

The Patriots' Truth

Flint Hills TEA Party News

ON OUR CALENDAR

MEDIA COMMITTEE MEETING – MCALISTER'S EVERY WED AT 5:30PM

May 14 – Monthly General Meeting – Manhattan Library – 9:30am

Legislative Report 4-1-2011 from Richard Carlson

This week marked the final week of the regular session for the Kansas Legislature. On Friday, after several long hours of work, the House of Representatives adjourned until April 27 for its annual break. During this time research and revenue staff will compile information on the state's economy and revenue numbers and update our fiscal outlook so we can take additional action on the budget upon our return, if necessary. The Legislature is required by the Kansas Constitution to produce a budget each year and this week the primary focus of the Legislature was taking a step to fulfill that responsibility by passing a budget for the upcoming 2012 fiscal year, which begins on July 1. On Tuesday, the Senate passed their version of the budget which provides for an \$8.1 million ending balance at the end of the fiscal year. Action on the House budget followed on Thursday. I voted for the final House budget.

There was a wide range of feelings on the House budget but at the end of the day almost 70 legislators, regardless of their concerns, understood that passing the House budget was the first step in reforming state government and trusting Governor Brownback to lead us to a new era of small, responsive and responsible government. The House budget has an approximate \$80 million ending balance, controls spending and is the first balanced budget produced by the Kansas House of Representatives in three years. For the first time since 1972 total state spending has decreased -- by nearly \$900 million.

The Legislature still has a significant amount of work to do when we return for the final days of the session. If you have questions regarding legislation, legislative procedures or need help following a bill's progression, please give me a call and I'll be happy to explain the process. You can also visit the Legislature's website, www.kslegislature.org to follow the bills we're debating. Simply access the website and click the "calendars" tab at the top of the page. There you will find our debate calendar under the heading "General Orders" and our anticipated votes under "Final Action."

Voter Identification (HB 2067)

The Secure and Fair Election (SAFE) Act, contained in House Bill 2067, requires all Kansas voters to show photo identification before voting, requires proof of citizenship when registering to vote, and extends the power to prosecute alleged cases of voter fraud to the Secretary of State's office. At the polls, voters must show government issued photo ID before casting their ballot. The measure requires voters who request an advance or mail-in ballot must include their driver's license number or a photocopy of their ID with their ballot application.

The House agreed with the changes made to the bill by the Senate and approved the final version of

HB 2067 by a vote of 111 to 11 on Tuesday, March 19. I believe this legislation is long overdue and I supported it. The bill is now under the consideration of Governor Brownback who is expected to sign it into law.

The bill also stiffens penalties for voting without being qualified, voting multiple times during the same election, for tampering with elections, falsely impersonating another voter and for illegally handling advance ballots.

Workers compensation was another major issue requiring legislative action this year. These laws have remained unchanged for over a decade, and this year the legislature was able to make substantive and necessary improvements to our overall structure. The vote on this measure represented years of work and compromise by every interested party, and I'm happy to see it resolved and I voted for it.

Sub for HB 2134 defines or revises several substantive portions of the Workers Compensation Act. Current law prohibits compensation for certain types of employee injuries caused by their deliberative actions or by failure to use adequate protection. The bill disallows compensation if an employee's injury is also the result of violating workplace safety rules and regulation or any injuries caused by fighting or horseplay with a co-worker. In addition, the bill deletes the requirement of employers needing probable cause to require drug or alcohol testing if believed the employee is impaired. Instead employers must have sufficient cause and employees may overcome any positive results if clear and convincing evidence is provided proving otherwise. The bill extends the period of time where an employee gives notice that an injury accident or repetitive trauma has occurred from 10 to 30 days. However, instances where the employee was no longer employed or sought medical treatment specifically for the injury 20 calendar days are given for the employee to provide notice. Once an employee has reached their maximum prescribed medical treatment, the employer's obligation to provide medical and health care services would be terminated.

It also replaces current conditions for permanent total disability and requires expert evidence to prove permanent total disability and prevents an injured worker from getting more than one award for permanent total disability during their lifetime. If an employee is unable to accommodate temporary work restrictions imposed on them by the treating physician, the employee may be entitled to benefits for temporary total disability. If an employee refuses to accept work to accommodate the temporary disability the presumption would make the employee ineligible to receive temporary benefits. They would also be ineligible if already receiving unemployment benefits. Current law allows parties to enter into agreements for lump sum payments of benefits and the bill allows lump sum settlements if approved by an administrative law judge and prorated over the life expectancy of the injured employee.

Caps on maximum compensation for benefits are increased in the bill from \$125,000 to \$155,000 for permanent total disability; from \$100,000 to \$130,000 for temporary total disability; from \$100,000 to \$135,000 for permanent or temporary partial disability; and from \$250,000 to \$300,000 for death. In addition, employers would be responsible for paying up to \$1,000 for court appointed conservators when the employee's death is caused by injury.

If an employee refuses to submit to a medical exam when requested by the employer, the benefits of the employee are terminated under current law. The bill broadens the appeals process for future medical treatment so employees, employers and the insurance carrier can request a post-award hearing for medical treatment. If an administrative law judge finds the work-related injury to be the prevailing factor, future medical treatment may be awarded. However, if an employee does not seek or receive medical treatment within two years from the date of the compensation award or within two years of their last medical treatment, an employer may seek termination of future medical benefits.

The House approved the final version of HB 2134 by a vote of 120 to 0 and the Senate by a vote of 37 to 0 on Friday, April 1. The bill now goes to Governor Brownback for his consideration.

Several pro-life bills have passed the House & Senate and are on the way to the Governor. Business or Destination Sourcing for Sales Tax Rates (Sub for HB 2161)

In 2003, legislation was enacted to bring Kansas into compliance with the multi-state Streamlined Sales and Use Tax Agreement by changing the sourcing rules from origin-based sales taxes to destination-based sales taxes. Sub for HB 2161 changes current law for in-state sales tax transactions from destination sourcing (where the applicable sales tax rate is determined at the location where the consumer receives the purchased item) to allow retailers to have the option of using either destination-sourcing or origin-sourcing (where sales tax rate is determined at the seller's location).

On Thursday, March 31, the House passed Sub for HB 2161 by a vote of 69 to 55 and it now resides in the Senate Assessment and Taxation Committee. This legislation provides businesses the opportunity to decide for themselves what type of sourcing works best for them. While more must be done to streamline our tax code and make Kansas a more business friendly state, this legislation is a step forward in the right direction.

Protection of Constitutional Rights (HB 2087)

In the past year, a growing number of states have adopted measures requiring courts to use federal or state laws when handing down decisions and prohibits courts from using international or Sharia laws when making rulings. HB 2087 notes the Legislature's recognition of the right to contract freely and protects the rights and privileges granted by the U.S. and Kansas constitutions. The bill prevents any court, arbitrary, tribunal or administrative rulings and any contracts or adjudications based on any foreign law, legal code or system from being legal and enforceable in the state of Kansas.

