

Let's Shut Down The Government!

As I sit here, it's the 8th of December and I have no idea if the government will be shut down before the end of the month. For my purposes, it hardly matters because the threat of a shutdown is always lurking in Washington. That is especially true now that the two parties are hunkered down in their respective trenches as if reenacting the bloodiest days of World War I.

For a long time, as my wife just reminded me, I opposed such shutdowns. But I only opposed them because the media is always quick to blame it on the Republicans and because in one case, the 2013 shutdown did lead to the Clintons' bagman, Terry McAuliffe, defeating Ken Cuccinelli in Virginia's gubernatorial race. That was because northern Virginia is home to so many federal bureaucrats that they took the work stoppage personally.

My own inclination is to bring the federal government to a halt as often as possible, if simply to slow down the rate at which Obama and Congress are destroying the nation. One of the problems with a shutdown, however, is that it's the president who gets to decide how the available money is spent. And Obama being Obama, he loves to shut down things like the World War II Memorial and the national parks, knowing how much normal Americans resent such closures.

At the risk of being labeled a flip-flopper, I have changed my mind. That's because I finally came to the realization that it's only the mass media that blames the GOP, and fewer and fewer people, including Democrats, are paying any attention to the NY Times and the major TV networks.

Furthermore, I came to see the upside of the two major

shutdowns in the recent past. The first took place in 1995, the second in 2013. In both cases, the GOP got the lion's share of the blame, but so what? In 1996, although Clinton won re-election, defeating the zombie-like Bob Dole, the GOP picked up two seats in the Senate and only dropped two seats in the House.

In 2014, less than a year after the second shutdown, the GOP picked up nine seats in the Senate and a dozen more in the House. So perhaps I'm not the only one who approves of politicians having less opportunity to stick their noses into our business.

Speaking of politicians, I would love to have reporters conduct the same sort of exit polls after those in the House and Senate cast their votes for majority and minority leaders that they do during normal elections. For instance, I'd love to know why the Democrats keep re-electing Harry Reid and Nancy Pelosi. I mean, why would anyone wish to have his party represented by Reid, a guy Hollywood would typecast as a mortician? As for Mrs. Pelosi, she speaks like a backward teenager and has had so many facelifts, my friend Steve Maikoski fears that the day will come when her face will snap in front of the TV cameras and roll up like a window shade.

The Republicans are no better. Mitch McConnell and John Boehner may be nice guys, but they are equally boring to listen to and have the personal magnetism of a pair of sheep. I know that my more conservative readers don't like them because of their middle of the road politics and their unnatural desire to compromise with liberals. Still, politics aside, wouldn't you think that with 54 members in the new Senate and 246 members in the new House, they would come up with a couple of people easier on the eyes and ears than two fellows who should be bottled and sold as surefire cures for insomnia?

I'm not a Washington insider, so I have no way of knowing, but

is there an unwritten law which states that to be a Congressional leader, you have to be able to pass for an attraction at the waxworks?

In the aftermath of the demonstrations over the recent incidents in Ferguson and Staten Island, there were so many statements by politicians, so-called race leaders, demonstrators and commentators, to refute and despise, I hardly know where to begin.

But as I have already covered the first two groups in previous articles, it's time to rat out the latter two. Not since the Occupy Wall Street movement was in full swing have I seen so many self-righteous creeps out in full regalia. Show me a group of chanters and I'll show you a pack of morons. And what could be more moronic than chanting "Hands up, don't shoot" when Michael Brown, as the grand jury witnesses testified, not only never raised his hands, but decided it would be a good idea to rush a cop who had stopped firing his gun?

Then we have the commentators who kept telling us that those marching on behalf of Eric Garner were peacefully demonstrating while the cameras showed us the lunkheads tying up traffic on streets and bridges and preventing Christmas shoppers from entering Macy's Department Store. What is peaceful about doing everything you can to frustrate innocent bystanders trying to get to work or home to their families, raising the blood pressure of thousands of people who are already mentally and physically frazzled by the holiday season?

And of course even those disseminating the peaceful protest propaganda had to eat their words when the thugs in Berkeley began hurling rocks and Molotov cocktails at the cops.

Chris Rock, the black comedian, summed up the case for the aggrieved by quoting W.E.B. Dubois: "A system cannot fail those it was never meant to protect."

For me, the question Rock raises is just how stupid do you have to be before you think the real problem facing blacks in America isn't lack of education and a nonexistent work ethic or men refusing to marry the mothers of their children; and it isn't a generational reliance on welfare and thousands of blacks murdering and raping their fellow blacks. Instead, Chris Rock and his like-minded enablers in show business and the media would have us believe the problem boils down to a couple of white cops killing a pair of black scofflaws.

