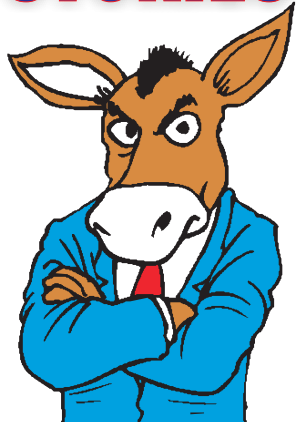


INSIDE STORIES



Rove's 9-11 Remarks Anger Democrats
Page 2

Bridges Elected President Of Teacher Union
Page 2



EDITORIAL

CONGRESS:

SAY NO TO CAFTA



Page 9

THE OVERTON/HULEN FAMILY TALES

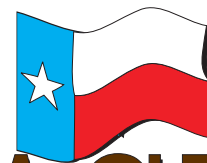
By Jerry V. Overton and Don M. Fisher

Page 10



© 2005, THE LONE STAR ICONOCLAST

The Lone Star ICONOCLAST



\$1.50 Per Copy www.iconoclast-texas.com • CRAWFORD, TEXAS • Vol. 6, No. 26 — Wednesday, June 29, 2005

Codex Alimentarius

Countdown To Extinction

U.N. Food Policy
Dumbs Down
World Health Standards,
Says U.S. Physician

'Codex will make all natural health options illegal.

'If you take away supplemental feeding on the population of the Earth what you come up with is a minimum death of one billion people by starvation, and the next two billion fragment of the population is going to die because of a chronic disease of under-nutrition.

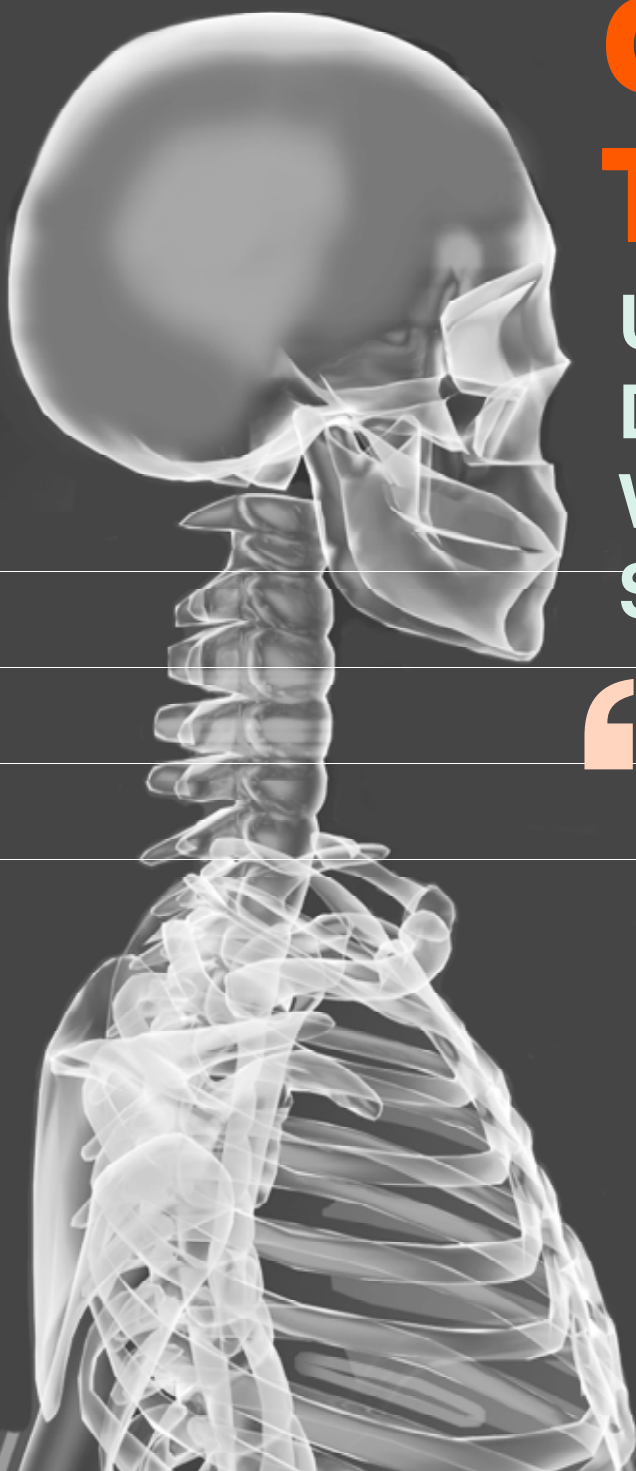
'The point is that this cuts across party affiliation, age, gender, stance on abortion, — it cuts across everything because if you get it, you get it. Everything else is secondary.

'This is health Armageddon.'

— Dr. Rima E. Laibow, M.D.



Dr. Laibow





The Lone Star Iconoclast is published weekly, on Wednesdays, by Smith Media, Inc., P.O. Box 420, Crawford, TX 76638 and 310 W. 5th St., P.O. Box 353, Clifton, TX 76634

Periodicals Postage is Paid at Clifton, TX 76634.

SUBSCRIPTION PRICE: McLennan & Bosque Counties, one year: \$40; Elsewhere, one year: \$45. Give old address when requesting change of address.

POSTMASTER: Please send address change to: The Lone Star Iconoclast, P.O. Box 353, Clifton, TX 76634.

DEADLINES: 5 p.m. Fridays.

Telephone (All Departments) — (254) 675-3336 • Toll-Free 1-800-241-5504

Fax No. — (254) 675-4090 • Email: office@iconoclast-texas.com

Web Newspaper: iconoclast-texas.com

EDITORIAL
Associate Editors:
Don M. Fisher
Nathan Diebenow

ADVERTISING
Melanie Harvey,
Marketing Director
Carolyn Black,
Advertising Manager
Linda Robinson,
Advertising Consultant

PUBLISHER & EDITOR-IN-CHIEF
W. Leon Smith

BUSINESS
Kay Ortiz, Front Office Manager
Allison Smith, Bookkeeping,
Internet Manager
Michael Harvey, Collections/Scheduling

ICONOCLAST: An exposé of icons.
Icon-buster.
Fighter for Truth, Justice, and the American Way.

THE ENTIRE CONTENTS of each issue of The Lone Star Iconoclast are protected under the Federal Copyright Act. Reproduction of any portion of any issue will not be permitted without the express permission of Smith Media, Inc.

NOTICE TO THE PUBLIC: Any error or erroneous reflection upon the character, standing, or reputation of any person, firm, or corporation which may appear in this newspaper will be gladly corrected upon being brought to the attention of the management.

CIRCULATION
Charlie Gandy
Pernie Stanford
Wayne Thompson
Bud Shaffer
Bobby Williams
Evelyn Suesz
Robert Koenig
Wanda Raines

THE LONE STAR ICONOCLAST welcomes letters of up to 150 words on any public issue. Any letter that exceeds the word limit may not be considered for publication. We publish only original letters addressed to The Iconoclast. An address and daytime phone number must be included so the author's identity can be verified. No letters will be published until authorship is confirmed. Those who write letters are asked to limit their entries to one per month. All letters are subject to editing. The Iconoclast reserves the right to decline publication of any submission. Letters must be signed. Letters written in the promotion of political candidates or issues to be decided by an election will not be considered for publication unless they are scheduled for publication three weeks or more prior to the election. Individuals may purchase advertising space during the period prior to the election in support of candidates or issues to be voted upon. Letters written as cards of thanks may be charged classified ad rate and be placed in classified section of newspaper, at editors' option.

Bridges Elected President Of State Teacher Union

To Lead 51,000 Educators As Second Round Of School Finance Debate Looms

AUSTIN — Texas Federation of Teachers members elected Linda Bridges—a longtime union activist and president of the Corpus Christi American Federation of Teachers (CAFT)—as its president Friday at the group's biennial convention in San Antonio. Bridges takes the reins from John Cole, who is retiring after 24 years at the post.

Bridges officially takes office on July 1. "I'm energized and ready to go, which is good because with my election comes news that the Legislature is ready to try and tackle school finance again next week," Bridges said. "Our members are juiced as well. It may be summer vacation time, but we're going to be on the front lines letting legislators know every day that we're watching and we're working to ensure that adequate education funding is the key focus this time around."

Bridges has a long history of successful activism in Texas, including a campaign that led to CAFT becoming the first teachers union in Texas to win the right of elected representation, which allows a group elected by all employees of a district to negotiate exclusively on

issues affecting those employees.

As the local leader in Corpus Christi, she worked with the school district to emphasize professional development for teachers and support personnel, including mentoring programs and safety training. "We're going to continue on the path of providing teachers and support staff with the training they need to improve their effectiveness, which translates into a better education for schoolchildren," Bridges said.

Bridges also worked hard to help school employees play an active role in community efforts for education initiatives, such as work on reducing drop out rates. And she stressed involvement in other community-based programs. "It's my belief that educators need to reach out in all areas of community development, because it helps form a network of support for education," she said.

Bridges was president of Corpus Christi American Federation of Teachers, an affiliate of TFT and AFT, since 1981, and a full-time officer since 1978. She formerly taught special education in the Corpus Christi Independent

School District and served a six-year term as a Del Mar College regent.

Bridges also was one of the community members appointed by plaintiffs to negotiate in a landmark desegregation lawsuit against Corpus Christi ISD in the early 1980s that ended school busing and instituted improvements in low-

income schools in the district.

The Texas Federation of Teachers represents more than 51,000 teachers, paraprofessionals, support personnel, and higher-education employees across the state. TFT is affiliated with the 1.3-million-member American Federation of Teachers.

Rove's 9/11 Remarks Enrage Democrats

WASHINGTON, D.C. -- President Bush's White House advisor Karl Rove made blistering remarks last week against liberals causing Democrats to call for his resignation and apologies.

Rove said at a fund-raiser in Manhattan last Wednesday that liberals had poorly responded to the Sept. 11 attacks.

"Conservatives saw the savagery of 9/11 and the attacks and prepared for war; liberals saw the savagery of the 9/11 attacks and wanted to prepare indictments and offer therapy and understanding for our attackers," said Rove. "Conservatives saw what happened to us on 9/11 and said, 'We will defeat our enemies.' Liberals saw what happened

to us and said, 'We must understand our enemies.'"

While the two top New York Republicans, Mayor Michael R. Bloomberg and Gov. George E. Pataki, were on the defensive, the White House downplayed Rove's remarks saying that the White House advisor was comparing two different political philosophies.

Rove's comments also drew questions from families of 9/11 victims and Downing Street Memo watchers, wondering how "conservatives... prepared for war?"

Kristen Breitweiser wrote on The Huffington Post: "Did your preparations include: sound intelligence to warrant your actions; a reasonable entry and exit strategy coupled with a coherent plan to carry out that strategy; the proper training and equipment for the troops you were sending in to fight your war? Did you follow the advice of experts such as General Shinseki who correctly advised you about the troop levels needed to actually succeed in Iraq? No, you didn't."

Crawford Resident Named To Dean's List At SFA

NACOGDOCHES—Pamela Denise Bryant of Crawford has been named to the Dean's List at Stephen F. Austin State University for the Spring semester.

To be eligible for this honor, a student must be enrolled in 12 or more semester hours and maintain a grade point average of at least 3.0.

Albrecht's Pharmacy, Inc.

506 West 5th, Clifton • (254) 675-8398

We honor all Medicare-approved prescription drug discount cards. Come by the pharmacy for the enrollment forms. We will get you signed up today!

We also honor all Insurance Plans. Call us to see if we are a pharmacy provider for your plan. Some of the many plans we process are:

Scott & White Health Plan
Blue Cross-Blue Shield
Caremark
Advance/PCS
Wellpoint
TriCare
Express Scripts
First Care

Federal Employee
Teachers Retirement Plan
Merk-Medco
Aetna
Cigna
Anthem
PAID
Rx-West

Uni-Care
Texas Medicaid Plan
United Health Care
Champus-TriCare
etc.

Monday-Friday 8 a.m.-6 p.m.
Saturday 8 a.m.-3 p.m.





U.N. Food Policy Dumps Down World Health Standards, Says U.S. Physician

BY NATHAN DIEBENOW
ASSOCIATE EDITOR

CRAWFORD — The United Nations is not exactly a cute and fuzzy bunny, according to one environmental physician. It can also behave like that evil, man-eating rabbit in the movie *Monty Python and the Holy Grail*, although in this case the hare ain't funny.

Dr. Rima E. Laibow, M.D. of the Natural Solutions Foundation, a not-for-profit corporation, says that the quality of food grown in the United States and elsewhere is at stake as new trade regulations on foods and nutrients are about to be imposed by the U.N. through the World Trade Organization.

She adds, however, that not only will organic milk, natural herbs, and high potency supplements go extinct in the United States due to this European vitamin and mineral policy known as Codex Alimentarius but also a very large portion of the world's population, if its strict guidelines are implemented.

Based in part on Napoleonic Law, the Codex Alimentarius sets the stage for all food trade and processing to be regulated through a narrow, nutrient-low expectation that has the potential to cause about half the world's population to eventually become sick and ultimately die, as predicted by the World Health Organization (WHO) and the Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO), she said.

As a joint project of the FAO and the WHO the group responsible for this policy involves the go-to guys for the international pharmaceutical corporations. These representatives sit on the six-member Codex Commission, an unelected bureaucratic board that asks for no input from health, consumer, and agricultural activists during meetings in Rome, Italy. Its next meeting is this coming July.

Ultimately, this illegal Codex policy harmonization could wipe out the United States' right to govern its own food supply, leaving the red and blue parties here holding the grocery sack.

At least three U.S. Congressmen have signed on to Dr. Laibow's petition, and one, Congressman Ron Paul (R-TX), filed a congressional bill that called for the severing of relations between the U.S. and the U.N. and the WTO. Doing so would have stopped the Codex from trumping U.S. law.

During an interview with the LONE STAR ICONOCLAST'S Nathan Diebenow, Dr.

Laibow gave her take on the impact of Codex on consumers around the world, the influence of multinational corporations on the U.N., and the ways in which Codex policy harmonization can be stopped in the U.S.

.....
ICONOCLAST: First off, what exactly are you a doctor of and where did you receive your training?

DR. RIMA E. LAIBOW: I'm an M.D., and I have practiced non-pharmaceutical, drug free, non-toxic advanced medicine for 35 years. I graduated from Albert Einstein College of Medicine in 1970, and I did a residency in adult general psychiatry and a fellowship in child psychiatry back when psychiatry was a great deal more being a vending machine with a prescription pad attached. Then I did a fellowship in child psychiatry.

I finished my training in 1975 and I practiced drug-free psychiatry for 20 years with remarkable success. I had the practice people sent their patients to when they didn't want them as their outpatients. I treated and wrote about what I was doing. I published articles in scientific literature on autism, post-traumatic stress disease, and a variety of other difficult things. I treated them non-pharmacologically.

