

The background of the entire page is a composite image. On the left, there is a stylized American flag with stars and stripes. On the right, there is a close-up of a large, ornate, domed building, likely a state capitol. The text is overlaid on these images.

**CONSERVATIVES
RISING IN THE**

WEST



**WESTERN CONSERVATIVE
SUMMIT 2014**

JULY 18-20, 2014 • HYATT REGENCY • DENVER, CO

Colorado summit a conservative magnet

By VALERIE RICHARDSON

THE WASHINGTON TIMES

DENVER | Five years ago, John Andrews was casting about for a signature event to put the newly founded Centennial Institute on the map, when he realized that there is probably no place politicians would rather visit in the summer than Colorado.

The humidity is low, the bugs are scarce and it's a swing state. Mr. Andrews and former Sen. Bill Armstrong, the president of Colorado Christian University, envisioned a Western version of the Conservative Political Action Conference, with a few tweaks.

"Bill Armstrong and I said to each other, 'We could do something like that,' except that it would be different in three ways," said Mr. Andrews, director of the conservative Centennial Institute think tank. "It would be in the summer, not the winter; it would be in the Rockies, not on the Potomac, and it would have that broader recognition that important as politics and elections are, most important of all is the understanding of the American idea in the hearts and minds of our people."

Never mind that Mr. Andrews, a former Colorado Senate president, was 66, an age at which most people are putting on the brakes. In 2010, the Centennial Institute launched the first Western Conservative Summit, a gathering of conservative politicians and intellectuals. Its theme: "Right turn, right now."

Mr. Andrews hoped to draw about 300 attendees to a hotel in suburban Douglas County. Instead, 600 people signed up, forcing him to move the event to downtown Denver.

Five years later, Mr. Andrews expects as many as 3,000 attendees when the three-day Western Conservative Summit convenes Friday. This year's theme: "America at Its Best."

Once again, the summit has outgrown its venue. The Denver Hyatt Regency's

Sarah Palin, Sen. Mike Lee of Utah, Sen. Tim Scott of South Carolina, former Sen. Jim DeMint of South Carolina, Rep. Michele Bachmann of Minnesota, and former Rep. Allen West of Florida.

Tea Party Patriots founder Jenny Beth Martin will be there, but Mr. Andrews said the summit is aimed at all conservatives, whatever their stripe. One summit

Mr. Andrews said with a grin, "but the fact remains that my generation came of age in the '60s and '70s, and it's time for us to hand the torch to Americans who will make or break America in the 21st century."

Although Barack Obama owned the youth vote in 2008 and 2012, Mr. Andrews said, it's the conservative message that is

Coalition Road to Majority conference, RightOnline, the Values Voter Summit, BlogCon and the Conservative Leadership Conference, among others.

The phenomenon has become so unmistakable that The Atlantic ran a June 2012 article, "Why Are There So Many Conservative Conferences?"

Mr. Andrews has a simple explanation:



GETTYIMAGES

The Western Conservative Summit has grown tenfold in the past five years, forcing it to move from the Colorado suburbs to the capital. The theme for this year's conference, which starts Friday with an expected 3,000 attendees, is "Right turn, right now."

workshop, "Fight on the Right," tackles the tension among tea partiers, the Republican establishment, libertarians and social conservatives.

"That's healthy. You're not going to have a governing coalition unless you have some disagreement and some constructive tension," said Mr. Andrews, "but there is a danger that a circular firing

suiting to the under-30 crowd.

"I think personal choice and personal responsibility and self-reliance and taking hold of your own future to meet your own aspirations, which is a conservative and not a progressive or a liberal approach, has all kinds of possibilities with this next generation," he said. "We just have to do a better job of getting the message across."

tion: "There's just no substitute for being together."

"The energy that fills the room when a lot of people have come together for a common purpose to hear a powerful message, and the networking that goes on, the friendships, the contacts that get forged," he said. "The realization that, 'Hey, what I'm doing and what you're doing, if we combine them, we get synergy, we get one and one to add up to three. That's why coming together in person and doing it over a three-day span, not just doing it on one particular evening, there's some power in that."

In the summit's first year, drawing top Republicans to Denver was tricky. Most of the speakers were local, but now, "We've begun to get prominent national speakers who seek us out and say, 'Can I address your delegates?'" Mr. Andrews said.

"Year by year, the reputation is growing," he said. "We feel flattered when people say, 'This is the CPAC of the West. This is the CPAC of the summertime.' I don't think we're there yet, but I think it's something to aspire to."

It would be in the summer, not the winter; it would be in the Rockies, not on the Potomac, and it would have that broader recognition that important as politics and elections are, most important of all is the understanding of the American idea in the hearts and minds of our people.

2,000-seat ballroom isn't big enough to hold everyone for the biggest draws, so several events will be held across the street at the Colorado Convention Center's Bellco Theatre.

That includes Friday's opening night with Sen. Ted Cruz of Texas, Louisiana Gov. Bobby Jindal and Washington Times columnist Ben S. Carson. The program also includes a plethora of other prominent Republicans: former Alaska Gov.

squad will deprive the right of opportunities in Colorado and nationally this year."

Keeping the conference young is a priority for Mr. Andrews, who is 70 but as spry as a shortstop. He invites students from Colorado Christian University to introduce the speakers, and 120 people ages 16 to 20 will be attending this year as part of the just-launched Young Conservatives Leadership Conference.

"Maybe I'm a youthful, energetic 70,"

A highlight of the weekend is the presidential straw poll, which the summit began in its second year. Last year, Mr. Cruz won the poll, and he may be tough to beat this year, given that he's a featured speaker.

The Western Conservative Summit is ascending at a time when conservative-themed conferences are all the rage. In addition to CPAC, there's the Red-State Gathering, the Faith and Freedom

A Special Report Prepared By The Washington Times

America hasn't peaked yet

By John Andrews

"Contrition is BS." Press secretary Ronald Ziegler's acid tone shocked me – and he didn't use the initials. It was 1973, a bad year in a bad decade for America. I was a young speechwriter in the Nixon White House, assigned to gather input from Ziegler and national security advisor Henry Kissinger for a TV address that we hoped would put the president's Watergate troubles behind him.

But the press secretary, channeling Nixon's own defiance, wanted no part of Kissinger's scenario: a contrite chief executive asking for the American people's forgiveness as JFK had done after the Bay of Pigs. No apology would issue from the Oval Office. RN would tough it out. Right.

The 1970s were a dark time. Only a couple of years out of the Navy myself, I had earlier shared the disgust that most Americans felt when dissident naval officer John Kerry protested the Vietnam War by throwing away his medals and accusing the United States of war crimes. Yet millions in the country's "silent majority," as President Nixon called us, had to watch as events spiraled against all that we hoped and believed in.

Nixon resigned in disgrace. Helicopters evacuated a defeated US remnant

from Saigon. Oil prices soared and the economy flatlined. Soviet adventurism spread. Jimmy Carter wrung his hands and proclaimed malaise. Was America washed up?

Within a decade, however, America was back. The resilience of our free institutions, the toughness and nobility of our national character, the honest self-criticism and self-correction of our open public square, together disproved the diagnosis of terminal decline from a demoralized left.

Uncle Sam, his head again held high, signaled the world that our best days were still ahead. They were then, in Reagan's time, and they still are today – despite the ascendancy of a president more lawless than RN ever was and the travesty of that same John Kerry directing foreign affairs. Don't write off America. We haven't peaked yet.

My post-Watergate road brought me from the ethical swamps of the Potomac to the bracing air and wider horizons of the West. Here in Colorado we've raised our kids, buried our parents, sunk roots in a caring community, lived the ups and downs of grassroots government.

I gravitated to education and to think tanks, convinced that culture is upstream of politics. Without winning the argument we'll never win the vote. In 2009, after leaving elected office, I joined former Sen. Bill Armstrong, president

of Colorado Christian University, in establishing Centennial Institute as CCU's think tank. It's been a good ride.

His personal connection to the GOP, and mine, are no secret. But parties or candidates have nothing to do with the university's academic mission and our institute's policy mission. Rather we seek to impact the culture in support of such standards as traditional family values, sanctity of life, compassion for the poor, a biblical view of human nature, limited government, personal freedom, free markets, natural law, original intent of the Constitution, and the heritage of Western civilization.

It's from these wellsprings that renewal has been nourished in America's comeback since the bicentennial nadir in 1976. And from them equally, even amidst all the country's difficulties today, free citizens can draw the strength and purpose to bring the sweet land of liberty through undreamed challenges in the 21st century.

What of 2076, our next centennial year? The 300-year milestone is one that few great nations have attained, human folly and fallibility being what they are. We at the Centennial Institute, true to our name, focus intently on this long-term vision – much more than we focus on short-term battles at the legislature or the ballot box, important as those may be. We're very much in the debates of today, and we educate our students for the demands of today. But we never

take our eye off the opportunities (and dangers) of tomorrow.

Nor do we accept the presentism that would discard timeworn landmarks: the Bible, the American Founding, "the permanent things," as T.S. Eliot called them. We know that if America is to be a nation at all, she must forever be a nation under God. The USA must define its future by faith, family, and freedom – or have no future.

From this unfashionable but unyielding stance, we have seen CCU's core curriculum honored in the top 2% nationally by the American Council of Trustees and Alumni. We've placed our graduates in positions of influence across the spectrum of careers, from business to law to health care, from politics to education to ministry. We've fought the HHS abortifacient mandate in court. And we've created high-impact national outreach programs like the annual Western Conservative Summit.

No one knows what peaks of greatness and valleys of struggle and vistas of human betterment await this "almost-chosen people" in a new century. But Colorado Christian University and Centennial Institute are all in for America's grand adventure.

John Andrews (andrewsjk@aol.com) is director of the Centennial Institute, former president of the Colorado Senate, and author of *Responsibility Reborn: A Citizen's Guide to the Next American Century*.

FROM OUR OPINION WRITERS

No More Waiting!