On Wednesday, March 30, the House passed HB 2087 by a vote of 122 to 2. The bill now resides in the Senate Judiciary Committee.

Thank you for the privilege of serving as your State Representative. If you have questions or comments please feel free to call, write or send an email. My office is in the Statehouse, room 274 W., 300 SW 10th St., Topeka, Kansas. 66612. My phone is 785-296-7660 and my email is richard.carlson@house.ks.gov Richard D. Carlson, State Representative, 61st. Dist.

Testimony on HB 2381

House Taxation Committee March 14, 2011

Mr. Chairman and members of the committee, thank you for the opportunity to appear on House Bill 2381. I'm Bernie Koch with the Kansas Economic Progress Council, a statewide not for profit organization of businesses, trade associations, and chambers of commerce. We support pro-growth policies for communities and the state.

I'm reluctantly appearing in opposition to HB 2381. We believe there can be a positive impact on the economy by strategically lowering taxes that affect business. However, we also know that economic growth is also affected by encouraging investment in equipment and infrastructure, supporting quality education and the attraction of skilled workers, and supporting innovation.

We are concerned that narrowing our revenue base makes us more vulnerable to fluctuations that can be especially harmful during economic hard times. That's what's happening in a many states that do not have an individual income tax or a corporate income tax.

These states often have other kinds of revenue, usually from rich natural resources. The studies on this topic that you've heard and seen don't include these factors.

Alaska - Alaska does not have an individual income tax, but it does have a 9.4% corporate income tax. According to the Tax Foundation, Alaska draws a nation-high 52.6% of its state and local revenue from a group of taxes that includes severance taxes on natural resources, stock transfer taxes, estate taxes, and fees for hunting, fishing, and driver's licenses. Alaska is the second-highest oil producing state. Our budget gap is 8.8% this year. Alaska doesn't have a budget gap.

Wyoming - Wyoming does not have individual or corporate income taxes, but like Alaska, Wyoming has rich natural resources. It's now the largest coal mining state. About 9% of the work force is employed in mining. Twenty-five percent of the workforce is employed by government. That's the largest employment sector in the state. That's an important part of their economy, and they have no budget gap.

Florida - Florida has no individual income tax, but has a corporate income tax of 5%. Florida's economy is based on tourism and international trade. Florida is the top travel destination in the world.

Over 60% of Florida's budget is based on sales tax. They have to cut 14.9% from their budget to make it balance.

Nevada - Nevada has no individual or corporate income tax and it is in the most trouble of any state right now. It has the highest unemployment rate and the biggest budget gap, about 45%. Its budget relies heavily on sales tax paid by tourists and the tourists are not coming to the casinos. There's no backup revenue. Sales tax is over 48% of their revenue.

Here's how bad it is. The state budget director says if Nevada keeps education spending level, it will have to eliminate all other state programs and agencies to have a balanced budget.

South Dakota - South Dakota has no individual income tax, but it does have a state corporate tax on financial institutions.

Their budget gap is 10.9%. Over 56% of their revenue comes from sales tax. The most valuable industry sector is finance, insurance, and real estate. Several large financial companies have operations located in the state, especially in Sioux Falls.

The financial service industry began to grow after South Dakota became the first state to eliminate caps on interest rates. That attracted Citibank in 1981, which moved its credit card operations from New York. That was the real spark that helped South Dakota, along with a good work force and low real estate prices.

The population is growing, but like Kansas, rural areas have declining populations.

Washington - The State of Washington does not have an individual income tax or a corporate income tax. The largest sector of the economy is aircraft manufacturing. That's Boeing, so like Kansas, they have been struggling. They are also home to Microsoft.

However, there are a few things you should know about Washington that you probably have not heard.

- They have something called a Business and Occupation Tax that applies to almost all businesses located or doing business in the state. It varies depending on the type of industry. It's a tax on gross income.
- Washington relies on sales tax more than any other state. It's over 60% of their revenue.
- Washington raised several taxes last year, including the cigarette tax by \$1, to over \$3 a pack.

The State of Washington is dealing with an 18% budget gap.

Texas - Texas has no individual income tax or corporate income tax and you've heard studies that indicate that's why they are growing employment so fast. They led the country in employment growth last year. However, a closer look indicates over 40% of that growth came in three areas: natural resource production, education and health services, and government.

Texas says it has no corporate income tax, but it really does. In May of 2007, the legislature replaced the franchise tax with a gross margins tax on businesses. This year, Texas collected \$4.3 billion from this tax. That's estimated to be about 10% of the taxes collected by the state this year.

It really is an income tax.

Mining and oil and gas are a big part of the Texas economy. It's number one in the country. Texas collected \$2.76 billion dollars in severance taxes in 2007. They also have a lot of fees and other taxes. Over 22% of Texas revenues come from these other taxes:

- A fee on oysters taken from Texas waters
- A petroleum products delivery fee
- An automotive oil sales fee
- A fireworks tax
- A battery sales fee that's two to three dollars per battery
- A 14% mixed beverage tax
- For every customer who enters a sexually oriented business, there's fee of \$5.

What really surprised me were the comments of the Texas Taxpayers and Research Association, a well respected non-partisan organization that has been active for over 50 years. I'm going to quote from some of their material.

"61% of Texas' state and local taxes are paid by businesses – only five states are higher."

"If you are a business, Texas is a high tax state."

"Texas reliance on sales and property taxes heavily ties our tax system to the production and sale of 'goods,' placing a high tax burden on capital-intensive businesses."

Texas budget gap this year is 31.5 percent.

Oklahoma - Oklahoma does have an individual and corporate income tax, but they are often cited in studies as a state we ought to emulate, and this legislation is very similar to Oklahoma legislation.

Oklahoma is the 6th largest U.S. oil producer. Oklahoma collected \$1.168 billion from gross production taxes in Fiscal Year 2008. That's part of the 26% of Oklahoma's major tax sources that are listed as "other." Like most of the other state's I've discussed, these very rich natural resources make it easier to have lower taxes in other areas. The Oklahoma Tax Commission web site put it this way:

"It should be noted that gross production tax revenues on oil and gas constitute a substantial portion of Oklahoma's tax revenues, relieving manufacturers and other lines of business and industry from a corresponding portion of the cost of government in Oklahoma."

That's the point. These states have resources we don't have. They have different economies. I urge you to take a broader view of what impacts an economy and delay action on House Bill 2381 at this time.

Thank you for your attention.