These days, if you hold the victims even partially to blame, it makes you a bigot. But inasmuch as it only takes speaking out against Obama, Al Sharpton or Eric Holder, to be branded a racist these days, the term for some of us has inevitably become a badge of honor.

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“The High Cost Of Cheap Labor” and “Talking Turkey About Turkey”

The only reason that Ronald Reagan signed the first amnesty bill back in 1986 wasn't really because the Democratic Congress promised to build a fence at the border. After all, he'd been around when the Democrats reneged on the promise made to Nixon that if he agreed to pull the troops out of Vietnam, they would continue to arm and fund the South Vietnamese. He did, and naturally they didn't.

The real reason Reagan signed the amnesty bill is because American business always wants the cheapest labor it can get its hands on. In the short term, it probably looks like a good deal all around. After all, the price of labor is always passed along to the consumer. However, in the long run it's a bad deal because most of those people are low wage earners, and the American citizen is eventually going to be stuck with the tab for their housing, health care, food stamps, schooling and, far too often, incarceration. In the end, we're all a lot better off paying an extra few cents for a head of lettuce or a few extra bucks for a meal.

But as bad as low-cost labor has been for America, I dare say it's even worse in Europe, where the interlopers tend to be Muslims, a group of people notorious for their refusal to acclimate, to accept the laws, let alone the culture and traditions of the nations they contaminate. They are the reason that virtually every capital city on the Continent has been turned into a pig sty. In London, rarely a week goes by when the Muslims aren't demonstrating in the streets, displaying their contempt for their host nation and everything she has come to represent, including freedom, the arts and religious tolerance.

America, which used to be the land of the free and the home of the brave, has morphed into a place where political correctness has turned most people into whimpering cowards. In spite of the First Amendment, most TV pundits were afraid to even mention that Trayvon Martin was a drug-dealing six-footer or that 300-pound Michael Brown was a thief and a bully who just happened to be high on marijuana when he confronted Officer Darren Wilson.

These days, we aren't even supposed to hold the mothers and occasional fathers of criminals even partially responsible for the end result. On the contrary, we're expected to treat the parents of teenage thugs with the same respect and deference that we bestow on the parents of military warriors who forfeit

their lives for their country.

But, then, for the past 13 years, we have had two presidents, Dumb and Dumber, insisting that Islam is a religion of peace. As hard as it was to swallow that swill from George W. Bush, it has gotten far worse under his successor. It was Obama, after all, who not only announced with a straight face that Muslims played a major role in the creation of the United States, but that they were an essential part of our space exploration program. I suppose that last point has some merit. After all, if I were a NASA scientist, I'd have a real incentive to break the bounds of gravity, knowing that I and millions of others hoped and prayed that other planets could support human life. The reason being that it would provide an opportunity to leave the one that's home to 1.2 billion Muslims.

In the meantime, Barack Obama tries in vain to defuse public anger over his despotic decision to legislate from the Oval Office. His latest attempt took place in Chicago, where he announced yet again that our immigration policy has to be overhauled. The difference was that this time he said it wasn't merely to accommodate multi-millions of illegal Hispanics, but because there are plenty of people from Poland and Ireland who are in this country illegally.

I used to gag every time Obama opened his mouth. Lately, though, I've been doing a lot more head scratching. Poland and Ireland are the basis of the problem? Was it possible that the sly puss was trying to woo members of those two major ethnic groups? Instead of demanding that the President abide by his constitutional limitations, were Irish and Polish Americans supposed to say to themselves, "Hey, if the son of a gun can prevent five million Latinos from being deported, maybe he'll keep my uncle from being sent back to (Warsaw) (Dublin) after he gets out of jail"?

Finally, I don't know what you call it when Barack Obama

pardons a Thanksgiving turkey, but I call it professional courtesy.

Talking Turkey About Turkey

By what right is Turkey allowed to be a member of NATO? Under its current leader, Recep Erdogan, it has become more and more of a despotic Islamic nation. In recent months, it has not only denied the U.S. the use of its air force bases, but welcomed ISIS inside its borders so the terrorists could surround the Kurds and attack them from all sides. And does anyone seriously believe that Turkey would ever rush to defend any of its alleged NATO allies?

Speaking of turkeys, according to a PEW Poll, over 70% of blacks insist they are treated less fairly than whites by the police. My reaction was to wonder how the hell they know how whites are treated. I suspect that when it comes to criminals, you'd be hard pressed to find, to use Obama's favorite word, a smidgen of difference in the way those in either group are approached and arrested.

When it comes to law-abiding people, I suspect the behavior of most cops is determined by the way people relate to them, which, I dare say, is a fairly typical human response. Like any white driver in America, I have been stopped on many occasions. Once in a while, I believed that I was entirely in the right and had not committed any vehicular sins, but I never insulted the officer, displayed contempt and, so far as I recall, never once tried to take his gun away.