The Washington Times National Digital Edition

Now get *The Washington Times'* groundbreaking news and conservative commentary right on your mobile device of choice with our new National Digital Edition. The "living newspaper" is updated all day long on your tablet or smartphone with the best articles and op-eds written by *The Washington Times'* staff plus exclusive columns and features only available to NDE subscribers.

Sign up today! A one-year subscription is just \$39.99.

That's less than 11¢ a day!



Subscribe at nde.washingtontimes.com

A Special Report Prepared By The Washington Times

An opportunity that can't be lost

By David Keene

After a landslide victory in 2008, Barack Obama and his political advisors vowed to not only fundamentally change America, but to lock down their victory by fundamentally changing the politics of the American West.

Those were heady times for Western Democrats. Brian Schweitzer had won the Montana governorship in 2004, and Colorado progressives had a plan in place that they were correctly convinced would turn that state from Red to Blue in short order. The decision to hold that year's Democratic convention in Denver signaled a deep belief in progressive circles that the West was changing, and that by working the region Republicans could be locked out of the White House and the Senate control for years, or even decades.

But that was then. Last week President Obama flew into Colorado once again because Democratic control of the Senate could depend on whether Mark Udall, who was elected as part of the president's western strategy six years ago, will be

re-elected in November. He and Gov. John Hickenlooper, who as Denver's mayor in 2008 had "hosted" the 2008 Democratic Convention, are fighting for their political lives. Both the Senator and governor declined to be seen in public with Mr.

Obama, though Sen. Udall did agree to appear with him at a private fundraiser for his own campaign which was closed to the press.

Their reluctance to embrace their president and the leader of their policy cocktail of Obamacare, regulatory overreach and an Obama-led war on guns, coal and fracking are changing the landscape in these states more quickly than those who designed the progressive western strategy could have imagined back then.

Since 2008, Republicans have elected governors in Nevada and New Mexico, recalled Democratic state legislative leaders in Colorado and may well be on the cusp of reclaiming control of the U.S. Senate with crucial election victories in the region.

FROM OUR OPINION WRITERS

This turnaround hardly means the West can be taken for granted by Republicans and conservatives, who might now assume as Obama and his allies did a few short years ago that things are moving their way.

Progressives thought they had the region figured out even before Obama's 2008 victories. The election of Mr. Schweitzer as Montana's governor in 2004 was hailed by the national media and Democratic strategists as a model for victory in other states. He was even talked about as a future Democratic presidential possibility; talk which obviously went to the man's head as even now he considers himself a viable national candidate.

The key was to avoid hot button issues that might turn off traditionally conservative voters while focusing on popular concerns without getting into the nitty gritty of how one might go about dealing with them. His appeal owed much to the populism of a century ago, and it seemed to work. He was for guns and was

skeptical of Washington. He railed against corporate greed and the like, and he won.

The problem is that rhetoric gives way to reality once a candidate is elected. Obama, Schweitzer, Udall and Hickenlooper talked a good game as candidates, but after their elections couldn't match their actions to their rhetoric. The expectation that they were somehow "different" from the liberals who came before them was never fulfilled. And they lost the voters that had made their victories in the region possible. Those voters, or many of them, will be voting for Republican candidates in November.

The Republicans, however, have yet to develop the cohesive message that will allow them to rely on these states in future elections. Many western states ... Idaho, Montana and Colorado being prime examples ... have swung back and forth in the past if Republicans fail to take advantage of the opportunity they have been presented.

.....
David A. Keene is Opinion Editor of The Washington Times.

When the West is pushed, it turns right

By Carl Graham

Most people have heard by now that the locals out West are getting a little restless, as they have every other generation or so since the mid-19th century.

What's less clear is whether this restlessness reflects a new conservative political tilt, or if it's just the latest flare-up in a turf war over resources and real estate that's been waged for over a century.

Are we looking at an ideological movement determined to turn this region to the right, or simply a periodic episode of sound and fury, signifying nothing?

Defining Western political forces has always been tricky because these forces so much depend on the current state of relations between the locals and their Washington, D.C., landlords. The federal government's hand is especially heavy in a region where bureaucrats half a continent away control 50 percent of all lands and heavily regulate the state and private lands that remain.

Increasingly, though, Westerners' political leanings can be pretty accurately guessed by how far their trade or their traditions lie from that heavy hand.

As in the blind men and the elephant parable, what an observer might "see"

depends a lot on which part of the elephant he or she is sampling. A nurse in Seattle or a software engineer in Denver will perceive a much different Western political culture than will a rancher in Montana's Missouri Breaks, or a roughneck in Utah's Uinta Basin.

They will also have significantly different public policy inclinations: not so much because their interests or goals vary so much – they don't. Their policy preferences diverge because of the angle and proximity of their viewpoint.

One perspective witnesses and experiences the rural production economy up close as a livelihood and a lifestyle, while the other has real memories or implanted images of an unspoiled and imperiled natural legacy.

This isn't a left/right or Republican/Democrat divide, although that's how it is manifested in the voting booth. It's an urban/rural difference of perceptions more than of aims, and it is too often exacerbated by cooked-up controversies and outside agendas insisting that urban and rural values must be competing rather than complementary. But those perspectives are different, and they do make a difference.

While there certainly is a growing critical mass of people, especially in

the West's vast rural areas, warming to many of the self-governance and free enterprise principles that conservatives have traditionally cherished, these families and communities are in a race with a growing urban majority that benefits from that rural production economy but is choking the life out of it by supporting increased regulation and decreased access to critical resources.

It hasn't always been thus. The rural West has historically been a conglomeration of New Deal and union Democrats, post-reconstruction Republicans, ornery libertarians and anarchists, and pretty much everything in between. But a common thread running through this tapestry was an insistence on being left alone and a feeling – even if not always accurate – of self-reliance. This common thread allowed a sort of détente between all these groups, so long as there was enough room and resources for them to leave each other alone.

But over the past couple of decades a new player – the federal government – has stepped in and forced people to take sides, empowering a lot of busybodies and creating a lot of conservatives in the process.

Federal actions that restrict access – economic and recreational – to established livelihoods and lifestyles are creating a new conservative movement in the rural West. People who have

never been active in politics or policy debates are getting involved because federal decisions are inflicting real pain on them, their families and their communities. Federal land and water restrictions, Endangered Species Act abuses, and other intrusions are turning rural voters to the right, even if they often don't realize they're supporting "conservative" ideals.

In a practical sense, they're just trying to preserve their lifestyles and livings. But their priorities and arguments are increasingly conservative because traditional conservative values reflect their everyday lives. Limited government, free enterprise, personal freedom and privacy: these are the principles bringing rural Westerners into the conservative fold. The question is, can that fold make a difference?

The tilt of the West, and the nation may come down to mundane math. If an urban majority that is disconnected from the rural production economy, a majority that values feel-good policy over physical outcomes, can impose its values from tiny blue dots on a vast red map, then all is lost – at least until those blue dots run out of food and electricity.

.....
Carl Graham is director of Sutherland Institute's Coalition for Self-Government in the West in Salt Lake City, Utah.

FROM OUR OPINION WRITERS

Norman Rockwell and Other American Icons

These are people that influenced my life in New Rochelle, NY where Norman Rockwell lived for 25 years and where my family lived for 3 generations.

We all knew and loved the man in spite of a book trashing him in another attempt to destroy everything that is great about America! I am writing a book with a rebuttal that includes the untold stories about many others that shaped our country.

Did you ever wonder what happened to over 100 signed letters from FDR, that Harvard wanted for their archives?

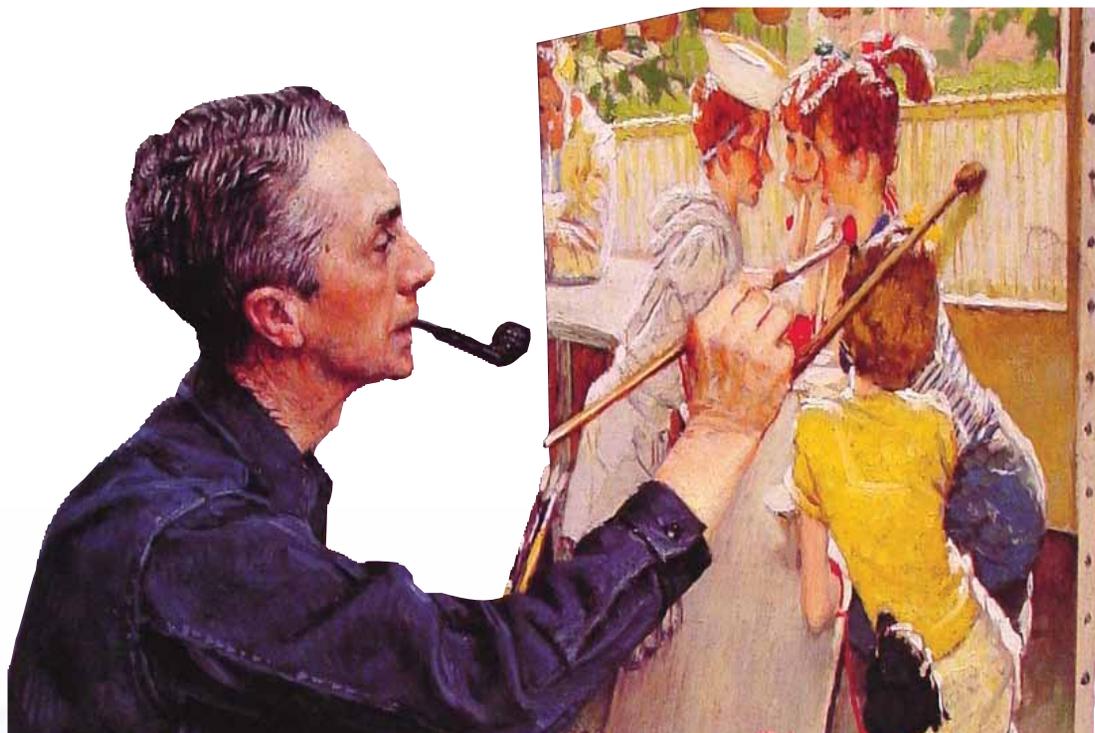
Most of these people I met in my parents living room: Dr. Norman Vincent Peale, James Cash Penney, Lowell Thomas, Charles E. Wilson (Chairman of GE, FDR appointed him head of the War Production Board WW2), Carrie Chapman Catt (Woman Suffragist), Dr. James E. West (Chief Scout Executive, Boy Scouts of America), William Frank Snyder (FDR's lawyer and close friend, who also had polio, wrote his will and handled his financial affairs including Mrs. Delano, complaining to my mother: "The Roosevelt's are using my pool!"). "Buffalo Bob" Smith (It's Howdy Doody Time!). C.L. Lowes: (My grandfather started

BOND BREAD. Buying trainloads of flour for 50 plants, he waited for the price of flour to go UP so farmers could make a fair profit... he was unique! General Baking Co became General Host..."Twinkies") Richard Ellis (my brother, commercial Real Estate) and many others!

