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The Molokai we all know and love starts at Rock Point eastend, and continues westward all around the island to ahupuaha of Kaluakoi, to Moomomi, Kalaupapa to Halawa and Puu O Hoku next to Rock Point surfing. GREAAAAAT! Aloha Aina!
Photo by George Peabody dba Pono Solar Power for the MAN.

One Great Idea: Natural Gas

report by Chris Wickman

A UNITED STATES NATURAL GAS PROJECT will employ millions create new building, construction projects, rebuilding of new infrastructures, stimulate new Scientific Designs and SPUR our existing manufacturing while creating NEW INDUSTRIES.

Currently in Detroit and other areas of the Country...our own vehicle manufactures already make the Natural Gas Engines and power trains that run fleets! Complete vehicle assembly that run on Natural Gas for these Municipalities also happens here in the USA!! FACT: Natural Gas is the CLEANEST BURNING fuel currently available to the WORLD in massive amounts. FACT: The USA has HUGE sources of Natural Gas and this fuel is available NOW for the "One Great Idea" in a very short time period! IN FACT NOW!!

SO far we have given Detroit tons of TAX DOLLARS. As a condition of the PUBLIC BAILOUTS (currently approved), which is for retooling. Expansion of and refitting for the current production of vehicles for use with the NATURAL GAS Engine must start today! Use this engine/power train in the CARS, SUVs, TRUCKS, Minivans, and any popular style vehicle currently loved by the U.S. Public and these vehicles will sell immediately! FYI Natural Gas passes and exceeds all pollution standards and is 1/3 the cost of ANY other fuel currently available.

Again, THIS TECHNOLOGY IS AVAILABLE NOW. And again Natural Gas is 1/3rd of the cost of Gasoline! Producing these Vehicles with Natural Gas engines and Detroit goes back to work now! Of course continue the production of the Natural Gas Public Transportation Vehicles also! Even Increase them for the urban population centers! Heck the Congress is giving money for that too!

Also PROVIDE TAX breaks to business and folks for the purchase of any Natural Gas vehicle. The US Citizen would begin a massive US Auto turnaround immediately. Buy the CARS and TRUCKS WE LIKE from the Manufacturing sector of our Country. New high paying jobs would be produced in mass. IMMEDIATELY!

The required construction and renovations of all the fuel stations in the Country to accommodate Natural gas would also immediately create huge numbers of jobs. Highway and Bridge construction naturally follows! New related to "One Good Idea" design projects also immediately create jobs. If any Tax subsidies are to be handed out for jobs then make sure they are real jobs!! Not Frisbee golf course jobs!! All our tax dollars used should be linked to the "One Great Idea".

Pipelines and storage facilities for the needed Natural Gas would also create many Construction jobs throughout the entire Country thus stimulating jobs nationally NOW!!

ALL of the U.S. owned Energy Companies could begin to provide the Natural gas IMMEDIATELY and at a cost at least 66% less than refined OIL!!!

This allows our Nation to immediately begin to import less oil. EVERY YEAR as this new CLEAN BURNING ENERGY with the entire needed infrastructure is continued to be built the import of foreign oil would decrease. Very soon we would be not need to import foreign oil for auto fuel/transportation needs!

As the economy grows from the entire new Natural Gas auto and infrastructure program we begin the rebuilding of America and include the Greening Energy Projects allowing the Energy producers to lead the way! AND yes give them and anyone who wants to invest into Wind, Solar and other Green Energy tax benefits to stimulate the complete move to an America totally powered by American resources! The tax benefit is huge.

"One Great Idea" also includes the building of Natural Gas Powered ELECTRICAL GENERATING PLANTS. The same benefits as with auto production applies here also.

As the new ADVANCED power grids are built for the transmission of the energy we also reap all the benefits of a grid that will incorporate the NEW CLEANER HOME GROWN ENERGY PROJECTS. Did I say more jobs created!! SO now most of the MONEY that is currently being discussed as needed to stimulate economy can be saved and used to help give tax credits for Businesses to produced NEW POWER PLANTS built by AMERICANS FOR AMERICANS. THE Silliness of trying to stimulate our Nation out of the current financial mess through trial and error is just silly and stupid!! Throw out this misuse and Silly Stimu-loss IDEA for our Dollars and begin immediately to convert to:

ONE GOOD IDEA! This "One Good Idea" project can be the first move to a new stimulated revived economy. **The time is now!**

Welcome to ObamalandUSA: Broken Promises, Lies, and Frauds

Usurper of the Office of President Barrack Obama did not tell his adoring cult that the BAILOUT Deletes PRIVACY 4th Amendment!

