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Is Chainsawing Your Neighbors' Lanai A Crime? Its what Puu O Hoku Ranch's Lavinia Reportedly Ordered Her Staff!



Home Owner Returns to find OBLIVION

report by George Peabody for The MAN

The lanai & deck of this rural home located deep in the hills of East Molokai Honouliuloo Valley was destroyed, chainsawed into pieces and dumped under the house leaving a deadly sheer drop off from the dining room area adjacent to the bedroom. The house was also entered and burglarized of shoes, flashlights, pens, camera, DVD. Two other small cottages on his property that were also vandalized between February 24/25 while he met a girl friend in Honolulu to bring her to his home on Molokai on Saturday Feb. 26.

"When we arrived home in the valley, I was shocked, sickened, to see the damage to my small artisan home. My guest and I feel terrorized. Who would do such a thing? I no longer feel safe in this peaceful place. For security I must never leave here? My land agent said he was told that Lavinia Currier of Puu O Hoku Ranch ordered her staff to do this," reported Mateo Madani, the owner of the 5 acre agriculture lot with gardens and flowing stream that is surrounded by 14,000 of acres of pasture lands owned by Ms. Currier, aka Puu O Hoku Ranch.

Madani's land manager George Peabody authored a 14 page Criminal Complaint for police consisting of photos of the home showing before the attack and resulting damages caused by the perpetrators criminal trespass invading, vandalizing, and the theft of Madani's private property. See MPD 11-009413

Officer Juario of MPD followed up with an inspection/investigation on March 2. He also was told by one of Lavinia Currier's Ranch employees that he and several other PuuOHoku staff were ordered by Lavinia to do what they did to Madani's property, and that Madani and Peabody must not be given prior notice of the attack, and must not be present so as to avoid confrontation. He also said Lavinia had a lady on the scene taking before and after action photos of the destruction of Mateo's property, but he did not say what her name is.

It is common knowledge that Ms. Currier's attorneys and agents have been meeting with Madani to purchase his property and to resolve some boundary locations that are in dispute. Madani says he has repeatedly refused to sell his property, he has only 5-acres, and just wants to live in peace, meditating with his yoga exercises and teaching, gardening for subsistence food, without the rancor and hostility that is being exhibited by Lavinia.

Madani recalls that the last meeting he had with Lavinia's agents was after her land survey was finished by the licensed surveyor for Puu O Hoku Ranch. At that time, he says the POH agent agreed that Madani was an independent landowner who was free to use his land without interference. While Madani did not agree with everything on Lavinia's land survey, her agent seemed to indicate that peace was now possible between the little landowner and Big Landowner.

Lavinia's modern day high tech survey of her thousands of acres abutting Madani's 5-acres and four old buildings, some of which have been there for decades, indicates Madani's old artisan home might be a few feet over Lavinia's property line in this remote rugged area. Older surveys are not so precise, but land surveying is still a work of art subject to conflict and disagreements, especially in Hawaii. Madani's surveyor might locate the boundaries slightly different, so the acts of destruction of Madani's home is unreasonable or criminal.



Prison Camps Molokai?



The National Park Service is holding public meetings over the next month to get input on internment camps in Hawaii during World War II to help it determine the best way to preserve these sites and share their history.

Preliminary studies have identified 13 sites in Hawaii where people were confined for varying lengths of time between the 1941 start of the war and the war's end in 1945.

Meetings are due to be held during March on all six islands where the camps were located: Kauai, Oahu, Maui, Molokai, Lanai and the Big Island.

Honouliuli Internment Camp on Oahu, which held 1,200 people between 1943 and 1945, was the largest camp in Hawaii.

The service plans to evaluate the significance of the sites and consider a range of preservation alternatives.

Molokai Meeting: March 17, Mitchell Pauole Center, 90 Ainoa St., Kaunakakai, 3-5 p.m., 6-8 p.m.

Stop the Foreign Military Aid

Ousted Egyptian dictator Hosni Mubarak's family may be worth an estimated \$70 billion dollars. How much of that came from U.S. taxpayers? Egypt, for years, has been the second largest recipient of U.S. aid. American taxpayers can no longer afford these massive giveaways. First is Israel getting the most \$\$.