Instead of devoting so much time and attention to a single incident in Ferguson, MO, wouldn't you think that Barack Obama and Eric Holder would concentrate on black thugs who commit, on a per capita basis, eight times as many murders as whites, especially when the majority of their victims also happen to be black?

Also, why is it front page news when a white cop shoots a black person, but when it's blacks killing, torturing and raping whites or, for that matter, other blacks, there is a news – you should excuse the expression – blackout?

Getting back to Ferguson, when you realize that there was every expectation that, one, the Grand Jury would not indict Darren Wilson; that, two, the local cops were told to back off and that the National Guard was not deployed on the streets; and that, three, everyone expected a riot to occur; why did County Prosecutor Robert McCulloch decide to release the Grand Jury's decision after nightfall? If the governor, the local police chief and Mr. McCulloch had sat down and choreographed the arson and vandalism, they couldn't have done more to ensure that the TV cameras would have every opportunity to record a race riot.

For years now, the Muslim world has been at war with America and the European democracies, but nobody in the civilized world will even acknowledge it. Instead, we try to cherry-pick the bad guys. We refer to Al Qaeda, the Taliban, ISIS, Hamas or Hezbollah, as if there is a speck of difference between them, other than what they call themselves. Partly it's because George Bush insisted that Islam is a religion of peace, partly because Obama won't even refer to the violence consuming the globe as having its source in the evil cult, and because the major media is dedicated to the childish belief that the only truly evil people in the world are American conservatives.

As a result, there is a religious war taking place in the world, but, with the exception of Israel, only one side is waging it or will even acknowledge it's taking place.

In similar fashion, a race war is currently underway in America, but it is only being conducted by blacks. Only blacks are encouraged to ignore the facts about what took place in Ferguson and to pretend that a 300-pound thug was a cherubic

altar boy. Only they get to insist that forensic evidence is a white plot. Only they get to pass off a scumbag like Al Sharpton as a civil rights leader with moral authority. Why is he given the key to the White House, but not, say, his white counterpart, the Grand Kleagle of the Ku Klux Klan?

It's not enough to blame the black thugs, including Eric Holder, who descended on Ferguson with no other purpose but to inflame a bad situation and to make it worse. One must also hold the feet of the media to the flames. I'm not referring to the TV cameras that at times out-numbered the barbarians in the streets, but to a media that patronizes blacks, at least so long as they're not Ben Carson, Condoleezza Rice, Allen West, Thomas Sowell, Jason Riley or Tim Scott, in which case they're dismissed as Uncle Toms, Aunt Jemimas and traitors to their race.

The media likes to label conservatives as racists, but that's clearly a case of the pot smokers calling the kettle black. What else but racist would you call it when journalists not only find endless excuses for soaring rates of black crime and illegitimate births, but blame white society for the millions of black men who refuse to marry the mothers of their children or to help raise and provide for their sons and daughters?

How is it not racist to ignore the fact that in spite of billions of tax dollars having been spent in the hope of providing a ladder through education by which slum dwellers can climb out of poverty, half of young blacks fail to even bother graduating from high school?

There is no denying that racism exists in America, but nearly all of it resides in two groups: black bigots and white liberals.

On top of everything else, we are cursed with a president who any time there's a news item about a black person who has behaved inappropriately, automatically springs to their

defense, always assuming the worst about white people in general and white police officers in particular.

When I saw the tawdry assemblage that Obama invited to the White House to discuss racial issues, a gathering that included notorious race hustler Al Sharpton and Obama's own version of Rasputin, Valerie Jarrett, it occurred to me that as groups go, even Amos 'n' Andy's Mystic Knights of the Sea and Ralph Kramden's Friendly Sons of the Raccoons had higher standards for inclusion.

Finally, just in case you don't think I've mentioned enough birdbrains to achieve my daily quota, let me hasten to add Robert Redford, who believes that our great outdoors should forever remain in the pristine state in which God created it, unless of course he decides to host a film festival for his Hollywood cronies in the midst of the Rockies. Last year, 46,000 of his nearest and dearest descended on Sundance, Utah, mainly in their fossil fuel-burning private jets, to watch movies.

In one of his typically self-serving, hypocritical, pronouncements, Redford recently declared, "I think the environment should be put in the category of our national security. Defense of our resources is just as important as defense abroad. Otherwise, what is there to defend?"

A few things that occurred to me, but apparently not to Mr. Redford, include our borders, freedom, liberty, loved ones and the Constitution.

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Rinos Are Not The Enemy

Because it is once again election season, I am hearing from a great many people who sincerely believe RINO is the vilest of all four-letter words. The weird thing is that although I am about as conservative as a person can be, I wind up spending an inordinate amount of time defending them.