THINGS Obama DIDN'T TELL YOU ABOUT THE BAILOUT BILL

Most members of Congress didn't read it before they voted for it and then - along with Obama - left on a three day holiday prior to its signing. Never in American history has so much money been appropriated in such an arrogant fashion: its malfeasance on steroids that will turn America hapakai, in Amerika!!

The huge and largely useless portion devoted to tax cuts had its origins in Obama's obsession with palling around with Republicans. If he had approached the issues as a good negotiator, the original - and hence the final - sum would have been far smaller. As Barney Frank said, "He set himself a high bar - and an irrelevant bar and he didn't achieve it. . . He should not have legitimized [the notion of bipartisanship], that prompted their partisan reaction."

The medical records section of the bill means that your personal health records will no longer be private, despite the vague and ineffective assurances of the measure. One need only consider the ease with which the NSA has ignored the 4th Amendment to appreciate this. Your records may be sold to a private company or university for research and law enforcement will have access to these records as well. Going to the doctor or the hospital for drug or alcohol treatment will no longer be a private act. Says Sue Blevins, president of the Institute for Health Freedom: "This bill is very misleading because while it promises to outlaw the selling of data, the exceptions to the rule are huge and allow Americans' personal health data to be exchanged and sold for research and public-health purposes without patients' consent. . . Most Americans have no idea that the so-called HIPAA privacy rule doesn't give patients the freedom to give or withhold consent before their personal health information can be shared with others for many purposes."

The measure is grossly over-weighted towards ineffective tax cuts and short-changes measures that would actually produce jobs.

Instead of extensive revenue sharing with states and localities - which often can act quicker and with more visible results - Congress saved the bulk of the pork for itself. The measure offers only minuscule assistance - about one percent of the total - to railroads, the major expansion of which could have been the most important job, economic development and ecological improvement program of modern times. AND, The measure offers virtually no assistance to troubled homeowners.

A filibuster was not an inevitable problem. The Democrats could have stricken the filibuster from Senate rules at the beginning of the session as there is no constitutional basis for arguing that the Senate must follow the rules of an earlier session. And, if they didn't have the courage to do that, they could have made the Republicans stage a real - rather than a virtual - filibuster and let them pay the price for being seen on CSPAN hour after hour arguing against the best interests of the country.

Not one Washington politico has come forward to advocate for the repeal of the Gramm Act and to re-enact the Glass-Steagall Act." Why? Washington - both Democratic and Republican - is in the pocket of Wall Street!!! WAKE UP !!!

[Comentary by Chris Whickman is edited]

Instead of spending us into oblivion why is the President totally ignoring THE WAY OUT of the current stagnant economy!!

The following is the most immediate way out of most of our problems and I cannot understand why we are not screaming to the heavens!!

A NATIONAL NATURAL GAS CONVERSION NOW

From his bully pulpit and the democratically controlled Congress he has the power and ability to lead the Nation on the next WORLD CHANGING ENGINEERING and ECONOMIC PROJECT. But he is not even giving it a glancing look!! Natural Gas IS CLEAN, GREEN, ABUNDANT, CAN SAVE DETROIT, CREATE CLEAN ENERGY PLANTS, and most impertinently create JOBS JOBS JOBS, WHILE ALSO CREATING INVESTMENT INTO THE BANKS THUS SAVING THE BANKS ALSO!

WHY IS THE PRESIDENT AND CONGRESS TOTALLY IGNORING THIS ONE RESOURCE THAT CAN MAKE AMERICA THE LEADER OF THE 21st CENTURY! Instead of the Governmental "BAILOUT OF CHANGE", that Congress and the President want to embark on with OUR TAXPAYER MONEY what is truly needed is just "ONE GREAT IDEA" for America to invest in!

Currently we must re-employ our Job force, produce Energy needs, and RE-STIMULATE housing and Banking systems. All these needs are interwoven in our AMERICAN system. This being the case we need a way now to get out of this mess. AND do it the American way. Innovation and "ONE GREAT IDEA" to stimulate us as a Nation! The Money Congress intends for Stimulus will only work as such if it is focused on "One Great Idea" for America. Not a lot of HUGE piggy pork packages spread around to please some areas while ignoring other areas and needs! This is our money and the ideas of this Congress are losers!





