

FAMILY BULLETIN ALERT

Faith, Freedom & Citizenship Class

September 18, 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>

To Kelo a Mockingbird

One of the most controversial decisions of the recent Supreme Court term was the *Kelo* decision, which expanded the power of local governments to seize private property for economic development under the guise of "eminent domain." The results of that case are now coming to fruition with the New London Development Corp. starting eviction procedures to force the families living on the land to leave their homes. State House Minority Leader Robert M. Ward (R) and Governor Jodi Rell (R) are calling for a special session to enact a moratorium on property seizures. The homeowners themselves are vowing to stay and fight for their property; some of the homes have been in the families for generations. The House Energy Subcommittee will be reviewing the *Kelo* ruling this Friday, and the full Senate Judiciary Committee will be taking up the *Kelo* case next week. **To protect the rights of individuals, Congress should exercise their power to challenge Supreme Court rulings.**

Comment: This will be recognized in later years as the most devastating decision ever to attack our Representative Republican form of government. Land and property rights are the bedrock of our form of self government. Take these away and you have third world dictatorships. Please everyone, WRITE/CALL/ EMAIL, do something, and let our congressmen/women know that we want action. Congress can over-ride the Supreme court, they just don't do it. Your letters give them backbone to do it. Ed.

Highway Robbery: \$286 Billion

*By John Berthoud in The National
Taxpayer's Union*

George Orwell's 1946 classic *Animal Farm* is a tale of the rising up of the long downtrodden animals to overthrow the hated humans and establish a new order. Under new management, the farm seems to move in the right direction for a while,

but the pigs slowly decide that the lifestyle of their former masters was pretty good, and consequently morph into a ruling class indistinguishable from that which they displaced. Originally intended by Orwell to parody the Soviet revolution of 1917, one can now see parallels to the Republican Revolution of 1994. There is no better example of the new management's taking on the manner of the old regime than the highway bill that President Bush signed this week.

The official cost of the new highway bill is \$286.4 billion, which is a record. But maybe the most shocking aspect is the pork. Nearly 6,500 pork-barrel projects are stuffed into the bill. In 1987, President Ronald Reagan vetoed that year's highway bill because he (rightly) objected to the inclusion of a "mere" 152 member-requested projects for their districts. That politics trumped good public policy in this year's bill can be seen maybe most clearly in Alaska, where Republican porkers -- Sen. Ted Stevens and Rep. Don Young -- managed to secure the fourth highest number of earmarks for the third least populous state.

Paralleling the legerdemain of the 2003 Medicare prescription drug bill, Republicans even threw in phony numbers to try to pretend the bill doesn't dramatically exceed the spending limit that had been set -- with a veto threat -- by Bush. The bill contains a promise that on the very last day the measure is in effect -- Sept. 30, 2009 -- Congress will make an unspecified spending cut of \$8.5 billion. Long years of experience have shown time and again that when a sitting Congress promises unspecified spending cuts by a future Congress, it is meaningless rhetoric.

All told, the bill exceeds by \$11 billion the spending level that Bush promised would elicit his first veto. Fiscal conservatives must continue to wait for that veto, as the administration has again capitulated to the big spenders on Capitol Hill.

The highway bill is not an isolated incident. Federal spending is up sharply in

almost all categories. The President's own budget office is estimating that federal spending this year will be 33% higher than just four years ago. This is hardly just the result of Defense and Homeland Security expenditures. Consider that over these same four years, spending at the Department of Agriculture will have skyrocketed 40%, while spending at the Department of Education will have grown at almost twice the rate of military spending.

Comment: Many have realized that the current Republican administration is easily outstripping the previous Democratic administration in spending. Where are the reductions, the tax-cuts and where is the small government promised by the Republicans if we would just elect them. Don't hold your breath. I think GW is a liberal disguised as a Christian. Ed.

NRA WORKSHOP HERE

When I first started getting active I went to an NRA Grassroots seminar, it was great. So here is your opportunity to get started. Ed.

With Virginia being one of only two states holding elections this year, all eyes will be on the Commonwealth. To assist pro-gun candidates like Jerry Kilgore (Gov.) and Bill Bolling (Lt. Gov.), NRA-ILA is hosting four **FREE** Grassroots-Election Workshops in Virginia.

These Workshops will be working sessions! Not only will you undertake simple tasks at the Workshops themselves, but after the events, you will actively assist with campaign volunteer activities as well.

The Workshop & related materials, including food & drink, are FREE! You may reserve your seat on-line by completing the registration form, or by calling the NRA-ILA Grassroots Division at (800) 392-8683.

Saturday, September 24, 2005
9:00 a.m. - 11:00 a.m.
Registration/Breakfast at 8:30 a.m.
Doubletree Hotel Virginia Beach

1900 Pavilion Drive
Virginia Beach, VA 23451
757-422-8900

CALL YOUR MISSIONARY FREE

Did you know that with the installation of a simple program you can turn your computer into a telephone to call worldwide, FREE. All you need is a microphone or a headset and the speakers. The program "Skype", will run on WinXP, Mac or Linux.