Tell Congressional Republicans that we no longer want to line the pockets of foreign tyrants, terrorists and the Mullahs and terrorist Israeli 911-Jews.

ConservativeHQ.com will rush this petition signed by you to House Speaker John Boehner, Majority Leader Eric Cantor, Budget Committee Chairman Paul Ryan, and Appropriations Committee Chairman Hal Rogers so they know that you and other Americans want these payments to stop!

WHEREAS, Americans gave over \$44 billions of taxpayer dollars in 2009 alone, and over \$325 billions of dollars in the last 10 years, to foreign tyrants; and

WHEREAS, the United States government is over \$14,000,000,000,000 dollars in debt; and

WHEREAS, I support the calls to end all foreign aid because we can no longer afford to play Santa Claus to the world's socialist countries, and

WHEREAS, Americans like myself swept Republicans into office in 2010 to balance our budget by making serious cuts in spending as well as abolishing wasteful programs and agencies; THEREFORE

We the undersigned ask House Republicans to take decisive action and end all U.S. taxpayer subsidies of foreign regimes.

George Peabody editor for The MAN since 1984

Obama-net Trumps Internet as Congress Sleeps

Obama has the POWER TO PULL THE PLUG on the Internet here in the United States, just like Hosni Mubarak's administration did in Egypt during the uprising. The FCC's Net Neutrality Act, passed by a vote of 3-2 along party lines on December 21, 2010, gives "kill-switch" authorization to the federal government. February 21st was D-DAY! This is when YOU lost control of your Internet access! Simply because the United States Congress did NOTHING to regain control for the people, the taxpayers.

Don't be fooled by the claim that "Big Brother Obama" is here to protect you. Overseeing your Internet usage is NOT protection---it is a giant step of eliminating your freedoms guaranteed by the U.S. Constitution.

On December 21, 2010, just before Christmas, the Obama controlled Federal Communications Commission (FCC) voted 3-2 to begin implementation of its new federal rules OVER the Internet. Congress had 60 days to invalidate this horrendous act of sabotage of our freedoms.

Many freedom-loving citizens, such as yourself, faxed and communicated to the U.S. Congress about this travesty. Yet, the FCC and the Department of Homeland Security did NOT listen to the outcries of tax-payers. Sad to say, Congress did nothing, either. Like clockwork, the new federal government rules over the Internet went into effect on February 21st! Yes, the FCC has now taken over the Internet!

THE BOTTOM LINE: The White House, the Department of Homeland Security, and the Federal Communications Commission (FCC) have absolutely ZERO constitutional, judicial, or legislative authority over this issue!

Three federal judges have ALREADY ruled that the FCC does NOT have the right to interfere with free press rights on the Internet. The Internet is protected under the same First Amendment rights of the United States Constitution as other means of communication.

This is not just about your Internet access---this has severe political ramifications, as Mr. Obama can use these FCC rules and regulations to silence his critics.

Mr. Obama and his surrogates now have complete control of your Internet access. They now have the power to REGULATE your Internet access WITHOUT any Congressional oversight! The list is quite long of how Mr. Obama and his administration are making the United States into a "near-dictator state," as federal government oversight continues to "shoot for the moon." We cannot sit idle anymore. We must make sure that every Member of the United States Congress does not sit idle either. Since Congress did not "speak" on this matter since the December 21, 2010, FCC action, it was very easy for the FCC to IGNORE words that were never spoken!

We want action---and we want it NOW! I don't want my power to navigate the Internet to be impeded in any way by some government bureaucrat who is "monitoring" my Internet usage!

This Obama led federal concentration of power must cease right now!

Internet carriers are now governed by a new set of rules and regulations from Obama government bureaucrats! Yes, the FCC now possesses the "Internet oversight mantle." And it is at great expense to your Internet freedoms---no longer exists. We need a Congressional investigation, and we need it RIGHT NOW!