After my father died, Dr. Peale said the eulogy and inspired me to increase water properties back to what it was before "The Flood" (living to Biblical ages). After "The Flood" they didn't live as long!

Since I am the first person in history to do it, should be ample proof that it had to come from divine inspiration! With an Engineering Degree that includes Steam Plant Design, I increased the Hydrogen Bond Angle (HBA) in ordinary water from 104 to 114 degrees, confirmed by scientists at Los Alamos Nuclear Lab and Lawrence Livermore to The Washington Times.

The Washington Post (on our website): "10,000 people per day" traveling to obtain water from my counter-top machines, even adding water to a well with miraculous results! Dr. G. Abraham MD UCLA: "Nothing is even close for measurable Blood Flow with a 114 HBA!" At 84, MEASURE 3000% more ENERGY in your drinking water (Video)!! 13 Patents 332 FDA Tests johnellis.com/measure



Gilbert de Daunant (Prince Rainier's cousin): "I just walked 40 blocks and I am 94! Send another E5 to Monaco!"

FREE
Bottled Water
SAMPLE!
570.296.0214

THE FLOOD REVISITED

ORDER A MACHINE 845.754.8696

LISTEN TO A RECORDING 800.433.9553

watercuresanything.com/measure

Winning Western Women

By Tammy Bruce

As a woman who moved from the left to the right, I've watched with some interest the political discussion about how conservatives can address women's issues and win our support.

The answer is actually quite simple: be genuinely conservative and realize "women's issues" are everyone's issues.

In other words, conservatives must reject the sexist liberal non-

sense of treating women as though we're some separate special interest group which has no interest in the many serious issues we're facing as a nation.

The left's obsession with big government, and control over our lives it requires, destroys women's lives. So what do Democrats do to keep this harsh reality hidden? They marginalize the discussion, patronizing women by attempting to distract us with singular issues, reducing us to reproductive systems and sex objects. Abortion, birth control, and the so-called "war on women" are all meant to keep women, and those who love them, distracted from liberals' ruinous policies.

After all, being able to get an abortion

on demand doesn't mean so much when you're living in the backseat of your car. "Free" birth control? Less thrilling when you're not in the mood for love because you're jobless, have no rent money, gasoline is \$5 a gallon and your health insurance premiums skyrocketed 41 percent.

The conservative ideal, comparatively, is one that respects women, doesn't reduce them to objects to be harangued, but instead recognizes them as citizens to persuade.

Despite the feverish left-wing characterization of women as crazed zombies caring only of sex, women's lives are complex and involved. The economy matters to women, just as it does to men. It is financial freedom that allows women to be in relationships because we choose to be, not because we must be—the real pro-choice. Financial independence means a woman can choose where she lives and which schools her children attend. It means we are the stewards of our lives, not some politician in a far away capitol.

Government getting out of the way of small businesses thriving, is certainly a women's issue. According to the National Association of Women Business Owners, "More than 9.1 million firms are owned

by women, employing nearly 7.9 million people, and generating \$1.4 trillion in sales as of 2014. Women-owned firms (50% or more) account for 30% of all privately held firms and contribute 14% of employment and 11% of revenues."

Small government means lower taxes, which means we are keeping more of the fruit of our own labor. It means, as women, we are able to make choices that best suit us as individuals. As long as anyone, including women, are reliant on the kindness of strangers in the government, we are never truly free.

Women understand this, and it's why in 2010 a majority of women voted for Republican and conservative candidates in overwhelming numbers. There was no special Republican strategy to win women votes; it happened because it became apparent we had elected a presidential failure. The economy was first and foremost on our minds, and we weren't satisfied with the liberal agenda.

The Los Angeles Times reported, "[Economic disappointment among women]... translated into a jolting drop in female support this year for House Democrats, who won just 48% of the women's vote, down from 55% four years ago, according to exit polls. Republicans edged them out with 49% of the overall

female vote, the best showing for the GOP ... since the gender gap emerged in the 1980s, when women began to vote more Democratic than men."

Women's issues are the economy, the corrupt government, unemployment, foreign policy, national security, healthcare, and the federal deficit. The statement made by women in 2010 was unambiguous, but Republicans must be willing to make Reaganesque, fiscally conservative arguments to win them back.

Western women especially understand the value of personal freedom. The way to persuade us is the same way to win everyone else: by boldly rejecting the liberal goal of making every woman a frightened, reliant victim of government, and by reminding us of the power and imperative of small government, individual freedom, capitalism and the free market.

Conservatism is simply the only belief system that allows all individuals to thrive on our own terms.

.....
Tammy Bruce, an Independent Conservative, is a radio talk-show host, New York Times bestselling author, blogger, Fox News political contributor and a columnist at The Washington Times.

FROM OUR OPINION WRITERS

By Monica Crowley

Not so long ago, the American West was fertile ground for conservative thought, action, and leadership. It was the region that remained

most faithful to the nation's founding principles of personal freedom, rugged individualism, and economic freedom. It prided itself on being the nation's political frontier, a place that maintained its fiercely devoted embrace of the pioneering spirit that gave rise to America's continental expansion and ultimately, its superpower status.

Out of that tradition came some of the brightest leaders of the Republican party and conservative movement of the 20th century: Richard Nixon from California, Barry Goldwater from Arizona, Ronald Reagan from California. They were the polar opposite of the eastern Republicans, who were usually Ivy League-educated, establishment to the core, and more closely aligned with liberalism than with conservatism. By contrast, the conservatives who were of the West represented American values that were

as endlessly dynamic as the region itself. And that's why—once the countercultural revolution of the Vietnam-era began in California—those Western conservatives realized they had a responsibility to stand and fight for a different set of principles.

It was largely the massive government overreach of the New Deal of President Franklin Roosevelt and the Great Society of President Lyndon Johnson—as well as the unpopularity of the poorly-executed Vietnam war and the Constitutional crisis of Watergate—that pushed the political pendulum in the opposite direction. The American people had had enough of oppressive government butting in in every nook and cranny of their lives—and the abuses that went along with it. They were ready...for change.

And change is what they voted for in 1980, when they elected Ronald Reagan president in a landslide and re-elected him resoundingly four years later. The Reagan Revolution was a direct rejection of leftist Big Government and a proactive choice of smaller government, lower taxes, fiscal responsibility, and a resumption of American superpower.

We may be at a similar moment, a moment which the West may very well lead yet again.

As it was in the 1960s and much of the 1970s, the federal government today is out of control, crushing freedom everywhere in its path. Socialized medicine. Effectively open borders leading to swarms of illegal immigrants entering—and staying—in the country with impunity and draining public resources from education to health care. Confiscatory taxes. Uncontrollable federal spending. An unfathomable eighteen trillion dollars in federal debt. Gun control. Land grabs. Suffocating environmental regulations on everything from coal to water flows to protect the endangered delta smelt, leading to severe droughts in California—which in turn lead to lower agricultural production. The resistance to fracking and the Keystone pipeline and other no-brainer ways to get us to true energy independence. Higher gas and electricity prices.

These catastrophic policies effect the entire nation, of course, but it's those in the West who largely bear their most destructive consequences. That's why the West may once again lead the way to restoring America to the principles and

policies that made—and kept—us great.

Sens. Ted Cruz of Texas and Mike Lee of Utah, Governors Susannah Martinez of New Mexico and Jan Brewer of Arizona, Congressmen Louie Gohmert of Texas and Jason Chaffetz of Utah, leading Republican lights like California State Assemblyman Tom Donnelly, Republican candidates Mia Love in Nevada, Joni Ernst in Iowa, and Rep. Cory Gardner in Colorado, former Gov. Sarah Palin of Alaska, among others, have had enough of the leftist assault and are fearlessly out front in the movement for conservative change.

From those leaders in the West, we may very well see the next Ronald Reagan emerge from the burning wreckage of left-coast leftism to bring us back to the nation we once were—and the one we could be again.

.....
Monica Crowley, the Online Opinion Editor of The Washington Times, is a respected foreign policy analyst who holds a doctorate in international relations from Columbia University, is a member of the Council of Foreign Relations and served as Foreign Policy Assistant to former President Richard Nixon during from 1990 until his death in 1994.

FROM OUR OPINION WRITERS

A Special Report Prepared By The Washington Times

Visit alphapub.com to read *Natural-law Essays and eBooks FREE*

Have you considered that when we keep our



balance, we are complying with the intent of a natural law we call gravity? As a matter of fact, people already know that to be safe and/or successful, they must comply with the intent of every natural law, not just gravity.

Decades ago Richard Wetherill identified a natural law, defining its intent for people's behavior. Wetherill named it the Law of Right Action, calling for people's *rational, honest thinking and behavior*.

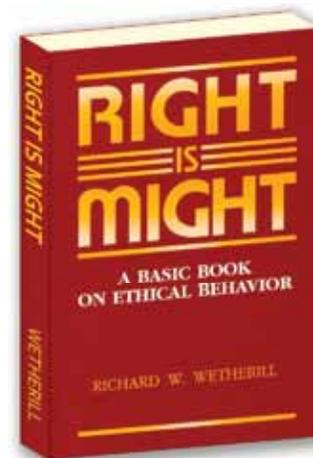
Thanks to Wetherill's insight, we now have the opportunity to adjust our thinking and behavior to conform to the intent of this inviolable, self-enforcing natural law.