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Stop War on Drugs 2009

Every day that goes by, 4,000 people are arrested for drug offenses, the vast majority of them minor, and half a million nonviolent drug offenders languish in the staggering number of prisons and jails the fascist Police State American government has very unwisely built. Obama promised to stop it! WELL.....??
It's time to stop this senseless tragedy and shocking injustice.
Stop the drug war -- visit <http://stopthedrugwar.org/donate> to donate to StoptheDrugWar.org today. Thank you!

What will Barack Hussein Obama do about What Happened on 9-11-01?

On September 11, 2001, we Americans were the victims of TREASON.
By September 12, we Americans all became the suspects watched by FBI.
Not one single U.S. citizen hijacked a plane, yet President Bush and DOJ, through powers seized and codified in the fascist USA PATRIOT Act, labeled 270 million of us for surveillance, for searches, for tracking, for prison without charges. Welcome to the New World Order! Police State USA!
So, what will Obama do to restor freedom if he is President?

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Eleven States Declare Sovereignty Over Obama's Action

by A.W.R. Hawkins 02/23/2009

State governors other than in Hawaii -- looking down the gun barrel of long-term spending forced on them by the Obama "stimulus" plan -- are saying they will refuse to take the money. This is a Constitutional confrontation between the federal government and the states unlike any in our time, that the socialist Democrat Party controlled State of Hawaii ignores.

In the first five weeks of his presidency, Barack Obama has acted so rashly that at least 11 states have decided that his brand of "hope" equates to an intolerable expansion of the federal government's authority over the states. These states - "Washington, New Hampshire, Arizona, Montana, Michigan, Missouri, Oklahoma, [Minnesota]..Georgia," South Carolina, and Texas -- "have all introduced bills and resolutions" reminding Obama that the 10th Amendment protects the rights of the states, which are the rights of the people, by limiting the power of the federal government. These resolutions call on Obama to "cease and desist" from his reckless government expansion and also indicate that federal laws and regulations implemented in violation of the 10th Amendment can be nullified by the states.

When the Constitution was being ratified during the 1780s, the 10th Amendment was understood to be the linchpin that held the entire Bill of Rights together. The amendment states: "The powers not delegated to the United States by the Constitution, nor prohibited by it to the States, are reserved to the States respectively, or to the people."

The use of the 10th Amendment in conjunction with nullification garnered much attention in 1828, when the federal government passed a tariff that southerners believed affected them disproportionately. When the 1828 tariff was complemented by another in 1832, Vice President John C. Calhoun resigned the Vice Presidency to lead his home state of South Carolina in pursuit of an "ordinance of nullification," which was no less a declaration of the sovereignty of each individual state within the union than the declarations now being made.

Calhoun was simply exercising what he recognized to be his state's right to defend liberty within its borders by rejecting the dictates of an overbearing central government. While his efforts culminated in a tense affair referred to as the "nullification crisis," which witnessed everything from threats of a federal invasion of South Carolina to an ongoing and near union-rending debate over national power vs. state's rights, they also succeeded in turning back the tariffs that had been passed in spite of the Constitutional limits on federal power.

This time around, in 2009, appeals to the 10th Amendment are not based on tariffs but on unfettered government expansion in Obama's "stimulus bill," federal mandates on abortion that violate state laws, and infringements on the 1st and 2nd Amendments, among other things.

For example, Family Security Matters reports that Missouri's "House Concurrent Resolution 0004 (2009) reasserts its sovereignty based on Barack Obama's stated intention to sign into law a federal 'Freedom of Choice Act', [because] the federal Freedom of Choice Act would nullify any federal or state law 'enacted, adopted, or implemented before, on, or after the date of [its] enactment' and would effectively prevent the State of Missouri from enacting similar protective measures in the future."

The resolution in Montana grew out of concerns over coming attacks on the 2nd Amendment, thus its preface describes it as, "An Act Exempting From Federal Regulation Under The Commerce Clause Of The Constitution Of The United States A Firearm, A Firearm Accessory, Or Ammunition Manufactured And Retained In Montana."

New Hampshire's resolution actually references certain federal actions that would be nullified within that state were they pushed by Obama's administration, according to americandaily.com. Among these are "Any act regarding religion; further limitations on freedom of political speech; or further limitations on freedom of the press, [and any] further infringements on the right to keep and bear arms including prohibitions of type or quantity of arms or ammunition.