In 1991, I learned from a speaker at a meeting that actually was put on by my foundation in conjunction with the University of Kansas School of Medicine — I learned that there was such a thing as EEG — biofeedback — now we call it neuro-biofeedback.

Since the brain is the regulatory organ for the entire being, I thought this was very, very interesting. I went to the institute of the speaker at my meeting in California which is now defunct, unfortunately, and I learned some about neuro-biofeedback for peak performance and I met at that seminar General Stubblebine, who there interviewing the CEO of the organization and we looked at each other and said, "Hmm, if we take this out of the realm of peak performance and put it into conventional medical practice or at least a medical practice" — I never had a conventional medical practice — "we can create the medicine of self-regulation."

So we did that, and along the way, we realized that if we were having extraordinary success in training the brain to regulate correctly and properly but the body didn't have the nutrients in which

Codex Alimentarius

Countdown To Extinction

An Iconoclast Interview With
Dr. Rima E. Laibow, M.D.,
Natural Solutions Foundation

to heal, we were paddling upstream, so I became a nutritional physician.

Then after a while I said, "This is terrific. We're having technological mediated miracles, but if we don't detoxify people, if we give them all the nutrients and we did the biofeedback, we're still paddling upstream," so I became an environmental physician." Along the way we've been using frequency medicine in our practice for quite some time.

People come to me who have been everywhere and done everything that alternative so-called and conventional medicine, witchcraft and voodoo, burying themselves in mud, can offer to them, and they are still dying or intractably ill and then they come to me, and more or less, most of them get well. Some of them don't for a variety of reasons, like they want to die, but I have a very challenging and interesting practice.

The things that I do are well beyond any conventionally allopathic physician can do but well within the range of expectation of somebody who practices advanced medicine. I don't like the term alternative. The alternative for chronic, degenerative diseases in wellness promotion is conventional medicine and it's a pretty poor alternative so I use the term advanced medicine.

ICONOCLAST: How were you first informed of the existence of Codex Alimentarius?

DR. LAIBOW: I've been watching the Codex issue for about 10 years, and I've been sending in my letters to Congress to try to beat back harmonization legislation and so on and then round about December 2004, I looked at the 109th Congress, counted up the votes that we could count on to beat back harmonization legislation. The margin has been diminishing over each of those votes until we didn't have a margin anymore. We had disaster. I also looked at the health activism community in the United States, and I said, "Oh, shit!"

ICONOCLAST: (laughs) Quite literally.

DR. LAIBOW: (laughs) Oh, yes, I said, "You know, if we don't have somebody

who can stand up, think strategically, organize a grassroots with grassroots Congressional and international assault on this evil that is coming towards us, we're done."

And once we're done, because this is not regular legislation, because this is compliance with a world trade organization, that's what Codex is — Codex is the World Trade Organization — because of that, once it's passed, once it's ratified by the Codex Alimentarius Commission, we cannot modify it. We cannot cancel it.

We cannot modulate it or bring it into conformity with law unless we get out of the World Trade Organization, which wouldn't be such a bad idea to say the least, but the point is that we're stuck with it.

So a bunch of low-level bureaucrats are deciding international health policy, or rather international death policy — I'll explain that in a moment — without any democratic input, and we send FDA, USDA, and EPA representatives as our delegates and they don't get a chance to vote because Codex runs on consensus. That means that when the chairman wants something to happen, he bangs down his hand and says, "Approved by consensus."

That happened in the Committee for Nutrition and Foods Special Dietary Uses when the representative of India, who has at his back one-third of the population of the planet, said, "Mr. Chairman, we can't put this ingredient in baby food because it causes death in 10 percent of the infants of malnourished mothers and lots of our mothers are malnourished."

The chairman said, "Approved by consensus."

This happened in 2004, by the way. The Indian delegate said, "No, no, no, no. We've got to talk about this." And the chairman had the man physically removed by security guards and said, "Approved by consensus."

So we're talking about nothing that even bears the whiff of democratic process, and these are bureaucrats, unelected people who are making the decisions that the World Health Organi

Continued On Next Page



Dr. Rima E. Laibow, M.D.

• **CODEX ALIMENTARIUS...** Continued From Page 3

zation and the Food and Agricultural Organization that are putting this monstrosity together at the behest of the U.N. I'll explain that in a minute, too. If you look at those two organizations' estimates at what happens if you take away supplemental feeding on the population of the Earth what you come up with is a minimum death of one billion people by starvation, and the next two billion fragment of the population is going to die because of a chronic diseases of under-nutrition. That's their figuring. If you look at their numbers and you do the math, you come up with those minimum estimates of what just taking nutrients away from people will do globally.

Now, you could ask, "Why would they want to do that?" And you'd have to answer your own question because, unfortunately, they don't invite me into their inner circle meetings where they say, "Hey, here's what we're going to do, and here's why." So the Bible says, "By their works shall you know them." And the only thing you can do is look at who makes money out of all of this. Follow the money. The Jerry McGuire rule: "Show me the money!"

So who makes money? Let's see. A healthy populous that has access to abundant nutrients and therapeutically potent nutrients as we do in this country currently and a health populous has access to clean unadulterated food as some of us choose to in this country currently – food which has not been irradiated, food which has not been adulterated by having the animals universally treated with antibiotics and growth hormones, foods which have not been adulterated by pesticides, food which has not been grown in toxic environments so that the toxic levels of pesticides, herbicides, and toxins are incompatible with longevity and health, and food which has not been genetically modified – a population that would access to all of that uses fewer pharmaceuticals, doesn't it?

So what's good for the bottomline for the pharmaceutical industry is the same for the petrochemical industry, by the way. The same industry, the same controlling interests run both of those industries. They also run the agro-business industry, the chemical-pesticide industry, and the biotech industry – it's all sort of one club! So now you have all these

"Bigs" – Big Pharma, Big Chema, Big Agra, Big Biotechna, and Big Medica – all profiting hugely from a sickened population.

Did you know that out of every dollar of foreign aid that the U.S. spends, 86 cents goes to the pharmaceutical industry?

ICONOCLAST: No, I did not know that.

DR. LAIBOW: It's another corporate welfare trick. Foreign aide has turned into pharmaceutical aide, so it's P-H-O-R-E-I-G-N.

ICONOCLAST: How do they get away with that?

DR. LAIBOW: How do they get away with all of this shit? How do they get away with it? They own the legislature. They own the executive branch of the government. Last year the pharmaceutical industry spent – I hope you're wearing your intellectual seatbelt – \$758 million on 522 legislators. You do the math. They get away with it, and that's the declared money. In Indonesia, if you remember, Eli Lilly was fined a million and a half dollars in this country because they were laying sacks of \$50,000 on the desk of Indonesians officials. How do they get away with it here? They don't use sacks.

ICONOCLAST: (laughs)

DR. LAIBOW: But it's the same deal, isn't it? So we have the Bigs who have decided for whatever reason – it could be that they're stupid, but I don't think so; maybe they're really out to reduce the population, and I suspect so – but whether we live or die, the five Bigs plan to make it big financially. What good is money when the planet has been reduced in population by half? I don't know, but the point is that the Codex is a tool of incredible death and destruction.

Now, people say, "Well, it's just international trade." Wrong. I have to tell you that there's a significant amount of disinformation about Codex that comes from the FDA, USDA, two trade associations which back when DSHEA was being valiantly fought for by the population – DSHEA being the Dietary Supplement Health Education Act. Back then during the DSHEA days, the National Natural Foods Association (NNFA) was really on our side. So was the Council for Responsible Nutrition (CRN). They really were on our side, and they were about helping us. They were

about protecting supplements. Well, the pharmaceutical industry is anything but dumb. They said, "Hey, this is a good business. This is a business that will grow, and with every dollar that it grows, it will reduce our bottom line, so we need to get into this business."

On the membership list and on the board of directors of the NNFA, the major trade group for manufacturers is Pfizer, Monsanto, BASF, Weiss, Glaxo, Smith-Klein-Beecham, Novartis, Archer Daniels Midland, Eastman Chemical, and on we go to the other major trade organization, the CRN, and who is on their board of directors and membership list, well, son of a gun! The same companies. They're just so generous. They

have all this money to spend on membership dues. Well, bless their little hearts.

They have taken over leadership of policy roles and financing, I suspect, of these two organizations. CRN's position on Codex Alimentarius is "Hooray, hooray! This is going to protect us from those nasty dangerous supplements and nutrients!" Excuse me? Dangerous supplements and nutrients? Interesting. Where are the bodies?

ICONOCLAST: (laughs)

DR. LAIBOW: On the other hand, Codex is not going to protect us from – oh, say, Vioxx, which is estimated by the FDA to have caused anywhere between 55-188,000 American deaths. Excuse me, I'd

Continued On Next Page



Rated PG-13 2 hrs. 20 min.

After years of fighting, the Clone Wars are near an end. The Jedi Council dispatches Obi-Wan-Kenobi to bring General Grievous to justice. Meanwhile, Chancellor Palpatine has grown in power. His political changes transform the war-weary Republic into the mighty Galactic Empire. To his closest ally, Anakin Skywalker, he reveals the true nature of power and attempts to lure him to the Dark Side of the Force.

Thurs. June 30 Adults Only 7 p.m.	Friday July 1 7 p.m.	Sat. July 2 7 p.m.	Sun. July 3 7 p.m.
--	--	--	--



306 W. 5th St.
Clifton, Texas

ALL Tickets: \$4.00 Per Person
(254) 675-1229

Discover Hands-On Education.



I discovered the latest technical programs like nanotechnology, biotechnology, home technology integration and more at Texas State Technical College.



www.tstc.edu • 800.792.8784 • 254.867.2005

Discover TSTC. Discover Yourself.
Apply now! The fall term begins August 29.

Paid for by Carl Perkins Funds.

• **CODEX ALIMENTARIUS...** Continued From Page 4

like to choose what I'd like to get protected from.

ICONOCLAST: (laughs)

DR. LAIBOW: So we're talking – and on my website, I'll point you to some literature that substantiates what I'm saying because how do you know what I'm saying makes any sense? How do you know I'm not making this up? I'm not, but I substantiate everything that I say. It's very important to me. Where I can't substantiate, like the intent of these people is, well, I make that very clear. This is my opinion.

ICONOCLAST: So what does Codex do?

DR. LAIBOW: Codex will make all natural health options illegal. Right now, herbs aren't part of that because they gave away herbs to the WHO because so many countries were saying, "But wait, wait! Our people use herbs. It's the only medication that they have available. They don't want to use pharmaceuticals. They can't afford them." They gave herbs at the suggestion of the U.S. representative. They apparently illegally gave herbs to the WTO, and the WTO will, we expect, at the 11th hour when Codex goes into global implementation on Jan. 1, 2010, come back and say, "Herbs are untested drugs and therefore have to be banned world-wide." We believe that is their strategy there, but it's very clear what the strategy is with nutrients and supplements.

If you look at the European food supplements directive, and there is a piece on the "Additional Materials" section called "Risk Assessment and Nutrition: A Toxic Brew" on my website <www.HealthFreedomUSA.org> where I discuss the specific levels that have been set in the European food supplements directive which is set to go into effect on Aug. 1, which will remove 75 percent of the natural products from the shelves of Europe permanently because anything that can cause physiological change is considered to be a food as long as it's not a drug, and therefore comes under Codex. What they've done is list 28 items, one of which is a toxin, Flouride, so low that they are designed by intention to have no impact on any susceptible human being. That's the European implementation of Codex principles.

Dr. Grossklaus, who is the chairman of the nutrition committee has stated that the European food supplements directive is the future face of Codex. He has also stated that nutrition has no place in medicine. He is a nutritional physician but I don't quite know how he squares those two things, but he is rumored to own BFR which is a company

– as far as I understand – that is the sole source of the risk assessment information and so Dr. Grossklaus owns the company that is submitting the risk assessment data using toxicology to control nutrients guaranteeing every single human being that comes under the sway of Codex will be chronically undernourished.

Now there are three things important here. The first thing is that Codex is being foisted upon the developing countries. They not only follow Codex in terms of international standards and international shipment and so on, but they also adopt Codex as their own values. That means that it will be forbidden in Rwanda, Nigeria, Tanzania, Ethiopia, China, the United States – the countries adopting it into their own standards – to use supplemental nutrition above the level of Codex standards, and those standard levels are designed to have no impact on human beings.

Let's say there is a famine in Ethiopia. It could happen, or the gingu weed is rampaging again, driving refugees into camps and aid organizations want to bring in nutrient rich food. They can't. A) They can't ship it internationally, and B) it will be against the law of the country to use supplemental nutrition higher than those levels, even with a physician's prescription. Anything other than those small number of nutrients and any nutrient that is listed in a higher dose is considered an illegal substance, like heroin. That's what happens to the developing world.

I have written a letter to every country in Africa, to their ambassadors here in the United States, saying "Hey, guess what? Are you aware that at least 50 percent of your people are going to die under this set of regulations? Don't you think you ought to do something about it? Please contact me."

I've been contacted by South Africa, Nigeria, and Egypt. Nobody else. Either they don't get it or don't believe me – they think that I'm some kind of precious-bodily-fluids lunatic from the wilds of Never-Never Land, or they think it's okay. Again, they don't invite me into their circles, but three countries have contacted me.

South Africa really got it. The health attache here really got it, but she said, "Nobody in my country understands this about Codex."

I said, "You got it because it's compartmentalized and separated into particles so that nobody sees the whole picture." The way my mind works is to look for the whole picture. That's the kind of physician I am, and that's why I have the kind of practice and success I have.




So, consequence one is widespread domestic legislation under-nutrition. The second thing is that U.S. manufacturers will be under significant pressure to reduce the potencies of their vitamins and minerals and to make the food shippable that we grow because we are

an exporter of food. It's a big industry here. In addition to removing any effective nutrient-potency and making it illegal for any supplement to contain any nutrient-density higher than found in food, it also makes mandatory that ev

Continued On Next Page



<p>To Learn Adobe Photoshop</p> <p>Go to abcphotoshop.com</p> <p>And Learn</p>	<p>Photoshop</p> <p>Photoshop Instructor Photo Enhancement & Restoration Tutorial Development</p>  <p>Bill Porter bill@abcphotoshop.com Web site at abcphotoshop.com</p>
---	---

PERSONAL INJURY & WRONGFUL DEATH



IN WACO: 254-772-7500
www.withvic.com
1-877-WITH-VIC
9484843

THE LAW OFFICES
Vic Feazell P.C.
TRIAL ATTORNEYS & COUNSELORS OF LAW

SERVING CENTRAL TEXAS
WITH OFFICES IN WACO,
TEMPLE AND AUSTIN

Principal office in Austin.
Meetings with attorneys by appointment only.
Not certified by the Texas Board of Legal Specialization.