I understand that people who take their conservative politics and values seriously wish every Republican did the same, and resent those who don't. But we are Republicans and therefore, unlike liberals, we are not all the end result of the cookie cutter. It is easy for Democrats to line up in a very neat row because they all subscribe to the same talking points. For instance, they believe that a massive federal government collecting a massive amount of tax dollars, running up a massive debt and controlling everything from the economy to education, from health care to the climate, is the answer to every problem.

In spite of the fact that states that allow their citizens to carry concealed weapons have lower crime rates, liberals are convinced that the Second Amendment should be made null and void. In spite of falling temperatures, they believe that Al Gore's warnings about global warming are as close to gospel as they care to get. In spite of his lies about ObamaCare, Benghazi, the IRS and Ebola, they are convinced that Obama is an honest man.

Furthermore, they believe that the Republican House is filled with obstructionists who stay awake nights trying to figure out ways to thwart the people's' will in spite of the fact that Harry Reid stops every House bill in its tracks, refusing to even allow the other 99 members the opportunity to do what

they're paid to do; namely, vote.

My defense of RINOS doesn't mean I share their views, it means I am enough of a realist to recognize that ours is not a conservative nation, and probably hasn't been one since the days of Calvin Coolidge, and that our real choice is between the zealots for socialism who infest the Democratic Party and those who constitute the only buffer we have against them.

Again, I understand that some people hate to confront reality and prefer to say that both parties are the same, and if there isn't a Ted Cruz or a Mike Lee on the ballot, they prefer to stay home on Election Day, indulging in the luxury of feeling themselves superior. Which would be bad enough, but they then spend the next two, four, six or eight years, whining about how the liberals are ruining the country.

Recently, a reader wrote to complain about Mitch McConnell and John Boehner, and wondering how these two dullards came to be the face and voice of the Party. Frankly, I told him, I had no idea. But my theory has always been that the parties came to an agreement at some point, and that if the Democrats picked the putrid likes of Harry Reid and Nancy Pelosi, the GOP would try to play fair by selecting McConnell and Boehner. Naturally, the Democrats complained that even McConnell and Boehner looked good by comparison, but the Republicans said that was the best they could do unless the Democrats would agree to lend them Charlie Rangel and Debbie Wasserman-Schultz.

Another reader, a veteran, wrote to say that he had donated to Wounded Warriors, but was shocked to discover that the group's CEO was being paid \$360,000-a-year. I let him know that, with the possible exception of the person heading up the Salvation Army, the CEOs of major charities will often make a million dollars a year. I admitted to often wondering how it was that Wounded Warriors was able to afford to advertise every single day on Fox News.

For my part, I have always preferred charity that was as close to one-to-one as possible. I know that I personally would prefer to help a deserving individual than to give money to an organization that has a massive overhead that includes pricey administrators, offices, furniture, staff and an advertising department. It explains why this past election season, I donated directly to a few Senate campaigns, but not to the RNC.

Just recently, I discovered that Houston, Texas, has a lesbian mayor, Annise D. Parker. As a rule, one's sexual proclivity might not be anybody's business, but Mayor Parker made it everybody's when she decided to subpoena the sermons of several local pastors so she could determine if they were speaking out against homosexual activity or saying things that might offend the transgender crowd. As she saw it, if they were engaging in what she determined to be political matters, they could be risking their church's immunity from the tax collector.

It seems that Mayor Parker is unaware of the fact that sexuality, for better or worse, has been a legitimate concern of Christian pastors at least since the days of Sodom and Gomorrah. It's only been in recent years that liberals have managed to turn these matters into political fodder as they've gone trolling for votes and financial support in some very peculiar places.

Yet at the same time that Christian pastors are being hassled, Muslim ministers go their merry way, indoctrinating our prison population, long an ideal recruiting ground, particularly among black inmates, for Islamic terrorists.

In the meantime, our State Department, which often seems to get its marching orders from our sworn enemies in the Middle East, endorsed a Muslim handbook that promotes Sharia law and refers to jihad as a noble pursuit.

I was recently addressing a Republican group here in the San Fernando Valley. During the Q&A session, one woman asked me how I felt about the political future of this country. I told her that based on what I know about human beings, I tend to be pessimistic. On the other hand, I confessed, I can't help being optimistic because when all is said and done I'm an American.

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“Ice Buckets & Oracles” and “Christmas Might Come Early”

Let me confess that, aside from donating time or money, I rarely understand the odd things done on behalf of charities. For instance, even decades ago when I was an advertising copywriter, my fellow workers would often ask me to donate money based on how far they walked or ran on the weekend. I understood the part about donating, but I couldn't fathom why the distance they covered should have anything to do with the amount.

These days, a great many people are allowing themselves to be doused with a large bucket of ice water as a way to help finance one cause or another. Although I admit to experiencing a certain joie de vivre each and every time I see some left-wing show biz celebrity being given an ice bath, I fail to see the connection to charity.

