

FAMILY BULLETIN ALERT

Faith, Freedom & Citizenship Class

October 2, 2005

Kempsville Presbyterian Church

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

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AUCTION ITEMS: Art, Vacation, Dinners, Automotive Services, Beauty Services, Massages, Carpeting, Cruise, Landscaping, Home Decor and MORE!

Comment: The Republican controlled congress and President Bush have been on a 5 year spending binge. The most recent spending for relief has been ADDED to the deficit with NO offsets. They don't want to touch the PORK laden Transportation bill or the pork laden Farm bill. Go figure. Ed.

House Bill H.R. 2290 proposed as offset to KATRINA costs

A group of conservative House Republicans has proposed paying costs associated with Hurricane Katrina by cutting scores of government programs (read military programs). The group proposing these and other changes, the Republican Study Committee, is chaired by Rep. Mike Pence (R-IN) and lists Rep. Jeb Hensarling (R-TX) as Budget & Spending Task Force Chairman. Hensarling is the sponsor of H.R. 2290, a bill that would impose mandatory cuts in military retired pay cost-of-living adjustments, Medicare, and other federal entitlement programs if entitlement spending rises above certain limits.

Their proposal, called "Operation Offset," would, among other things:

- *Impose a 20% beneficiary copay for all Medicare costs (including hospitalization)
- *Increase Medicare Part B premiums by 20%
- *Close military dependent schools in the United States
- *Offer servicemembers cash to purchase "less comprehensive" health care plans
- *Consolidate the three military exchange systems
- *Charge federal employees for parking
- *Curtail health benefits for certain federal civilian retirees
- *Cut the congressional pay raise (**This is the best one**)

However, the chances of Congress going along with such proposals appear slim. "Operation Offset" has not been endorsed by the White House. Many of the proposals are warmed over from previously rejected efforts. Last year, Congress soundly rejected a budget amendment virtually identical to H.R. 2290.

Comment: This is a really terrible bill. What it does is penalize Military and retired Military to offset the costs of disaster relief. Never mind that the Federal government has no constitutional right to provide relief, never mind that they have approved at least two gigantic pork laden bills, Transportation and Farm spending binges with over 6000 lines of pork, they now want to penalize the service members that serve our country. Please write or call and blast them over this bill. Tell them to vote NO and kill this bill. Ed.

What has happened to the GOP?

When did the Grand Old Party become the party of grander and Grander spending? We cannot responsibly be the anti-tax

NTU Challenges Congressional Leaders on Budget

With the recent surge in federal spending, National Taxpayers Union is speaking out on behalf of taxpayers and demanding that Congress tighten its belt. NTU President John Berthoud [wrote an op-ed](#) for *The Washington Times* refuting the assertion made by one Congressional leader that there is nothing left to cut in the federal budget. To help Members of Congress find spending offsets, NTUF has published a [list of spending cut bills](#) that would reduce spending from \$3 million to \$47.4 billion a year. You can speak out on spending, and lots of other topics, at NTU's blog -- [Governmentbytes.com](#).

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

party at the same time that we are the pro-spending party. That is the very definition of irresponsibility, both here in Virginia (where at least a balanced budget requirement provides some restraint) and in Washington.

My disappointment echoes the entire Republican grassroots and it is leading to serious divisions within our party as the wheat is separated from the chaff on these spending decisions.

When only the opposition and some of the junior members of our party will fight these massive spending explosions, it makes one harken back to the idea of term limits... from Sen. Cuccinelli (R-37 VA). At <http://www.cuccinelli.com>
 Comment: I have heard a lot of talk of a total Republican loss and a Democratic take-over this year and next. Our leaders are NOT listening. I would hate to see this just because of the Abortion issue. Ed.

Save the 5th Amendment!