MEMBER
BETTER
BUSINESS
BUREAU

Book/Bible Repair (Specializing in conservation restoration)
Custom-made books for all occasions.
We are "Bound to Please"

THE BOOK DOCTOR

320 W. 7th St., Dallas, TX 75208 (214) 946-1760
www.thebookdr.com



Waco Store
Now Open



MUELLER, INC.
STEEL BUILDING SYSTEMS & COMPONENTS
Waco: 800-525-3814

Mark Noland (ext. 5426) - Roland Hicks (ext. 5427)
5591 N. Hwy. 6, Waco — 254-848-2560 • Fax: 254-848-9997

Temple: 800-525-3814 • Fax: 254-742-2947
I-35 N. between Exit #305 west side of I-35

www.muellerinc.com

• **CODEX ALIMENTARIUS...** Continued From Page 5

ery single food animal be treated with antibiotics and growth hormones inspite of the significant health hazard. It makes it mandatory that every dairy cow be treated with Monsanto's recombinant bovine growth hormone.

There's a sweet little hearts and flowers story to that.

Dr. Yetley was the U.S. representative to Codex from the FDA and at the time she was married to the man that was in charge of world-wide marketing for Monsanto's recombinant bovine growth hormone. And somehow or the other, she helped the Committee for Nutrition and the appropriate animal husbandry committee understand that every dairy cow on the planet needs to be really treated with growth hormone. That's one of the cute little things Codex does. Doesn't that warm the bottom of your heart? Forget about the health hazards. Forget about the cancer. Forget about the premature puberty, the bone distortion, and all of that — it's just nice to know that they were working together.

The pressure on manufacturers to have one line of food and one line of supplements, too, not two: one line for domestic use and one for international use. However, some people may continue to raise bio-dynamic or organic food. Some people may continue to make potency vitamins here in the United States, and the position of the NNFA is that'll be just fine: "It won't effect domes-

tic standards." That is not true. That is sheer disinformation. On my site there is an article on disinformation. The NNFA position and the FDA position is that this will have no impact on domestic standards, and that's untrue because of something called sanitary and phyto-sanitary agreement, which is part of the World Trade Organization's structure. The SPSA has a clause in it, Article III, which states that all member nations of the WTO, that's us, *must* — not may, might, could, kinda, shoulda — the word they use is *shall* bring the domestic standard into conformity with Codex. What that says is "Bye, bye, DSHEA! Bye, Bye consumer protection!" because poisoned food, and it's literally that severe, poisoned food will have to be the only kind of food available.

ICONOCLAST: How was the Codex Alimentarius created and what does it do?

DR. LAIBOW: Codex is a trade commission. It's not about consumer protection. It's not about safe food. It's a trade commission, and it was founded by the United Nations in 1963 as a trade commission. Way back in 1956, one of the committees that was rolled into Codex actually had determined that nutrients should be treated as toxins. That's why they are using risk assessment science to determine the highest dose of something you take without having any benefit from it — that's how risk assessment

works. The trade commission said, "Okay, here's what we're going to do. We're going to remove any barriers to trade of food for people on the planet because if people aren't starving, they won't go to war." A little bit naive but that was the Zeitgeist at the time.

Then in 1994 the World Trade Organization was created out of GATT, and when that happened, the multinational interests took over Codex, so the change was to go from removing barriers to trade to controlling every aspect of all oral materials — anything that goes into your mouth now comes under Codex.

Now, if you're raising biodynamic chickens and I'm raising chickens in — I don't know — Japan, and my chickens are not biodynamic, but you're selling your biodynamic chickens to your neighbor and to people in Minnesota. I say, "Wait a minute. If I export my chickens into the U.S. people would rather buy the biodynamic chickens than buy my poisoned chickens." So here's WTO-speak: "You, Mr. Biodynamic Chickens Raiser, are creating a hidden barrier to trade. How are you doing that? Your chickens are being raised at a higher standard so people prefer your chickens to my Japanese chickens, so stop raising those chickens, mister, or I'll take you to WTO's dispute resolution process." And you say, "Screw you! I'm going to raise my chickens." And they take not just you but the United States to the WTO's dispute resolution process, and you inevitably lose because the country that conforms to Codex is assumed to be in

compliance.

The United States has now lost, and let's say that the biodynamic chicken business is worth — I don't know — \$1 billion a year. Well, Japan which brought you to the WTO's dispute resolution process gets to choose any trade sanctions it wants against the United States, not just the biodynamic chicken trade sanctions but any trade sanctions it wants that equals \$1 billion a year. So if they have been having trouble getting their steel into the United States, shazam! Trade sanctions on steel or whatever.

ICONOCLAST: So it's not a one-to-one deal.

DR. LAIBOW: Anything you want.

ICONOCLAST: Oh, great!

DR. LAIBOW: Wait, wait, it gets better.

ICONOCLAST: (laughs)

DR. LAIBOW: This is a true horror. Eighty-seven representatives voted on Congressman Ron Paul's resolution HR 27 on June 9 to get out of the WTO. Well, we need not 87, we need all of them getting the idea that this is a disaster. So is CAFTA, so its FTA. They're a little bit further off than the vitamin and mineral standard in July, but back to what this means.

So now you are still raising your biodynamic chickens, right? But the steel manufacturers — who are pretty powerful and probably more powerful than the biodynamic chicken raisers — say to their friends in Congress, "For God sakes, make bio-dynamic chicken raising ille

Continued On Next Page

CLASSIFIEDS

Reach Around the World

Buy two get one FREE*

Run your classified word ad twice and get the third ad free! See order form for more details or call (254) 675-3336.



Services

County Wide Plumbing
Residential & Commercial
New & Repair
Sewer Services • Water Heaters
(254) 675-2133 • (254) 386-6346
tx-m9601

For Sale

LIVESTOCK — Need new home for registered Longhorn cow and calf. Asking \$1,200. Call Mike Owens, 254-717-8844.

2004 MITSUBISHI ECLIPSE GS — One owner, 17,000 miles, sun roof, keyless entry, Infinity CD stereo, spoiler, Sportronic 4-spd. automatic transmission. Excellent condition. \$22,000. 254-675-8834. Leave message, if needed.

OVER 200 78 RPM RECORDS from Woodstock to country western to jazz and many others. If interested, call 254-675-3876.

For Sale

Disney - Attractions Area

7/6 Night Stay Must Sacrifice
(job relocation)
paid \$600
— Sell \$199 —
(254) 903-3773

REPTILES — 3½ ft. Redtail Boa, 100 gallon terrarium, lights, all accessories \$250. 2 ft. Chinese Water Dragon, 6' x 4' x 2' display case w/sliding glass doors, light, heat emitter, all accessories \$250. Both are healthy and friendly. Call 253-0068 (cell).

CLASSIC 1973 OLDS — 4 dr., 350 eng. Very clean. Good parade car. 254-897-2256.

\$69 A MONTH @ 6.9% APR FOR 24 MONTHS*

2005 SPORTSMAN 800 TWIN EFI

Choose from 6 all-new Sportsman models, including the 800 Twin EFI • Smoothest riding Sportsman ever, wider stance, 22% more travel • Tough new styling • New radial tires (option on 400), brighter headlights, dual taillights, rear work lights, rear toolbox, receiver hitch • World's best-selling automatic transmission • Legendary smooth IRS with 11.25 in/28.6 cm ground clearance • Exclusive On-Demand All-Wheel Drive • Hurry in for incredible financing!

While supplies last at:

LAKE WHITNEY POLARIS
211 S. Hwy. 22, Whitney, TX • (254) 694-2655

*Offer valid 6/1/05-7/31/05 at participating U.S. Polaris dealers and subject to product availability. Finance offer valid subject to credit approval on the Polaris StarCash credit card on qualified consumer purchases financed during the promotion period. Maximum finance amount \$30,000. The promotional fixed Annual Percentage Rate ("APR") of 6.9% and reduced minimum monthly payment of 50¢ of the purchase amount (rounded to the next higher dollar) are effective from the date of purchase and continuing for a period of 24 months. Thereafter, the APR and minimum monthly payment applicable to this purchase will increase to the minimum monthly payment specified in the Credit Card Agreement and the Standard APR of 12.9%. For accounts not kept current, the Default APR of 21.9% will apply to all balances. This promotion is available only at participating dealers. Certain rules apply to the allocation of payments and Finance Charges on your promotional purchase if you make more than one purchase on your Polaris StarCash. Call 1-888-307-4333 or review your credit card agreement for information. **WARNING!** ATVs can be hazardous to operate. For your safety: always wear a helmet, eye protection, and protective clothing and never carry passengers. Polaris adult models are for riders 18 and older. Polaris youth models are sized for riders 12 and older. Polaris youth models are 40cc for riders 6 and older. Be sure to take a safety training course. For safety and training information see your Polaris dealer or call 1-800-342-3164. www.polarisindustries.com ©2005 Polaris Sales Inc.

• **CODEX ALIMENTARIUS...** Continued From Page 5

gal so we can get our steel unsanctioned!" Congress says, "Okay." And all of a sudden it's illegal to raise biodynamic chickens in the United States because chickens have to conform to – guess what? – the Codex policy!

That's one way it works. The other way it can work. Congress says, "I love Codex, and Codex loves me." So they pass harmonization legislation and everything that Codex specifies is now U.S. law. But there's another way. Let's say that there's too much opposition, and I believe in every politician's cytochrome P-450 liver enzyme detoxification chain, there is one enzyme, possibly more, that requires reelection to function.

ICONOCLAST: (laughs)

DR. LAIBOW: So let's say that enzyme is really prominent in that politician's functioning. They wouldn't think about doing that. They wouldn't think about passing harmonization legislation. No, the last way is administratively. Let's say the FDA, which is an organization that you may be surprised to learn is subject to industrial pressure, gets leaned on and decides to make domestic non-hormone treated chickens illegal but they don't have legislative power. They are a part of the executive branch but have administrative and regulatory power. They'll promulgate a regulation that says, "Every chicken, for public safety, must be treated with antibiotics and hormones." But I'm raising biodynamic chickens, and they say, "Tough nookie! We're getting stock options, and you're screwed."

Now interestingly enough, according to a lawyer with whom I work closely, who is very much involved in this kind of law and regulations, this action has the impact and effect of harmonizing us as if we had been legislatively harmonized. Once we're harmonized, there's no going back. It's like losing your virginity. You can't fix it up later. So Congress has to apply significant oversight to make sure that the regulatory agencies do not do this. That means we have to apply significant oversight on Congress.

The United States has announced its policy on the vitamin and mineral standard, and it's policy is illegal. It's policy is not merely a bad idea, it is illegal because in 1997 the United States passed a law that says that it is illegal for the United States to harmonize with a standard which violates U.S. law. Here in the United States we have a law called DSHEA, the Dietary Supplements Health and Education Act, which was passed unanimously by Congress 1994. Unanimously! Of course, a law is a law whether it passes by one vote, but it was passed unanimously. DSHEA guarantees access to supplements as food, and the implication there is that there are no limits on lettuce, rutabagas, and lamb, so there are no limits on supplements. However, under the Codex vitamin and mineral guidelines, everything not permitted is forbidden and anything is only permitted at these ultra low, insane doses.

Let me explain how that works. Here in the United States, our thinking is based on Common Law principles. Our very brains are shaped by Common Law assumptions. However, the Codex Alimentarius comes out of the Napoleonic tradition. In the Common Law tradition, anything that is not prohibited is permitted. In the Napoleonic code, anything that is not permitted is prohibited. If you've ever tried to live in France, you'd understand the difference.

(Laughs)

So what we have is a foreign legal system taking over U.S. law and regulation. It's not like a British legal system. Ours is based on the same legal principles. It's a foreign legal concept, and it trumps U.S. law because it says in the U.S. Constitution that in Article VI Clause 2, treaty law trumps domestic law except it also says in the Constitution that Congress shall do nothing that derogates Common Law. We've got a Constitutional law clash. You can't do it, and you have to do it. Oops!

ICONOCLAST: Oh geez.

DR. LAIBOW: There's another wrinkle here. This is like looking at the skin of a 104-year-old woman. (Laughs) You keep finding new wrinkles. Here's another wrinkle: Article VI Clause 2 talks about treaty law. However, is something a treaty if it's not ratified by Congress? Ooo, isn't that interesting because the World Trade Organization agreements

A

bunch of low-level bureaucrats are deciding international health policy, or rather international death policy – without any democratic input, and we send FDA, USDA, and EPA representatives as our delegates and they don't get a chance to vote because Codex runs on consensus. That means that when the chairman wants something to happen, he bangs down his hand and says, "Approved by consensus."

— Dr. Rima E. Laibow, M.D.

were not ratified by Congress. Remember Fast Track? Fast Track gives the President permission to sign any damn thing he wants without Congress ratifying a treaty. So is it a treaty? Was it ratified? Well, it wasn't ratified, so is it a treaty? Who the hell knows?

ICONOCLAST: How would you dispute that? You can't go straight to the Supreme Court.

DR. LAIBOW: Now we come to direct action. If you're on my website, you'll see a thing called Six Easy Steps. This is a bunch of things people can do to bring pressure on Congress and to bring pressure on the U.S. Codex Office. The first step has two letters to Congress. Another step has a citizens' petition and asks you to add your name as a supporter.

Three congressmen have done that – representatives Paul, Burton, and DeFazio, and we are asking for more congresspeople to do that, but the point is that the citizens' petition is a legal tool to compel the government to act or not act in a particular way.

We have presented that to the U.S. Codex Office on an emergency basis because of the time line. They have chosen not to respond.

In terms of forstalling U.S. ratification attempts on the vitamin and mineral guidelines, that is a bad thing. In terms of building a case, having exhausted our administrative remedies, building a case to take them to court, it's a good thing. We need people to join in on that petition. It's very important the more people, the more power. The petition is a stepping stone to basically suing the shit out of them, on a personal and administrative agency basis, by the way.

The next thing is a letter to congress asking them to prevent the illegal policy that already has been promulgated, although it's not official yet. It is in writing, and it was said in the public meeting

on Codex, asking Congress to exercise oversight and put pressure on the U.S. Codex Office to not pursue a policy that violates U.S. law. That is a tremendously, tremendously important letter. I have notified Congress of the legality of the U.S. Codex policy but I'm not a constituent anywhere except in Hillary Clinton's district.

ICONOCLAST: Anyway... (laughs) ...

DR. LAIBOW: (laughs) Moving right along... yeah, the pharmaceutical Wonder Woman. Anyway the point is that constituents from all over the country need to flood their congressman's office with these letters, and when the congressman gets this letter, there's a link in there that takes them where that has been specially prepared for that which has the substantiating documents. This is of immense importance. If you go to the site and go to "additional material," you will find a letter that I have written to the U.S. Codex manager following the public hearing on June 9 and his request putting all my comments and questions in writing. He is required by law since

are doing. It's like Mengele writing a better prescription.

ICONOCLAST: (laughs)

DR. LAIBOW: The point is that the vitamin and mineral guidelines has reached the next step – it has been perfected in committee, and you can't change it, so in order for these three countries to be happy, it has to go back to committee, to which my response is "All right! Yes!" because that gives us one or two years. What can we do in that one or two years? Plenty. Plenty.