Poverty rate in 2008 (Nationally 13.2%)

| | U.S. Census Bureau | Rank |
|---------------|--------------------|-----------|
| Texas | 16.3 % | 8 |
| Oklahoma | 16.3 | 9 |
| South Dakota | 13.1 | 21 |
| Florida | 12.6 | 24 |
| Kansas | 11.6 | 31 |
| Washington | 11.5 | 33 |
| Nevada | 10.8 | 36 |
| Wyoming | 9.2 | 45 |
| Alaska | 9.4 | 44 |

ACT Average Composite Score in 2009

| | | Rank |
|---------------|-------------|-----------|
| Washington | 22.8 | 8 |
| South Dakota | 22.0 | 19 |
| Kansas | 21.9 | 21 |
| Nevada | 21.5 | 29 |
| Alaska | 21.0 | 33 |
| Texas | 20.8 | 34 |
| Oklahoma | 20.7 | 37 |
| Wyoming | 20.0 | 44 |
| Florida | 19.5 | 48 |

NAEP tests – US Department of Education – National Assessment of Educational Progress Percent of public school 4th graders proficient or better in reading in 2007 National percent = 32 %

| | | Rank |
|---------------|------------|-----------|
| Kansas | 36% | 10 |
| Washington | 36 | 10 |
| Wyoming | 36 | 10 |

| | | |
|--------------|----|----|
| Florida | 34 | 23 |
| South Dakota | 34 | 23 |
| Texas | 30 | 33 |
| Alaska | 29 | 34 |
| Oklahoma | 27 | 41 |
| Nevada | 24 | 45 |

Percent of public school 8th graders proficient or better in reading in 2007
National percent = 29 %

| | | Rank |
|---------------|-----------|-----------|
| South Dakota | 37% | 5 |
| Kansas | 35 | 13 |
| Washington | 34 | 16 |
| Wyoming | 33 | 19 |
| Florida | 28 | 30 |
| Texas | 28 | 30 |
| Alaska | 27 | 35 |
| Oklahoma | 26 | 37 |
| Nevada | 22 | 44 |

Percent of public school 4th graders proficient or better in math in 2009
National percent = 38%

| | | Rank |
|---------------|------------|----------|
| Kansas | 46% | 6 |
| Washington | 43 | 16 |
| South Dakota | 42 | 19 |
| Wyoming | 40 | 25 |
| Florida | 40 | 25 |
| Alaska | 38 | 29 |
| Texas | 38 | 29 |
| Oklahoma | 33 | 41 |
| Nevada | 32 | 42 |

Percent of public school 8th graders proficient or better in Math 2009
National percent = 33%

| | | Rank |
|---------------|------------|-----------|
| South Dakota | 42 | 8 |
| Kansas | 39% | 13 |
| Washington | 39 | 13 |
| Texas | 36 | 18 |
| Wyoming | 35 | 23 |
| Alaska | 33 | 30 |
| Florida | 29 | 35 |
| Nevada | 25 | 41 |
| Oklahoma | 24 | 44 |

Minutes of Monthly Meeting: April 9, 2011

The regular monthly meeting of the Flint Hills TEA Party on April 9, 2011, was held at the Riley County High School. Because of the guest speakers scheduled monthly business was put aside. John Ford welcomed everyone, then introduced Ernie Honas. Ernie is a Student Counselor at the Junction City High School. With Ernie's guidance the "Constitutional Scholarship" has been formed and is being put into existence first locally, then State wide and, eventually, God willing, National. This scholarship will be

directed to grades 9-12. Constitution classes will be held to assist the students in gaining the Constitutional knowledge needed for participation and being awarded. There are many details yet to ironed out. Larry Halloran spoke on State Budget problems (an article is in this newsletter). We need to contact our State Senators and Representatives and let them know that they have let us down – the budget did NOT get trimmed as it should have.

Richard Fry reminds us to not "beat the branches by chasing the symptoms of the problem", stay focused on the root of the problem "violation and failure to enforce the constitution" by our elected employees. Remind readers that articles November Patriots is written by Richard Fry and that he welcomes questions to learn more and he is quite knowledgeable on the subject and keeping focused on the "root". His message we must be involved and that we do need to call out our elected employees on their votes and hold them accountable (give kudos when appropriate)...but we must be informed with the correct information.

We broke for lunch which was served in the school cafeteria. We were honored with the singing of Jessica Furney as we ate our lunch. Then Kris Kobach spoke – Kris is uplifting. One of the many things Kris told us was we basically don't need to worry about the "REAL ID" right now as it has not been funded and can't be activated without funding. The new voting law was explained as passed. ID is required to register and/or vote. After the 2012 election you will need a Birth Certificate to register. These not worried about voter fraud managed to get that delayed with the hopes of getting more fraudulent votes for the Democrats. Kris answered many questions all of which I can't list here. To see the complete program go to:

<http://www.patriotactionnetwork.com/group/kansasresistance/forum/topics/040911-flinthills-teaparty> ; Those of you without a computer – go to you local libraries and look it up there.

The meeting was adjourned by Moderator John Ford.

It was a good day. Hope you'll join us at the Manhattan City Library May 14th.

I want to explain to those of you that did NOT attend the EVENT at the Riley County High School April 9th – We were very disappointed in the attendance. A year ago last February when we had Kris Kobach speak to us we had over 200 come to listen. We had hoped, now that they had elected Kris Kobach, as their Secretary of State, they would come and bring their neighbors, to listen to what Sec. Kobach has accomplished and wants to accomplish. However, it seems most folks are satisfied that the election went as they wanted (or didn't and they have given up) and now they are DONE!! We had around 70 in attendance and were disappointed there were not more. A very dear friend from Kansas City came to the event with one of the speakers, Angelo Mino. The following is the encouragement she sent. We are very touched by her words and want to give all of you the encouragement she gave us.

My Flint Hills Tea Party Family,

I know that some of you can become a little weary in the fight to take our country back because of perceived diminishing numbers at local events. Let me ask you this - why did God always use a small number, a remnant, to accomplish insurmountable tasks like knocking down a walled city or conquering a larger army? He did it to show man that He does not need a large number of bodies, but a few strong hearts.

I count myself among you because you are my family and it is my job to make sure that my family is OK. In this life, I see my role as Administrative Support for you foot soldiers or that crazy cheerleader on the sidelines watching you score that touchdown for the team. As your support, I want to remind you of why you are here and what your job should be. This American Experiment has been neglected and divided. Make no mistake about it; we are in a war that is just as crucial as any other war. We are in a fight for the very soul of our nation and the battleground in on the field of ideas. Yet God gave man a most precious gift. He gave man the Gift of free will and allowed him to live in a nation that recognized that fact in its governing documents and Constitution. Yes, we try to persuade and convince, but ultimately people will decide for themselves what action they will take. The only real obligation that we have in this fight is to tell the Truth as we see it and let people act on that information using their God given free will. You may think that our modern era is so unique, but it is not. Man has not changed since he has been on this planet. I see our ragtag group as not just patriots, but witnesses. Witnesses who can attest to the fact that there is a self-evident truth that we are all we made equally in the image of god, that we are given certain rights by God and that these rights cannot

be taken away by any man. If the entire world says differently, the entire world is wrong. Rather than making up a creative prose to prove my case, I will give my Truth, as I know it through the example of the prophet Ezekiel. When God commissioned him to start his work, God told Ezekiel:

...Son of man, I am sending you to the children of Israel, to a rebellious nation that has rebelled against Me to this very day.