Am I to assume that some people have added being assaulted

with ice cubes to such bucket list items as enjoying the view from the top of the Eiffel Tower, wind-surfing in Hawaii and helping the Obamas pack up and move out of the White House?

That reminds me that I have some good news to pass along. It seems that two Hawaiian councilmen decided to name a local beach in Barack Obama's honor, but backed down in the face of public outrage. So it seems that contrary to the popular notion that everyone in Hawaii is a stoned, leftist, slacker, there are still some stoned slackers who haven't entirely lost their minds in the Aloha State.

One poor soul who must still be addicted to marijuana, even if he may have kicked the nicotine habit, is Obama. How else to explain that in an election year when every Democratic candidate is trying his or her best to distance themselves from the White House, he decides to sabotage their campaigns by announcing, "I'm not on the ballot this time, but my policies are"? What's next? Will he begin funneling the loot he collects at his endless fund-raisers to the Republican National Committee?

Moving on, I have never understood the objection many people have to capital punishment. I mean, assuming that they themselves are not residing on Death Row, why would anyone object to justice being meted out to cold-blooded killers?

I know that some folks claim that the state should not be engaged in the taking of life. To me, that means they're so morally dysfunctional that they equate the taking of an innocent life with the taking of a guilty one.

In order to be consistent, would these self-righteous schmucks also object to executing the jihadists beheading Americans, Brits and Kurds, over in Iraq? If not, why not? And if so, what difference does it make to them where the butchery takes place, and what possible reason can they have for punishing murderers in the Middle East more harshly than murderers in,

say, the Midwest?

Something else I can't figure out is why it's expected to take an entire year to train the Free Syrian Army so they can fight ISIL on our behalf. After all, these are the very same people who have been doing a decent job of fighting Assad's far more formidable army for the past three years!

Finally, when I ridicule Warren Buffet, it's not because I'm envious of his enormous wealth. The truth is I would like to be a little richer than I am, but not as rich as Buffet. For one thing, I would never want to devote that much of my life to the accumulation of money. For another thing, I would never want to be 84 years old and have to spend so much time keeping track of it and making sure nobody is stealing it while I'm distracted, busy sleeping or having a tuna fish sandwich.

But when the so-called "Oracle of Omaha" states that Hillary Clinton will win in 2016, I find myself wondering why anyone takes him seriously. I have no problem with his making a prediction, even one with which I happen to disagree. The problem is because he's very wealthy, a great many people actually think he knows what he's talking about. It even explains why he's called the Oracle of Omaha, instead of the Rich Old Coot from Nebraska.

It will obviously come as a thunder bolt to some, but being rich only means that some individuals have the knack for making money, just as some have an ear for music and others have a knack for wiggling their ears.

Bill Gates knows a lot about computers, Donald Trump knows a lot about real estate and Ted Turner knows a lot about sailboats and bourbon, but grown-ups are being childish when they take them seriously when they prattle on about matters outside their expertise. It's like those young dopes who take to heart every dire warning uttered by Matt Damon about global warming or accept as gospel the nonsense Sean Penn spews forth

on the evils of capitalism.

In short, rich people know how to make money in the same way that beavers know how to build dams.

But only a schnook would ask a beaver to predict the outcome of a presidential election or refer to one as an oracle.

Christmas Might Come Early

I understand that many conservatives have come to believe that there is no difference between the two major parties. Some of them even stayed home on Election Day in 2012 and bragged about it to me, as if their refusal to vote for Mitt Romney, thus making it easier for Obama to win a second term, somehow reflected well on them.

If the GOP wins back the Senate and banishes Harry Reid from his current position as the second most powerful politician in Washington, I swear I wouldn't ask Santa for anything more.

I believe that so many people have repeated the lie about Republican politicians being indistinguishable from Democrats that a lot of people who should know better have swallowed the bilge. One party voted 100% for the Affordable Care Act, the other party opposed it. One party has tried to sweep every scandal from Operation Fast & Furious to Benghazi and the IRS under the carpet, while the other party has tried to get to the bottom of them because, contrary to Hillary's self-serving lie, the truth always makes a difference. And a lie that is repeated a thousand times isn't magically transformed into the truth, even though demagogues and those involved in advertising might wish it were otherwise.

More than one person has written to me with the expectation

that even if the GOP only gains five Senate seats in the midterm elections, there is a good chance that Joe Manchin (D) of West Virginia might agree to switch his party affiliation, especially if he were to be promised an important committee chairmanship.

My advice to Sen. Manchin is that he should make the switch before Nov. 4th. After all, the GOP stands a very good chance of winning the Senate without him. In which case, he loses his bargaining power and merely looks like the worst sort of political opportunist, sort of like that weasel Jim Jeffords, who switched in the other direction and was thereafter regarded with contempt by those on both sides of the aisle.