My hope is that by putting a great deal of pressure on Congress now to put pressure on Scarborough by having people sign the petition that he will climb down and go back to "Well, we really should give other countries the opportunity to perfect the document as they wish. We should send it back to committee." Fine, because that one year or two years will give us the time we need to take this sucker down. It's a golden opportunity from the hand of people who have no interest in giving up any opportunity whatsoever.

ICONOCLAST: Where are American doctors' organizations in all of these Codex discussions? You said earlier that there really were no health activists talking about Codex. Why is that?

DR. LAIBOW: I'm a member of the American Academy of Environmental Medicine, for instance, people who think more or less like I do and use nutrition and environmental detoxification stuff, and I called up the past president who put me on to the current president, and said, "Hey, you know all you guys are going to be going out of business in two years?" He said, "What? Say what?"

I explained the Codex and I wrote a lengthy letter that was published in the newsletter at that point back in April and then I wrote a subsequent letter and I asked people to activate their patient load because after all, these are people who have chosen natural medicine. I contacted the International College for Integrative Medicine, the American Holistic Medical Association, and all the associations I could think of.

To date the only response has been from the American Academy of Environmental Medicine. The American Academy signed on to the Declaration of Health Independence. The president elect and the past president came to a meeting of so-called activists that I instigated in April which was as basically as useless as tits on a warthog because all they wanted to do was call each other names and take turf. Be that as it may, they came and they're good guys and they are doing what they can.

I'm continuing this battle because it's not over. Whatever happens in July, I will be there with my husband as an official observer, which means we'll be allowed in the chamber but we will not be allowed to speak. We will record what happens in detail, and I will do live radio broadcasts for my show and for some other shows. We have a radio show on Internet radio – <www.ficaa.com> – 7 p.m. EST, Wednesday. It's also archived so people can listen at their convenience.

It's going to be a fevered battle. We have not given up, and even after ratification takes place if it does in July, there's a long heavy battle ahead not just over the vitamin and mineral guidelines but around all the other evils of Codex.

ICONOCLAST: I went to Congressman Ron Paul's website and found it very, very interesting. I didn't realize that he was so outspoken on the policies of the Bush administration and one of them is this Codex deal and others include

Continued On Page 9

Once A Bully, Always A Bully

I am on occasion compelled to read a column written by that stalwart proponent of love and tolerance for all his fellow humans, the great and beneficent Mr. Bill O'Reilly. These exercises usually result in my eyes being seared as if stuck with red hot poker. However, in an effort to be fair and balanced it is ever necessary to keep tabs on opposing points of view.

Even those that are misguided and twisted beyond all reasonable logic, and veracity.

Last week's diatribe was titled "Hate-monger Dean surely isn't what Dems want." Big Bully Bill shows chutzpah of an unequalled magnitude by referring to anyone else as a "hate-monger." That, or he was making a feeble attempt at levity.

Howard Dean is, unlike most politicians, being candidly honest about his feelings toward the so-called leaders within the new Republican Party. How refreshing. As he has pointed out, both Democrats and Republicans, as well as the media, criticize the Dems for being too easy-going; then, when one of them roars, everyone knocks that individual.

Nobody but white, Christian Republicans took exception to Dean's assertion that they're a white, Christian party. Just scan videos of their past two conventions, or Bush's pre-approved audiences, and this is a no-brainer.

Dean certainly wasn't referring to all Republicans when he stated that most of them never did an honest day's work in their lives. Any dufus could figure out this comment was aimed at Herr Karl Rove, George W. Bush, Dick Cheney, Donald Rumsfeld, Condoleezza Rice... the usual suspects. It was also a symbolic castigation of Bill Frist, Tom DeLay, Dennis Hastert, Roy Blunt, and the rest of those second-level GOP Hooligans on the Hill.

I'm sure Bully Bill knew this, too. It's just that he refused to admit it, and could not let the opportunity pass by to demonize Dean and several other Liberals.

(Yes, Joseph Biden and John Edwards distanced themselves from Dean and his comments. But they both want to tiptoe through the tulips to 1600 Pennsylvania Avenue, and after being snake bit in the past neither feels like taking his candor out of the garage for a spin.)

At one point, Big Bully Bill infers that the honest, tough but warm Howard Dean is on a par with that infamous megalomaniac Joseph McCarthy. Oh, gimme a break already! This is beyond lame and ludicrous, precisely the sort of apples-to-kumquats comparison we've come to expect from the ethics-challenged FoxNewsies.

O'Reilly fails to mention that McCarthy was essentially a rotten excuse for a human specimen, evil and mean-spirited to the core, and a Republican. Tail-Gunner Joe was blatantly out to destroy *anyone* on his personal crusade for glory, be they politician, professor, actor, or just plain average citizen. He ruined the lives of countless innocent Americans.

That can't be said about Dean.

By the way, McCarthy's prize student, A-Number One Henchman and Hatchetwielder just happened to be a

young Congressman from California named Richard Milhous Nixon. We all know that Tricky Dick was destined for his own special footnote in U.S. political infamy.

Bill O'Reilly also calls Howard Dean a "character assassin." Has he never seen a tape of his own show? This statement is cause for Webster to recall all of their dictionaries, because *hypocrisy* has to be redefined! Character assassination, although not under exclusive contract to its employer, is more often recognized as the tool of the Right-wing neo-con than the Liberal Progressive.

What have Herr Karl Rove and his minions, from Junior Georgie on down to the least of the nameless, faceless lackeys, been doing for more than 30 years to anyone who dared to speak out or run against them? How long have O'Reilly and the rest of Rupert Murdoch's toadies at FoxNews been regurgitating Right-wing propaganda and the Republican Party line disguised as news, while aiding and abetting the neo-con takeover of America? The evangelicals were even conned by Der Karl into believing that his personal Republican Party was crafted just for them... Amen and Glory Hallelujah.

You wanna talk character assassination, Big Bully Bill? Here are some serious *character assassinations*:

Herr Rove is the HauptMeister of Character Assassination. He's perfected it to a scientific surety. Throughout the 1980s and 1990s Der Karl mowed 'em down in Texas while reshaping the railroad board, the Texas Supreme Court, and the Dubya Governorship to his own Republican specifications. Whether the opponent was Democrat or true Republican made no difference — if you weren't with Der Karl, then you were against him. And you were destroyed, both publicly and personally.

The victims of Der Karl's political animous need not actually be guilty of any past improbity or transgression. Fables work just fine for Herr Rove's purposes. His Flying Monkeys are exceedingly proficient at wheeling in and around the electorate and the media, spreading the infamous whisper and smear campaigns. People really do buy this stuff. This is precisely the tactic he used against virtually every person who ran against any of his candidates.

During the 2000 Republican Primaries Senator John McCain was breezing along, heading into South Carolina with a 30-point lead over Dubya. Herr Rove concocted a story that the dark-skinned foreign girl the McCain's had adopted was the result of a tryst he had while in VietNam, or some such nonsense. So what if she was too young for that scenario, nor even VietNamese. But once the whisper campaign starts it grows and spreads like a cancer.

Sen. McCain is a bona fide, decorated war hero who suffered the most unfathomable pain, hardship and degradation for five years at the "Hanoi Hilton." The Bush team,

people completely devoid of conscience or moral fiber or honor, made him out to be a lowlife. Well, the good Christian-based Republican voters, who hadn't even heard of Karl Rove, bought the slime and McCain lost South Carolina. With that defeat went all the campaign momentum he had built up.

If you don't know that Herr Rove was the schmuck behind the Swift Boat Veterans for Anything *But* Truth, then you were not on this planet the latter half of 2004. This was but one of his attacks on the character of John Kerry. Again, a decorated VietNam War veteran was defamed by twerps who hid under their beds Stateside while that conflict raged.

The man who poses as our president laughs and smirks as he demeans and defames anyone and everyone who choose to not see things his way, especially Democrats. Even when queried about the insane wars he started based on balderdash, Dubya smiles and jokes with that snotty frat boy demeanor — then doesn't give a proper response to the question.

Sending people into harm's way and ordering their deaths seems to be simply a joke to George W. Bush. In four-and-a-half years he has yet to show one iota of true leadership (most likely because he's not really in charge).

Conversely, whenever Democrats on the Hill do what they've been elected to do: insist on carrying out the will of the people; stand up to Dubya's dictatorial demands; let him know he can't have it his way all the time; not vote with blind allegiance for Bush nominees such as the inelegant Robert Bolton, then Dubya assassinates their characters by claiming they're the ones who aren't showing leadership. Has he ever got it screwed on backwards.

Even Jeb Bush continues his campaign to assassinate the character of that poor, beleaguered Michael Schiavo. The autopsy results indicate there was no foul play, he didn't abuse Terri. Yet, Jebbie's forcing the State's Attorney to keep the "investigation" open. Of course the testimony is sketchy — the guy was awakened early in the morning by a loud noise and found his wife not breathing. It's just plain goofy to think he was looking at a clock with the unexpected trauma, and who's going to remember details like time after 15 years. Enough, Jeb. Let the Schiavo's and the Schindler's get on with their lives. Aargh!!!

On balance, it's only fair to give O'Reilly points for the fact that he knocked Ultra-right-wing talkshow host Michael Savage for his book in which Liberalism is referred to as a "mental disorder." Savage is apparently Ultravile as well, as he could not get any appearances on national media to hawk his tome.

Then, for no apparent reason and with unsubstantiated malice, Big Bully Bill slams his number one antagonist, Al Franken, referring to him as a "far-left guttersnipe...whose defamation skills dwarf those of Savage." Come on, Bill, the guy's a comic, a professional jokester. And exactly what is



Out Of The Blue

By
**Jerry
Tenuto**

it Rush Limbaugh does for 15 hours each and every week? Not only does he constantly fabricate "news" items about left-leaning politicians and celebrities, he has yet to tell the truth about his own improprieties.

O'Reilly also takes a swipe at Michael Moore. Now, there was no real reason to bring Franken and Moore into the article. I believe they were selected to be publicly spanked as payback from Bill's own personal agenda. They've each taken on the Big Boy — then wrestled him to the ground and hog-tied the Bully.

While we're on the subject of character assassination, it seems that Clinton-bashing not only never stopped, but it has reared up its head with renewed repulsiveness and enmity.

Now that the speculation is all around of a Hillary Rodham Clinton run for the Presidency, the "tell all" book is coming. This is the one that's going to fill in the blanks of what Bill Clinton left out concerning the goings on at the White House. Why did it take over four years after they moved out of 1600 for this book to be written? So far it sounds like a smorgasbord for Clinton Haters.

Someone sent me an e-mail that was excerpted from Matt Drudge's website of total honesty and fairness. It was a blog that indicated a portion of the book had Hillary Clinton madder'n an alley cat in a dog catcher's wagon. The author wrote that Bill had "forced" himself upon Hillary in a most violent manner and, voila! Chelsea! Rather perverted, don'cha think.

Another e-mail I received "originated" from a mystery retired Navy commander. E-mails have been making the rounds for several years with this guy's name on them, always attacking Liberals or Democrats, never with any possible way to verify content. This was a tale of the Gold Star Mothers, whose offspring were I believe killed in the MidEast, that traveled to Washington to meet with Democratic Senators. The "author" of the e-mail assailed Hillary because she wasn't there to meet with them, and should have been because Bill skipped VietNam, and she's not worth being a U.S. Senator if she can't be bothered to meet with soldiers' mothers.

There was nothing about perhaps Hillary was out of the country that day, or maybe Bill happened to be undergoing surgery, or if this was even an honest-to-beans story. Just plain, old Clinton-bashing.

The Clinton Haters made a cottage industry out of character assassination, bashing Bill and Hillary throughout the 1990s and right on into the New Millennium. Attorney/Socialite Ann Coulter eventually admitted that she was one of the lead participants in the Right Wing Conspiracy to derail the Clinton Presidency, and bring him down — simply because she didn't like him or Democrats. It was Coulter who scrounged up Paula Jones.

Continued On Next Page

TENUTO / Out Of The Blue

Continued From Previous Page

Coulter and her alter-ego, Kellyann Conway, must have made millions at the end of the 20th Century slamming the First Couple. I'd be disappointed if they weren't already busy sharpening their talons and their pencils, working on their anti-Hillary books, lining up talkshow appearances for the 2008 Presidential race. And their male counterpart, Tucker Carlson, has himself his very own show on MSNBC so he never has to shut up.

Of course, Clinton jokes never stopped going around the web. Most of them are retreads, and never quite as good as the Dubya jokes. Like the one describing Hillary piloting her own air transportation. Click on the attachment and it's a broom. Ha-ha...

One alleged "joke" that came my way was particularly vile, disgusting, and, on numerous levels, quite disturbing. When Chelsea returns home from college, Hillary asks her about guys. Chelsea says they're okay. Then she asks if Chelsea's having sex, and the reponse is "Dad wouldn't say I am." Using Chelsea Clinton as the butt of a joke like this shows just how mean-spirited the Clinton Haters can be. This is way beyond acceptability. I'm no prude, but offspring of public figures are off-limits when it comes to defamation and debasement.

What has Chelsea ever done but be the epitome of decorum? This is not only low, it is cruel. As much as I abhor Dubya, I would never slam his daughters. It just ain't right.

The people who would stifle Liberals and progress within America have little or nothing to offer. They hide behind walls of secrecy and disinformation, or outright lies. Many are too spineless to show their faces or use their real names. Rarely do they cite facts such as dates, times, places and witnesses — because there are none. They pervert reality so that a modicum of facts becomes unrecognizable upon being jumbled together with an overabundance of speculation or opinion. These same people, when faced with the undeniable truth, turn away as Dracula from a Crucifix.

The Big Bully Bill O'Reilly's of the world are those who throw open the floodgates of hatred, bile and untruths, demeaning and belittling anyone who would dare disagree with their myopic point of view. Any alteration in the status quo would mean a repositioning within their own little worlds, and they can't have that. Whenever someone takes a stand that rattles their cages, they immediately go on the offensive, referring to that person with exactly the adjectives which best describe themselves.

The differences between what Howard Dean says and the chunks that the Liberal-despisers spew are obvious in both form and content. Dean says what he feels, openly and freely. He states his opinions with passion and conviction. What I see in Bill O'Reilly is pushing those who disagree with him around, as long as his personal standard of living remains intact. What comes from Howard Dean is a sense that he would truly love to see an improved America.

So what if he gets a bit too exuberant — at least it's honest.



Editorial

OP/ED

Opinion - Columns - Letters

— Editorial —

CONGRESS:

Say No To CAFTA

How many blank checks will Congress give to giant corporations before its members realize they have created a monster that is wealthier, larger, and more powerful than the government itself?

Don't forget, some of these large corporations manufacture military weaponry and hire their own mercenary armies.