What happened in Egypt can happen here in the United States of America! The demonstrations on the streets of Cairo and other Egyptian cities were coordinated through the use of the Internet and social networks, such as Twitter and Face book. To help combat these peaceful demonstrations, President Hosni Mubarak's administration literally pulled what has been termed as the "Kill Switch," causing most Egyptians to not have Internet access. Now, the Obama Administration has the exact same power!

And you must force Members of Congress to ACT IMMEDIATELY!

The "democratic demonstrations" in the streets of Egypt were fueled by use of the Internet and social communication networks like Facebook and Twitter. At the height of the revolution, President Hosni Mubarak's administration pulled the "kill switch" and closed off Egypt's citizens from the information superhighway.

"Rebellion against tyrants is obedience to God." T.J. Guns Preserve YOUR Sovereignty !

The Moloka'i Advertiser-News




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Molokai's Forum For Freedom



Obama Bans American Made Rifles

In a move unprecedented in American history, the Barack H. Obama quietly banned the re-importation of nearly one million American made M1 Garand and Carbine rifles that remain in foreign countries.

The M1 Garand, developed in the late 1930's, carried the United States through World War II seeing action in every major battle.

General Patton at the time called the M1 Garand "the greatest battle implement ever devised."

The rifle is largely credited with giving American soldiers the advantage and securing victory for the allies.

During the Korean War, nearly one million of these rifles were brought to South Korea and left with the South Korean government afterward.

Now, South Korea wants to give American gun collectors the chance to get their hands on this unique piece of history.

A piece of American history that Barack Obama would like to see go down the memory hole.

After World War II, the United States government sent millions of these rifles overseas to our allies and friends. Over the past 50 years, many of the countries we lent them to returned them to America to be bought and sold by firearms collectors. This is nothing new.

Make no mistake; these rifles were made in America, by Americans, for Americans, to defend freedom on foreign shores. As a part of our history, they are greatly sought after by American shooters and collectors.

But according to Obama Secretary of State, Hillary Clinton, there is a danger they might "fall into the wrong hands." That they might, be used in a crime.

No mention of the hundreds of thousands of gun owners deprived of the opportunity to own an integral part of American history.

The State Department's outrageous claims are nothing more than a thinly veiled ploy to distract from the real issue:

Barack H. Obama's deep seated hatred for American gun rights.

While his gun-grabbing base is giddy with praise at this back-door gun ban, law-abiding citizens across the United States are crying foul.

Let me be clear: at no time in U.S. history has the ownership of this firearm -- or any part of this firearm -- been illegal, restricted or banned. Americans have collected World War II M1 Garand and Carbine rifles for decades through the Civilian Marksmanship Program.

There is absolutely no justification for this unconstitutional gun ban.

This is just the latest in a series of anti-gun schemes from Obama:

*** New BATFE regulations on semi-automatic rifles, requiring firearms dealers to act as an informant to anti-gun federal bureaucrats;

*** The Disarming American Citizens Act Obama revoke the Second Amendment rights of ANY American he chooses based on pure suspicion;

*** Notorious anti-gunners appointed to the U.S. Supreme Court and other senior administration positions;

That's why it is essential that Americans like you and I take a stand, now!

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

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!

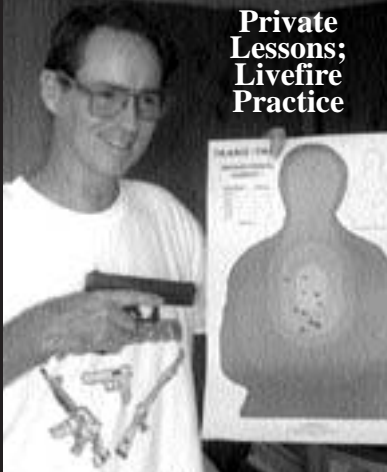
Judges are impeachable. Furthermore, judges may be removed immediately for violating oaths of office, involvement in conspiracies, extortion, and failing to uphold their duty to the common law. Judges can also be arrested, they are not exempt from this nor are any other officials, including the President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