Regardless of the specific reason behind each of the resolutions in the 11 states, all of them direct the federal government to "cease and desist" in its reckless violation of state's rights. In this way, South Carolina's resolution is typical of the others issued to date:

"The General Assembly of the State of South Carolina, by this resolution, claims for the State of South Carolina sovereignty under the Tenth Amendment to the Constitution of the United States over all powers not otherwise enumerated and granted to the federal government by the United States Constitution...

Be it...resolved that this resolution serves as notice and demand to the federal government, as South Carolina's agent, to cease and desist immediately all mandates...beyond the scope of the federal government's constitutionally delegated powers."

What these state assemblies and congresses have hit upon here is key to our entire conservative interpretation of the Constitution, for these states understand that the Constitution limits the federal government, not the people. Or to put it another way, it guarantees the freedom of the people by limiting the government.

Every conservative should relish the call for the federal government to "cease and desist all mandates that are beyond the scope of [its] constitutionally delegated powers." In this way, we honor the Constitution that enumerates a number of our liberties yet also guarantees us other liberties that are neither enumerated nor denied in the document.

Liberals don't respect the Constitution, and liberals in Congress don't hesitate to propose legislation that would clearly violate it. Our Constitutional system of checks and balances is always thought of as enabling two of the three branches of the federal government to keep the third within its constitutional bounds. But there is a fourth check, the states, which also have a Constitutional function. It is to them this burden now falls. The states can choose between allowing the federal government to impose untenable conditions on them if they accept the stimulus money, or to reject it.

These eleven states have the right to reject the stimulus plan. And they must.

There is no other option. For this federal expansion will not stop unless we stand in its way with courage in our hearts and the Constitution in our hands.

"Rebellion against tyrants is obedience to God." T.J.



Bill of Rights 2nd Amendment:
“A well regulated militia being necessary to the security of a free State, the right of the people to keep and bear arms shall not be infringed.”
Wake up militia! Use it , or lose it ! Got your gun, yet?

"...with a firm reliance on the protection of Divine Providence, we mutually pledge to each other our lives, or fortunes and our sacred honor."
 (Unanimous Declaration of Independence)

If you will not fight for the right when you can easily win without bloodshed, and, if you will not fight when your victory will be sure and not too costly, you may come to the moment when you will have to fight with all the odds against you and only a precarious chance of survival. There may even be a worse case. You may have to fight when there is no hope of victory, because it is better to perish than live as slaves.

"The people cannot delegate to government the power to do anything which would be unlawful for them to do themselves."- John Locke

"Those who make peaceful change impossible, make violent change inevitable." -- Robert F. Kennedy

"Rebellion against tyrants is obedience to God." T.J.

Enforce the Bill of Rights !

"And how we burned in the camps later, thinking: What would things have been like if every Security operative [insert your favorite alphabet Gang DEA, BATFE, H.S., TSA, FBI, IRS, NSA, CIA, LEOs etc. here], when he went out at night to make an arrest, had been uncertain whether he would return alive and had to say goodbye to his family? Or if, during periods of mass arrests, as for example in Leningrad, when they arrested a quarter of the entire city, people had not simply sat there in their lairs, paling in terror at every bang of the downstairs door and at every step on the staircase, but had understood they had nothing left to lose [neither do you now] and had boldly set up in the downstairs hall an ambush of half a dozen people with axes, hammers, pokers, or whatever else was at hand. The Organs would very quickly have suffered a shortage of officers and transports and, notwithstanding all of Stalin's thirst; the cursed machine would have ground to a halt!" -- The Gulag Archipelago, Aleksandr Solzhenitsyn

National Concealed Carry Possible with New Federal Bill in Congress, But Rep. Harry Reid is Trying to Block It

U.S. Senators John Thune and David Vitter have filed an amendment that would result in REAL national concealed carry reciprocity -- without adversely affecting states like Alaska and Vermont where the 2nd Amendment right to keep and bear arms whenever wherever needs NO Permit at all. [Note: Hawaii's statute is a CC permit that MAYBE issued by PD chiefs, and they ALL refuse to issue permits to American Citizens in Hawaii, while also violating our Constitutionally protected right to keep and bear arms without any permission from MPD et al needed—Wake UP Hawaii !!!]

By the end of the week, the Senate will vote on whether to rule these two pro-gun amendments, so get off your okoles and contact our anti-gun rights congress critters Hirono and Abercrombie, and Akaka and Inouye to DEMAND they support our Right to keep and bear arms and support national CC.