Speaking of weasels, no politician should ever have his name attached to anything – be it a bridge, a highway or a post office – unless he personally built it or paid for it. The only exception is his tombstone.

In what has come to be known as American diplomacy, Joe Biden just announced that we are giving Gaza an additional \$212 million to help them rebuild everything the Israelis knocked down in retaliation for unending missile attacks. The truth is that most of the money will be spent, not on apartment houses, but to construct new tunnels and buy more Katyushas. So, once again, this administration tries, like so many past ones, to buy the friendship of terrorists. It's bad enough that it adds to our national debt, but the practice also adds to our national shame.

Interestingly enough, those who have campaigned to change Columbus Day to Indigenous People's Day believe that the white race has a great deal to be ashamed of when it comes to the way that Indigenous People, otherwise known as Indians, have been treated in this country.

According to the lunkheads, the natives were a kind and peaceful people who lived on loving terms with Mother Nature

until Caucasians landed on Plymouth Rock. When you realize that all the tribes were basically Stone Age savages who would inevitably have been overtaken by the modern world, it makes you wonder if these dunces also believe that the blacks in Africa were residing in the Garden of Eden until the Europeans came along.

At least Columbus Day pays tribute to a superb seaman and reminds people to visit an Italian restaurant in the near future. What would a celebration of the Indigenous People look like? Inasmuch as they were notorious for scalping their enemies and devouring their internal organs, I'm sure the menu would leave something to be desired.

As for their creative heritage, when you get past blankets, trinkets, totem poles and wickiups, it hardly measures up to that of the European transplants whose heritage, even in the 1600s, already included Butler, Milton, Moliere, Vermeer, Rembrandt, Velasquez, Donne, Cervantes, Purcell, Bach and Shakespeare. Of course not everyone would agree with me. I'm sure that those whose religion is multiculturalism, and whose devotion to political correctness forever dooms them to be fatuous lunkheads, prefer cave paintings to Rembrandt.

Speak of the Devil, have you heard that in Nebraska, school kids are being told to call each other Purple Penguins because terms such as "boys" and "girls" might be offensive to transgendered eight year olds? It's all part of an agenda prepared by an organization calling itself Gender Spectrum, which seeks to make bathrooms accessible to one and all, no matter the nature of the individual's plumbing. Funny, one used to be able to assume a certain level of commonsense from Midwesterners, but that was before the Purple Penguin crowd moved in and took control of school boards and city councils, forcing normal people to park their brains at the curb.

But the lunacy unfortunately isn't limited to Nebraska, Iowa or any of those other flat rectangular states. In Washington,

D.C., the resident space aliens refuse to stop incoming flights from West Africa, even though France and England have done so in an attempt to keep Ebola from taking root in their countries. The only reason we don't follow suit is because most of those flights are carrying black passengers, and no politician wants to risk being labeled racist, even though their cowardice might lead to an epidemic of terrifying proportions.

By deciding not to rule on the constitutionality of same-sex marriages, the Supreme Court allowed lower court rulings to stand, thus pretty much making it the law of the land.

In just about every state that has placed the issue on the ballot, the people have voted against it. Nevertheless, we're told that polls indicate that Americans have changed their minds. That may well be true. But I'd hate to think that most Americans don't share my objection to unelected federal judges assuming the authority to override the laws of Congress and the stated will of the people, which in 1996 led the House and Senate to overwhelmingly enact the Defense of Marriage Act.

We appear to be trying very hard to turn ourselves into a Third World nation brimming over with indigenous knuckleheads of the sort who lack the most basic skills and have to import even our blankets and cheap trinkets from China.

I'm beginning to think I may have been a tad too hasty when I hopped off Santa's lap.

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“The Attack Of The Cuckoos” and “Ebola & Other Epidemics”

How it is that so many cuckoos escaped from their clocks and have wound up in positions of authority, I will never know. But there's no getting around the fact that the American symbol is no longer a bald eagle or even Ben Franklin's preferred turkey, but has been replaced by the Swiss-made cuckoo bird.

For instance, the University of California, San Francisco, has just launched an online abortion course that will delve into “clinical aspects of medication abortion, aspiration abortion, post-abortion contraception, and pain management for abortion.” According to Prof. Jody Steinauer: “I think if we can inspire even a small portion of the people who take the course to take steps in their communities to increase access to safe abortion and decrease stigma about abortion, then we will have been totally successful.”

So far, 3,000 people have signed up for the course. I'm sure that ghouls everywhere are taking heart from the fact that abortion continues to be a growth industry. As for me, I think America is suffering from a dangerous lack of stigma.