People who have accepted the logic of the above explanation live by the intent of nature's Law of Right Action to the best of their ability. They know that when problems or troublesome results occur, they have deviated from the creator's behavioral requirements.

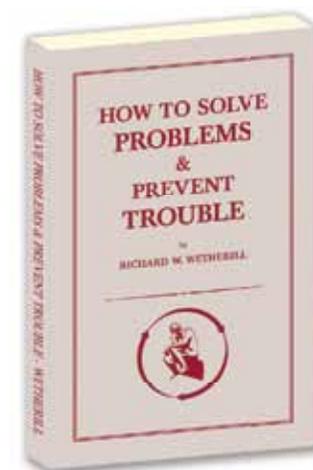
Eagerly they drop their personal intent and return to the safety of the intent of this natural law.

Join with them to eliminate all conflict within a person, with close associates, other races, and nations. Thus the promised peace and productivity of a truly civilized civilization is achieved.

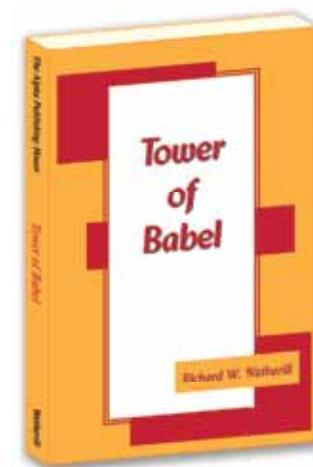
Visit alphapub.com for more information or for a free mailing write to The Alpha Publishing House, PO Box 255, Royersford, PA 19468.



"Just found your site. I was quite impressed and look forward to hours of enjoyment and learning. Thanks."
- Frank



"I have finished reading the book How To Solve Problems. So simple, yet so profound and powerful. Thank you."
- Alex



This public-service message is from a self-financed, nonprofit group of former students of Mr. Wetherill.

The Tea Party and the modern-day Sagebrush Rebellion

By Niger Innis

There are so many issues facing Americans today that stem from government overreach. The countless trespasses on the rights of the

people by ever-expanding government could

fill a tome. One particular outrage, however, is uniquely felt by Americans living in the West.

The issue of land ownership in America is as old as this nation, itself. However, still, Americans in the West are forced to live in states and work on lands that the federal government greedily declares is theirs, not ours.

It's long overdue for that to change.

The issue of the federal government's hoarding of land came to prominence in the late 1970's and early 1980's with what many called the "Sagebrush Rebellion." Even Presidential candidate Ronald Reagan proudly boasted of his support for more land in the hands of the states, declaring in an August 1980 speech in Utah, "I happen to be one who cheers and supports the Sagebrush Rebellion... Count me in as a rebel."

The standoff at Cliven Bundy's ranch is a classic example of what happens when militarized bureaucracy meets frontier-style concepts of right and wrong. Many within the Tea Party Movement supported Bundy's right to use public lands - the same public lands his family had been using since the 1880's.

Why did Bundy take a stand? Because he had witnessed the federal government run off every single one of his neighboring ranchers who relied on this land - somewhere around 50 ranches. What was the federal government's response to his stance? They showed up with rifles, snipers, helicopters and emboldened police to intimidate and corral protesters into a designated "free speech zone."

Many in the East might have wondered what the big deal was. The mainstream media glossed over the fact that the federal government claims dominion over 87% of Nevada, my home state and the location of the Bundy showdown. The government claimed for themselves 87% for

so-called "public lands," but refuses to let the public use these lands.

The government claims control of land out West with the attitude similar to Russian czars having control over the land of the serfs.

That phenomenon of ownership and power creates the high probability of

crony capitalism.

The Bundy showdown was not an isolated incident. Having raised

FROM OUR OPINION WRITERS



ILLUSTRATION BY GREG GROESCH

awareness of this issue, other patriots started speaking up.

Similar abuses were occurring in states like New Mexico and Texas, where the federal government bullied and abused citizens and claimed land for themselves.

People in the East - even conservatives - have wondered what the big deal was. However, those in the East, by and large, enjoy the use and unchallenged ownership of their own land. I am the Executive Director, of TheTeaParty.net, an organization that has been instrumental in highlighting and nationalizing this issue.

Dedicated to facilitating communications with lawmakers and with a massive grassroots outreach, TheTeaParty.Net boasts a membership of 2.5 million Tea Party activists nationwide and a social media universe that reaches 30 million people per week.

In short: This problem comes closer to resolution when conservatives are rowing in the same direction. TheTeaParty.net has worked to create a line of communication and understanding of this important

issue between Tea Partiers out West, so-called flyover territory and the corridors of power in the East.

The Constitution allows the federal government to claim lands in very narrow circumstances. Outside of Washington, D.C., the federal government is permitted to appropriate lands for "the erection of forts, magazines, arsenals, dockyards and other needful buildings."

The Constitution, however, makes no mention of a right to permanently co-opt states for themselves, forever leaving the citizens of that

development of the age. The federal government continues to crackdown on offshore oil drilling while, madly, investing in other nations' offshore rigs. It blocks the Keystone XL pipeline. Perhaps most devastatingly, the government has failed to maximize the fracking phenomenon that would afford the United States the potential to become the Saudi Arabia of natural gas. How many potential Dakotas out West are sitting on federally controlled land?

It is not all bad news, however.

The spirit of the Tea Party has forced these important issues to prominence in discussion. Western elected officials now must encounter this previously obscure issue at townhalls, and many are seeking means of renegotiating the balance of land ownership with the federal government.

That's thanks to the Tea Party and other principled conservatives who have stood up with signs, with articles, with hoarse voices at townhalls, demanding an end to the neo-serfdom that has existed out West for far too long. It's a long process, but Americans are finally on the path to regaining their land from an abusive government - a fight many believed was won over two centuries ago.

People from all walks of life came to support and engage in this modern day Sagebrush Rebellion and while the fight is far from over, lines have been drawn and the point has been made: the federal government may find it easy to push around one citizen, one rancher, but we, as a movement, are millions strong.

Western Americans have to deal with the consequences of the federal government doing what it is constitutionally not permitted to do, while also dealing with the consequences of the federal government refusing to do what they are constitutionally obliged to do: secure our border against the continual waves of illegal immigrants surging into our country.

But more than any other issue, the outcome of the rebellion against the land grabbing neo-serfdom of the federal government will determine the fate of the West and the destiny of the Republic.

Niger Innis is the Executive Director of the Tea Party.Net, which has 2.5 million members nationwide.

Conservative convert Susana Martinez converts voters with her personal story

By RALPH Z. HALLOW
THE WASHINGTON TIMES

Bouyant, bi-lingual, upbeat and the first female Hispanic governor of any state, New Mexico's Susana Martinez seems a good fit for chief executive officer of a Western state where almost half the 2.1 million population is Hispanic.

But will major campaign donors and 2016 GOP presidential primary voters see the former prosecutor and daughter of a Texas deputy sheriff as a good fit for president of a nation where Hispanics account for 54 million out of a total population of 316 million?

The answer will become clearer as next summer approaches.

For now, she's running for a second term as governor this November with a personal story that excites the GOP faithful and right-leaning independents everywhere: she and her husband, Chuck, both former Democrats, had turned Republican for philosophical, not knee-jerk partisan reasons.

"Before I ran for district attorney, two Republicans invited my husband and me to lunch," she says in one version of the personal tale. "I knew a party-switch was what they wanted from us. So, I told Chuck, 'We'll be polite, we'll enjoy a free lunch and then we'll say goodbye.'"

At lunch, the conversation turned on issues with no mention of "Republican," "Democrat," "liberal" or conservative."

Instead, they talked about whether "welfare is a helping hand up or a way of life." They talked about the "size of government and how much should it tax families and small businesses."

In public gathering, like her-prime time 2012 Tampa GOP presidential nominating speech to millions of TV viewers and 20,000

delegates and credentialed members of the press, she wraps up the story this way: "When we left that lunch, we got in the car and I looked over at Chuck and said, 'I'll be damned, we're Republicans.'"

In small groups her delivery is tailored a bit differently. She bubbles over with enthusiasm and her eyes sparkle as she says, "...and I looked at Chuck and said, holy s---, we're Republicans!" Her small audience invariably breaks into laughter.

Right now, campaign consultants put her on the long list of potential 2016 White House candidates. Rising onto the short list will require something special – that unanticipated something that is the soul of American politics.

Some political consultants will ultimately explore what she brings to a ticket in terms of demographics.

In New Mexico's Hispanic-rich counties of Guadalupe, Mora, Rio Arriba, and San Miguel counties, Mrs. Martinez's 2010 share of the total votes – including non-Hispanics – was 57 percent, 46 percent, 41 percent, and 38 percent respectively. That was probably not a majority share of the Hispanic population but from her supporters' viewpoint, remarkable nonetheless.

She's also got the kind of gubernatorial record conservative and establishment Republicans alike love to love – seemingly sparse to non-existent in pandering to ethnic groups and other special interests.

As soon as she and her husband unpacked their clothes in the governor's residence, she began crusading to repeal a state law that granted illegals immigrants a driver's license. She also signed an executive order requiring state law enforcers to check the immigration status of everyone arrested in the state.

But it's her personal story that offers a strong connection should she gamble

on 2016.

"My dad was a golden gloves boxers in the Marine Corps, then a deputy sheriff," she says. "My mom worked as an office assistant. One day they decided to start a security-guard business. I thought they were crazy. We had absolutely no savings. My dad worked the business. My mom did the books at night."

"At 18, I guarded the Catholic church's bingo games held in the church lot. My dad made sure I could take care of myself. I carried a Smith & Wesson .357 magnum," she says.

She says with palpable pride that her parents grew their security business that started with one teenager guarding a bingo game to 125 employees in three states.

"I went to law school and became a prosecutor – prosecuted child abuse cases, gut wrenching cases," she says, adding that doing so was for her "a privilege of a lifetime."

At this point, she'll usually say in Spanish, "In America, anything's possible." Regardless of the linguistic skills of her audience at the moment, her meaning is clear enough to elicit applause and whistles of approval.