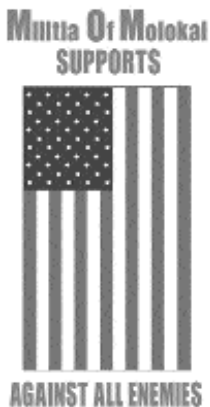
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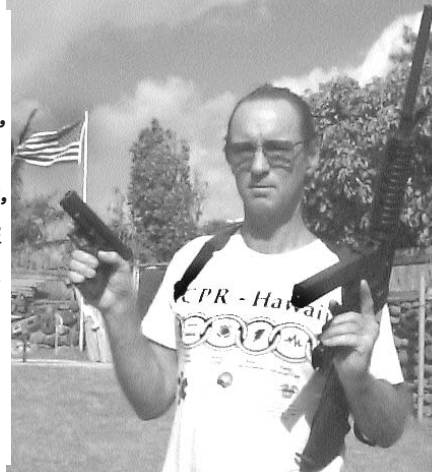
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Hawaii State Pension Deficit Act 100 is How Hanabusa and Cayetano launched Hawaii Pension crisis

As Governor Neil Abercrombie describes it, his administration's efforts to fill a \$700M or \$841M budget gap constitute "salvag(ing) what we could of the wreckage left from an administration with a fundamentally different view of the proper roles and responsibilities of government."

But that is false. When it comes to the biggest hole in the State Budget—**PENSION SHORTEFALLS**--the blame lies with **ACT 100**. Beginning in 1999, Act 100 allowed the Legislature during Cayetano's second term to skim off the top of the Hawaii State Employees Retirement System (ERS) by cutting back on the State's Annual Required Contributions (ARC) in years when investment income was high.

In 1999, 2000, 2001 and 2002 the ERS was raided for hundreds of millions of dollars. Act 100 irreparably damaged relations between the Cayetano administration and the government employee unions whose members elected him—a dynamic which now appears to be unfolding again under Abercrombie. In October, 1999, the UPW, HGEA, HSTA and Firefighters sued to challenge Act 100's two year pay freeze and collective bargaining ban.

Two years later, Act 100 pension provisions became the subject of another lawsuit. Accusing the State of "skimming" from their pension fund, retired and active police officers on April 23, 2002 filed a class action lawsuit demanding return of \$347Million taken from the ERS. The plaintiffs would be joined by the ERS board itself in November, 2002. The ERS board was represented by Honolulu Attorney James Duffy who would later become Governor Lingle's first Supreme Court nominee.

The class action filing drew a sharp response from State Senator Colleen Hanabusa who was perplexed by the lawsuit since state lawmakers, not the ERS or federal pension officials, set the level of funding for the retirement system.

Hanabusa said the retirement fund is not in financial danger, and there is no threat of reduced benefits for retirees and state workers as a result of the 1999 law. "We determine how much people will be paid, we determine whether people have collective bargaining rights, we determine the whole gamut," Hanabusa said. "If retirees haven't gotten their benefits because of an act of the Legislature, that would be something else ... but as far as I know, all retirement benefits have been paid. The bottom line is we can always sell assets or raise taxes to fund ERS if it ever became necessary, but I don't see that happening...."

Peter Gruenstein, an Alaska-based attorney who specializes in pension fund litigation, noted that the ERS's unfunded accrued liabilities (benefits owed but not funded) have grown to about \$991 million from \$543 million largely as a result of the 1999 law.

He said the law also has deprived the ERS of a sufficient level of funding that would allow employee pension contributions to be terminated or decreased.

"It would be naive to believe that state of Hawaii could, year after year, raid this fund and use the assets of the fund without ultimately jeopardizing its integrity."

It doesn't take an economics genius to figure that the ERS could weather economic hard times had politicians, prior to 1997, not balanced the state's budget by skimming \$1.3 billion from ERS investments.

ERS Administrator Wes Machida) ascribes most of the increase to an old rule that allowed legislators to seize any annual earnings over 8 percent and apply them to the state's Annual Required Contribution (ARC). In 2001, the worst year, the state used approximately \$150 million of these "excess" earnings to help balance the budget. Between 1999 and 2003, according to Machida, more than \$350 million in excess earnings were diverted from the pension system. "In 2004, with the assistance of (then) Governor Lingle, we introduced legislation to take that away," Machida says. But the damage has been done. "If that money had not been taken," he says, "the system today would be almost fully funded."