For they are impudent and stubborn children. I am sending you to them, and you shall say to them. "Thus says the Lord God."

As for them, whether they hear or whether they refuse-for they are a rebellious house-yet they will know that a prophet(a witness) has been among them.

And you, son of man, do not be afraid of them nor be afraid of their words, though briers and thorns are with you and you dwell among scorpions: do not be afraid of their words or dismayed by their looks though they are a rebellious house.

You shall speak My words to them whether they hear or whether they refuse for they are rebellious. (Ezekiel 2:2-10)(NKJV)

We are witnesses, sons and Daughters of man, sent out to a rebellious nation, A nation who may fight and reject everything that we say. Yet we must tell them because the blood of this nation is on hands until our mission is done. We are the watchman sounding the alarm, warning an out of control nation. It does us no good to seek knowledge about our history, about our constitution and founding fathers if we do not impart that knowledge to our fellow Americans. Like Ezekiel, God places the responsibility of doing the right thing squarely in the lap of the watchman when he explains:

Son of man, I have made you a watchman for the house of Israel; therefore hear a word from My mouth and give them warning from Me.

When I say to the wicked, 'You shall surely die,' and you give him no warning, nor speak to warn the wicked from his wicked way, to save his life, that same wicked man shall die in his iniquity; but his blood I will require at your hand.

Yet, if you warn the wicked, and he does not turn from his wickedness, nor from his wicked way, he shall die in his iniquity; but you have delivered your soul.

Again when a righteous man turns from his righteousness and commits iniquity, and I lay a stumbling block before him, he shall die; because you did not give him warning, he shall die in his, and his righteousness which he has done shall not be remembered; but his blood I will require at your hand.

Nevertheless if you warn the righteous man that the righteous should not sin, and he does not sin, he shall surely live because he took warning; also you will have delivered soul. (Ezekiel 3:18-21)(NKJV)

As heavy as this all sounds, there is just as much hope as there ever was. You embody hope. Look at what you have accomplished in such a short amount of time! It took the enemies of this nation, a very long time to put their plans into place. Yet you have evolved from a group of angry citizens standing outside governmental buildings with picket signs and angry voices to become leaders who walk inside those same buildings formulating policy. I have watched you as you continue the fight in your area. You are a formidable presence and your name speaks volumes-The Flint Hills Tea Party. You are an emerging butterfly and I am so proud of you. You inspire me and now I want to encourage you to do not become weary in your well doings. The real miracle of America is that in just 150 years, a daughter of former slaves can sit down and embrace the sons and daughters of former slave owners call them family and it is no big deal. For this reason alone we

continue this fight. I love you all!

Sincerely your sister, friend and fellow American,
Granny (Ketha to you, Ms. Sharon)

PS-Like Kris Kobach, I like pies, but I love strawberry cheese cake!!!!

Love ya', Granny! Your encouragement will inspire us each and every time we begin to lose heart toward our goal of bringing our Country, and it's citizens back to GOD, and the People. Your friendship along with your encouragement will be the stimulus we need to keep our noses to the grindstone.

Thank you, always and forever,
The Flint Hills TEA Party Media Group

Flint Hills TEA Party Tax Day Celebration

We gathered at the Riley County Courthouse Pavilion. Within the gathering of 100-200 people we had 2 food vendors, registration tables, and several great speakers. Newly elected Manhattan City Commissioners John Matta and Wynn Butler spoke of their intentions for a more conservative Manhattan. Wamego TEA Party Leader Jud Jones spoke of what's ahead for our Country. Ernie Honas explained the plans for the Flint Hills TEA Party Constitutional Scholarship for 9-12 grade students. District 2 Representative Lynn Jenkins told us of the accomplishments of Congress for this session. She encouraged us to continue the "fight" to stabilize our country by electing MORE Conservative Republicans to Congress and electing a NEW PRESIDENT!! Joe Miller from Alaska flew in to speak to us, encourage us, and acknowledge the success that has been achieved. We had the privilege of having Paul Ibberson as our MC for the event. To climax the day we sent many red and blue balloons into the beautiful blue sky with Flint Hills TEA Party info inside. God Blessed us with a beautiful day, encouraging speakers, gracious MC, and people attending who cared. Many thanks to those who made it a successful day. To see and hear the complete program go to:

<http://www.patriotactionnetwork.com/group/kansasresistance/forum/topics/041611-flinthills-teaparty>

Barack Obama, during his Cairo speech, said: "I know, too, that Islam has always been a part of America's Story.

An American Citizen's Response:

Dear Mr. Obama:

Were those Muslims that were in America when the Pilgrims first landed? Gunny, I thought they were Native American Indians.

Were those Muslims that celebrated the first Thanksgiving Day? Sorry again, those were Pilgrims and Native American Indians.

Can you show me one Muslim signature on the United States Constitution? Or the Declaration of Independence? Or the Bill of Rights? Didn't think so.

Did Muslims fight for this country's freedom from England? No!!

Did Muslims fight during the Civil War to free the slaves in America? No, they did NOT! In fact, Muslims to this day are still the largest traffickers in human slavery. Your own half brother, a devout Muslim, still advocates slavery himself, even though Muslims of Arabic descent refers to black Muslims as "pug nosed slaves." Says a lot of what the Muslim world really thinks of your family's "rich Islamic heritage," doesn't it, Mr. Obama?

Where were Muslims during the Civil Rights era of this country? Not present!!

There are no pictures or media accounts of Muslims walking side by side with Martin Luther King, Jr. or helping to advance the cause of Civil Rights.

Where were Muslims during this country's Woman's Suffrage era? Again, not present! In fact, devout Muslims demand that women are subservient to men in the Islamic culture. So much so, that often they are beaten for NOT wearing the "hajji" or for talking to a man who is not a direct family member or their husband. Yep, the Muslims are all for women's rights, aren't they?

Where were Muslims during World War II? They were aligned with Adolf Hitler. The Muslim grand mufti himself met with Adolf Hitler, reviewed the troops and accepted support from the Nazi's in killing Jews.

Finally, Mr. Obama, where were Muslims on Sept. 11th, 2001? If they weren't flying planes into the World Trade Center, the Pentagon or a field in Pennsylvania killing nearly 3,000 people on our own soil, they were rejoicing in the Middle East. No one can dispute the pictures shown from all parts of the Muslim world celebrating on CNN, Fox News, NSNBC and other cable news networks that day. Strangely, the very "moderate" Muslims who's asses you bent over backwards to kiss in Cairo, Egypt on June 4th were stone cold silent post 9-11. To many Americans, their silence has meant approval for the acts of that day.