Her checklist as the chief manager of her state includes closing a record-sized structural deficit "by requiring state employees to contribute more to their retirements."

She boasts having sold the state's luxury jet used by her predecessor, "capped salaries for cabinet secretaries and eliminated the chefs in the governor's residence."

On the hottest issue of the election cycle so far, she moved to end the state's sanctuary policy for illegal immigrants who commit crimes and to crack down on driver's licenses fraud by foreign nationals.

One achievement, in particular, may make her stand out among an American

electorate that polls show is sick of seeing over five decades an inverse relationship between the public money spent on education and the quality of the resulting education. She is credited with putting into effect a teacher-evaluation system that measures actual student progress. She went on to defeat a teachers' union attempt to use the courts to block the reform.

One wildcard may be her agreement to increase teachers' salaries as a quid pro quo for increasing accountability in state's classrooms.

Her reelection team today boasts that when she took office, she ended "years of inaction at the state and federal level to recover any of the taxpayer money that was lost as a result" of then-Gov. Bill Richardson's administration scandals.

Since the change in administrations, Mrs. Martinez's team touts a successful agreement to "recover more than \$26 million for taxpayers from companies and individuals related to the scandals."

Mrs. Martinez, as a former district attorney, is said to have taken great delight in banning corrupt contractors from doing business with the state. She signed legislation requiring nearly 30,000 new local government employees to be covered by ethics laws and "re-instituted the use of minimum qualifications for state government positions to ensure that those who are hired are qualified for their job."

That she campaigned hard among New Jersey's Hispanics for Gov. Chris Christie's reelection is hardly conclusive evidence that she's got the magic touch with that growing segment of the U.S. electorate. But it doesn't hurt the impression that she can pass the laugh test when it comes to envisioning her as not only the first woman president or vice president, but the first Hispanic elected to either post.

Alaska tops wildcard races across the West

By SETH McLAUGHLIN
THE WASHINGTON TIMES

The road to a Republican majority in the Senate could hinge on what happens in Alaska, where Sen. Mark Begich is fighting for his political life and, like other vulnerable Democrats, is trying to distance himself from President Obama and some of Mr. Obama's unpopular policies.

Kyle Kondik of the University of Virginia's Center for Politics said Alaska could be ground zero.

"Only a relative handful of voters will decide whether Sen. Mark Begich,

Democrat, keeps his seat in Alaska, but they may end up deciding which party controls the Senate," Mr. Kondik said. "Even though the West is dominated by the two American megastates, California and Texas, sparsely populated Alaska is holding the West's most important congressional contest this year."

Mr. Begich will face off against the winner of the Aug. 19 Republican primary race among lawyer Joe Miller, who ran in 2010; former Alaska National Resources Commissioner Dan Sullivan; Lt. Gov. Mead Treadwell; and Air Force veteran John Jaramillo.

The race also will have a third-party candidates, which some political observers say could tip the scales of the election.

Republicans need to pick up a net of six seats to win control of the Senate. They have expanded their map of possible pickups in Colorado, where Republican Rep. Cory Gardner is challenging Democratic Sen. Mark Udall.

Polls show Mr. Gardner and Mr. Udall are running neck and neck.

In House races, Democrats are on the defensive in a number of Western states, including Arizona, where the races in the 1st and 2nd congressional districts are

considered tossups.

The incumbents in those races, Reps. Ann Kirkpatrick and Ron Barber, are two of the nine Democrats who hold seats in districts that Republican candidate Mitt Romney carried in the 2012 presidential election.

Mr. Kondik, meanwhile, said the race in Colorado's 6th Congressional District "could be the hottest, most expensive House race in the whole country."

In that race, Republican Rep. Mike Coffman is seeking re-election against,

» see **ALASKA** | **D11**

A Special Report Prepared By The Washington Times

'Fahrenheit 451' Democrats

By Ted Cruz

I have three questions for my Democratic colleagues in the Senate: Should Congress be able to ban books? Should Congress be able to ban films? Should Congress be able to ban groups such as the NAACP, the National Rifle Association and the Sierra Club from speaking?

The answer to all three questions should, unequivocally, be "no." But, sadly, 45 Democrats in the U.S. Senate are supporting a constitutional amendment to repeal the free-speech provisions of the First Amendment and give Congress carte blanche power to regulate political speech.

It's all because a group of conservative filmmakers made a documentary film in 2008 about then-Democratic presidential candidate Hillary Clinton that did not speak favorably about her record. Forty-four Senate Democrats are now supporting a constitutional amendment from Sen. Tom Udall of New Mexico to stop Americans from showing movies like the one Citizens United created during the 2008 election.

Forty-five Senate Democrats are willing to rewrite the Constitution to take away the right of Americans to speak or create art that is critical of politicians.

FROM OUR OPINION WRITERS

Forty-five Senate Democrats are actively working to silence political criticism ahead of the next presidential election.

They are the "Fahrenheit 451" Democrats.

Never before has Congress tampered with the First Amendment.

When a similar proposal was considered in 1997, the famed liberal lion of the Senate, Ted Kennedy, reminded his colleagues that never before had the Bill of Rights been amended and "now is no time to start."

I agree with Ted Kennedy. Where are the Democrats who agree with him today? Not a single one has spoken out against this. Groupthink has taken over their party.

Banning speech with a constitutional amendment is playing with fire



ILLUSTRATION BY LINAS GARSYS

The American Civil Liberties Union, however, has sounded the alarm. The ACLU says the Democrats' amendment would "severely limit the First Amendment and lead directly to government censorship of political speech."

Floyd Abrams, perhaps the leading First Amendment litigator in the country and an outspoken Democrat, has, as well. He said the amendment "would

political debate.

However, The New York Times is a corporation. Should they stop penning editorials? NBC is a corporation. Should it quit airing "Saturday Night Live"?

After all, wasn't Tina Fey influencing voters when she took on an Alaskan accent and declared "I can see Russia from my house" — something Sarah Palin never even said?

Didn't Will Ferrell's hilarious portrayals of President George

The answer is yes, yes, yes and yes. That's what free speech gives Americans the power to do — mock, provoke, challenge and persuade. "Saturday Night Live" has a constitutional right to do so, but the Democrats' amendment would allow Congress to ban the show.

The hard-line liberal partisans who want to rewrite the Constitution to give their party a political advantage certainly do not have the same interests

We should keep our faith in the Bill of Rights, rather than in politicians intent on preserving their power.

limit speech that is at the heart of our First Amendment."

Senate Democrats would like to pretend they could draw the line between what they think is "reasonable" political speech and "unreasonable" political speech. To hear the Democrats tell it, all they want to do is stop "corporate influences" from unfairly influencing the

W. Bush as childlike and confused change public opinion of our 43rd president? Wasn't Seth Green swaying voters when he impersonated Vice President Al Gore as a dry, droning bore? Wasn't Darrell Hammond enforcing a certain kind of perception of Bill Clinton when he presented the president as a lusty, smirking cad?

in mind as James Madison and Alexander Hamilton.

We should keep our faith in the Bill of Rights, rather than in politicians intent on preserving their power.

There will always be political speakers who someone disagrees with. Democrats should be free to disagree with films made by Citizens United, just

as many Republicans disagree with films made by Mr. Gore and Michael Moore.

That's a sign of a healthy and vibrant society. Banning films is not.

In Ray Bradbury's novel "Fahrenheit 451," — the temperature at which 'book paper' auto-ignites — Capt. Beatty, who is the chief book burner, said, "If you don't want a man unhappy politically, don't give him two sides to a question to worry him; give him one. Better yet, give him none."

That same sentiment was expressed by the Obama administration, which told the Supreme Court in Citizens United that, in its view, Congress could ban books.

When Justice Anthony Kennedy asked the Department of Justice if the Obama administration was truly arguing that, according to the Constitution, book sales could be prohibited, the Justice official replied, yes, "if the book contained the functional equivalent of express advocacy."

That was a shocking exchange. The government made an unabashed argument for the government being able to stop a book from being sold.

As the ACLU observed, under the Democrats' proposed amendment, Congress could ban Mrs. Clinton's new book, "Hard Choices."

It could ban anti-Hillary movies and pro-Hillary books alike. What then would become of our political debates? We would have only that which Congress would allow.

The Democrats, by working to shut down political speech, want to eliminate different sides of our most important questions, just as Capt. Beatty said.

Soon, Senate Democrats will hold their vote on a constitutional amendment to repeal our free-speech protections.

They are playing with fire. "Fahrenheit 451" is coming to life, and tragically, the Democrats are playing the role of the firemen who want to burn our books and silence the citizenry.

.....
Ted Cruz is a Republican member of the U.S. Senate from Texas.

Rick Perry has no plans to fade into a Western sunset

By RALPH Z. HALLOW

THE WASHINGTON TIMES

Whether he runs or not, Texas Gov. Rick Perry commands plenty of attention on the 2016 Republican presidential stage, and he knows it.

He demanded a face-to-face meeting in Texas with President Obama to talk about Mexico-U.S. border crisis. And he kept demanding until the initially reluctant president gave him one — a televised, photographed, widely reported face-to-face meeting.

Barely taking time to catch his breath, Mr. Perry followed up with a headline-generating attack on Sen. Rand Paul's stance on Iraq. As the longest continuously serving governor in U.S. history, Mr. Perry felt comfortable berating a U.S. senator considered a first-tier White House hopeful.

For a year now, Mr. Perry has been in full remedial mode for his campaign-killing gaffes in the 2012 GOP presidential primary, including when he couldn't remember a cabinet office he intended to zero out once he became president.

He has been grabbing the initiative and holding on to it from his ballyhooed visit to Israel last year to his performance in March at the Conservative Political Action Conference, where many activists proclaimed he gave one of the best speeches of the three-day event.

Now he is taking on one of his potential competitors in 2016 if he runs, jabbing Mr. Paul for being what the Texas governor called an "isolationist" outside the party tradition of Ronald Reagan and Dwight Eisenhower because of Mr. Paul's opposition to further U.S. military action in Iraq.