Hanabusa and Cayetano's investment in failure is shocking. The initial \$350M shortfall is now estimated at a minimum of \$7 billion dollars. How did the shortfall multiply? By selling assets, just as Hanabusa suggested in her <http://www.davislevin.com/articles/class_actions_article50.html>2002 comments to the Advertiser. Hawaii Business explains:...the effect is a vicious circle: When current income and contributions aren't enough to pay current benefits – a condition that began in 2006 and is projected to accelerate rapidly for the next five or six years – the only option is to sell off portfolio assets to cover the difference. In 2011, the ERS is projected to cannibalize nearly \$200 million in portfolio assets; by 2020, that figure could reach \$600 million a year. That's the opposite of a "pre-paid pension fund"... because of the arcane rules governing actuarial accounting, those figures don't fully incorporate the system's huge market losses in 2008 and 2009. Consequently, an additional \$1.5 billion will be added to the state's unfunded liability over the next two years. This means the state's legally required contribution to the pension system will increase to more than \$671 million a year by 2015....

...the actuary's report to the ERS board in December included some startling language. Under the heading, "What does this all mean?" the report states: "If the assumptions are met for all years beginning July 1, 2010, and the current contribution policies remain, the system is not expected to run out of money. But it is very close." Worse still is how long the actuary says it will take to fully fund the system, given the same set of assumptions: **NEVER.**

Hawaii SENATORS on VACATION ?

House of Representatives, firmly under the control of Republicans, will be asked to vote on raising the debt limit once again. Voting yes will allow Obama and the Congress to continue their profligate ways, burning through another \$3.15 trillion dollars in the next two years with nothing but misery, debt and imminent American bankruptcy to show for it.

But the Republicans who control the House have the power to say no. They have the absolute power to deny any more borrowing by the federal government. However, the GOP leadership is not inclined to use that power. Apparently, they have been persuaded by the Federal Reserve and the Washington powers that be that taking such action would be catastrophic, resulting in default on loans, canceled Social Security payments, government shut-downs and chaos.

Instead, they want to "reason" with Obama and the Senate Democrats to make "meaningful cuts" in the budget in exchange for a yes vote on raising the debt limit – trading away the only surefire vote they have to force much bigger cuts than Obama and the Democrats will ever agree to.

I'm not the only one who has been trying to persuade against this conciliatory strategy. Reps. Michele Bachmann, Ron Paul, Michael Burgess – even Democrat Anthony Weiner recognizes this might be America's last chance to keep us from going off the fiscal cliff.

Everyone in Washington talks about the need to start "living within our means" – even Barack Obama. But they don't mean it.

The U.S. and the whole World reels under economic turmoil caused by ObamaNation's corruption of the US Dollar as World Reserve Currency, We are in the middle of a fiscal crisis. Our economy is disintegrating. Middle East uprisings and saber rattling are driving the price of oil up beyond previous imagined worst-case scenario projections, we have an unemployment rate of officially 10% (but more like 17%), the stock market is down, Treasuries are down, the dollar is falling, and we're being strangled by taxes, absurd environmental regulations, and a government that is out of touch with reality.

The latest head-shaking breach of public trust and irresponsibility is our Senate. They're gone. They've packed it up and left the Hill for vacation.

I know ... they've had this "vacation" scheduled for some time now. But when your house is on fire and collapsing around you, vacation is NOT the first logical response to calamity.

You Can Protect Freedom: Question Authority!
"Where Rights secured by the Constitution are involved, there can be no rule making or legislation which would abrogate them." Miranda v Arizona, (1966)

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Cola to Cancer

B cola -- Coke, Pepsi, a generic brand simply named "Cola," it doesn't matter what it says on the can. They're all more or less the same, right? Fizzy, cola flavor...and that deep brown hue provided by "caramel coloring."

You know, it's funny -- I just happen to be eating a (rather tasty) homemade caramel as I write this. (Seriously, I didn't plan that!)

