

Letters to the Editor: 04.08.08

Same as Bush

Sen. John McCain has said we will stay in Iraq. If for no other reason, he should not be elected president.

He wants to compound the mistakes made by President Bush. Halliburton has gotten richer because of President Bush's war, and it looks like McCain is going to do the same. I was curious about McCain's net worth. To my surprise it's more than \$30 million. How did he come home a POW and end up worth \$30 million? He will have to answer this question.

Our White House should not be for sale, but it is. Bush has ruined our economy and McCain will continue to do the same. Do we really want eight years of the same old thing? Please think before you vote. Say "no" to business as usual. And by the way, liberal is not a four-letter word.

robert r. ford

Awesome burden

In his book, "The Creature from Jekyll Island: A Second Look at the Federal Reserve," noted author and commentator Ed Griffin describes the secretive manner in which the Fed was conceived and brought into being by law in 1913.

Now we are being encouraged to give the Federal Reserve even more power, something that President Bush knows will help obscure the roles of major American banks in the transfer of the Panama Canal to the Panamanian government under President Carter, meteoric increases in the national debt since 1913, and other ongoing financial travesties.

What would contemporary politicians and pundits have us believe? That efforts by respected opposition leaders such as Senator Robert LaFollette of Wisconsin and Congressman Charles Lindbergh of Minnesota, early critics of the notion that central banking could prevent the ills which it has actually precipitated, were misguided?

Don't count the currency in your pocket if you are trying to beat today's economic downturn. Those bills are not dollars, but Federal Reserve notes. Created out of nothing, they are worth nothing.

Of course, the saddest of facts is that we have no presidential candidates equal to the monumental task of dismantling this burden, along with our burgeoning weapons culture. Is this still "America, the beautiful?"

Brian Watson

Clean path

We are very lucky and fortunate to have such a beautiful view of the bay with our walking path on Shoreline Boulevard.

I love to walk this path and watch the boats, the people and look at the incredible sunrises and sunsets from Shoreline. I also love dogs. However, I would like to ask those individuals who take their dogs on walks down this path to consider cleaning up after their dogs so that we can keep this path clean for everyone.

Kathy Hendrex

(Mathis)

Can't compete

In response to "Texas home insurers are reaping record profits," the reason insurers are fleeing the coast is because they cannot compete against the inadequate rates offered by the Texas Windstorm Insurance Association.

If insurers cannot charge enough to cover the risk they insure, the industry is left overexposed and underfunded. Texas Windstorm Insurance Association is a prime example. Low rates have led the number of policyholders to increase from 68,756 in 2001 to 217,374 at the end of January 2008; and Texas Windstorm Insurance Association's total exposure to potential claims is currently \$64.9 billion. However, the windstorm association's member assessments and the Catastrophe Reserve Trust Fund can only cover about \$1.7 billion in losses, much less than potential losses from major hurricanes. Taxpayers will be on the hook for the balance.

Instead of continuing to overexpose themselves, insurers are getting out before they are unable to stay in the business.

Drew Thornley

(Policy Analyst, Center for Economic Freedom and Center for Natural Resources Texas Public Policy Foundation)

(Austin)

Just a memory

I remember when I met Hillary Clinton. We were having a beer at my favorite bar on Leopard Street. I was telling her what I thought of Bill.

Oh wait. Was that Hillary Duff or Hillary Clinton? Were we on Leopard Street or in Bosnia? It really makes no difference; it is just one of my memories.

If anyone wants to hear more about other interesting people I have met, I invite you to contribute to my beer fund. It is part of my quest to become the First Nobody of the United States.

Mary Sudell Arriaga



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