Mr. Perry took to the op-ed page of the Washington Post on Friday to deliver a stinging attack on Mr. Paul by name, calling it "disheartening to hear fellow Republicans, such as Sen. Rand Paul (Ky.), suggest that our nation should ignore what's happening in Iraq."

In his response, published Monday in Politico under the title "Rick Perry is Dead Wrong," Mr. Paul took an unusually personal tack, saying of the Texan that "apparently his new glasses haven't altered his perception of the world, or allowed him to see it any more clearly."

"With 60,000 foreign children streaming across the Texas border, I am surprised Governor Perry has apparently still found time to mischaracterize and attack my foreign policy," Mr. Paul wrote.

Political observers think targeting Mr. Paul is wily on Mr. Perry's part because he went after a legislator, and not a fellow gubernatorial prospect like New Jersey's Chris Christie, Wisconsin's Scott Walker, or Florida's Jeb Bush, a former governor with plenty of GOP establishment and major-donor clout.

Whatever casual observers see in this Texan, it's clear he has no plans when his governor's tenure ends this year to fade into the sunset like a white-hat cowboy cast in a Hollywood Western.

Like his predecessor in the Austin gubernatorial mansion, George W. Bush, Mr. Perry strikes people as a touchy-feely people-loving guy who projects no airs about himself. He's just "Rick" and he's just as likely to throw an arm around a visitor's neck for a quick wrestling gesture as he is to bend slightly at the waist in greeting a female visitor.

He can do either without looking like a

politician showing off. All the more to his advantage because he is, of course, a politician showing off.

His attack on Mr. Paul for being skeptical about interventionism in foreign policy may not sit as well with a GOP electorate that is less hawkish than it used to be.

Indeed, Mr. Paul noted that widespread popular opposition to involvement in Iraq means that "it's time we finally retire that pejorative" term "isolationist."

For all his personal charm, Mr. Perry may be at odds with an important segment of his base — young evangelicals who may dislike his support of a constitutional amendment against same-sex marriage or his comparison — which he recently reiterated — of homosexuality to alcoholism.

He also alienated some of the adult "rule of law" conservatives in his party's base by supporting in-state tuition breaks for the children of illegal immigrants who slipped across the U.S. border. But that position is shared by a surprisingly large number of self-described conservatives who tend to open up on the subject only to trusted friends and acquaintances.

But where Mr. Perry has clear common ground with his party's base is his demand that Mr. Obama dispatch the National Guard to the border to end the invasion of unaccompanied Central American children, as well as the lieutenants of the foreign crime cartels.

On immigration, he has shown you can talk tough without sounding mean-spirited. He has repeated publicly his accusation that the children flooding the border are told to claim to American authorities that they fleeing for their lives — escaping the murderous drug wars in El Salvador and other Central American countries.

That bold accusation seems to resonate with Republicans, independents and many Democrats who suspect collusion between the U.S. government and Latin American authorities as the only plausible explanation for the sudden inundation of the southern border by busloads of unaccompanied children.

Mr. Perry casts himself as the most aggressive and successful governor in personally persuading corporation heads in the U.S. and around the world to relocate part or all of their operations in Texas.

But unknown to most people outside his state, he is something of a culture maven.

"There is no question that 10 to 15 years ago folks might have had a point in saying we were culturally and intellectually a backwater — Al Gore once said the air is brown here," he told The Washington Times. "Well, today, we have won that battle, both in perception and substance. The cultural arts here have exploded. From zoos, to music, to museums, to theater. In Houston, we have more theater seats than any other city in America except New York."

Mr. Perry's strong religious faith has been a big part of his political career, but for him now, the economy as pre-eminent in the lives of Americans, whether religious or secular.

"Americans have to decide what is the most important to them — social issues, foreign policy, national security and other issues. But all those issues — many of them should be the purview of states, not the federal government," he said in an interview before embarking for the Middle East last summer.

"You can't have any of these if you do not take appropriate care of taxes, regulation, legal policies, so that there can be the revenues for those desires," he said.

ALASKA

From page D9

among others, former state Rep. Andrew Romanoff, a Democrat.

In California, Carl DeMaio, a former San Diego City Council member, is trying to unseat Rep. Scott H. Peters, a Democrat, to become the first openly gay Republican elected to Congress.

Prognosticators expect Republicans to maintain control of the House and possibly grow their more than 30-seat margin. Of the 17 races considered tossups by RealClearPolitics, Democrats are defending 14 of them.

The following are races to watch in the West, according to The Rothenberg Political Report, the University of Virginia Center for Politics and TheGreenPapers.com.

Senate

• Alaska

Democrat: Sen. Mark Begich, incumbent.
Republican: The winner of the Aug. 19

primary race among Joe Miller, Dan Sullivan, Mead Treadwell and John Jaramillo.

The race also includes Libertarian and Alaskan Independence Party candidates.

• Colorado

Democrat: Sen. Mark Udall, incumbent
Republican: Rep. Cory Gardner
Libertarian: Gaylon Kent
Unity: Bill Hammons

• Montana

Democrat: Sen. John E. Walsh, incumbent
Republican: Rep. Steve Daines
Libertarian: Roger Roots
Independent: Samuel David Rankin

House

• Arizona

1st Congressional District:

Democrat: Rep. Ann Kirkpatrick, incumbent
Republican: The winner of the Aug. 26 primary race among Gary Kiehne, Adam Charles Kwasman and Andrew M. Tobin

2nd Congressional District:

Democrat: Rep. Ron Barber, incumbent

Republican: The winner of the Aug. 26 primary race among Shelley M. Kais, Martha E. McSally and Charles A. Wooten

9th Congressional District:

Democrat: Rep. Kyrsten Sinema, incumbent

Republican: The winner of the Aug. 26 primary race between Wendy Rogers and Andrew Walter

• California

7th Congressional District:

Democrat: Rep. Ami Bera, incumbent
Republican: Former Rep. Doug Ose

21st Congressional District:

Republican: Rep. David G. Valadao, incumbent
Democrat: Amanda Renteria

26th Congressional District:

Democrat: Rep. Julia Brownley, incumbent

Republican: State Assemblyman Jeff Gorell

31st Congressional District: Open seat

Democrat: Peter Aguilar

Republican: Paul Chabot

36th Congressional District:

Democrat: Rep. Raul Ruiz, incumbent

Republican: Brian Nestande

52nd Congressional District:

Democrat: Rep. Scott H. Peters, incumbent

Republican: Carl DeMaio

• Colorado

6th Congressional District:

Republican: Rep. Mike Coffman, incumbent

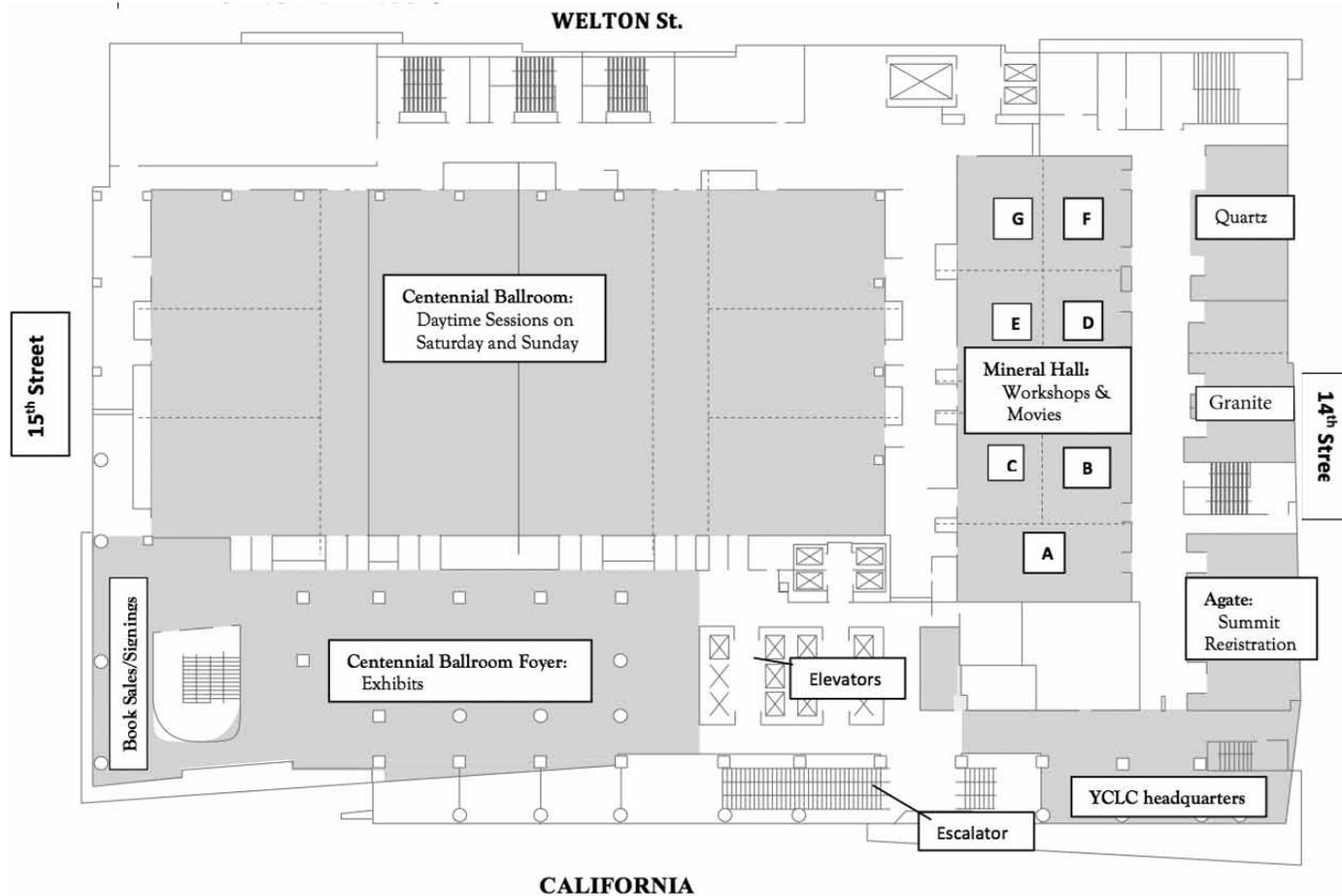
Democrat: Andrew Romanoff

Green Party: Gary Swing

Libertarian: Norm Olsen

A Special Report Prepared By The Washington Times

★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ **SUMMIT PROGRAM SCHEDULE** ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★