Re: the “taking of property“

“The moment the idea is admitted into society that property is not as sacred as the laws of God, and that there is not a force of law and public justice to protect it, anarchy and tyranny commence. If ‘Thou shalt not covet’ and ‘Thou shalt not steal’ were not commandments of Heaven, they must be made inviolable precepts in every society before it can be civilized or made free.” John Adams, A Defense of the American

Comment: Please all, keep the pressure on your electeds, don’t let the Supremes get away with this. Congress must repeal the “Kelo” decision. Property rights are the cornerstone of our republic, without it we become a “third world” nation. Ed.

DEFUND THE ACLU

For years, the ACLU has made a fortune suing and receiving compensation for attorney fees on cases that they filed.

This courtroom campaign has netted them millions, and helps fuel their insatiable drive to secularize our nation. Just look at some of the recent awards the ACLU received:

In Nebraska, the ACLU was awarded \$156,960 after a judge overturned an Amendment to the Nebraska Constitution defining marriage as the union of one man and one woman. The Amendment was approved by 70 percent of Nebraska voters!

In San Diego California, the ACLU was handed \$790,000

after suing to nullify a lease between the city of San Diego and the Boy Scouts of America. A federal judge sided with the ACLU, ruling that the Boy Scouts are a religious organization because they require kids to pledge an oath to God and promise to live "morally straight."

In a well-publicized case, the ACLU received \$121,500 after suing to remove a monument outside the Kentucky Capitol building.

Over the last few years, American taxpayers have given the ACLU and other Pro-abortion organizations upwards of \$6,000,000 in court awards following the Supreme Court's decision in which they declared the Nebraska partial birth abortion ban unconstitutional. These awards have affected 30 states!

Unless Christians take a strong stand to end the ACLU's license to print money, these kinds of attacks on our rights to publicly acknowledge God will further escalate.

Please take immediate action to eliminate the money motives behind the ACLU's campaign to strip God from our nation.

Over the next 30 days, The **Center For Reclaiming America**, Ft. Lauderdale, FL will be mobilizing and presenting 200,000 petitions to key lawmakers in support of The Public Expression of Religion Act of 2005 (HR 2679), and we would be honored to represent you! Go to the web site below to sign: <http://www.cfra.info/33/petition.asp?PID=9737962&NID=1>

Comment: This is a real grabber, I never knew the ACLU made so much lawsuits. The CFRA is part of Dr. D. James Kennedy's organization. Ed.

WHAT HEATING SYSTEM TO BUY?

During some conversations this week we compared heating systems and costs. Below is a chart made in 2000 which shows the big advantage of Ground Source Heat Pumps over all other heating systems. A GSHP uses a anti-freeze solution which is pumped into a well to cool/heat it and then to the house. A closed system and very cheap. I've only seen one in VaBch and it is 3 blocks from the church. He has 3 wells used to cool the coolant and his heating/cooling bills are easily 50% of normal. Consider this chart the next time you replace your heating/cooling system. Ed.

Get U.S. Out Of The United Nations!

Fuel Cost Comparison for Heating

The following figures are a rough guide for comparing heating sources and applications. The cost figures are as of September 2005 for Victoria, BC. The figures below are based on a home of approximately 2000 square feet and are in Canadian dollars.

Energy/Fuel Source	Heat value in Btu	Units	Cost / Unit	Cost / 1,000,000 Btu	Approx. Annual Cost
Propane*	24,197	Litre	\$0.78/litre	\$41.90	\$4,190.00
Oil*	36,596	Litre	\$1.00/litre	\$39.33	\$3,933.00
Electricity*	3413	kWh	\$0.08/kW	\$23.44	\$2,344.00
Natural Gas	948,213	GJ	\$15.07/GJ	\$19.59	\$1,959.00
Air Source Heat Pump*	3413	kWh	\$.08/kW	\$7.81	\$781.00
Ground Source Heat Pump*	3413	kWh	\$.08/kW	\$6.69	\$669.00

Canadian \$= 0.85 US \$. Note that No. 2 oil prices are up to \$250/gal or more.