President Bush is urging Congress to again sell out the United States of America by affirming CAFTA, the Central America Free Trade Agreement with Costa Rica, El Salvador, Guatemala, Honduras, Nicaragua, and the Dominican Republic, which is nothing more than another means of dismantling national laws in favor of globalization and privatization — causing a new wave of job exportation and placing global laws over U.S. laws and the Constitution itself.

He wants Congress' stamp of approval prior to the July 4th holiday.

Bush sells it as a means of extending our borders and protecting minor democracies abroad.

The clear aim, however, is to transform privileges enjoyed by multi-national corporations into the right to plunder.

Bush might argue that U.S. sugar and textile companies are taking a selfish view of his proposal, since they would be targeted for extinction first, but that the overall picture is what counts.

The devil, however, is in the details, and they aren't pretty.

First of all, CAFTA is a close cousin to NAFTA (North American Free Trade Agreement), which for the past 10 years has done little, if anything, to benefit the U.S. In fact, NAFTA has played a role in the outsourcing of prized U.S. jobs.

The "F" in CAFTA stands for "Free," when what this country actually needs is "Fair" trade, to be based upon circumstances and conditions that change with the times. As an example, a provision in CAFTA discriminates against products by non-government organizations and producer cooperatives, allowing agribusiness cartels to utilize CAFTA as a tool to eliminate trade from fair trade products, basically "freeing" multi-national cartels from legitimate competition.

CAFTA licenses biopiracy, whereby intellectual rights are extended to improved crops, or their seeds, prohibiting farmers the recognized traditional right to save and plant their own seeds from year to year. CAFTA would give multi-national biotech corporations the right to sue farmers for "patent" violations, even if pollen drift causes certain crops they don't plant to grow on their property.

CAFTA would prohibit governmental agencies at all levels from favoring local suppliers in government contracts for goods and services. It would eliminate any government regulations on foreign investment or investors, including performance requirements.

There is even a provision of CAFTA that allows foreign investors to bring complaints to international tribunals against any government instituting public policies that, in the judgment of the investor, could affect the non-existent profits they project to receive in the future.

Any disputes would be decided by a newly established global entity that has ties to the World Bank and the United Nations Commission for International Trade and Law.

These are but a few of the negative impacts. There are many more.

With the passage of CAFTA, Congress will be saying good-bye to thousands of middle-class jobs in the United States while weakening the government itself.

Bush's argument that CAFTA will contribute to America's national security is ridiculous; it will probably do the opposite.

Bush should wipe the smirk off his face and spend some time on the Texas-Mexico border. There exists a constitutional mandate to protect our borders and it isn't happening, even all these years after 9-11. He has involved our country in a guerilla war in Iraq instead.

Follow the money.

— Written By W. Leon Smith

• CODEX ALIMENTARIUS

... Continued From Page 7

WTO, GATT, CAFTA, and NAFTA. His approach to stop Codex is to break relations with the U.N.

DR. LAIBOW: Okay, the U.N. has this persona of goodness. Well, there's a little problem. In November, the U.N. is set to take over the Internet and declare it a global human heritage. Anytime you hear anything as a global human heritage, you should look for another planet to live on. Because it will be a global human heritage after November, anything on the Internet, in cyberspace, that conflicts with the policies and principles of the United Nations will be considered an international crime. How's that?

ICONOCLAST: What? How is that possible?

DR. LAIBOW: They've been having international meetings just like they've been having ones for Codex to take over the Internet. These are agreements that the WTO countries have signed, like the U.S. We think that's a perfectly good idea. We get to fight terrorists! So that's the next Codex. Information. The Codex after that is the sea, and they are doing the same thing. They are set to take over all fishing and all naval security. That means no more navies. Countries don't have navies. The U.N. has a navy. The U.N. controls fishing. The U.N. controls the ocean. What a good idea! The multinationals control the U.N. What a cool idea!

By the way, did you know that there are over 70 species of genetically-engineered fish — Frankenfish — set to be released and used for food without any human testing. Genetically-engineered things are not tested for their safety. They are voluntarily submitted to the FDA for "substantial equivalence" and if they are "substantially equivalent," then they are approved. That means that if a papaya tastes like a papaya, son of a gun, then it's a papaya!

ICONOCLAST: No I was not aware of the Frankenfish.

DR. LAIBOW: Seventy of them, and they are being approved by the FDA process for drug approval because of their impact on human health. That drug approval will come and they will be released to be grow without restriction and, as has happened in the U.S. already, without labeling. By the way, if they escape from fish ponds which are in the ocean because the nets tear on a regular basis, then they have the capacity to exterminate the natural members of their species because they grow so much faster and consume and reproduce more vigorously. That's what they are engineered to do. So how about that sports fans? That's Codex and the U.N. Doesn't that sound like fun?

ICONOCLAST: Yeah, I keep seeing these lines blur between so-called progressives and so-called conservatives when it comes to issues like this. For example, you got these three signators from Congress on your petition. You know, you've got Ron Paul going, "We need to save our sovereignty. We need to look out for individualism." Then, you have others who are like, "Let's look out for our environment — our social investments, if you will — our kids, our farmers, etc."

DR. LAIBOW: Yeah, the point is that this cuts across party affiliation, age, gender, stance on abortion, — it cuts across everything because if you get it, you get it. Everything else is secondary. This is health Armageddon.

The Overton / Hulen Family Tales

Life And Death Along "THE BREAKS"

By Jerry V. Overton

The Great Plains, or more specifically, the High Plains of the Texas Panhandle, are flat! At least that is the general consensus of most Americans. We read this in literature. It is depicted in movies. We are taught that the plains are flat in school. And, in many locations and to many people who trek from the mountains (or hills) of the Ozarks, the Ouachita, and even the Appalachians, the plains are flat, relatively speaking.

However, to those of us who have lived or spent much time in this environment, the plains are not really flat. [A Masters Thesis a few years ago compared the plains of Kansas to a pancake to disprove the old saying, "flat as a pancake." When adjusted for scale, the pancake was actually not as flat as the plains. I guess a better saying is "flatter than a pancake." But that's not really relevant - just a saying.]

I am intimately familiar with the plains of the Texas Panhandle, as well as those of Western Oklahoma and Western Kansas. I grew up out there and didn't move to the hills of Arkansas until much more recently in my life. Most of the stories Dad told related to a plains existence. I made the fatal mistake of marrying an Arkie.

But the Texas Panhandle is somewhat unique. It is relatively flat when compared to say Western Arkansas or Eastern Oklahoma and assuredly the Rocky Mountains of Western Colorado. But when viewed closer, it isn't all that flat. There are vast areas that are hilly, many of which are stabilized sand dunes. Some are the result of geologic structures, such as the more erosion resistant sandstone or shale formations as opposed to the softer sand or clay deposits. And in some areas of the High Plains, limestone deposits range from relatively flat-lying to gently uplifted.

But dispersed throughout these features are the breaks. The breaks are erosional features that break up the more monotonous flat plains geomorphology. These might be described in other locals as wide gullies or ditches. But on the plains of the Texas Panhandle they are simply, the breaks. They do differ from these other geomorphologic features in that they are normally wider, in some places more than a mile, and have a relatively flat floor with a small streambed meandering through.

The breaks are both a boon and a liability on the plains. They are sometimes life-saving features that attract wildlife and sustain livestock and provide shelter to both. At other times they are death traps for the same critters - as well as people.

They are critical to some of the unique eco-systems of the High Plains. Some of these erosional features actually penetrate deep enough into the overlying unsaturated soils to intersect the local groundwater table, or at least wet weather water tables that are "perched" sometimes well above the regional water tables. As such, they provide a valuable resource in an otherwise rather dry environment. The av-

erage rainfall in the Texas Panhandle is locally less than 12 inches per year. Often most of these 12 inches comes in one or two precipitation events, and that might include a few relatively large wintertime snowfalls.

Where the breaks do intersect these wet-season groundwater tables, seeps or springs will flow. This water source becomes a magnet for wildlife and livestock. Before the advent of the windmill, and later rural water systems, these seeps and springs were the primary water supply for the plains.

Usually, the vegetation was lush within breaks that included a seep or spring. This also attracted a wide variety of wildlife and in great abundance. Early inhabitants, such as the American Plains Indian, often made their camps near these seeps and springs. Later the early homesteaders used these water sources to sustain their existence.

The breaks were also about the only shelter from the sun, wind and cold. The breaks became shelter during both the hot summers and the cold winters to wildlife, livestock and often man. In many areas of the Texas Panhandle the only real trees present are found within the breaks, due to the availability of water.

These same features make the breaks a death trap in severe conditions. These erosional features can sometimes extend for many miles, snaking across the plains where the geologic strata are weakest and most susceptible to erosion. Palo Dura Canyon, south of Amarillo, Texas, is an extreme example. It is much deeper and wider than the typical breaks, which can be extensive, often extending for many miles and can be more than a mile in width. A rancher trying to find stray livestock may search for days or weeks without any luck.

Dad told many stories about the breaks. It was an integral part of ranch life on the Texas Panhandle plains where he was foreman to several very large ranches over a period of more than 20 years. These ranches were located near Hereford and Dalhart, Texas.

He often spoke of the peril of crossing a portion of a break on horseback or, even worse, on foot, especially during the spring and summer. Since most of these breaks extend for many miles and sudden thunderstorms are common, it is not unusual for a storm upstream to create a surge of flow down the breaks, a flash flood. This flash flood often comes as a wall of water stretching from one side of the break to the other side, and carrying with it all sorts of debris picked up along the way. All together, this crest can sometimes be as high as 20 feet, given the right upstream conditions, the size of the thunderstorm and the rate of rainfall. In other words, when the conditions are right, a very high flash flood of water and debris can come barreling down one of these breaks without warning. Well, I say without warning. There is a

warning, but often when you sense this warning, it is too late to react. Even today, in an automobile or pickup truck, people are sometimes caught by one of these flash floods without warning while crossing a break.

Dad related a story about crossing one of these breaks on horseback one summer day while riding windmill check - a monotonous chore that had to be undertaken on a continuous basis. The windmills were spaced so that widely scattered herds of livestock would have adequate water, making them the lifeblood of the plains. Without the windmills, ranches on the scale of those that flourished during the early 1900s, and still exist today, could not have survived. The break Dad was crossing that day was typically long and winding and extended some 30 or 40 miles roughly north to south and was more than a mile wide where Dad was crossing. He said he was about halfway across the break when he heard a roaring in the distance. His first thought was that he could hear the thunder of a storm. He quickly realized, though, that what he was hearing was closer than a distant thunderstorm - he was hearing the roar of a wall of water surging down the same break he was in the midst of crossing. He immediately began to run his horse to the closest bank. This in itself is an indication of the dire straights he knew himself to be in. Dad always criticized the TV western that showed the cowboy running his horse for any distance. He would always say this was the best way to ruin a horse for life. Dad would say that he would fire a cowboy on the spot if he caught him running his horse. A cowpony cannot endure long outright dashes like the one he was now forcing his horse to take.

As he neared the far bank he saw the surge as it rounded the last bend to his right. He was still several hundred yards from the bank and had to climb 20 to 30 foot with a horse that was nearing its endurance limit. The cowpony, though, became aware of its situation as well. When the crest of the flash flood rounded the bend, Dad said the horse laid its ears back and found extra energy. When he reached the base of the bank that would allow him to exit the break, the horse had all but given out. It began to stumble up the rise and fell to its knees once. By that time the crest was only yards away. Almost to the top, the surge hit them broadside. Dad was knocked from the horse and was forced to try and stay afloat amid the rolling water of the crest and the debris it carried. Luckily he was close to the top of the rise when it hit and was near the top of the surge crest as well. He grabbed hold of the largest log that was close to him and rode the crest until he was close enough to the bank to swim to shore. A sagebrush bush was growing on the bank and hung out over the break just down stream. He pushed off from the log and frantically swam toward the bank but for every foot of progress he made in that direction he was taken many yards down stream. At the last minute he made a lunge for the overhanging bush and caught just enough of the nearest stems to get a hand hold which he quickly lost to the force of the

water. It did, however, swing him around just enough to get him a little nearer the bank. He was then able to struggle on to dry ground.

Dad said he crawled up on the bank and just lay there for a while trying to catch his breath. He had lost his hat and horse, but he was alive. After a few moments he pulled himself to his feet and gazed over the back end of the surge now passing through the break. The water level had dropped significantly, but there were still several feet of water that stretched as far as he could see across the break. His horse was nowhere in sight - it had not made it to the bank. He doubted that the horse survived due to its exhaustive effort to run from the flood in the first place. Dad walked down stream for a ways hoping to find it had also climbing onto the bank, but with no luck. He did not have the luxury of walking far in search of the horse because he knew he had to get to the nearest base camp where supplies and fresh horses were kept. This was going to be a four or five mile hike without water or his hat in the blazing summer heat.

He made it to the line camp and a windmill where he was able to quench his thirst and get a remount. He then rode back to the break to look for his horse. A cowboy is not going to leave his horse without knowing its fate, if possible. Besides his saddle and other tack were still on the horse. He found the horse still in the break and downstream about three miles. The horse didn't make it to the shore and either drowned or died from the exhaustion, trying to swim to shore while being buffeted by floating debris. Dad retrieved his saddle and other gear and returned to the line camp.

He said that after that experience crossing the breaks he would always stop at the rim of the break that he needed to cross and listen for a few moments. He would scan the horizon up stream to see if there was any evidence of a thunderstorm in the headwaters area. He was never caught in this situation again, but was always fearful of crossing the breaks afterward. He said that he was not the only one to suffer such an experience, and that most that were caught within a break during one of these flash floods never made it to shore. He was one of the lucky ones. He attributes this "luck" to a good horse and "the Good Lord looking out for him". I guess a good cowboy always gives his horse equal credit, whether he means to or not.

The breaks were not only a problem due to unexpected flash flooding. During the winter they can be both shelter and a death trap. Dad talked about numerous winter snowfalls that would fill the breaks to the brim with blowing snow. If you didn't know where the banks were located, you could easily walk your horse over the edge and into deep snow that would be difficult to get out of, especially for the horse. Dad always said that a good horse would have more sense than to walk over the edge in this situation and that on several occasions his horse had more sense than he did and refused to walk over the edge

Continued On Next Page

The Overton / Hulen Family Tales

Continued From Previous Page

of the snow-filled break.

The worst scenario, however, involves trapped livestock. A herd of cattle would naturally seek shelter wherever possible during a blowing snowstorm. Often, the only shelter on the plains was the breaks. The herd would move into them and huddle against the lee sidewall out of the blowing snow. If the snow began to accumulate they would mill around to keep the snow tramped down. This instinct would often save their lives,

or sometimes only prolong the end. Dad talked about finding herds of cattle by riding the edge of the break and looking for steam rising through a hole in the snow. The cattle would begin to walk in a great circle and the snow outside the path would continue to accumulate until it reached the height of the cattle's backs. If the snow continued to fall and build up, often it would begin to pack over their heads to form a structure around and over their backs. The inside of this structure would glaze over as ice due to the melting from the herd's body heat and

the subsequent refreezing. Due to the heat generated by the continuous walking, a vent hole would remain open above their heads. As long as the "roof" of this structure did not collapse and the herd kept moving they were safe. If it collapsed, and there was sufficient snow, they might suffocate from the cave in.