CALIFORNIA

FRIDAY

2:00 pm	Registration Open.....	Hyatt Regency
3:00 pm	Exhibit Area Open	Hyatt Regency
3:00 pm	Citizen Action Workshops, Round 1	Mineral Halls
5:00 pm	Dinner Break	Bellco Lobby
4:00 pm	General Reception, Exhibit Hall.....	Hyatt Regency
5:30 pm	Gold Reception as Ticketed	Bellco Lobby
6:30 pm	Doors Open	Bellco Theater
7:00 pm	Summit Opening Night with Bobby Jindal, Mike Lee & Ben Carson - "Now is the Time"	Bellco Theater
9:30pm	The Right Movies.....	Mineral Halls

SATURDAY

8:00 am	Exhibit Area Open	Hyatt Regency
8:00 am	Doors Open & Breakfast Snack Buffet	Hyatt Regency
8:30 am	Convening of Summit Session A	Hyatt Regency
	Tim Scott - "Washington Report"	
	Ralph Reed - "How Culture Drives Politics"	
	Guy Benson, Mary Katharine Ham, Katie Pavlich, James Golden	
	"Who's Winning the Fight on the Right?"	
	KT McFarland - "A World of Storms"	
	Hugh Hewitt - "Ideas Have Consequences"	
11:45 am	Lunch Break & Gold Reception as Ticketed.....	Consult Your Badge
1:30 pm	Convening of Summit Session B	Hyatt Regency
	Jenny Beth Martin - "Tea at the Boil"	
	Sarah Palin - "Seize the Day"	
	Betsy McCaughey - "Beyond Obamacare"	
	Bob Woodson, Buster Soaries, Linda Chavez, Tammy Bruce	
	"Can America be Post-Racial?"	
	Elbert Guillory - "How the Democratic Party Left Me"	

SATURDAY AFTERNOON, CONTINUED...

3:30 pm	Citizen Action Workshops, Round 2	Mineral Halls
4:00 pm	Gold Reception as Ticketed	Grand Hyatt
5:00 pm	Dinner Break.....	Bellco Lobby
5:30 pm	Gold Banquet with Michele Bachmann as ticketed.....	Grand Hyatt
7:00 pm	Vision Rally with Dennis Prager, Jim DeMint & Ted Cruz "Let's Be America at Its Best"	Bellco Theater
9:30 pm	The Right Movies.....	Mineral Halls

SUNDAY

7:15 am	Gold Breakfast with Linda Chavez - as ticketed.... "Women of the West"	Hyatt Regency
8:00 am	Exhibit Area Open	Hyatt Regency
8:00 am	Doors Open & Breakfast Snack Buffet	Hyatt Regency
8:45 am	Summit Chapel with Robert Woodson	Hyatt Regency
9:30 am	Convening of Summit Capstone Session	Hyatt Regency
	Daniel Hannan - "The Anglosphere Century"	
	Nick Adams, Charlie Kirk, Warren Smith, Ashley Pratte	
	"Which Way Millennials: Left or Right?"	
	Ben Shapiro - "Why Freedom Succeeds and Collectivism Fails"	
	Allen West - "Answer the Call, Conservatives"	
12 noon	Adjournment of Summit Capstone Session	So Long, See You at WCS15
12:30 pm	Lunch Break & Gold Reception as Ticketed	Consult Your Badge
1:30 pm	Citizen Action Workshops, Round 3 & Engage2Win Persuasion Bootcamp	Mineral Halls Centennial Ballroom

★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ **SUMMIT SPEAKERS** ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★



NICK ADAMS is an Australian political commentator, author, and columnist for PatriotUpdate.com. His love for America has led some to call him “the de Tocqueville of our generation.” Adams’ latest book, *The American Boomerang: How the World’s Greatest ‘Turnaround’ Nation Will Do It Again* (WND Books), was co-written with Col. Allen West and released earlier this month.



ELBERT GUILLORY is a Louisiana state senator, representing the state’s 24th district. With a law degree from Rutgers, he worked as a criminal defense attorney for 43 years. Sen. Guillory’s video announcing his 2013 party switch from Democrat to Republican garnered over 500,000 views on YouTube within the first three days. An avid mountain climber, Guillory counts as one of his favorites, Colorado’s highest peak and his “namesake,” Mt. Elbert.



GUY BENSON, not yet 30, is the political editor of Townhall.com and host of a Sunday-night radio program, *The Guy Benson Show*. He is a frequent contributor to Townhall’s “Tipsheet Blog” and has appeared as a political analyst on CNBC, C-SPAN, Fox Business Network, Fox News and The Blaze TV. Benson graduated with honors from the Medill School of Journalism at Northwestern University in 2007. He spoke at WCS13.



JAMES GOLDEN has been a producer, engineer, and call screener for the Rush Limbaugh Show for over 20 years. Since 2008, Golden has appeared frequently on the show under the pseudonym “Bo Snerdley,” speaking as “the Official Obama Criticizer, certified black enough to criticize.” Golden co-hosted a Sunday night talk show, *James and Joel*, on WABC from 1992 to 1998. He attended City University of New York-Queens College. He spoke at WCS13.



MICHELE BACHMANN has represented Minnesota’s 6th district in the U.S. House of Representatives since 2007. Dubbed the “Queen of the Tea Party,” the one-time school board member ran for the 2012 Republican presidential nomination and became the first woman to win the Iowa Straw Poll. Bachmann and her husband, Marcus, have five children and have provided care to 23 foster children. She was the first speaker at our first Summit, WCS10.



DANIEL HANNAN is a member of the European Parliament, representing South East England for the Conservative Party. Fox News viewers know him for eloquent denunciations of UK socialism and the EU bureaucracy, which he says makes Europe “poorer, less democratic and less free.” Hannan writes a regular blog at *The Telegraph* and has authored several books, most recently *Inventing Freedom: How the English-Speaking Peoples Made the Modern World*.



BEN CARSON was for many years a professor at the John Hopkins School of Medicine and the director of pediatric neurosurgery at the John Hopkins Children’s Center. Among his countless honors, Dr. Carson was awarded the Presidential Medal of Freedom in 2008. Since retiring from medicine, he has become a weekly *Washington Times* columnist and prominent political voice. His latest best-seller is *One Nation: What We Can All Do To Save America’s Future*.



MARY KATHARINE HAM is editor-at-large at *Hot Air* and a contributing editor at *Townhall Magazine*. A regular Fox News contributor, Ham is often featured on the O’Reilly Factor opposite Juan Williams. Previously, Ham has worked at the *Weekly Standard*, *Daily Caller*, and the Heritage Foundation. She graduated in journalism from the University of Georgia in 2002. She spoke at WCS10 and again at WCS13.



LINDA CHAVEZ graduated from CU-Boulder and rose to become the highest-ranking woman in the Reagan White House. When President George W. Bush chose her for Secretary of Labor, she left so enraged that she withdrew in the public interest. The longtime media commentator and political organizer is now chairman of the Center for Equal Opportunity and heads the newly formed *Becoming American Institute*, devoted to “elevating the perception of Hispanic immigrants among the American population.” Among her books is *An Unlikely Conservative: The Transformation of an Ex-Liberal*.



HUGH HEWITT is a professor of law at Chapman University, lawyer, columnist, author, and the host of the nationally syndicated radio show, *The Hugh Hewitt Show*. After graduating from Harvard in 1978, he worked as a ghostwriter for President Richard Nixon, took a law degree from the University of Michigan, and served in the Reagan White House. His most recent book is *The Happiest Life*. He spoke at WCS12.



TED CRUZ is a United States senator from Texas. Since winning election in what the *Washington Post* called “the biggest upset of 2012,” he has become one of America’s most influential conservatives. A graduate of Princeton and then of Harvard Law School, Cruz previously served as the Solicitor General of Texas. He spoke at WCS13.



BOBBY JINDAL is serving his second term as the 55th Governor of Louisiana. Born in Baton Rouge to immigrants from India, Jindal graduated from Brown University in biology and public policy at the age of 20 with honors, later attending Oxford as a Rhodes Scholar. As Governor of Louisiana, Jindal has championed comprehensive ethics reform, education reform, and reducing burdensome regulation. Jindal has three young children with his wife, Supriya.



JIM DEMINT, formerly a U.S. congressman and senator from South Carolina, is now president of The Heritage Foundation, one of the nation’s largest and most influential public policy think tanks. A businessman prior to entering politics in 1998, DeMint is the author of several books including *Saving Freedom*, *The Great American Awakening*, and most recently, *Falling in Love with America Again*. He and his wife Debbie have four grown children.



MIKE LEE was elected to the U.S. Senate from Utah in a Tea Party upset. The son of former Reagan Solicitor General Rex E. Lee, Lee’s childhood was an education in constitutional jurisprudence. After graduating from BYU Law School, he served as general counsel to the governor of Utah and spent several years in private practice. Lee lives in Alpine, Utah, with his wife, Sharon, and their three children.

★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ **SUMMIT SPEAKERS** ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★



BETSY MCCAUGHEY served as Lieutenant Governor of New York from 1995-1998. As a constitutional scholar, author, columnist, and political commentator specializing in healthcare policy, she was a leading voice against Hillarycare in 1993 and has played a similar role in the critique of Obamacare since 2010. McCaughey has been a fellow at such prominent think tanks as the Manhattan Institute and Hudson Institute, and holds a Ph.D. from Columbia University.



RALPH REED is the founder and chairman of the Faith & Freedom Coalition, an organization devoted to mobilizing values voters. From 1989 to 1997 he was executive director of the Christian Coalition, which he helped found with Pat Robertson. Reed was also a senior advisor to the Bush-Cheney campaigns in both 2000 and 2004. His fifth books, *Awakening*, (Worthy) came out in March. He has four children with his wife, Jo Anne.