But the coloring used in that soda (and other foods) has just about zero in common with the sticky confection I just popped in my mouth. My treat resulted from the kitchen magic of heating sugar in a saucepan, while the stuff in cola is made through a high-pressure and -temperature reaction between sugar and ammonia and sulfites.

Yum, yum.

The reaction that results in "caramel" (quotes because, face it, that ain't caramel) coloring also forms 2-methylimidazole (2-MI) and 4-methylimidazole (4-MI). In government studies, these beauties caused several types of cancer (lung, liver, thyroid) in lab animals.

They've been deemed animal carcinogens, which usually means a compound is a cancer threat for humans, too. 4-MI also appears on California's list of "chemicals known to the state to cause cancer."

And there are significant levels of these carcinogenic compounds in at least five brands of cola, according to researchers at the University of California, Davis. The levels of 4-MI in these drinks may be causing thousands of cancers.

As the executive director of the Center for Science in the Public Interest put

it, these have no place in the food supply, especially considering they're only there for cosmetic reasons. So they've petitioned the FDA for a ban of colorings made through the ammonia process.

When consumer advocacy website The Consumerist reached out to Coke and Pepsi for comment on the petition, they were passed along to the ABA instead. Of course, all of this didn't sit too well with the American Beverage Association.

They argue that 4-MI is "not a threat to human health." Instead, they claim that the Center for Science in the Public Interest is out to get them -- that they're dedicated to attacking the food and beverage industry (just for fun, I guess?).

Plus, they say, 4-MI is in almost everything! So, why pick on Coke and Pepsi, huh? (Which isn't what's being done -- a ban on "caramel" coloring would affect a wide variety of products.)

And of course they wrap it all up by reminding us that safety is their number one concern! Thanks, ABA! I guess that's why high fructose corn syrup is in...oh, just about everything!

I'm not sure how this will pan out, but I highly doubt we'll be waving goodbye to that cola color anytime soon...in the meantime, I think I'll continue to stick with good ol' water (and my morning cup of coffee!).

Yours in good health,

Christine O'Brien

Federal Government-worker Unions: Obama-paid

Unions spent 400 million just to elect the ObaMessiah-- any surprise that he spoke out recently in their behalf? (Though he quickly weaseled yet again when there was CLEARLY much public resentment when inconvenient details came out about the salaries and bennies of too many "public servants" in Wi., etc.

Simple truths per the Federal BLS and Bureau of Economic Analysis

Federal bureaucrats make 20% more in base to do jobs with the same job titles (e.g., staff accountant, staff lawyer, bookkeeper) BUT THEY ALSO HAVE 400% OF THE BENEFITS--over 40k a year just for bennies versus less than 10k for the privately employed.

The average state and local government employee earns several grand more in base AND 50% more in benefits.

Many do not realize that there was a time when government jobs paid less in base pay, so they were given better benefits along with the famous job security to compensate.

But government unions (first even allowed only after JFK paid unions back for helping him corrupt the 1960 election) kept sweetening the deal all around for the government workers, such that base pay AND benefits became CONSIDERABLY better for the "public servants."

Suddenly, Middle America began to notice that despite ever-rising taxes, the governments were going broke.

Now the Pavlovian government workers imagine that they are aggrieved and are "demanding their rights" even though they are typically quite well off indeed.

Well, they do not have a right to bankrupt the taxpayers also.

A decade ago, when our national debt stood at a "mere" \$5.6 trillion, the federal government was already dramatically overpaying its employees to perform all sorts of non-core functions.

According to the U.S. Bureau of Economic Analysis, compensation for the average federal position in 2000 exceeded compensation for the average private sector job by \$30,415 -- a sizable gap that has since exploded to \$61,998. Now the average federal employee's compensation totals \$123,409 -- or more than twice the average private sector salary.

Federal workers have seen their total compensation soar by 36.9 percent since 2000 -- after adjusting for inflation. By comparison, private sector compensation has increased by only 8.8 percent.

Also, in spite of a recession that saw the loss of 8 million private sector jobs there are more federal employees working today -- 2.15 million -- than ever before.