If the rancher could locate the position of the herd, they could break through the drift enough to get food (hay bales) down to them and sustain them until they could reach them with a dozer or other means of removing

the snow. Often, the herd's path would migrate away from the edge of the break and be too far away from the rim for the rancher to reach them. In those cases, the herds often died of starvation or suffocation. In a few instances, the herd survived and was able to free itself as the snow melted around them.

The breaks are a source of water, shelter, and therefore life. However, under the right conditions, they could mean death. All in all, the breaks were an integral part of life on the plains for both man and beast.

The Overton / Hulen Family Tales

Death And Death In The Bottoms

By Don M. Fisher

As King Cotton greedily devoured the blackland prairie of East Texas, there remained, as there have been in most parts of America, some places that defied taming.

Like the breaks of the Panhandle, the Bottoms of East Texas remained wild and, for the careless or uninitiated, dangerous places.

The Texas lands first settled by the Hulens and Overtons were like an island of prairie rising out of two vast swamplands, or river bottoms.

To the north, Red River Bottoms geographically split Texas from "Indian Territory."

Until I was "a good-sized kid," as our elders would say, I knew Oklahoma by that common and original title.

Barely twenty miles distant as the crow flies, it was a world away: a world of snakes, man-sized catfish and gar, quicksand, and outlaws.

To the south, Cuthand Creek slashed across the miles of cotton rows as it gouged its way wider and wider until it was swallowed by the vast and legendary Sulphur Bottom, more than a hundred miles of seeping flow, clogged by debris "rafts," miles-long log jams packed so tight by the seasonal flooding that the dense forests simply grew over them. It was a pick-up sticks of leg-breaking, rotting ground with decay that nourished an astonishing variety of wild and intriguingly dangerous things from blood thirsty insects to sleek and soulless felines. The open sloughs and channels were a muddy soup of alligators, cottonmouths and prehistoric survivors like the gaspergou and jackfish.

The Red was haunted by timber rattlers and even coral snakes. It had more than its share of 'gators and other big predators, but the river had been a highway since Captain Shreve blew up the raft below Shreveport long before the War Between the States, opening the river to navigation.

Red River was wild, but friendly. Sort of like our Uncle Hugh.

Maybe there was a bad side, but it was an easy side to live with once you learned to stay off of it.

But nothing good came out of Sul-

phur Bottom, so the Sunday School teachers would say.

No one traversed the Sulphur, or wanted to.

The Red could serve up goods for a dozen Texas and Oklahoma settlements.

The Sulphur went nowhere. It just seeped out of countless seasonally dry Northeast Texas creeks, then oozed into the Red just across the Louisiana line.

We never heard of Bigfoot, the current talk of the Bottoms since "The Legend of Boggy Creek" hit the B-house movie screens. The real Fouk Monster was dreamed up by a group of Arkansas-Louisiana Bottom dwellers who hoped it would frighten away a group of black families who moved into the area.

Not all monsters live in the Bottoms.

Some haunt the heart of hate.

Our monsters were real: panthers we heard scream in the still night distance, bears that would rob a litter from the hog pens of families struggling in the thin soil too close to the Bottoms.

But even more frightening was the unknown.

A mud-caked horse or mule would wander back home after its rider was days overdue. The trail would simply lead into the Bottom and die there.

Quicksand and gator holes could swallow up horse and rider. Wild hogs the size of ponies foraged omnivorously. Red wolves and coyotes prowled the trail of misfortune, leaving barely enough to keep a buzzard alive.

Cattle, horses, dogs and men would somehow disappear into the Bottoms.

It was good for two things: squirrel hunting and whiskey.

At its widest part, the Sulphur runs parallel to Cuthand and White Oak Bottoms. Rather than the four or five-mile traverse, the Bottoms spread out more than twenty miles across. Only two paved highways cross it even now, and compared to the early part of the last century, the bottoms are tame as a city park.

It was an ideal place to cook whis-

key.

There is still a community on the White Oak known as Sugar Hill, named after the wagon load of sugar and yeast once delivered weekly to the little grocery store there.

Several times our Cuthand squirrel hunts would be cut short when my dad or granddad would catch the scent of woodsmoke and boiling mash on the heavy fall air.

The Bottoms were no place to come across a still.

These were enterprises of men unafraid of all the teeth and toxins with which nature chose to arm herself. They did business surrounded by places most people dread.

And they were the most dangerous creatures in the Bottoms.

Them old boys fought wars in those Bottoms, killed over territories, customers, deals.

Somehow I never blamed them.

There was a well-known family named Belcher, well-known among the thirsty, that is, living in Cuthand Bottom.

They were honest in their dealings and quick in their judgment. They did not suffer fools lightly.

One of the Belchers was killed by a bootlegger (A bootlegger sells whiskey; a whiskey cook is an artist. The Belchers were artists with an easily offended aesthetic sense.) The killer propped the body against an oak tree and cut off one ear "so I'd know him in hell."

The bootlegger was sent to prison to be paroled after a few years.

Shortly thereafter they found him in the middle of the road gut shot with a 12-gauge load of tacks.

The sheriff was just beginning his investigation when the wizened old justice of the peace showed up and declared the death a suicide.

Suicide? His middle opened up like a drugstore on Sunday?

"He killed a Belcher and come back to Cuthand Bottom," the old man said. "That was suicide."

To a certain way of thinking, it was merely justice delayed.

That body could have been dragged a couple of hundred yards and no one would have known about it but the hogs and the buzzards. Instead, he was laid out for all to see.

And know.

Now, justice was served.

Such is the product of prohibition. The only difference between the Daniels of Tennessee and the Belchers of Cuthand Bottom is that Lynchburg possesses a more enlightened electorate.

The "dry county" has killed more people than smallpox.

Make chewing gum illegal and there'll be a dozen Chiclet-related killings the first week.

We seem never to learn that there are places on this earth where mankind is not welcome. We can either leave those places to God's palate or destroy them in our own image.

Texas plans to build a series of lakes along Sulphur Bottom, flooding the last few miles of unconquered freedom to water lawns in Dallas and run Skidoos around in circles over the graves of wild things that will never again scream in the night and disturb our dreamless sleep.

And all we need be afraid of is ourselves.

C & C Collision Center, LLC



• Truck
• Trailer
• Auto
Repair Specialists

"We Make Friends By Accident"

- Free Estimates at your place or ours
- Pick-up & delivery (if needed)
- PPG certified paint specialists
- Fiberglass specialists
- Expert frame straightening
- Computerized Comp-Est and Mitchell Estimating Software
- Eagle Spray-on Bed Liners
- 30 day billing for Approved Fleet Accounts
- DOT inspections for commercial trucks and trailers
- State inspections for automobiles
- Lifetime warranty
- E-mail updates regarding your vehicle (pictures included)

www.cccollision.com

254-848-7008

1-888-345-1178

5849 N. State Hwy 6
(Speegleville Area) Waco

Looking For Excitement? Try Feeding Your Arm To A Catfish

After living in the Deep South for 10 years, I occasionally feel a strong urge to return. When that happens, I just remind myself that as beautiful and historic and hospitable as the South is, it contains people who use themselves as bait for catfish that are roughly the size of an Airstream travel trailer. Generally speaking, these people are not intoxicated or medicated. Nor is there any evidence to support that they are the victims of mind-controlling aliens who have simply grown bored waiting for the invasion.

No. These folks WANT to hunt catfish by sticking their bare hands into underwater burrows, knowing full well it could be the hiding place of a cottonmouth, snapping turtle, or Dick Cheney.

Admittedly, the closest I've come to hand-grabbing a catfish occurred at a public golf course near Atlanta, when I waded into a water hazard to retrieve my ball and accidentally stepped on a Gar. For those west of the Mason-Dixon, a Gar is sort of like a barracuda, but with more attitude. To this day, none of us can agree on how big this Gar was. My guess is about 12 feet long. And I'm pretty sure it had the hindquarters of a bull elk clenched between its jaws. Others in our group disagree, and say what I actually stepped on was a swollen bratwurst.

Which is totally ridiculous.

I think I'd know the difference between stepping on a dangerous man-eating fish, or a relatively harmless meat by-product. Although, to be fair, I



By
**Ned
Hickson**
Siuslaw News

can't say for sure because my eyes were closed and I was screaming.

In that moment it became clear to everyone in our group, — and anyone living within a two-mile radius — I wasn't going to be bare-handing a giant catfish (or bratwurst) anytime soon.

To fully appreciate this aggressive style of catting known as "noodling," you must keep a couple of things in mind. First, some catfish can weigh as much as 100 pounds. Fish biologists have documented enormous mouth radiuses, which is done by carefully extending the mouth to its largest capacity, measuring it on all sides, then comparing it to a scale reference provided by Mick Jagger.

The other thing you have to remember is that the South's most successful "noodlers" — those who have achieved celebrity by the sheer volume of catfish they've landed with their bare hands — generally have names like "Uncle Stubby," "Button-Nosed Jim" and "Three-Finger Jack." These men not only offer themselves for the sake of the sport, buy vow to keep doing so, even if

it becomes necessary for someone to physically insert them into a catfish lair once they've lost all their appendages. It's this kind of dedication that inspires people like myself to at least consider taking a risk and, despite the danger, order fried catfish that might contain a missing digit from "Three-Finger Jack."

To better understand this sport, I tried contacting several "noodlers" by phone to discuss what it takes to be successful. One thing I learned right away was to make sure the person you are calling is indeed a "noodler" before addressing them as such. This is especially true if you accidentally transpose the number and call someone who is, at that very moment, running late for an anger management class.

As it stands, I have yet to talk with an actual "noodler," many of whom were in Pauls Valley, Oklahoma, this past weekend for the first-annual National Noodling Tournament, where the motto was: "No Hooks. No Bait. No Fear."

This is actually very close to my own personal "noodling" motto: "No Hooks. No Bait. No Cajones."

I will continue to follow this story. In fact, my editor has agreed to fly me back to the Deep South for first-hand research, and I definitely plan to go.

Just as soon as he includes a return ticket.

(You can write to Ned Hickson at nhickson@oregonfast.net, or at the Siuslaw News at P.O. Box 10, Florence, OR. 97439.)

Breasts That Aren't A Bust



By
**Lloyd
Garver**

In case you haven't noticed, breast implants are bigger than ever. Surgically enhanced breasts are on the rise, and the trend shows no sign of pointing downward. Approximately a quarter of a million American women have their breasts enlarged each year. It used to be that women were secretive about these enhancements and desperately wanted them to look natural. Now, the artificial look is apparently perfectly acceptable to some women. They don't care if it's obvious that they've had surgery, they just like the way they look. In fact, a bra company, brastraps.com, recently introduced a bra whose purpose is to give the wearer the appearance of having breast implants! It is "designed to create a natural cosmetically enhanced look." I guess, "natural cosmetically enhanced" is no longer an oxymoron.

So, some people must feel that phony-looking, gravity-defying breasts look better than what nature had in mind. This move away from imitating nature to creating a new, acceptable look has had precedents. Years ago, a woman would never want people to know that she dyed her hair. The big advertising slogan was, "Only her hairdresser knows for sure." Now, women who have orange hair or brand new blond highlights don't care that "everyone knows for sure."

Men are also in on the cosmetic surgery boom. Hair transplants, liposuction, and laser hair removal are all on the increase for them. The chest or "pec" implant is another popular procedure for men. (Our culture is apparently obsessed with chests regardless of gender).

In the middle of winter, both men and women can get phony spray-on tans that nobody thinks are real. Unless they discover something dangerous about the sprays — which they probably will, since they discover something dangerous about everything — the use of this product not only gives a desired look, but can actually save lives.

Then there's the teeth-whitening fad. Natural human teeth are not blinding white in color. But now, thanks to advertising and societal

pressures, people are bleaching their teeth. And those with bleached teeth don't care if they look unnatural. They figure if you need sunglasses to look at them, that's your problem.

So, it seems that much of the "I don't care if it looks natural or not" craze has to do with self-esteem. Instead of being ashamed of using human-made things to change their looks, people are proud of their purchased appearances. The attitude is simply, "I feel better about myself looking this way, and I don't care who knows about it."

If all of these "super-natural" looks stay in fashion, will our DNA evolve to include them? For quite a while, I've believed that babies will soon be born with the innate ability to be experts at computer games and genetically predisposed to be able to watch one TV show while taping another. Similarly, if people of the opposite sex find all these artificial looks attractive, will natural selection and the survival of the fittest lead to our genes being altered? Will people in future generations be born with a propensity to have ludicrously large chests, no fat, a perfect tan, no hair except on their heads, and white teeth bright enough to light up the neighborhood? It's quite possible. And if you think I'm exaggerating, consider the name of that bra that tries to give women the unnatural look. It's called, the "Evolution."

Lloyd Garver has written for many television shows, ranging from "Sesame Street" to "Family Ties" to "Frasier" to "Home Improvement." He has also read many books, some of them in hardcover. He writes the "Modern Times" column for CBSnews.com's Opinion page and can be reached at lloydgarver@yahoo.com

Subscribe Today



A NATIONAL

INDEPENDENT

Newspaper

PRINT EDITION or INTERNET EDITION

It's Easy, Just Call
(254) 675-3336

or log on to:

www.iconoclast-texas.com

We Accept:

VISA — MC — AmEx — Discover

Your Support Is Appreciated.

We also
accept
PayPal

Newspaper Downplays Town's Tough Reputation

Ignoring the fresh graves that dotted boothill, the TASCOSA PIONEER had the gall to claim on June 22, 1886, "Our society is not so rough as many have been led to believe."

The inhabitants of the toughest town in Texas surely shook their heads in amused amazement. Either the public-spirited publisher had baked his brains in the noonday sun, or he somehow managed to sleep through the Big Shootout.

Trouble had been brewing in the Panhandle for many years. The uncompromising conflict pitted the big ranchers and their legion of gunslinging range-riders against small independent cattlemen, assorted squatters, and those cowboys blackballed after an unsuccessful strike in 1883.

A jilted prostitute inadvertently brought it all to a head in March 1886. After losing Lem Woodruff to another lady of the evening, Sally Emory promised the moon and several stars to Ed King, an LS ranch hand, if he would help even the score with her fickle ex-boyfriend.

Recruiting a couple of cohorts from the LS camp, King made a beeline for Woodruff's favorite haunt, where the trio tried to taunt him into a gunfight. Although the insults were so humiliating that he broke down and cried, Woodruff stayed put safe inside the saloon.

A few days later, Sally Emory sent a

note to King asking him to meet her that night. Not about to venture alone into Tascosa, King persuaded Frank Valley, Fred Chilton and John Lang to go along.

The four cowhands passed the early evening at a private party and a hospitable watering hole, where they did not have to worry about watching each other's backs. Then at two o'clock in the morning, they rode the short distance into town.