And THAT, Mr. Obama, is the "rich heritage" Muslims have here in America.

Oh, I'm sorry, I forgot to mention the Barbary Pirates. They were Muslim.

And now we can add November 5, 2009 – the slaughter of American soldiers at Fort Hood by a Muslim major who is a doctor and a psychiatrist who was supposed to be counseling soldiers returning from battle in Iraq and Afghanistan.

That, Mr. Obama, is the "Muslim heritage" in America.

Now you know what you can do with your "Muslim heritage" in America.

Unite behind Obama? **Never!**

I am sure many of you who read this think that I am going overboard, but I **refuse** to retreat one more inch in favor of those whom I believe are the embodiment of Evil!

PRESIDENT BUSH made many mistakes during his Presidency, and I am not sure how history will judge him. However, I believe that he weighed his decisions in light of the long established Judeo-Christian principles of our Founding Fathers!!!

Majority rules in America, and I will honor the concept; however, I will fight with all of my power to be a voice in opposition to Obama and his "goals for America .."

I am going to be a thorn in the side of those who, if left unchecked, will destroy our Country! Any more compromise is more defeat!

I pray that the results of this election will wake up many who have sat on the sidelines and allowed the Socialist-Marxist anti-GOD crowd to slowly change so much of what has been good in America!

"Error of Opinion may be tolerated where Reason is left free to combat it." - Thomas Jefferson

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GOD bless you and GOD bless our Country!

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>Thanks for your time, may you and yours be safe. >"In GOD We Trust"

Dear friends;

Once upon a time in the land called Kansas, the difference between reality and insanity was quite clear. Reality was based on living within revenues raised in Kansas vs. the insanity of deficit spending by being addicted to federal dollars rolling into our state coffers.

How can Kansas be guilty of deficit spending? Well, for every dollar we take from Washington, nearly half (42 cents) is borrowed, printed and or stolen (from the Social Security Trust Fund, boy is that a misnomer), so technically we, the State of Kansas, do have to balance our budget, but we balance it with dollars that are borrowed by our federal government. Neat trick, don't you think?

Every state in the union is guilty of this, naturally, they will all scream, "but they (the feds) make us do it with their mandates!" Really? When was the last time you ever heard any state official say to a federal mandate, "under what authority are you requiring these programs and the allocation of our precious resources?" Maybe a few states have stood up, but not until ObamaCare was there a hue and cry concerning federal mandates. But for how long and how forcefully will this protest last?

In Kansas our resolve is beginning to crumble, if there was ever any resolve. I will give you an example. In the Insurance Committee that I am assigned to, there was a bill submitted that because of ObamaCare, contained new requirements for insurance companies. It was explained to us, if we didn't pass this, Washington would be in Kansas forcing this regulation with federal oversight, rather than oversight from our (Kansas) Insurance Commission. There were a few legislators on the committee, including myself, who were willing to question the authority that Washington has to exact this punitive response, but even the insurance companies were backing this new requirement to be adopted to avert federal oversight.

Requirements from the Dodd Frank bill are beginning to show up in bills submitted to the Insurance Committee. Again representatives from the Kansas Insurance Commission recommended complying with the new rules and regulations without an ounce of resistance.

The other fact of our dependence on federal dollars is that we cannot make cost saving changes in Medicaid sense our expenditures (which remember are 57% higher than Federal mandates) because of maintenance of effort requirement.

So we have in essence lost control of our budget, which begs the question, does Kansas really exist as a state in a union, or have we become a mere subdivision of the U.S. Government? I believe that we are at the point of losing our standing as a state in a union as we continue to give up our authority of maintaining reserved powers given to us by our founding fathers in the U.S. Constitution in exchange for dollars from Washington.

So how much of a problem, or some would say a blessing, are Federal dollars coming into Kansas? Well, here are the numbers and you can decide. In the budget year of 2008, \$3.522 billion dollars were added to the Kansas budget via federal dollars. In 2009 that number increased to \$3.794 billion and 2010 the number exploded to \$4.544 billion, which ballooned both our State General Fund and our All Funds budget, numbers from which we are looking to par down from in the 2011 revision budget, which has \$3.994 billion of federal dollars.

The lions share goes to Human Services 2008 \$1.958 billion, 2009- \$2.155 billion, 2010 estimate \$2.467 billion and 2011 estimate \$2.235 billion.....and education 2008 \$783.7 million, 2009 \$835.4 million, 2010 \$1.087 billion (estimate) and 2011 \$933.6 million.

Those numbers reflect that in 2010 when combining the State General Fund and federal dollars, money coming from Washington D.C. was more than 50%! To me this is a shocking number and is of great concern for me, because he who has control over the dollars coming into our budget has control of our state. And so who is controlling Kansas? You've got it, dear Uncle Sam, who once upon a time was a good guy. He's run amuck and needs to be told in the strongest possible terms, the difference between expressed and reserve

powers in the U.S. Constitution. Let's hope and pray that our States Attorney Generals are successful in overturning ObamaCare, but if they are, it will only be the first step in detangling ourselves from the tentacles from the "easy money" from Washington D.C.

Double up on your prayers, I need them all.

Respectfully yours,
Charlotte O'Hara

Energy in America: EPA Rules Force Shell to Abandon Oil Drilling Plans

By Dan Springer

Published April 25, 2011 on FoxNews.com

Shell Oil Company has announced it must scrap efforts to drill for oil this summer in the Arctic Ocean off the northern coast of Alaska. The decision comes following a ruling by the EPA's Environmental Appeals Board to withhold critical air permits. The move has angered some in Congress and triggered a flurry of legislation aimed at stripping the EPA of its oil drilling oversight.

Shell has spent five years and nearly \$4 billion dollars on plans to explore for oil in the Beaufort and Chukchi Seas. The leases alone cost \$2.2 billion. Shell Vice President Pete Slaiby says obtaining similar air permits for a drilling operation in the Gulf of Mexico would take about 45 days. He's especially frustrated over the appeal board's suggestion that the Arctic drill would somehow be hazardous for the people who live in the area. "We think the issues were really not major," Slaiby said, "and clearly not impactful for the communities we work in."

The closest village to where Shell proposed to drill is Kaktovik, Alaska. It is one of the most remote places in the United States. According to the latest census, the population is 245 and nearly all of the residents are Alaska natives. The village, which is 1 square mile, sits right along the shores of the Beaufort Sea, 70 miles away from the proposed off-shore drill site.

The EPA's appeals board ruled that Shell has not taken into consideration emissions from an ice-braking vessel when calculating overall greenhouse gas emissions from the project. Environmental groups were thrilled by the ruling.