JENNY BETH MARTIN is the co-founder and national coordinator of the Tea Party Patriots, the nation's largest tea party organization with more than 3,400 locally affiliated groups nationwide. Martin was named one of Time magazine's 100 Most Influential Leaders in 2010. She lives in Georgia with her husband, Lee, and their twins. She spoke at WCS13.



BEN SHAPIRO is a political commentator, radio host, author, attorney, and editor-at-large at Breitbart News. Shapiro entered UCLA at 16, graduating summa cum laude, and completed Harvard Law School at 23. At age 17, he became the youngest nationally syndicated columnist in the U.S. In a noted CNN appearance last year, the young rhetorical sharpshooter bested Piers Morgan in a debate on gun control.



K.T. MCFARLAND is seen frequently on Fox News as an expert on foreign policy and national security. She is the host of DefCon 3 on FoxNews.com, the most widely viewed web show on national security. Starting from a typist's job in the White House Situation Room as a college freshman, McFarland went on to hold national security posts in the Nixon, Ford, and Reagan administrations. She holds degrees from George Washington University, Oxford, and MIT. She spoke at WCS12 and WCS13.



TIM SCOTT became South Carolina's junior senator in January 2013, taking a vacancy appointment after having served in the U.S. House since 2011. Raised by a single mother in who worked 16-hour days to support the family, he graduated from Charleston Southern University with a degree in politics in 1988. Scott was a small-business owner before entering politics to serve as a county councilman and then as a state legislator.



SARAH PALIN shot to prominence with her 2006 election as governor of Alaska after defeating the incumbent in a Republican primary. She had previously been mayor of Wasilla, then an anti-corruption reformer as chairman of the state oil and gas commission. When GOP presidential nominee John McCain chose her as his running mate in 2008, she electrified the nation with her free-swinging frontier style and was credited with adding percentage points to McCain's showing against Barack Obama. Since leaving the governorship in 2009, Palin has remained a political force and an active conservative voice, authoring three best-sellers.



DEFOREST "BUSTER" SOARIES is the senior pastor of First Baptist Church of Lincoln Gardens in Somerset, NJ. He was New Jersey's secretary of state under Gov. Christine Todd Whitman in 1999-2002. Soaries graduated from Fordham University, Princeton Seminary, and United Theological Seminary. He is a leading national voice for community-based solutions to poverty and violence. His book on the "dfree" strategy for personal financial responsibility is on sale at WCS14.



DENNIS PRAGER is an author, columnist, and host of the nationally syndicated Salem Radio show, *The Dennis Prager Show*. He graduated from Brooklyn College with a degree in Middle East Studies and went on to study at Columbia University's Russian School. Prager is a Media Fellow at Stanford University's Hoover Institution, and his weekly column is widely available in print and online. He spoke at WCS10 and WCS11.



ALLEN WEST is a former United States Representative from Florida's 22nd congressional district and a current Fox News contributor. During his 22-year army career, West rose to the rank of Lieutenant Colonel, was honored with numerous commendations and honors for valor, and served in Operations Desert Storm and Iraqi Freedom. An avid motorcyclist and master scuba diver, he resides in Palm Beach Gardens, Florida, with his wife and two daughters. He spoke at WCS13.



KATIE PAVLICH is the news editor at Townhall.com and a regular Fox News contributor, most notably as an alternate co-host on *The Five*. Her coverage of the "Fast and Furious" gun-running scandal earned the youthful reporter Blogger of the Year honors at CPAC in 2013. A New York Times bestselling author, she recently published *Assault and Flattery: The Truth About the Left and Their War on Women*.



ROBERT WOODSON is the founder and president of the Center for Neighborhood Enterprise, a group founded in 1981 to help address the problems faced by low-income neighborhoods. Woodson has been the recipient of numerous awards, including the John D. and Catherine T. MacArthur "Genius" Fellowship and the Lynde and Harry Bradley Foundation Prize, and is a regular television commentator on political talk shows such as *Meet the Press*.

★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ **GUEST SPEAKERS** ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★



WARREN SMITH is associate publisher of *World* magazine and the author or editor of nine books.



TAMMY BRUCE is a Washington Times columnist, Fox News contributor, radio host, and bestselling author.

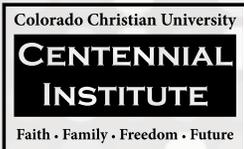


ASHLEY PRATTE, a 2011 St. Anselm graduate, manages communications and media outreach for the Young America's Foundation.



CHARLIE KIRK, only 20, leads Turning Point USA, a national conservative student movement active on 380 campuses. He spoke at WCS13.

A Special Report Prepared By The Washington Times



SOME STOOD TALL

Centennial Institute, Colorado Christian University's think tank, nominates this honor roll of generous, visionary companies and organizations. Each has stepped up as a sponsor of Western Conservative Summit 2014, "America at Its Best," July 18-20 in Denver.

At a time when it's fashionable to be pessimistic about America and its future, they decided on another way. They're not satisfied with the status quo. They believe America's best days lie ahead, and they've chosen to invest and participate in that. They've stood tall. We wanted to say thanks.



WesternConservativeSummit.com



American CurrentSee

DARE TO BE INDEPENDENT & FREE



The FREE digital magazine for those who dare to be independent and free.

Guided by spirited American thinkers like Dr. Ben Carson, Rev. A.R. Bernard, Thomas Sowell, Herman Cain and Mia Love, American CurrentSee is chocked full of robust dialogue on subjects from how to seize the debate to form a more perfect union, embracing a new agenda of economic opportunity and inspiring freedom from suffocating government. American CurrentSee is for those who dare to be independent and who cherish their freedoms.

Go to www.americancurrentsee.com and subscribe NOW!

Get the ACS App for Droids at the Google Play Store

Don't Let the Republican Establishment Pick another Loser in 2016



5 Reasons Dr. Ben Carson is our Best Choice for President...

1. Ben Carson is the **only candidate** who is sure to win!
2. Ben Carson is the **only candidate** who, like Ronald Reagan, can explain complicated issues in terms everyone can understand
3. Ben Carson is the **only candidate** who can heal and unite America
4. Ben Carson is the **only candidate** who is a citizen statesman
5. Ben Carson is the **only candidate** who will abide by the Constitution and support traditional values

Here's why those statements are true...

Reason #1: Sure to Win!

If a Republican candidate for President receives just 17% of the African American vote, Hillary Clinton loses every single swing state. In 2012 Presidential candidate Herman Cain polled more than 40% of the black vote. Dr. Ben Carson, a man who is revered in the black community, would do even better than Herman Cain!

Reason #2: Great Communicator II

No other prospective presidential candidate has the persuasive eloquence of Ben Carson. Like Ronald Reagan, Ben Carson explains complex issues in simple terms that the average voter can understand. And, like Reagan, Ben Carson will win in a landslide!

Reason #3: Will Heal America

Sadly, Barack Obama has divided us, not united us as a people. Ben Carson has been a healer his entire life. He will heal us and unite us as Americans.

Reason #4: Not a politician

Both Democrats and Republicans created the current mess we are in. We don't need another politician, we need a citizen statesman with commonsense.

Reason #5: A trustworthy Conservative

Ben Carson spoke directly to President Obama about the danger of Obamacare at the 2013 National Prayer Breakfast. Here is where he stands on the issues...

- ✓ **National Debt.** Cut government spending by 10% each year, until the budget is balanced!
- ✓ **Obamacare.** Repeal it and replace it!
- ✓ **Taxes.** Make them flat. Make it fair.
- ✓ **Abortion.** It's barbaric. End it!
- ✓ **Illegal Immigration.** Secure our borders. Now!
- ✓ **Redistribution of Income.** It's morally wrong.
- ✓ **Welfare.** Replace it. Enable those on welfare to share in the American dream.
- ✓ **Judges.** Appoint Constitutional judges.
- ✓ **Political Correctness.** It's dangerous. End it.
- ✓ **Democrats/Republicans.** Both are at fault!
- ✓ **Freedom of Religion.** It is the first freedom.

Will Ben Carson Run for President?

Yes. Dr. Carson said...*"If...there were a lot of people clamoring for me to do that...I would never turn my back on the American people."*

Dr. Carson will run if the American people "clamor" for him to run. So let's clamor! Please sign the petition provided below or go to www.RunBenRun.org today. Thank you.

John Philip Sousa IV, Chairman
(great grandson of John Philip Sousa)
National Draft Ben Carson for President Committee

Sign the Petition! Go to... www.RunBenRun.org today!

Petition to Dr. Benjamin Carson *Run, Ben Run!*

Dear Dr. Carson
You said that if the American people were still "clamoring" for you to run for President you would seriously consider doing so. Well, I'm clamoring for you to run for President of the United States. We need citizen statesmen to lead our nation, not just politicians who see public office as a career. As you have said, five physicians signed the Declaration of Independence and played instrumental roles in leading our nation, at great risk to themselves and their families. Today America needs a President who is committed to the US Constitution, who has solutions to our debt crisis, who will end Obamacare, and who will bring harmony to our nation. I believe you are the person.
Please
run for President! You can count on my support and prayers.
Signed _____

Urge Ben Carson to Run for President in 2016!

Or use this form to reply by mail to John Philip Sousa IV...

Dear John,
I am excited to be a part of this national effort to draft Dr. Ben Carson as the next President of the United States. I want a candidate who will win, who will heal and who will restore America to greatness. I'll sign the petition and I'll contribute today to elect Ben Carson President of the United States...

\$100 \$50 \$25 \$15 \$_____ Other

Please make your check payable to the National Draft Ben Carson for President Committee or simply NDBC and mail it to the address shown below. NDBC is a SuperPac and can accept gifts in any amount.

Name _____
Street _____ City _____ State _____ Zip _____
Email Address _____

National Draft Ben Carson for President Committee
P.O. Box 1376, Merrifield, VA 22116-1376 ★ www.RunBenRun.org

WT-04