

A TRULY UNHEALTHY SITUATION by Jim Bice

Last Saturday, September 12th, was a unique day in American history. It was a day of "Tea Parties" in cities, large and small, all across the country. Nationally, millions of people turned out to express their displeasure at the way the country is being run. In Washington D.C. alone, there were as many as 1.5 million people, petitioning the government to listen to their voices of opposition to the direction the country is taking.

Rather than listen to these people, many of the elitists in government and the mainstream media (MSM) chose to vilify and denigrate those who would dare to express their right to free speech and oppose the arrogance of those elected to represent our interests. Tea Party attendees were represented as terrorists, mobs, Nazis, crazies, right wing fringe wackos, racists and un-American.

The reality is that these people came from all across the country, mostly on their own money, and included Republicans, Democrats, Constitutionalists, Libertarians, liberals and conservatives. The Tea Parties were mostly peaceful and well behaved, yet House Speaker Nancy Pelosi claimed they scared her and reminded her of the San Francisco riots of the 1970s.

There was very little actual coverage of the event by the MSM. Even locally, public service announcements were sent to the media for the Tea Party in Bandon, but only one, Koos News, publicized the event and only one, Koos News, attended. The story was similar all across the country. The media didn't consider it news-

worthy and the politicians either vilified or ignored the people who participated.

The message conveyed by the Tea Party protesters was consistent nation wide: Neither the Republican nor Democrat Parties represent the views of the people or work to solve issues important to them. Neither party seems willing to fight for our Constitution as it was written, causing many to feel disenfranchised and ignored.

Some of the specific issues addressed by speakers and supported by the protesters at the events include:

***Illegal Immigration.** Stop coddling illegal immigrants and secure our borders. Close the underground tunnels. Stop the drug trafficking and stop the gangs coming here and committing violence and mayhem. This isn't to be confused with legal immigration.

***The TARP Bill** (Troubled Asset Relief Program), the Wall Street handout bill, under President Bush, to address the subprime mortgage crisis, to purchase or insure up to \$700 billion of "troubled" assets. The majority of people opposed it but the politicians did it anyway. The remaining unfunded 95% should be repealed.

***Czars.** Stop the circumvention of our checks and balances immediately. Fire the 37 czars. No more czars. Government officials answer to the process, not to the president. Stop trampling on our Constitution and honor it.

***Cap And Trade.** The debate on global warming is not over. There is more to say. Why has there been no open debate with ALL the hard

scientific evidence presented and analyzed in a rational and non-agenda driven manner?

***Universal Health Care.** Why the rush into another expensive decision that is such a crisis that we must enact it now but it won't take effect until 2013? What are the actual provisions of the bill, how will it affect the average person and what will it really cost?

***Growing Government Control.** States Rights and sovereignty need to be fully restored. Less government, not more. Government has enough to take care of with its real obligations. Start there.

***Redistribution Of Wealth.** Most of us work for our money. It is ours. We have always worked for people with more money than we have because they gave us jobs. That is the only redistribution of wealth that we will support. No one ever got a job from a poor person. Why does government want us to hate our employers? What do they have against shareholders making a profit?

***Charitable Contributions.** Although no one ever got a job from a poor person, most of us have helped many in need. Charity belongs in our local communities, where we know our needs best and can use our local talent and local resources. We don't need government to take our money and spend it on groups such as ACORN or other political supporters, we want to do it ourselves.

***Corporate Bailouts.** Corporations should sink or swim like the rest of us. If there are hard times ahead we'll be better off just letting the strong survive. We will

pull together. Great things happen in America under great hardship. Give us the chance to innovate. We cannot disappoint government more than government has disappointed us.

***Transparency And Accountability.** How about giving the buzzwords a rest and have some straight honest talk. Stop manipulating and trying to appease us with clever wording. We are not the idiots you take us for. Stop sneaking around and meeting in back rooms making deals with your friends and political supporters. Stop hiding things from us.

***Unprecedented Quick Spending.** Listen to the people. Get some input from some non-politicians on the subject. Stop making everything an emergency. Stop enacting bills into law without even reading them.

We elected people to take care of the business of government so we could work, raise our families, pay our bills, engage in recreation, endure our hardships, pursue our goals, be responsible contributing members of society and teach our children to be the same - all while living in the home of the free and land of the brave.

We entrusted our elected officials with upholding the Consti-

tution. We believe in the checks and balances to keep from getting too far off course. But with one political party in charge and the will of the people being almost totally ignored, we have gone from representation to rule by an elitist monarchy that exempts themselves from the laws they enact but expect the rest of us to obey.

What is happening now is a mockery of the responsibility we have entrusted to government and the people are not laughing at the arrogance of the politicians who work for US! It is OUR country, WE are the boss, and we want our employees to start working for US for a change.

We want all of our elected representatives to stop focusing on their reelection and do the job we want done, not the job they want done or the job their party wants done. We are the former silent majority, all who quietly work, pay taxes, obey the law, vote, and raise our families. We are now closely looking at our public officials and the huge mess they have created.

The unbridled arrogance of the media and our elected officials has awakened the common people, the once silent majority, and we have had enough!

Financial Fitness Courses Offered By Umpqua Housing Center

With the foreclosure crisis, personal debt, of a recession making headlines, Umpqua Coastal Housing Center (UCHC) is urging people to strengthen their personal financial management skills by enrolling in one of their Financial Fitness courses.

Pre-registration is required.

Financial Fitness Class (ages 18 and over)

WHEN: October 10th, 2009 (8:00 AM – 5:00 PM)

WHERE: Airport Heights Resource Center (2630 11th Street, North Bend)

COST: \$30.00 (includes tri-merge credit report with credit scores)

Class Description: Without access to quality information and guidance, you can miss out on wealth building opportunities, or worse, fall into traps that eventually lead to financial ruin. This personal finance course teaches better money management skills that can help put you on the path to decreasing debt and increasing resources, including long-term homeownership. Financial literacy can also help you become more aware of common pitfalls, including consumer scams and predatory lending practices and how to avoid them.

This class is open to the general public with a class curriculum targeted for ages 18 and over. It is for anyone seeking knowledge of the fundamentals of basic financial planning and money management. Pre-registration is required.

For more information on all classes, programs, and services contact Valorie Rose, Umpqua Coastal Housing Center, vrose@umpquacdc.org or call 541-267-6505.

Young Adult - Financial Fitness Class (ages 14 to 21)

WHEN: October 3rd, 2009 (8:30 AM – 5:30 PM)

WHERE: North Bend Housing Authority (1700 Monroe, North Bend,)

COST: \$10.00 (includes all class materials)

Class Description: It is more important than ever for today's young adults to take responsibility for managing their own finances. This personal finance course teaches you money management skills that can put you on the path to building a good credit history, avoiding getting into debt, and an understanding of loans, savings and basic investing principals. Financial knowledge will also help you become more aware of common pitfalls, including consumer scams and how to avoid them.

This class is open to the general public with a class curriculum targeted for ages 14 to 21. It is for anyone seeking knowledge of the early fundamentals and steps of goal setting, financial planning and money manage-

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