"What the modeling showed was in communities like Kaktovik, Shell's drilling would increase air pollution levels close to air quality standards," said Eric Grafe, Earthjustice's lead attorney on the case. Earthjustice was joined by Center for Biological Diversity and the Alaska Wilderness League in challenging the air permits.

At stake is an estimated 27 billion barrels of oil. That's how much the U.S. Geological Survey believes is in the U.S. portion of the Arctic Ocean. For perspective, that represents two and a half times more oil than has flowed down the Trans Alaska pipeline throughout its 30-year history. That pipeline is getting dangerously low on oil. At 660,000 barrels a day, it's carrying only one-third its capacity.

Production on the North Slope of Alaska is declining at a rate of about 7 percent a year. If the volume gets much lower, pipeline officials say they will have to shut it down. Alaska officials are blasting the Environmental Protection Agency.

"Its driving investment and production overseas," said Alaska's DNR Commissioner Dan Sullivan. "That doesn't help the United States in any way, shape or form."

The EPA did not return repeated calls and e-mails. The Environmental Appeals Board has four members: Edward Reich, Charles Sheehan, Kathie Stein and Anna Wolgast. All are registered Democrats and Kathie Stein was an activist attorney for the Environmental Defense Fund. Members are appointed by the EPA administrator. Alaska's Republican senator thinks it's time to make some changes.

"EPA has demonstrated that they're not competent to handle the process," said Senator Lisa Murkowski. "So if they're not competent to handle it, they need to get out of the way."

Murkowski supported budget amendments that would have stripped the EPA of its oversight role in Arctic offshore drilling. The Interior Department issues air permits to oil companies working in the Gulf of Mexico.

Since Snopes is managed by Obama personnel they have "NO COMMENT" on the following!!

Obama told us in advance what he planned to do. Either we were not listening or we couldn't believe what we were hearing. The following is a narrative taken from a 2008 Sunday morning televised "Meet The Press".

From Sunday's 07, September 2008, 11:48:04 EST, Televised "Meet the Press"

The Then Senator Obama was asked about his stance on the American Flag.

General Bill Ginn' USAF (retired) asked Obama to explain WHY he doesn't follow protocol when the National Anthem is played.

The General stated to Obama that according to the United States Code, Title 36, Chapter 10, Sec. 171...

During rendition of the national anthem, when the flag is displayed, all present (except those in uniform) are expected to stand at attention facing the flag with the right hand over the heart. Or, at the very least, "Stand and Face it".

NOW GET THIS!!!

'Senator' Obama replied

"As I've said about the flag pin, I don't want to be perceived as taking sides". "There are a lot of people in the world to whom the American flag is a symbol of oppression." "The anthem itself conveys a war-like message. You know, the bombs bursting in air and all that sort of thing."

(ARE YOU READY FOR THIS?????)

OBAMA CONTINUED: "THE NATIONAL ANTHEM SHOULD BE "SWAPPED" FOR SOMETHING LESS PAROCHIAL AND LESS BELLICOSE. I LIKE THE SONG 'D LIKE TO TEACH THE WORLD TO SING". If that were our anthem, then, I might salute IT. In my opinion, we should consider reinventing our National Anthem as well as "redesign" our Flag to better offer our enemies hope and love. IT'S MY INTENTION, IF ELECTED, TO DISARM AMERICA TO THE LEVEL OF ACCEPTANCE TO OUR MIDDLE EAST BRETHREN. IF WE, AS A NATION OF WARRING PEOPLE, CONDUCT OURSELVES LIKE THE NATIONS OF ISLAM, WHERE PEACE PREVAILS -- PERHAPS A STATE OR PERIOD OF MUTURAL ACCORD COULD EXIST BETWEEN OUR GOVERNMENTS...."

When I become President, I will seek a pact of agreement to end hostilities between those who have been at war or in a state of enmity, and a freedom from disquieting oppressive thought. We as a Nation, have placed upon the nations of Islam, an unfair injustice which if WHY my wife disrespects the Flag and she and I have attended several flag burning ceremonies in the past".

"Of course now, I have found myself about to become the President of the United States and I have put my hatred aside. I will use my power to bring CHANGE to this Nation, and offer the people a new path..My wife and I look forward to becoming our Country's First black Family. Indeed, CHANGE is about to overwhelm the United States of America."

WHAAAAAT, the H*** is that????

YES, you read it right.

I, for one, am speechless!!!

Dale Lindsborg, Washington Post

EVERYONE IN THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA NEEDS TO READ THIS, KEEP IT GOING!!! SAVE AMERICA BEFORE IT'S TOO LATE!!! If it isn't already!!!

[When will Obama crack in public?](#)

Posted: April 19, 2011

by Mychal Massie

At a time when many Americans can barely afford Burger King and a movie, Obama boasts of spending a billion dollars on his re-election campaign. Questioned at a recent appearance about the spiraling fuel costs, Obama said, "Get used to it" – and with an insouciant grin and chortle, he told another person at the event, who complained about the effect high fuel prices were having on his family, to "get a more fuel-efficient car."

The Obamas behave as if they were sharecroppers living in a trailer and hit the Powerball, but instead of getting new tires for their trailer and a new pickup truck, they moved to Washington. And instead of making possum pie, with goats and chickens in the front yard, they're spending and living large at taxpayer expense – opulent vacations, gala balls, resplendent dinners and exclusive command performances at the White House, grand date nights, golf, basketball, more golf, exclusive resorts and still more golf.

Expensive, ill-fitting and ill-chosen wigs and fashions hardly befit the first lady of the United States. The Obamas have behaved in every way but presidential – which is why it's so offensive when we hear Obama say, in order "to restore fiscal responsibility, we all need to share in the sacrifice – but we don't have to sacrifice the America we believe in."

The American people have been sacrificing; it is he and his family who are behaving as if they've never had two nickels to rub together – and now, having hit the mother lode, they're going to spend away their feelings of inadequacy at the taxpayers' expense.

Obama continues to exhibit behavior that, at best, can be described as mobocratic and, at worst, reveals a deeply damaged individual. In a February 2010 column, I asked, "[Is Obama unraveling?](#)" I wrote that it was beginning to appear the growing mistrust of him and contempt for his policies was beginning to have a destabilizing effect on him.

At that time, I wrote that not having things go one's way can be a bitter pill, but reasonable people don't behave as he was behaving. He had insulted Republicans at their luncheon, where he had been an invited guest. I had speculated that was, in part, what had led him to falsely accuse Supreme Court justices before Congress, the nation and the world, during the 2010 State of the Union address.

It appeared, at that time, as if he were "fraying around the emotional edges." That behavior has not abated – it has become more pronounced. While addressing the nation, after being forced to explain the validity of his unilateral aggression with Libya, America witnessed a petulant individual scowling and scolding the public for daring to insist he explain his actions.