As you may have heard, Nidal Hasan, who killed or maimed over 40 innocent people at Fort Hood, has written a letter to Pope Francis, complaining that Barack Obama keeps claiming that his butchery was workplace violence. Apparently he wants Francis to intercede on his behalf and point out to Obama that he is one of Allah's proud soldiers and not just another creep who went postal because he got fired or didn't get a raise. I can see his point. I mean, imagine how Hitler would have felt if his invasion of Poland had been dismissed as trespassing.

I do get a chuckle when young poorly educated malcontents who

are often subsidized by wealthy old hypocritical reprobates like George Soros periodically take to the streets and demonstrate against Wall Street or the International Monetary Fund, blindly obeying the marching orders of wealthy old hypocritical reprobates like George Soros.

In addition to hosting an Obama fund-raiser at her home, Gwyneth Paltrow also introduced the guest of honor by batting her eyes and gushing: "You're so handsome, I can't speak properly." If she considers Mr. Bat Ears so good-looking it makes her tongue-tied, one has to wonder how she ever managed to deliver a single line of dialogue when she worked with Hollywood heartthrobs Daniel Craig, Viggo Mortensen, Michael Douglas, Jude Law and Robert Downey, Jr. Perhaps the 42-year-old Valley Girl had all her dialogue dubbed by a grown-up.

Obama, who also tends to swoon in his own presence, managed to say, "I'm taking her to my next event."

I'd love to have been a fly on the wall when Obama got home. Recalling how angry Michelle got when Obama took a selfie of himself with the leggy blonde Prime Minister of Denmark, Helle Thorning-Schmidt, at Nelson Mandela's memorial, I couldn't help picturing Barack trying to sneak into the White House only to find Michelle in the hallway holding a rolling pin and giving him the fish eye, just the way Maggie used to greet Jiggs in the Sunday funny papers.

The Army, which has become just as corrupt as the IRS, the Secret Service and the FBI, under the current administration has announced that it won't go public about its investigation into Bowe Bergdahl's desertion. At this point, don't be too surprised if Bergdahl winds up receiving the Medal of Honor for merely pretending to be a traitor so he could go undercover and spy on the Taliban.

When the late Thomas Duncan first visited the Dallas hospital, he had a 103 degree fever and he admitted he'd just been to

Liberia, but he was sent home with nothing more than a few pain killers. Once he died of Ebola, it figures there would be those who claimed that racism was the reason he was treated in such cavalier fashion. Nonsense! So far as I can tell, it was simply ObamaCare in action.

Although I dislike being at odds with my readers, I must confess I was shocked by the results of my latest poll. When I asked if people thought the Republicans would take control of the Senate and, if they did, if it would make a difference, I was obviously asking people to make an educated guess or, rather, two educated guesses. That meant that "maybe" or "perhaps" was a given, but it wasn't a suitable response to either question. Fortunately, I managed to get 211 people to play by the rules.

It seems that 159 people thought the GOP would gain control, while 52 thought Harry Reid would manage to retain his stranglehold. However, only 61 people thought it would make a difference, 150 were just as sure it wouldn't.

Frankly, I don't know how those 150 could be so misguided. It's true that a Republican Senate and Republican House wouldn't be able to stop Obama entirely in his tracks. He'd still have his phone and his pen, but at least House bills would finally be voted on in the Senate, and Obama would be forced to veto them, showing everyone once and for all who the real obstructionist is. In addition, it is no small thing that Obama wouldn't be able to appoint judges to the federal bench or place any more Kagans and Sotomayors on the Supreme Court, which is the legacy whereby ex-presidents are able to continue poisoning the atmosphere for decades long after they've left the scene of the crime.

Finally, by now I suspect everyone knows that 10 Secret Service agents lost their jobs for consorting, as they say, with Colombian prostitutes while a White House insider who happened to be the son of a major Obama donor wound up with a

promotion to the State Department after he consorted with his own Colombian prostitute that very same evening.

In other news, Bill Clinton has announced that he's heading down to Colombia on a fact-finding mission.

Ebola & Other Epidemics

I hope that the Republicans gain control of the Senate, but I don't expect any miracles. I just want to wrench the reins away from Harry Reid, and force Obama to veto all those bills that the House has been sending along since 2010 that Reid has killed, thus sparing the Senate Democrats from ever having to cast an embarrassing vote. After all these years, the public would finally have a chance to see a real obstructionist in action.

Some of my readers have likened Obama to the serpent in the Garden of Eden, but that's hardly fair. For one thing, the snake didn't keep running off to play golf and attend fundraisers. For another thing, the snake didn't require the services of a Teleprompter in order to utter a coherent sentence. And for yet another, the snake only lied once.

I keep wondering why Sarah Palin keeps sticking her shnoz into every election in the nation – sometimes to the detriment of the Republican Party – but shied away from running for the Senate, leaving it up to a relative unknown, Dan Sullivan, to oppose Alaskan incumbent Mark Bigich (D).