Great For Missionaries, call Tina Dingman at KPC if you are interested in talking to one of our missionaries. Tina will give you their email address and you can ask them for the number/ID. There are serious security concerns involved.

Skype — the Global Telephony Company

Skype aims to delight you by offering free global telephony, to make unlimited, superior quality voice calls via its next-generation peer-to-peer software. Skype's mission is providing a simple, reliable and friendly communications tool that just works. We aim for people to communicate with friends, families, and colleagues more flexibly, more cost effectively, and with better sound quality than ever previously imagined. Skype calls require a PC microphone and speakers, or an [affordable PC headset](#) available at electronics retailers(\$6 at BestBuy) worldwide. Skype is simple to install regardless of your PC environment and will set up with no server or workstation configuration. Skype works behind most firewalls and gateways without providing new security risks. Skype calls are encrypted for your security, and we maintain a strict [privacy policy](#). Skype is available for Windows, Mac and Linux systems.

It helps to have high-speed internet but is not required. Skype works well with regular dial-up. Send chat messages, files, pictures and just talk. It all works very well. You can also do conference calls. Great idea for missionaries, you can talk to them all over the world. You both need to be running Skype and have web access

Download FREE [Skype.exe](#) from website <http://www.skype.com/> open it, and it will install itself. The file is 7.4 Megs large so it could take some time on a dial-up connection. I have it available

and could give it to anyone interested. If you'd like to try or need help, call Vernon 495-1541 or add me to your Skype list as "vernon4841".

Abandoning the News

(Carnegie Endowment) A new study by the Carnegie Corporation reveals that "there's a dramatic revolution taking place in the news business" as younger people increasingly turn on their computer instead of their TV. <http://www.carnegie.org/reporter/10/news/>

Comment: Make that older people too as I turn almost always to internet news. How else can I find the truth, certainly not on the MSM. I find that I watch the news less than an hour a week(usually CBN), all of my sources are from the internet or sometimes the Washington Times. I do not have cable so I can't watch FOX. Ed.

KATRINA NOTES

"The federal government pretty much met its standard time lines, but the volume of support provided during the 72-96 hour was unprecedented. The federal response here was faster than Hugo, faster than Andrew, faster than Iniki, faster than Francine and Jeanne."

For instance, it took five days for National Guard troops to arrive in strength on the scene in Homestead, Fla. after Hurricane Andrew hit in 2002. But after Katrina, there was a significant National Guard presence in the afflicted region in three.

Journalists who are long on opinions and short on knowledge have no idea what is involved in moving hundreds of tons of relief supplies into an area the size of England in which power lines are down, telecommunications are out, no gasoline is available, bridges are damaged, roads and airports are covered with debris, and apparently have little interest in finding out.

So they libel as a "national disgrace" the most monumental and successful disaster relief operation in world history. The levee broke Tuesday morning. Buses had to be rounded up and driven from Houston to New Orleans across debris-strewn roads. The first ones arrived Wednesday evening. That seems pretty fast to me.

A better question -- which few journalists ask -- is why weren't the roughly 2,000 municipal and school buses in New Orleans utilized to take people out of the city before Katrina struck?

Jack Kelly is national security writer for the Post-Gazette and The Blade of Toledo, Ohio (jkelly@post-gazette.com)

Comment: Like Pastor Nate I became sick of the "blame game" early on. Pres. Bush acted properly and displayed leadership. The Mayor of N.O. and Gov. of LA. Did not. Please do not listen to the MSM, it gives me headaches. Ed.

THE ARMED CITIZEN

Thanks to the quick thinking of a sub shop owner in Dayton, Ohio, a robbery attempt was quickly thwarted. The manager and his wife were working the morning shift when they spotted a man with a mask and sunglasses heading toward the store with a gun in his hand. The owner triggered the security system and retrieved his gun. One employee described what happened next: "[The suspect] got up on the counter. I was scared. I just dropped to the floor." The robber, however, who was pointing his gun at the manager, did not even have time to speak because the manager pointed his gun and shot him in the arm. He fled and was later apprehended at his sister's house. He was expected to be charged with aggravated robbery. (*Dayton Daily News*, Dayton, OH, 01/15/05)

Comment: One of the troubling aspects of the evacuation attempt in N.O. was the confiscation of arms from law abiding citizens. This smacks of Big Brotherism, Communism and police stateism. It was illegal and should not have happened. Write to your elected and complain loudly. We must protect our constitution including the 2nd Amendment. Ed.

CINDY SHEEHAN'S UNREPORTED STATEMENTS

In an article in the Wash. Times Mr. John Leo has given the unreported filth that Mrs. Sheehan spouts which the MSM conveniently ignores. The MSM focuses on a poor Mom who lost a son, she is on the other hand a foul mouthed hard left wing activist that calls Iraqi insurgents "Freedom Fighters", and says her son died for oil, and President Bush is a murderer. Go read the article at www.AmericasNewspaper.com. Ed.

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