But during an afternoon speech to address the budget/debt, he took his scornful, unstable despotic behavior to depths that should give the nation cause for concern. Displaying a dark psychopathy more representative of an episode of "The Tudors" television series, he invited Rep. Paul Ryan, R-Wis., to sit in the front row during his speech and then proceeded to berate both Ryan and Ryan's budget-cutting plan. Even liberal Democrats were put off by the act. MSNBC's Joe Scarborough questioned the sanity of Obama's actions.

Today, criticism is coming from all sides. A senior Democrat lawmaker said, "I have been very disappointed in [Obama], to the point where I'm embarrassed that I endorsed him. It's so bad that some of us are thinking, is there some way we can replace him? How do you get rid of this guy?" ("Democrats' Disgust with Obama," *The Daily Beast*, April 15, 2011)

Steve McCann wrote: Obama's speech "was chock full of lies, deceit and crass fear-mongering. It must be said that [he] is the most dishonest, deceitful and mendacious person in a position of power I have ever witnessed" ("The Mendacity of Barack Obama," AmericanThinker.com, April 15, 2011).

McCann continued: "[His] performance was the culmination of four years of outright lies and narcissism that have been largely ignored by the media, including some in the conservative press and political class who are loath to call [him] what he is in the bluntest of terms: a liar and a fraud. That he relies on his skin color to intimidate, either outright or by insinuation [against] those who oppose his radical agenda only add to his audacity. It is apparent that he has gotten away with his character flaws his entire life, aided and abetted by sycophants around him. ..."

With these being among the kinder rebukes being directed at Obama, and with people becoming less intimidated by his willingness to use race as a bludgeon, with falling poll numbers in every meaningful category and an increasingly aggressive tea-party opposition – how much longer before he cracks completely?

The coming months of political life are not going to be pleasant for Obama. Possessed by a self-perceived palatine mindset, that in his mind places him above criticism, how long before he cracks in public? Can America risk a man with a documented track record of lying and misrepresenting truth as a basic way of life, who is becoming increasingly more contumelious?

Mychal Massie is chairman of the National Leadership Network of Black Conservatives-Project 21 – a conservative black think tank located in Washington, D.C. He was recognized as the 2008 Conservative Man of the Year by the Conservative Party of Suffolk County, N.Y. He is a nationally recognized political activist, pundit and columnist. He has appeared on Fox News Channel, CNN, MSNBC, C-SPAN, NBC, Comcast Cable and talk radio programming nationwide. A former self-employed business owner of more than 30 years, Massie can be followed at mychal-massie.com.

HANDY LITTLE CHART – GOD HAS A POSITIVE ANSWER:

YOU SAY**GOD SAYS****BIBLE VERSES**

| | | |
|---------------------------------|--|-----------------------------------|
| It's Impossible | All Things are possible | Luke 18:27 |
| I'm too tired | I will give you rest | Matthew 11:28-30 |
| Nobody really loves me | I love you | John 3:16 & John 3:34 |
| I can't go on | My grace is sufficient | II Corinthians 12-9 & Psalm 91:15 |
| I can't figure things out | I will direct your steps | Proverbs 3:5-6 |
| I can't do it | You can do all things | Phillppians 4:13 |
| I'm not able | I am able | II Corinthians 9:8 |
| It's not worth it | It will be worth it | Roman 8:28 |
| I can't forgive myself | I Forgive you | I John 1:9 & Romans 8:1 |
| I can't manage | I will supply all your needs | Phillippians 4:19 |
| I'm afraid | I have not given you a spirit of fear | II Timothy 1:7 |
| I'm always worried & frustrated | Cast all your cares on ME | I Peter 5:7 |
| I'm not smart enough | I give you wisdom | I Corinthians 1:30 |
| I feel all alone | I will never leave you or forsake you. | Hebrews 13:5 |

You Never Know Who May be in Need.

The first sentence is pretty powerful!

God determines who walks into your life...

It's up to you to decide

Who you let walk away,

Who you let stay,

And who you refuse to let go."

Father, God,

Bless all my friends in whatever it is

That you know they may need this day!

And may their lives be full of Your peace, prosperity and power

As they seek to have a closer relationship with YOU.

Amen

“NOT YOURS TO GIVE” RALLY on the Capital Steps on April 28

Chris & Larry Tawney, Chuck Henderson, Sharon Greene and Matt Pennell attended the "Not Yours to Give" Rally on the State Capital Steps on April 28. Many thanks to Matt, who handed out "good" Constitutions to groups of school children; Richard Fry, one of many speakers, who spoke to all concerning the budget, DHS, property rights. Kris Kobach and Tom Treacy who were there informing all about Senate Bill 103, which ensures the votes of our military personnel WILL BE COUNTED (at least military personnel from Kansas)!! One thing they Discovered AGAIN is that you, me, all of us, need to be very careful about WHICH Constitution we are handing out. The constitution that the National Constitutional Center out of Pennsylvania had printed and furnished to be distributed at the State House was one that leaves out important dates, calls the Declaration of Independence an "appendix", and fails to quote our founding fathers. Chris made sure those were immediately pulled and Flint Hills TEA Party Constitutions were put in and handed out. WE MUST BE VERY, VERY CAREFUL OF THE CONSTITUTIONS WE HAND OUT. IT IS BETTER NOT TO HAND OUT ANY THAN HAND OUT INCORRECT ONES. Yes, it is true various groups are changing dates and words or just leaving important dates in our history out of the Constitutions altogether. If you DON'T KNOW which one is the correct one - check with Chris before handing out any!!! (The gold standard is the one printed by National Center for Constitutional Studies, nccs.net.; It is proofed word for word to the original document and has all the important dates that celebrate our freedom, especially July 4, 1776.) And the Declaration of Independence is not an "appendix".

November Patriots'

Fact Sheet:

Brownback / Legislature's Failure to Address Worsening Fiscal Problems Hurts Kansas' Credit Ratings with Moody's

Moody's investment Service further downgraded some of Kansas' bonds from their Aa1 to Aa2 on April 13, 2011. The bonds had been previously downgraded from "stable" to "negative" on April 6, 2011. [i]

The reasons given for the earlier down grade of Kansas' financial statutes was attributed to: 1) expectation of worsening structural imbalance and growing negative fund balances (General fund), 2) extended use of non-recurring budget-balancing measures, 3) failure to formulate a plan to rebuild financial reserves, 4) failure to address low pension funded status, 5) pressures related to Medicaid funding, 6) pressures related to education funding.

In plain English the business world is not happy with the lack of leadership shown by Gov.

Brownback and the Senate and House leadership in failing to deal with Kansas' fiscal problems though other than fuzzy numbers, pie in the sky projections and budgetary smoke and mirrors.