In addition to generous salaries, health care coverage and inflation-protected pensions, public sector employees also receive more vacation time, holidays and sick days than their private sector counterparts.

Needless to say, federal workers have secured much of this largesse thanks to collective bargaining. The same can be said of public school teachers in Milwaukee, Wisconsin -- where the average compensation package was recently valued at \$100,005.

But public sector collective bargaining isn't your typical collective bargaining. In fact, it represents an unnatural perversion of a failed private sector experiment -- an unfair tactic that continues to be exploited to the detriment of taxpayers. In fact, only now that a line has been drawn in the sand in Wisconsin (one of dozens of states struggling to balance its budget due to the stranglehold of public sector unions) do we see the true cost to taxpayers coming into focus.

In the private sector, collective bargaining is ostensibly driven by market forces. Both workers and managers rely on profits, and so negotiations are (in theory, anyway) conducted with the goal of creating a larger pie for everyone to share. Obviously this hasn't been the objective of union bosses, which is why the free market has largely weeded their unions out of the economy.

Currently only 7.2 percent of America's private sector workforce is unionized -- down from a World War II-era peak of 33.9 percent. This trend is reversed in the public sector, however, where unions now comprise 36.8 percent of the workforce -- up from 9.8 percent in the 1940s.

Why this dichotomy? One reason is that collective bargaining in the public sector is a self-perpetuating process -- one that is rigged to continue funneling benefits to workers regardless of whether those benefits are deserved (or whether the

work being performed by these employees is even necessary).

For example, not only is government in charge of regulating its interaction with the private sector but unlike the private sector, it is funded by a compulsory revenue stream. And with no balanced budget requirement at the federal level, politicians act as if there is a limitless supply of tax dollars with which to continue feeding union demands. Meanwhile state governments continue to be bailed out by the federal government's borrowed billions -- dumping disproportionate percentages of this money into generous employee salaries and benefits while complaining when core services go unfunded.

Also the structure of collective bargaining in the public sector is fundamentally out-of-balance -- which invariably results in unions being represented on both sides of the negotiating table. Not only are union demands voiced by their immediate representatives, they are echoed by numerous bought and paid for politicians (who are supposed to be negotiating on behalf of the taxpayers). Even politicians who are not in the pocket of unions are subject to the political pressure this uniquely powerful special interest can apply.

Obviously the money extracted during this perverse "bargaining" process must come from somewhere -- a reality that even supporters of big government are beginning to acknowledge.

"Collective bargaining in the public sector serves to reduce benefits for citizens and to raise costs for taxpayers," writes David C. Crane, a Democrat who serves on the California Board of Regents.

That is the true war being fought in Wisconsin -- and make no mistake that its outcome will go a long way in determining whether government at all levels rids itself of this menace or becomes even more hopelessly enslaved to its demands.

MOLOKAI PLANNING COMMISSION Meeting March 9 at Pukoo

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN OF A SITE INSPECTION

Members: Steven Chaikin (Chair), John Sprinzel, Nathaniel Bacon, Lori Buchanan, Joseph Kalipi, Debra Kelly, Mikiala Pescaia, Don Williams

DATE: March 9, 2011 (Wednesday)

TIME: 10:00 a.m.

PLACE: Meet at the Nat and Anne Bacon site at 8665 Kamehameha V Highway, Pukoo, Island of Molokai

A. CALL TO ORDER

B. SITE INSPECTION

NAT and ANNE BACON submitting a Special Management Area Assessment for a 2-lot subdivision, installation of a septic system for existing dwelling and enhancement of an existing water source (Loiloa Spring) which includes installation of a 2.5 gallon per minute (GPM) solar powered water pump, a water storage tank, and water lines for property situated in the RU-0.5 Rural District at 8665 Kamehameha V Highway, TMK: 5-7-007: 028, Pukoo, Molokai.

• Oral, written, e-mailed, or faxed testimony will be received on any agenda item subject

Molokai Planning Commission Molokai Planning Commission

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

**Guns Preserve YOUR Sovereignty !
Enforce the Bill of Rights!**