You've all heard of the various "microstamping" proposals crafted by the anti-gunners to ban guns and ammunition nationwide. The anti-gunners would do this by serial number "microstamping" requirements which will drive the price of guns and ammunition to become prohibitively expensive in all 50 states.

But, the Ensign amendment would completely repeal D.C.'s gun ban and, in the process, help stave off the push for microstamping.

Next, the Thune/Vitter amendment on concealed carry reciprocity is an idea whose time has come. Why should your right to self-defense stop at the state line? But it must be the right kind of national reciprocity. It must protect states like Alaska and Vermont which do not require a permit to carry concealed at all and it must be done in a Constitutional manner. The Thune/Vitter amendment would do these things -- it is REAL national reciprocity.

But the problem is this: Nevada Senator Harry Reid has moved to cut off debate on the D.C. bill -- using a parliamentary maneuver known as a "cloture" petition -- for the sole purpose of ruling such pro-gun amendments out of order.

You see, Barack Obama and the liberals who run Congress hate guns. They hate guns so much that they would probably be willing to kill the District's voting representative in order to preserve the District's gun ban.

The next two days are crucial. While there will be votes in the Senate throughout the day on Thursday -- which may include either of the two pro-gun amendments -- it is likely that the true focus will be on Friday's cloture vote.

ACTION: Contact your two Senators and urge them to vote AGAINST cloture on S. 160 until the Senate has had an opportunity to vote for all pro-gun amendments. You can send your Senators the pre-written message below.

Dear Senator Akaka and Inouye et al:

I urge you in the strongest terms to vote against cloture on S. 160 until senators have had an opportunity to vote on pro-gun amendments, such as those offered by Senators Ensign and Thune. Cloture is proposed for the cynical purpose of protecting D.C.'s anti-gun laws and to silence other pro-gun voices, and it is a vote against the Second Amendment.

And once debate is allowed to continue, I ask that you vote in favor of the Ensign amendment to repeal the District's gun ban, as well as the Thune amendment for national concealed carry reciprocity.

mahalos, George Peabody

Gun Rights Refresher

1. An armed man is a citizen. An unarmed man is a subject.
2. A gun in the hand is better than a cop on the phone.
3. If guns cause crime, then pencils cause misspelled words.
4. "Free" men do not ask permission to bear arms.
5. If you don't know your rights you don't have any.
6. Those who trade liberty for security have neither.
7. What part of "shall not be infringed" do you not understand?
8. The Second Amendment is to enforce the other 9 Amendments.
9. 64,999,987 firearms owners killed no one yesterday.
10. Guns only have two enemies; rust and politicians.
11. Know guns, know peace, know safety.
12. No guns, no peace, no safety.
13. You don't shoot to kill; you shoot to stay alive.
14. 911 - government sponsored Dial-a-Prayer.
15. Assault is a behavior, not a gun device.
16. Criminals love gun control -- it makes their jobs safer.
17. If guns cause crime, then matches cause arson.
18. Only a government that is afraid of citizens prohibits guns.
19. You only have the rights you are willing to fight for.
20. Remove the people's right to bear arms, you create slaves.
21. The American Revolution was about gun control.

Crimes of Politicians Must Be Stopped by The People (You are The Militia)

The crime on our streets is a tiny fraction of the crime in the offices of our politicians and bureaucrats - the massive majority of crime is committed by the criminal classes in power. Just look at the constant abuse of power in our State government offices and you will realize the extent of crime in Government. Just consider just how many BILLIONS of dollars a day Government extorts from the people and how little WE get in return; and just how comfortable the politicians make themselves at the expense of the peoples they extort!

The goal of the founders of America was to restrict government within severe limits and to protect the rights of sovereign individuals. Government has NO rights!

Judges are impeachable. Furthermore, judges may be removed immediately for violating oaths of office, involvement in conspiracies, extortion, and failing to uphold their duty to the common law. Judges can also be arrested, they are not exempt from this nor are any other officials, including the President of the United States.

Do the people have the power to do this? Yes, the people have the power to do everything to defend our country against all enemies foreign or domestic politician, and government has no power to say otherwise. Fascist bureaucrats might send out its armed marauders, but a huge group of The People (Militia) armed with guns as guaranteed their Right to keep and bear arms by the 2nd Amendment is likely to stop them unless the governments decide that it is time to begin mass killings of all people who believe in the rights of Man.

Wake up ! Enforce the Bill of Rights !

"A well regulated militia, being necessary to the security of a free state, the right of the people to keep and bear arms shall not be infringed." Exercise the 2nd Amendment.