Valley and Chilton headed for a permanent poker game, while King and Lang moseyed on down Main Street. Finding Sally in front of the Exchange Hotel, Lang freed his friend to keep his date by graciously offering to tie up the horses.

As the couple strolled past Jenkins and Dunn's saloon, the known hangout of the Woodruff clique, a voice from the pitch-black porch loudly questioned the marital status of King's parents. Ordering Sally to go on without him, he stepped toward the source of the slander.

A block away, John Lang heard the tell-tale sound of gunfire and turned to see Ed King fall on his back. He watched horror-stricken as Lem Woodruff emerged from the shadows, placed the barrel of his Winchester on King's throat, and squeezed the trigger.

Sticking his head in the poker parlor, Lang shouted, "They just killed Ed!" Valley and Chilton dropped their cards

This Week In Texas History

By Bartee Haile



and grabbed their guns, but King was dead by the time the trio reached his side.

Assuming the murderers were waiting for them to storm the entrance of Jenkins and Dunn's, they decided to attack from the rear. But as they turned the corner into the alley, there stood Woodruff with four accomplices.

Lang, Valley, and Chilton opened fire simultaneously before their prey could clear leather. As his associates scrambled for cover, the impact of two slugs knocked Woodruff back inside the barroom.

He kicked the door shut behind him, but Frank Valley emptied his pistol into the thin wood. Pausing to reload, he listened intently for any sound of life. Hearing none, he could not resist taking a peek at Woodruff's corpse.

Valley gently opened the perforated door only to get the biggest and last surprise of his life. A Winchester roared, and Woodruff registered his second kill.

Seconds later, curiosity caused another casualty. When cafe owner Jesse

Sheets leaned out a window for a better view of the battle, Fred Chilton put a bullet between his eyes.

Chilton, however, had no opportunity to regret the fatal mistake. The muzzle flash gave away his position, and an unknown marksman nailed him with two perfect shots.

Alone and surrounded, John Lang made a mad dash for his horse. Miracle of miracles, he escaped with nothing worse than a bullet hole in his coat sleeve.

A mean and close-knit bunch, the boys at the LS Ranch blamed Tascosa for the slaughter of their saddle partners. In retaliation they plotted the execution of the entire town.

The day after Valley, Chilton, and King were buried, 55 cowboys descended on Tascosa ready to shoot every living soul and to burn the place to the ground. But, as an afterthought, they asked the LS foreman for his blessing.

Certain of his absolute authority, he told the mob to go home. Anyone who dared to take the law into his own hands would be exiled forever from the ranch.

A few hotheads tried to argue the point but were swiftly silenced by the obedient majority. Tascosa was spared, and not a moment too soon.

Bartee Haile welcomes your comments, questions and suggestions at haile@pdq.net or 1912 Meadow Creek Dr., Pearland, TX 77581.

Don't Sweat The Small Stuff

A couple of days ago, I decided I would mow/shred the "grounds." This is my fancy name for pastureland. It just happens to be inside the barbed wire fence separating the residential area from the rest of the ranch. There are a variety of grasses and weeds there which, when mowed, pass convincingly as lawn for about four days — until the weeds outgrow the grass and it all begins to look scraggly again.

The morning was cloudy, and still quite pleasant at 8:30. I managed to do a lot by 1 p.m. . . . That was the good news. The bad news was that, between the riding mower and the tractor, I ran into a few things such as:

1. The door of the old metal shed. (It wasn't exactly perfect to begin with, so while I sure wish I hadn't done it, there was no great tragedy. I even poked a little hole at the top of the big dent. I couldn't undo it, so there was no use crying. It still works. (I backed into it, which makes me sound like even more of a ditz. The tractor brakes don't seem to work very well when the shredder is attached, and that was the first time I had encountered this phenomenon. It was a bad way to find it out, but it could have been worse. I could have backed into my truck or one of the little houses. You just have to be grateful sometimes for the things you DON'T do.

2. The deer fence around the garden, but I patched that up pretty easily. (I had caught it with some little itty-bitty part on the mower. It ripped and ripped as I cheerily mowed along, oblivious, with my earplugs blocking out any hint that things were amiss).

3. That big rock marking the location of

the crepe myrtle I mowed over last year.

4. The same, poor crepe myrtle that had been valiantly trying to come up again. Past tense.

5. The air conditioner sticking out the back of the new metal building. . . . Now, although this was the worst of my bad mowing news, it wasn't as bad as it sounds for the A/C unit. That's intact. But the lever on the riding mower that raises and lifts the mower blade assembly — and disengages it so the mower can back up or start well, that's what was sticking out when I came too close. I definitely knocked something loose. The level was wobbling all over the place. When the engine died, it wouldn't start again. The mower thought its blades were still engaged. Nothing wanted to move in a normal way. (When I break 'em, I break 'em good). So my faithful lawn machine sat in the back yard until Zack somehow convinced it to slide into neutral. We pushed it into the cattle trailer and took it to be repaired.

The yard around the house is only partially mowed in a fractal, haphazard pattern. I was maneuvering around trees, planning to neaten things up later. Now that must be done with the push mower, a machine I try my best to avoid. (I acquired "tennis elbow" many years ago using a push mower. If I was destined to have this ailment, I've always thought it a shame I wasn't doing something fun and sporty — like actually playing tennis — to deserve it).

I was disgusted with myself that I had done so many stupid things, mainly busting the mower, but what was done was done. I decided to finish the large,

Rustic Ramblings

By Gene Ellis



Gene Ellis, Ed.D. is a Bosque County resident who returned to the family farm after years of living in New Orleans, New York and Florida. She is an artist who holds a doctoral degree from New York University and is writing a book about the minor catastrophes of life.

uncut areas with the tractor. That was when I backed into the shed, hit the rock and obliterated the valiant crepe myrtle. I'm not pleased to be the woman all comedians joke about who is dangerous behind the wheel. At least my driving problems seem limited to the riding mower. I suppose things could be worse.

The next mess up involved the shower walls in the studio. The waterproof material we bought and had installed has begun to bubble away from the waterproof sheetrock underneath. This can't be good.

Then there was a problem with the brand new clothes dryer. Why was it taking hours to dry clothing? Before calling for service, I actually read the instruction manual troubleshooting tips and decided to check the exhaust hose. Sure enough, it was all kinked up. I hope that is the cause of the problem. . . .

The new washing machine plumbing must be reconfigured. When it drains, it backs up into the sink, then onto the floor. This is not acceptable.

Something is wrong with Zack's truck. . . . some seal on the transmission assembly, I think. . . . and he needs new bushings, whatever those are. I think I had to have new ones last year on my truck.

The old Farmall Super C tractor we have been working on has a couple of new problems. I was so naive. It sat in the barn for over thirty years, but I hoped against hope that after Jamie got it running, it would be good to go. Not so, of course. Now we are able to discover all the smaller things to be repaired and replaced.

When we were walking early this morning and saw the vultures rise up before us, we both knew it wasn't going to be good, and sure enough, there was a calf. No telling if it had been delivered alive or dead, poor thing. Perhaps it was born to one of our first-time heifers. You try your best to be alert, to be around if you are needed. But sometimes one slips past you. You can kick yourself all you want, but it won't bring back that calf.

All these things are part of life. You know, when it rains, it pours. I try to be grateful that, as big as the recent problems (or stupid accidents) were, they weren't a lot larger. Everything is relative. Maybe we all must experience a couple of huge losses or tragedies in our lives before we learn to take the lesser things more in stride. I remember seeing a T-shirt a few years ago. The front said, "Don't sweat the small stuff." The back said, "It's all small stuff."

Most problems will eventually be solved (or accepted, lived with, and learned from). In the past, I became a lot more nervous, upset and worried when things went wrong. Now I try (though not always so successfully) to stay calm. Things will all work out, one way or the other. And if they don't, well, I guess we'll all keep plodding along. Either way, the sun will come up again in the morning, giving us yet another generous chance to get it right.

MAILBAG

ICONOCLAST

LETTERS
TO THE
EDITOR

To The Editor:

The current executive branch of this government has committed an act of treason. We have been nothing but lied to by this administration since day one culminating with the MI-6 report that proves this administration, specifically George W. Bush, lied to the American public with fixed intelligence in order to go to war with Iraq. For this reason impeachment charges must be brought forward for the sake of democracy to last in this country.

The Iraq War cannot be won because there is nothing to win. "Staying the course" will mean this country's downfall. We can literally not financially afford this war because it has no clear-cut objectives. Fighting a war for "freedom and democracy" means nothing because its success or failure can never be gauged. One hundred thousand people are dead because of an Orwellian euphemism and a bold face pack of lies about WMD's and a manufactured threat assessment. Much of "old Europe's" financial elite love this war and the overall "War on Terror" because it is giving them a strategic capital advantage over the dollar. The contrast of the Euro vs. Dollar conversion is for the most part directly due to this war. European Old-money is laughing all the way to the bank while we wave our flags and tie a yellow ribbon around the old Oak tree like a bunch of American idiots.

Because of the above I ask the good members of congress across both isles to bring impeachment charges towards this administration. I ask members of congress to please be brave and do the right thing. 9-11 was a horrible lie which amounted to nothing more than a modern age Reichstag fire. The lame duck emperor Bush is naked and everyone knows it. The question now is what is going to be done about it. Impeachment is the most rational answer.

Regards
Joe Hrevnack

To The Editor:

What Korea was to Truman, Viet Nam to LBJ, Iraq will be to George W. Bush.

Each one was a debacle, but when you get a schmuck that doesn't read history books, what can you do? He has embarrassed the country.

Bush was able to keep Iraq at bay for long enough to get reelected, with a little help from Jesus Christ, but his latest faux pas is not riding high with the partisan congress. Just look at the latest polls. We are not happy with 1,700 dead, 10,000 casualties, \$230 billion spent, and we're no more secure with this unimaginable misdirected investment.

This is clearly not a war that is waning or winnable. Yet the Bush administration continues to refuse to consider the idea of an exit strategy. He says he wants to wait until the Iraqi troops can take over the fight. This is further proof that he has his head up his ass. Ahmed Chalabi's great-grandchildren will be leading the first all-Iraqi push against the insurgents.

Like LBJ with Viet Nam, Bush seems to be losing touch with reality and with the sentiments of the American people. But, unlike Johnson, he seems strangely unaffected by the disconnect. We all knew he was stupid going in which is why so many in the red states saw a common bond, not to forget the elitists, or convincing his contingent that God put him there. To cite the proof, wasn't it God who saved him from drinking and the continued use of nose candy? This combination of incompetence and hubris—always a dangerous cocktail—could well be his undoing. But he's a lame duck and he is going to continue his insanity since he's got nothing to lose, other than a deleterious effect on his partisans.

What is the Democratic leadership waiting for before they finally stand up to the White House? Where is Nancy Pelosi, Howard Reid, et.al. to confront the administration on their immorality?

Russ Feingold called on the President to create a timetable for withdrawing American troops from Iraq. Thank God at least one prominent Dem has the knowledge of what the party stands for and has the cojones to make it known to the public.

Don't forget about Mr. "Freedom Fries" himself, Rep. Walter Jones, R.N.C. who has turned coat and is now aware that we went to war with no justification

And this was after after being a staunch supporter of the war.

Now that there is a 40% shortfall in recruitman, does that mean that we could look forward to a draft?

Noomar

To The Editor:

Social Security's financial insolvency needs to be fixed. No one doubts that.

However, private accounts in any shape or form cannot be allowed. And ... that means even if they are wrapped up pretty in a box of pork with a bow on top.

Make no mistake. Killing private accounts is a Democratic litmus test. Any Democrat who falls for this Republican maneuver will be held accountable.

Now is not the time to cut some ridiculous short-term deal. Now is the time to continue to hold ideological loyalty. Solidarity has power. It is the only power that has stunted the Republicans' mad rush to dismantle the New Deal. We shall overcome is the theme song of today.

And we will overcome too. Americans are beginning to see that the Republican Party has been taken over by extremists. Their support is waning as people begin to understand that these guys don't have the same priorities as the rest of us do.

So ... Thomas, go ahead and craft a bill with all of your Republican cronies. Go ahead and bake a pie with private accounts buried in the middle. Know that Democrats will not fall for it. Know that it is actually the Republican Party that will face a backlash at this tactic.

Angie Pratt

To The Editor:

Gov. Perry: the finance wolf in

sheep's clothing...

So all of a sudden the governor is one of the good guy's wearing a ten-gallon hat? *During the past four years* "Black Bart" Perry has been one of the primary obstacles to solving the school finance and home property tax issues. Now he's making a whirlwind tour of Texas cities to push through silly, placebo cures on these two issues, all the while "pointing his finger" at legislators?

By the way, wasn't this the same Gov. Rick Perry who two years ago publicly denied and refused to admit that schools were in a financial crisis situation? And isn't this the same Perry who last year called for a special session on redistricting instead of making the school issue the primary concern?

Beware, voters! There's a gubernatorial wolf seeking re-election masquerading as a caring leader concerned about our children's education and the empty wallets of overburdened homeowners. Perry already had five years to lead legislators to resolutions and he failed to do so.

Rick Perry is bad for Texans and their children. Texas needs a real leader.

Peter Stern, Driftwood, TX

To The Editor:

An Open Letter to the Honorable Senator Bill Frist:

Dear Senator Frist:

You dishonor your country, its citizens, its military and yourself when you suggest that if Americans did not know the source of the photographs from Abu Grahیب they would assume those pictures were taken by Americans in American prisons. I served in the Marines. For a short while I was a reporter in Vietnam. I have seen a bit of the brutality and cruelty that is war. But if I had not been assured that those photographs were authentic I would have believed they came from Nazi Germany, the Soviet Union or some other country that does not respect human dignity, itself or the law.

I am appalled that when you and your colleagues saw those photographs you thought, yes, that's America, that's who we are. This administration has stripped from the military the protection of the Geneva Convention because this administration considers those laws "quaint." Is there no decency left in Washington?

Robert Flynn, San Antonio

A Letter to the Editor:

While the FORT WORTH STAR-TELEGRAM and the DALLAS MORNING NEWS do serve their surrounding communities in many ways, they also continually defend Rep. Joe Barton (R-Tex) and Sen. Kay Bailey Hutchison (R-Tx) from anti-tobacco advocacy. Both Barton and Hutchinson are pro-tobacco. Both have benefited politically from defending the "legal right" of the tobacco industry to kill 400,000 Americans per year.

If you think that tobacco is an issue just for smokers, think again. If tobacco was off the market, our health care costs would take a \$100 billion plus per year nose dive. Tobacco is a health care cost issue for all of us.

Below is a link to a few brochures on Lung Cancer. Do I think that these corporate politicians will ever stop their support of tobacco? No... not as long as you continue to vote for them.

<<http://www.lungcanceralliance.org/press/pressroom.html>>

Leonard Jensen, Fort Worth

To The Editor:

To say that the United States of America is a Democratic Republic would be like saying Hitler was a Saint.