A Kansas Department of Transportation document shows that the Brownback administration and the current Legislative leadership are once are going to us the Sibelius and Parkinson gimmicks of "borrowing" or otherwise robbing the Kansas State Highway fund to "balance" the budget. [ii] Brownback is proposing a \$200M steal from KDOT to help support his proposed increase in spending. The current bill passed by the House has a \$390 million increase (6%) in spending.[iii]

There is some concern as to whether the pilfering of funds from the SHF / KDOT is even constitutional. [iv]

Citizens can expect more bad news down the road unless they can get control of the of the Kansas government i.e. Governor Brownback and the Senate and House Republican leadership and stop their effort for yet another spending increase in the face of record deficits.

"Informed Voters, Informing Voters"

http://groups.yahoo.com/group/November_Patriots/

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[Looks like it is time to be writing/emailing our Governor and State Senators & Legislatures. Those of you who will use email you can google your State Senators and/or Representative and email them. Those with snail mail the address is: State Capitol, 300 S.W. 10th Ave., Topeka, KS 66612](#)

Border agents will have to use old-fashion police techniques to secure the US, while the government spends money to protect borders in other nations.

Photo: CBP

Friday is traditionally the day on which bad news or politically harmful information is released by denizens of the nation's capital, and January 14 is no different: Secretary of Homeland Security Janet Napolitano's office announced that the Obama administration canceled the 'Virtual Fence' project along the U.S.-Mexico border.

The reason for this latest cancellation is the continued technical equipment problems and the rising costs of constructing and installing the components including closed-circuit TV cameras and monitors, electronic detectors, and other security measures.

As reported by the Law Enforcement Examiner, the original border security plan called for a fence and barriers to be used on parts of the U.S.'s southern border, but with the Democrats controlling both houses of Congress and the Bush Administration being weak on border security, the plan switched from a real fence to a virtual fence using high-tech equipment.

Unfortunately, the Department of Homeland Security's latest failure to protect the United State, was a costly program to place crucial electronic surveillance systems along the U.S.-Mexico border that is years behind

schedule. The security project is grossly over budget because Secretary Janet Napolitano's agency hasn't adequately managed the contractor doing the work, according to a Washington, DC watchdog group.

As a result, hundreds of millions of taxpayer dollars will be wasted and the porous southern border will continue to be vulnerable despite the Obama Administration's assurances that it's as secure as it's ever been. So far the troubled project, known as Secure Border Initiative Network, has cost the government \$672 million although it's nowhere near completion, according to Judicial Watch, a public-interest group that investigates political corruption.

After years of debates, congressional votes, government studies and political posturing by lawmakers, the so-called "virtual fence" continues to cause more problems than it solves, according to testimony at a session of the House Homeland Security Committee.

In a compromise that met with disappointment by those who advocate tighter border security, instead of walls or chain link fencing, the U.S. Border Patrol and Homeland Security Department created the concept of virtual fence security that includes surveillance cameras, motion or heat sensing detectors, radar, and supposed state-of-the-art control towers designed to detect and prevent illegal immigration and drug smuggling into the United States.

According to a report obtained by the National Association of Chiefs of Police, the security contractor -- Boeing Co. -- is installing the hi-tech physical security system. The original plan called for a completion date by December 2009 at a cost of \$1.1 billion for a virtual fence. According to the report obtained by NACOP, Boeing requested that completion date to be amended by seven years.

Physical security experts told this writer it should surprise no one that a relatively simple project would become complicated and unmanageable given that fact that most of the decision-makers probably have no law enforcement, security or engineering background.

The Obama initiative aims to enhance border security by designing technological tools that enable Border Patrol agents to detect and respond to incursions along unmanned stretches of the 2,000-mile Mexican border. This includes installing unattended ground sensors, radars and cameras. The so-called virtual fence was supposed to be completed by 2011, but Homeland Security officials recently pushed the date up to 2014, well after Obama's 2012 reelection campaign.

That's because the agency has failed to properly oversee the project's prime contractor, resulting in costly rework, numerous delays and lots of extra money. In fact Homeland Security officials stood by as the contractor provided information that was "replete with unexplained anomalies, thus rendering the data unfit

for effective contractor management and oversight,” congressional investigators found.

The initiative to erect barriers -- both electronic and physical -- along the U.S. Mexico border has been plagued with a multitude of problems since it was implemented under the George W. Bush Administration. After funding issues got largely settled, some border mayors in Texas blocked the feds from conducting fence work on city property, a large Indian tribe (Tohono O’odham) in Arizona refused to allow a fence to be erected along a vulnerable stretch of border and the so-called virtual fence project has been delayed several times.

Last year a separate GAO report revealed that the physical fence was costing U.S. taxpayers an average of nearly \$4 million per mile. The per mile costs vary considerably depending on the type of fencing, topography, materials, labor costs and the price of land acquisition, but investigators determined that serious cost overruns have led to the exorbitant average figure.

Jim Kouri, CPP is currently fifth vice-president of the National Association of Chiefs of Police and he's a columnist for The Examiner (examiner.com) and New Media Alliance (thenma.org). In addition, he's a blogger for the Cheyenne, Wyoming Fox News Radio affiliate KGAB (www.kgab.com). Kouri also serves as political advisor for Emmy and Golden Globe winning actor Michael Moriarty.

He's former chief at a New York City housing project in Washington Heights nicknamed "Crack City" by reporters covering the drug war in the 1980s. In addition, he served as director of public safety at a New Jersey university and director of security for several major organizations. He's also served on the National Drug Task Force and trained police and security officers throughout the country. Kouri writes for many police and security magazines including Chief of Police, Police Times, The Narc Officer and others. He's a news writer and columnist for AmericanDaily.Com, MensNewsDaily.Com, MichNews.Com, and he's syndicated by AXcessNews.Com. Kouri appears regularly as on-air commentator for over 100 TV and radio news and talk shows including Fox News Channel, Oprah, McLaughlin Report, CNN Headline News, MTV, etc.

To subscribe to Kouri's newsletter write to COPmagazine@aol.com and write "Subscription" on the subject line.

Sadly, we give our heartfelt condolences to friends who have lost loved ones. To Paul and Jan Barkey and family in their loss of the Spencer family. Also to Brandon West who has lost his step-father. Our prayers are with you. May God be with you and yours now and always.

We want to sincerely thank Bob and Brenda Bowser for taping our events and putting them on internet for those who were unable to attend the events in person. This is a huge help to us, and those needing and wanting the information. Bob and Brenda, we are indebted to you. Thank you!!

Flint Hills TEA Party contact information: www.flinthillsteaparty.com; email: fntp@flinthillsteaparty.com or facebook – Flint Hills TEA Party; Manhattan contact – Chuck Henderson, 785-236-1286; Sylva Nichols, 12100 Walsburg Road, Leonardville, KS 66449 sends the snail mail Newsletter; Snail Mail: Flint Hills TEA Party of KS, 1228 Westloop Place, PMB #326, Manhattan, KS 66502-2840

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