Another question that keeps popping up in my head is why we don't enlist Israel to help us defeat ISIS. The Arab and Muslim nations wouldn't approve? So what else is new? At least we can trust the Israelis, which is far more than we can say about our alleged allies in Iraq, Pakistan, Saudi Arabia,

Qatar, the United Arab Emirate or Turkey. And once we mop up the beheaders, we should team up and take out Iran's centrifuges.

Speaking of our only real ally in the Middle East, it seems that an Israeli cargo ship, the Zim Shanghai, was prevented from unloading in Oakland, thanks to pro-Islamic demonstrators. Members of the International Longshore and Warehouse Union claimed they were physically threatened and feared for their lives.

Did I forget to mention that there were eight demonstrators? Apparently longshoremen aren't quite as tough as they used to be, or perhaps, like the majority of pinheads in the Bay area, they're just more anti-Semitic than they used to be.

Israel has managed in a little over 60 years to become one of the most indispensable nations on the face of the earth, and not just because of their medical and scientific innovations. For the various despots in the Middle East, Israel serves as a very handy scapegoat. For the likes of college professors, show business celebrities and, apparently, California's longshoremen, it allows them to be as anti-Semitic as Hitler and Stalin, without having to admit to anything worse than being opposed to Israel's policies.

It is nearly impossible for civilians to compete with politicians when it comes to telling lies, but feminists Betty Friedan and Gloria Steinem came close with their relentless propaganda telling women that they could have it all. Nobody has it all. Aspirations are important, even essential, but these chowderheads spent decades not only telling impressionable young women that, no matter what their own limitations were, everything was possible, and if they didn't wind up achieving all of their wackier fantasies, they'd been cheated. And by whom, you ask? Well, by the entire male gender, of course.

Women have even been convinced that they are paid 70 cents on the dollar for doing the exact same job as a man, even though that requires believing that every employer is engaged in a huge conspiracy to pay men 43% more than women, the bottom line be damned!

Other big lies involve the minimum wage and corporate taxes. The way the liberals tell it, if employers are forced to pay unskilled workers far more than they're worth and if corporations are forced to pay higher taxes in order to finance an ever-expanding, increasingly corrupt, state or federal government, it serves them right. What the liberals never mention to their sheep-like followers is that any such increases are immediately passed on to the rest of us in added costs for goods and services. As Sherlock Holmes was wont to say, it's elementary.

Unfortunately, millions of our fellow citizens never learned anything about basic economics in school. The only things drilled into their empty little noggins was that nicotine, capitalism and conservatives were bad; the Constitution was inconsequential because it was the work of old white men; and that those like Obama, Castro, Guevara, Chavez, Allende and Mao, were the sort of leaders America needs, but too rarely gets.

That's not to say we don't have more than our share of nincompoops in positions of authority. Take Dallas Judge Clay Jenkins. He got himself a trove of publicity by accompanying Thomas Duncan's relatives out of their Ebola-contaminated apartment in his civilian duds, all part of the carefully programmed narrative being spoon fed to us that Ebola can't be transmitted through the air.

I assume that Judge Jenkins measured the risk and decided that it would be worth a ton of votes in future elections. After all, if the disease can only be passed along through direct contact and bodily fluids, why is everybody whose job calls

for being in the vicinity of Ebola victims, but doesn't require conning voters, walking around looking like an astronaut?

Finally, a few readers have taken me to task for referring to Bob Packwood in a recent piece dealing with sexual predators as a Democrat when, in fact, he was a Republican. The short answer is that I forgot that for political reasons, the very liberal Packwood pretended to be a Republican. The longer answer is that just because some people lie about their political affiliation is no reason the rest of us should encourage that sort of thing.

For instance, in the Senate, both Angus King and Bernie Sanders call themselves Independents, even though they caucus and vote with the Democrats, and take their marching orders from Harry Reid.

Worse yet, we have Charlie Crist, he of the white hair and the used car salesman's smirk, running for governor in Florida. In a matter of just eight short years, the former ambulance chasing buzzard has run and lost as a Republican and as an Independent, and now that he's running against Rick Scott, he's calling himself a Democrat. He even lies about his own name, which happens to be Joseph.

When it comes to camouflage, chameleons could take lessons from this phony.

Finally, I'm betting that if Crist loses this time, in 2016, he'll be running as a Whig.

CALIFORNIA READERS: At the Wednesday, October 15th, 11:30 meeting of Reseda-Tarzana Republican Women Federated, I will be giving a talk, followed by a Q&A session, starting at 1:30. Address: Braemar Country Club, 4001 Reseda Blvd.

**Burt's Webcast is every Wednesday at Noon Pacific Time.
Tune in at K4HD.com His Call-in Number is: (818) 570-5443**

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