In truth we lost our republic on 02-27-1947 when the Military Industrial Complex Police State (financed by oil) robbed us of our democracy.

Clearly in the 2000 and 2004 elections the state attorney generals who decided the election had a conflict of interest being that both were Chairman of the Republican fund raising committees of their prospective states and should of clearly recused themselves according to the constitution.

So how do we take back our republic and become a democracy again?

We do it by making the engine that drives their power obsolete, oil which is the root cause to most of our social, economic, and ecological problems including war.

When I was a youth we were told that in the future we'd be having flying cars and all sorts of modern amenities...where are they?

Like the Tucker or B. Fuller cars or the Tesla electrical energy conversion suppressed by the those that rule us instead of represent us. Jet Stream Harvesting is that means of creating a Jetsons type of world reality without polluting it. It can be the way to alter the pollution and climatic changes caused by the greenhouse effect of the oil generated by MIC and generate billions of high paying jobs worldwide.

Because of the technology of fiber optics, light composite materials, kevlar, and lasers we have the ability and have had for decades the ability to harvest electrical energy and water directly from the Jet Stream by means of a teathered turbine platform creating water and energy without the problems that arise from nuclear, coal/oil, hydro driven turbines.

But the Bush administration like all the previous have no innovative thinkers or imagination mainly because they are not Republican's but neocon facists hanging on to some Rapturist Dream created by some 19th century religious cult...there is no "Rapture" in the book of Revelations.

America has given into fear for reason stoked by these would be republicans so that you can maintain your petty comforts and false security in a fiat monetary system which is far from a true gold standard.

When I think of this illegal administration I find myself embracing the 139th Psalm for this is an administration that is an enemy of God, for the fact that they are a far cry from stewards of the world and fellow man. One thing that I do know about these paranoid greedy creatures e.g. [A few months back George W. Bush spoke a Republican fund raiser: "Ah my favorite people the haves and the want mores!"] when your arrogant it is because your usually full of false pride—when you live by the seven deadly sins you die by them.

Anytime you have an administration driven by a religious agenda you no longer have a democracy.

When God created us he gave us free will to worship Him or not. The Bushitites would have you worship by their decree and interpretation this is not even close to a democracy. They attempted to get rid of the only news that gives you actual news instead of spin PBS because they gag on the truth.

Needless to say Americans stay doc

Continued On Next Page

MAILBAG ICONOCLAST

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Continued From Previous Page

ile for just so long and then they tell you to hit the road.

Though your administration George W. Bush deserves to be driven through a gauntlet beaten for your lack of leadership and treason know that if William J. Clinton was impeached for fellatio what will God and America have in store for you?

It's not too late to change your ways, but then I've seen few bullies convert due to their cowardness.

Four years ago I communicated to you a way of reducing oil consumption within all federal and state building and agencies by converting all to having generators power their electrical needs by bio diesel a fuel made from vegetable oil and to have all federal and state vehicles including mass transit such as buses and trains to convert to this non polluting method, but again that would make too much sense and reduce pollution.

Not a very innovative administration due to a lack of common sense perhaps because your greed blinds you or you know that it would detract from your power base.

As Christ said to Satan, "Get behind me!" America needs to say, "Get behind me Bush!" There are very simple solutions, but your administration is so full of themselves staying in power that the whole of America must suffer over your service to Satan.

Sincerely,

Republican & Veteran R.L. Zadworny

P.S. For a war time president explain to America why you haven't been to one funeral of the 2000 plus American men and women service personnel whom gave their lives in Afghanistan or Iraq? And the answer being the president is hard work won't cut it.

To The Editor:

Guess what, peasants?

Thanks in part to King George's generous tax cuts, there has been an increase of 51 new billionaires and multi-billionaires in the United States last year — a total of 313 compared to 262 the year before.

For those working stiffs who are still relishing the few shillings in tax relief they got from George's tax cuts, think of how grateful those billionaires and multi-billionaires must be for the millions upon millions of pounds George has saved them in taxes.

But the greater benefits of the tax cuts have not yet been fully realized. With over eighty of the nation's largest corporations having paid no taxes last year, largely because of relocating their operations overseas, King George will now take credit for expanding America's industrial empire throughout the world. Moreover, the abundance of serfs to perform cheap labor in other countries, will further strengthen the aristocracy. Ah yes, no billionaire left behind!

Paul G. Jaehnert, Vadnais Hts., MN
To The Editor:

Now Karl, a question for you, since

you seem to be the nation's self-styled sensei with regard to 9/11: Is Usama Bin Laden still important? Lately, your coterie of friends seems to be giving out mixed messages. Recall that in the early days, Bin Laden was wanted "dead or alive." Then when Bin Laden slipped through your fingertips in Tora Bora, you downgraded his importance. We were told that Bin Laden was a "desperate man on the run," and a person that President Bush was not "too worried about". Yet, whenever I saw Bin Laden's videos, he looked much too comfortable to actually be a man on the run. He looked tan, rested, and calm. He certainly didn't look the way I wanted the murderer of almost 3,000 innocent people to look: unkempt, panicked, and cowering in a corner.

Karl, I mention Bin Laden because recently Director of the CIA, Porter Goss, has mentioned that he knows exactly where Bin Laden is located but that he cannot capture him for fear of offending sovereign nations. Which frankly, I find ironic because of Iraq—and let's just leave it at that. But, when you say that "moderation and restraint" don't work in fighting terrorists, maybe you should share those comments with Mr. Goss because he doesn't seem to be on the same page as you. Unless of course, Porter is holding out to announce that Bin Laden is in Iran. (Karl, I want Bin Laden brought to justice, but not if it means starting a war with Iran — a country that possesses nuclear weaponry. The idea of nuclear fallout in any quadrant of the world is just not an acceptable means to any ends, be it capturing Bin Laden, oil or drugs. But, Afghanistan and Bin Laden are old news. Iraq is the story of today. And of course, it appears that Iran will be the story of next month.

More to the point, Karl, when you say, "Conservatives saw the savagery of the 9/11 attacks and prepared for war," what exactly did you do to prepare for your war? Did your preparations include: sound intelligence to warrant your actions; a reasonable entry and exit strategy coupled with a coherent plan to carry out that strategy; the proper training and equipment for the troops you were sending in to fight your war? Did you follow the advice of experts such as General Shinseki who correctly advised you about the troop levels needed to actually succeed in Iraq? No, you didn't.

It has always been America's policy that you only place soldiers' lives in harm's way when it is absolutely necessary and the absolute last resort. When you send troops into combat you support those troops by providing them with proper equipment and training. Why didn't you do that with the troops that you sent into Iraq? Why weren't their vehicles armored? Why didn't they have protective vests? Why weren't they properly trained about the rules of interrogation? And

Karl, when our troops come home — be it tragically in body bags or with missing limbs — you should honor and acknowledge their service to their country. You shouldn't hide them by bringing them home in the dark of night, and screte them at Dove Air Force Base for none to see. Most importantly, you should take care of them for the long haul by giving them substantial veteran's benefits and care. To me, that is being patriotic. To me, that is how you support our troops. To me, that is how you show that you know the value of a human life given for its country.

For the record Karl, does Iraq have any connection to the 9/11 attacks? Because, you and your friends with your collective "understanding of 9/11" seem to be contradicting yourselves about the Iraq-9/11 connection, too. First, we were told that we went to war with Iraq because it was linked to the 9/11 attacks. Then, your rationale was changed to "Iraq has WMD". Then you told us that we needed to invade Iraq because Saddam was a "bad man". And now it turns out that we are in Iraq to bring them "democracy."

Of course, the Downing Street memo clarifies many of these things, but for the record Karl: Iraq had nothing to do with 9/11; there were few terrorists in Iraq before our invasion, but now Iraq is a terrorist hot-bed. America had the sympathy and support of the whole world before Iraq. Now, thanks to your actions, we find ourselves hated and alienated by the rest of the world. Al Qaeda's recruitment took a nose-dive after the 9/11 attacks, but has now skyrocketed since your invasion of Iraq; and most importantly, nearly 2,000 U.S. soldiers have been killed because of your war in Iraq. These facts speak for themselves. (And, they speak very little about effectively winning any war on terror.)

Karl, you say you "understand" 9/11. Then why did you and your friends so vehemently oppose the creation of a 9/11 Independent Commission? Once the commission was established, why did you refuse to properly fund the Commission by allotting it only a \$3 million budget? Why did you refuse to allow access to documents and witnesses for the 9/11 Commissioners? Why did we have to fight so hard for an extension when the Commissioners told us that they needed more time due to your footdragging and stonewalling? Why didn't you want to cooperate so that all Americans could "understand" what happened on 9/11

Karl, if you "understand 9/11," then why don't you understand that until we have a more environmentally friendly energy policy, we cannot effectively fight the war on terrorism. By being dependent on foreign oil, we have no choice but to cozy up to nations that sponsor terrorists. Moreover, because of oil, we may end up placing our troops and our nation at greater risk by having to invade certain oil-rich countries. Our invasion of these countries merely serves to inflame would-be terrorists by reinforcing their notion that we are gluttonous and self-centered — invading sovereign nations solely to steal their oil. Forgive me Karl, but is that how you think you "win hearts and minds"? Does that help in any way to "spread democracy"?

Finally Karl, please "understand"

that the reason we have not suffered a repeat attack on our homeland is because Bin Laden no longer needs to attack us. Those of us with a pure and comprehensive "understanding of 9/11" know that Bin Laden committed the 9/11 attacks so he could increase recruitment for al Qaeda and increase worldwide hatred of America. That didn't happen. Because after 9/11, the world united with Americans and al Qaeda's recruitment levels never increased.

It was only after your invasion of Iraq, that Bin Laden's goals were met. Because of your war in Iraq two things happened that helped Bin Laden and the terrorists: al Qaeda recruitment soared and the United States is now alienated from and hated by the rest of the world. In effect, what Bin Laden could not achieve by murdering my cousin and 3,000 others on 9/11, you handed to him on a silver platter with your invasion of Iraq - a country that had nothing to do with 9/11.

Which leads me to my final questions for you Karl: What are your motives when it comes to 9/11 and are you really sure that you understand 9/11? Or are you as big a phony as the president.

Talk about hypocrisy! From a guy who's never even been close to a uniform, Karl Rove calling liberals "soft" is truly hysterical. What will this kettle call them next, a bunch of pudgy, four-eyed frat boys?

Jeffrey Kyle Hensley, Plainfield, IL

CORYELL COUNTY COMMISSION CO.

Sale Every Saturday

Cattle 12:00 Noon
Jody & Robin Thomas
(254) 865-8219

Date: 6-18-05

No. 1 Steers
under 300 lb. 165-195
300-400 lb. 150-172
400-500 lb. 130-155 Steady
500-600 lb. 115-131 \$1-2 Down
600-700 lb. 105-118
700-800 lb. 95-109

No. 1 Heifers
under 300 lb. 150-185
300-400 lb. 130-155
400-500 lb. 125-145 Steady
500-600 lb. 115-131 \$1-2 Down
600-700 lbs. 105-115
700-800 lbs. 95-103

Slaughter Cows
High Yielding 56 to 63
Low Yielding 44 to 51 Steady
Fats 53 to 59
Thin & Shelly 40 to 47

Packer Bulls (1250-2075 lb.)
Yield Grade 1&2 65 to 75 Steady

Cow & Calf Pairs
Young Choice 1100 to 1275
Young Fair 1000 to 1200 Steady
Aged Pairs 750 to 950

Young Pregnancy Test Stocker
Replacement Cows
600 to 1050 Steady
Number of Head....920

**Sale will be CLOSED
SATURDAY, JULY 2ND**

Gatesville
Jody Thomas (254) 865-8219
Sale (254) 865-9121
Mobile (254) 223-2958

Halliburton Protesters' Charges Cleared

HOUSTON -- A Harris County grand jury cleared three male protesters accused of assaulting Houston police of-

ficers at a demonstration outside a Halliburton shareholder's meeting in May.

The protesters -- Andrew Peterson, 17, a high school junior from Austin; David Martinez, 25, a San Francisco-based activist; and James Foley, 19, of Galveston -- had been charged with assault on a public servant, a felony punishable by up to 10 years in prison.

Eight members of the group Houston Global Awareness Collective were also arrested during the protests for blocking an entrance way to the meeting. Most of them pleaded guilty to misdemeanor trespassing and were sentenced to time served.



Lightning Strikes!
when you advertise in



THE ICONOCLAST
IS A NATIONAL
INDEPENDENT

Newspaper
Geared At Marketing Your Products
COAST TO COAST!

Call One Of Our
Friendly Ad
Representatives
To Help You
Design Your
Advertising
Program:

(254)

675-

3

3

3

6

OWN A PIECE OF TEXAS HILL COUNTRY AND YOUR OWN MOUNTAINTOP! TWO HOUSES, 18+/-ACRES, A GENERAL STORE AND BLACKSMITH SHOP

- 2,700 sq.ft. four bedrooms, two and one half baths rock house • One bedroom cottage (currently rented for \$350 a month) • Hot tub with gazebo on side of mountain • Two lookout towers on hillside offer panoramic views • Two 300-ft. wells/less than eight years old • Several out-buildings
- Gas lease pending • You can have all this and more...

PRICED TO SELL! \$299,000

BY OWNER ~ ADDITIONAL PROPERTY AVAILABLE
817-648-0086 Between 9:00 am and 6:00 pm
254-775-4269 After 6:00 pm

Services

For advertising
information, call
(254) 675-3336

Beverly Worley, M.A., LPC, LMFT
Individual, Child & Family Counseling

Licensed Professional Counselor
Licensed Marriage and Family Therapist

505 W. 5th St., Suite 280
Clifton, TX 76634

Call for Appointment
(254) 675-6756
(817) 996-8890

**MARK KETTLER
BUILDER**

Mobile **(254) 709-7362**
Fax **(254) 836-4620**

H.O.T.B.A.

Red Roof Storage
RV & Boat Storage

Speegleville area
10 x 20 Storage
15 x 40 RV

(254) 848-7867

MARY KAY®

BARBARA JENKINS
Independent Beauty Consultant

359 Barnett Bend
Valley Mills
932-5256 • 934-2450

Call for all your beauty needs!

Wrecker Service 24 Hr. Full Service Glass Work Service by Lynx Foreign & Domestic

Bill's Body Shop

REPAIR FACILITY ALWAYS OWNER'S CHOICE
Brewco Frame Machine & Measuring System

Highway 6 in Valley Mills, TX phone: **(254) 932-6536**
fax: **(254) 932-6588**
cell: **(254) 709-2235**

Leon's
FLOOR COVERING

Carpet & Vinyl
Formica Cabinet Tops
Wallpaper
Eureka Vacuum Cleaners
and Service

QUALITY MATERIAL SOLD AND INSTALLED WITH PRIDE
302 West 5th Clifton, Texas **FREE ESTIMATES** Phone 675-8686
Mike & Kim Prescher Home 675-8291