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Molokai High School NEWS

Thank you to Elizabeth Poepoe

I would like to send a "freight-load" of thanks to Ms. Elizabeth Poepoe for being my "long-term" substitute. She did a stupendous job with instructing my chemistry and environmental science students during my maternity leave. Her valorous efforts to take on a huge responsibility allowed me (my mind) to enjoy my new baby (Zooney) without worrying about school. A standing ovation with many hanaohaus to "Bebe".

Mahalo nui loa, Malia Lee Science Teacher

Driver Education

The next driver's education class will start at the beginning of 4th quarter. Driving practice will occur during the seven-week summer break. Have your child check out the school's bulletin at the beginning of the 4th quarter for a more detail agenda. Applications will not be available until after the formal announcement is published by Ms. Lee in the Molokai High School bulletin.

Social Studies Ohana Night

Please join us on Thursday, March 5 for our Cruise through History Ohana Night from 6:00 p.m. in MHS Library. We will be highlighting student work from Social studies, Hawaiian Language & HLIP for quarters 1, 2, & 3. Refreshments and door prizes will be provided.

Book Fair Family Night

Molokai High School Library will be having a Book Fair Family Night on Tuesday, March 10 starting at 6:00pm in the MHS Library. Come out with your family and pick up great books for everyone in your family!

Upcoming Athletics

3/13	Friday	Tennis	King Kekaulike	MHS/K'Kai	2:30pm
3/14	Saturday	Tennis	Hana	MHS/K'Kai	10:00am
3/20	Friday	Girls Softball	St. Anthony	Regional/Little League	4:00pm
3/21	Sat.	Girls Softball	St. Anthony	Regional/Little League	10:00am
3/27	Friday	Boys Volleyball	King Kekaulike	The Barn	7:00pm
3/28	Sat	Boys Volleyball	Kamehameha	The Barn	7:00pm
3/30	Mon	Tennis	Lahainaluna	MHS/K'Kai	10:00am
3/31	Tuesday	Tennis	St. Anthony	MHS/K'Kai	10:00am

Federal TELEVISION Gets ONE Digit ! Lets get the government out of TV: Separation of TV and STATE!

Separation of Television and State

The big digital television transition to digital from analog in Hawaii is a huge failure. And, last week's official delay of the national conversion to digital television highlighted the most visible problem resulting from central planning in telecommunications: the folly of trying to prepare everyone--including small stations in rural markets and TV viewers who may have missed the ubiquitous announcements about imminent conversion. But the federally imposed scheme is troubled by other shortcomings as well.

Some problems were foreshadowed last September when Hawaii and Wilmington, North Carolina, converted to digital, resulting in a flood of calls to the Federal Communications Commission, including complaints from people who had followed instructions but had gotten no signal, e.g. east Molokai. Even the magic converter boxes do not solve the problem, and many are up for sale !!

Expect more of the same after the new June 12 deadline. Television viewers in cities where terrain is problematic (e.g., Denver, tall buildings) or where high-powered analog is used (e.g., Buffalo) may face additional difficulties. Stations not affiliated with the largest networks now face a greater financial burden as they continue to operate in analog until the new deadline. Worse, the federal agency created in early 1934 to regulate the airwaves drove out a potentially far superior arrangement based on property rights and homesteading, which the courts had upheld in 1926.

In the Internet age, a national plan for universal digital TV is a clumsy anachronism. High picture quality, consumer availability, and liberty would be better served by separation of television and state.

My Cell Phone Spies on ME ?

Do you think no one is listening when you switch off your cell phone?

by Larry Geller

You hold down the Power button and the phone goes through this little scene and then goes blank. So it's off now, right? Apparently NOT.

Harry Lewis, professor of computer science at Harvard and the former dean of Harvard College and co-author of "Blown to Bits: Your Life, Liberty, and Happiness after the Digital Explosion," says if federal authorities want to, they can get the phone companies to secretly "upgrade" your phone's software so that even if you push the power off button and it goes dark, it is still transmitting whatever it hears. Of course, the phone would also be transmitting your position. He said that evidence of that kind has been introduced into court cases. In effect, if you are carrying around a cell phone, you are carrying around your own bug.

Hmmm... my cellphone seems to need charging each day now. I assumed that my battery is just getting old. Maybe that's no longer a safe assumption.

Lewis also noted that that we can be electronically tracked any time you buy something with a credit card or store discount card a record is made, are routinely subpoenaed in criminal and civil cases.

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