made that reflected his Christianity.

For details on the liberal assault on this evangelical Christian officer, please see the story below.

Support for the general is absolutely essential, because if liberals can successfully silence an officer for merely articulating his Christian views, the ability of all of us to speak the truth is jeopardized.

ACTION: It is important that we speak out now in support of a man that liberal members of the media -- and of the Congress -- have targeted.

It is especially important that we communicate this message to the President of the United States, Defense Secretary Donald Rumsfeld and to members of Congress.

You may contact the president and the secretary at:

President George W. Bush White House Comment Line:
(202) 456-1414 E-mail: president@whitehouse.gov

Secretary of Defense Donald Rumsfeld Tel.: (703) 692-7100 E-mail: <http://www.defenselink.mil/faq/comment.html>

To contact your senators and representative, please see our Legislative Action Center:

<http://capwiz.com/fof/dbq/officials/>

From CITIZEN

CALL TODAY!

Smearing the Gipper

"Ronald Reagan's legacy is under attack. For years, liberal academics have tried to explain how the Soviet Union collapsed without giving credit to the U.S. president who challenged communism head on and won. Now Hollywood is opening up another front. Next month, Mr. Reagan will be tarred and feathered in a made-for-TV docudrama by CBS. It is a transparent attempt to obscure historical fact with Tinsel Town glitz."

Washington Times editorial, 10/23/03

ACTION: Right on the heels of CBS's smear of home schoolers last Monday by Dan Blather, this smear of President Reagan must not go unanswered. Write to CBS and raise "Cain". Write to advertisers that advertise on CBS and complain. Make your voice heard. One squeaky voice can make a big difference.

Try 212-975-4321 for CBS. Editor.

Your Medicare Dollars Hard At Work

"Medicare, the federal health insurance program for seniors and the disabled, is spending \$600,000 this year to have a blimp fly at sporting events, including Saturday's Tennessee-Alabama college football game in Tuscaloosa, Ala. The blimp is part of a \$30 million advertising campaign in 2003 to make the program better known to its 40 million participants."

Associated Press as reported in GOP-NEWS

ACTION: You may say this is so small, why bother? If you keep adding a million here and a million there, it soon adds up to some real money. Write to Congressman Schrock (or yours) and complain. It makes him aware that you are watching even the details. Ed.

Doctor, Doctor...Gimme the News

The House and Senate conference to work out differences in a proposal to provide a new prescription drug benefit through Medicare is reaching the end game, and conservative sources close to the action aren't happy with what's coming out of the ol' legislative sausage grinder. Worries run deep that not only won't the benefit be "means tested" - so that taxpayers aren't covering the cost of Ted Turner's Viagra - but significant reforms to the Medicare program itself are being thrown under the bus.

ACTION: If you're uncomfortable with Congress approving this largest new entitlement since LBJ's Great Society days, you might want to weigh in before it's too late by signing writing and calling Cong. Schrock (or yours) as soon as possible. We don't need more and bigger government. Tell Mr. Schrock what you think. Get in the game. Ed.

MONEY

If you get the feeling that I devote a lot of space to subjects involving **MONEY** you may be right. But money is at the root of lots of our problems in government. When the politicians get more than they need they begin to look for additional ways to spend it. Money is power. Many of

these ways to spend include social programs that impinge on our rights as individuals. Someone said that if our government would only obey the constitution we could cut the cost of running the government by 75%. Both parties, the Democrats and Republicans, seem to have joined the liberal "Tax and Spend" camp. The grass roots need to rise up and demand that congress and the courts obey the Constitution. Ed.

MOTTO TO LIVE BY

Many of you get my emails signed with the motto of, "Less Government, more[personal] responsibility, and with God's help a better World." It is my favorite. The collectivists, Communists and Liberals motto would be, "total government, an absence of all personal responsibility, and a completely amoral world..." You chose!!! Editor.

FOOD FOR THOUGHT

Constitutionist Congressman Dr. Lawrence Patton from Georgia was during his tenure in congress (1975-1983) a believer in the constitution. He was also a implacable foe of communism. He opposed at every turn the Soviet initiatives calculated to weaken the United States. The communists must have desparatly wanted him silenced.

On September 1, 1983, Congressman McDonald was aboard KAL Flight 007 en route to Seoul where he was to speak at an anti-Communist conference. As the Korean Airlines Boeing 747 crossed the southern tip of Sakhalin Island, Soviet jet fighters intercepted the flight. Firing air-to-air missiles, they brought down the big plane killing all on board. It is very possible that the attack was motivated by the presence on board of Congressman McDonald, the most ardent and effective Soviet opponent and critic in the U.S. Congress. Think about it.

ACTION: Write to Congressman Schrock (or yours) and ask him to support Cong. Ron Paul's bill to get the U.S. Out of the United Nations. The United Nations is run by and controlled completely by communists and has a long term goal of taking over the U.S. They are not our friend. If you value our country, get us out of the UN. Editor.

The Armed Citizen

A Fort Wayne, Indiana, liquor store clerk may have saved the lives of everyone in the store. The employee had come to work at the Cap 'n Cork liquor store armed with a gun he carries for personal protection as he rides a bike to and from the job. According to police reports, a man entered the liquor store carrying a rifle, which he then fired into the air in an apparent robbery attempt. The armed employee then pulled his own gun and fatally shot the would-be robber. A possible accomplice of the gunman fled the store after the shooting. *The Journal Gazette*, Fort Wayne, IN, 08/27/03