

Opinion

Climate change puts all of us in danger

by Peter Dawson Buckland

For nearly two decades, the press has shorthanded us regarding climate change. Instead of inviting people to understand climate change's human costs and provide us with ways to act responsibly at the local and national level, they have given free advertising to cranks, polluters and economic Chicken Littles. This is a moral failure.

Reporters and the punditocracy have focused on two kinds of arguments. First, they perpetuate big polluters' crankery about scientific uncertainty and error, resulting in lies and misdirection that undermine public mistrust of science. Second, press attends to corporate kleptocrats who squeal, "The sky is falling" about climate change legislation, a collapsing economy, lost jobs, shriveled investment and the end of America.

Elected officials are all too prepared to accept anti-reality rhetoric from wealthy polluters and financiers who donate to their

campaigns. The iron triangle of carbon-intensive polluting industry, big finance and power-hungry politicians is set, meaningful legislative action is blocked, nature is degraded and millions of human lives are compromised.

In all fairness, as a blogger and co-host of WKPS's Sustainability Now Radio show, I have also spent too much time on denialist claims. It's hard not to pay attention to them. But you and I deserve better from all levels of media, independent and certainly corporate. Maybe this piece can push us a little further.

I want to state the obvious. Climate change is real, accelerating and terrifying. Simply put, the polluting "developed" fossil fuel driven global economy is a human-



I want to state the obvious. Climate change is real, accelerating and terrifying. Simply put, the polluting "developed" fossil fuel driven global economy is a human-made asteroid collision akin to the cataclysm that extinguished the dinosaurs.

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Less obvious, but perhaps more important, for the last few decades indigenous people in the Arctic faced more difficulties hunting and travelling across muddy melted permafrost induced by rising temperatures. People in low-lying island nations and flood plain areas have lost habitable land as sea

levels creep. Storm and drought intensity has increased, seriously damaging the well-being of tens of millions of people worldwide. These are agreed upon by highly credentialed physical scientists at the National Academy of Sciences, ambassadors for the Maldives and Bangladesh, and Inuit elders in the Yukon.

These realities will only get worse.

We in the "developed" world must have a duty and responsibility to limit harms to people most negatively affected by the climate change we have created. Any moral system worth the name demands that we act immediately to reduce negative climate impacts. The press must help on these matters.

At ClimateEthics.org, Don Brown has challenged the press by posting "Twenty questions that the US press should ask opponents of US climate change policies."

see **Climate**, Pg. 30

Ten practical solutions to problem drinking

by Perry Babb

Yes, we can turn the tide of irresponsible, dangerous drinking downtown and in the Centre Region.

Yes, the problem is bad and has gotten worse.

Yes, many thoughtful, noble, free and expensive remedies have been put forth, many tried and many with limited or no success.

And Yes, we have discussed and called meetings and studied, and measured, and analyzed and quantified, and discussed and public "forum-ed", and panel discussed, and charted, and published findings, and called in experts and renewed efforts and called meetings and published more.

But, we have learned what has not worked. Haven't we? We've exhausted some conventional wisdom. We've tried what others have tried. We are in reality. What we've done so far is not bringing the results we want. The list, level, intensity

and depth of our solutions have not worked.

We need to try some new and some modified solutions. Because we are certain there is no one single magic solution, then we need a varied, fairly comprehensive, multi-pronged approach.

Here is a compilation of solutions circulating. Easy now, you might not like all of them or you may think that one or more won't work, but we can do this.

"10 Solutions" could be part of a community blueprint to address our crisis of irresponsible drinking.

Why I've been working on this issue and compiling these solutions-

For 2.5 years, I have participated in several dozen meetings with four different organizations and efforts with some very smart, deeply concerned citizens, educators, elected officials and business owners.

For four years, our church has operated in Sozo, 256 E. Beaver Ave., in the heart of Beaver Canyon, riot central in the '90s. Sozo has become a popular alcohol free

performance venue hosting dozens of concerts and events. We know what happens in Beaver Canyon and the Highlands neighborhood behind Sozo most Saturday nights around 2 a.m.

In addition, Jacquie, my wife, and I are 30-year State College residents, have raised three kids through their teens and into their 20s here and have one more moving through State High and one is a PSU alumnus. We have been campus ministers for eight years, then local pastors for another 22 years. We have a company with 35 employees and corporate offices on Allen Street. Our undergraduate studies were in psychology and sociology. We both had alcoholic fathers. We know and love State College.

"10 Solutions" – We can do this!



Solution #1. Increase summary offense fines – Fines were set in 1972 and have not increased since. A \$300 max fine in '72 would feel like a \$1,500 fine in today's dollars.

Solution #2. Add a community service component as companion to an increase in summary offense fines – Make responsible individuals clean up after their own irresponsible decisions.

Solution #3. Reverse our approach of mild consequence for first offenses and gradually tougher consequences for subsequent offenses. It has not worked. Let's be tougher first and track our success or failure.

Solution #4. "Culture Change Campaign," Market our values – Why let others say who we are and what we value?

Solution #5. Disgusting language is not

see **Solutions**, pg. 30

Specter supports Democratic issues, fairness

by Arlen Specter

The common theme to my long years of public service is my effort to push government to treat ordinary citizens fairly. I attribute this in part to my background as a child of the Depression, raised by hard working immigrant parents in a small town in Kansas.

My story is no different from millions of other Americans. I helped my father peddle cantaloupes from the back of a pickup and spent a summer driving a tractor. Russell County in Kansas, where I grew up, is, like Centre County, mostly rural and agricultural. It taught me a respect for the land and for the farmer, a respect I carried into the Senate where, as a member of the Appropriations Committee, I have helped oversee millions of dollars in support for

agriculture to help Pennsylvania farmers. Each summer I look forward to Ag Progress Days and the chance to catch up on the latest advances in farming.

Last summer, I took on the dairy crisis and worked to provide relief. As a member of the Senate Appropriations Subcommittee on Agriculture, I fought to increase the emergency price supports for milk producers. The result: the United States Department of Agriculture is distributing more than \$290 million to Pennsylvania dairy farmers. Endorsing my Senate candidacy, Dennis Wolff, the Commonwealth's former Secretary of Agriculture, wrote in Lancaster Farming: "Arlen Specter has worked tirelessly on behalf of Pennsylvania's agricultural industry. He has served farmers for the past 30 years by first listening to our concerns and then taking swift solution-oriented actions."

A year ago, I delivered a critical vote in passage of the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act, which is helping to put hundreds of thousands of Americans back to work. In Centre County, stimulus dollars are helping to pave roads and fix bridges, fund clean water projects, and strengthen public education. The Recovery Act is also helping thousands of people most in need through extended unemployment benefits, food stamps and health care.

My vote for the Recovery Act cost me the support of the Republican Party. In fact, I was more popular among Democrats than Republicans long before the stimulus vote, and the reason is simple: I have always shared the core values of mainstream Democrats.

Take a woman's right to choose, the minimum wage, the right to organize a union, affordable health care, stem cell research, civil liberties, a clean environment, educational opportunity, a sound jobs policy, opposing Judge Bork and warrantless wiretapping—all defining issues for Democrats. I have been supporting them for years.

I led the fight for greater funding of the National Institutes of Health, children's health insurance, and stem cell research. As



former chairman and ranking member of the Labor, Health, and Human Services and Education Appropriations Subcommittee, I helped boost NIH funding from \$13 billion in 1996 to \$30 billion in 2009, and then secured an extra \$10 billion in the stimulus package. Another 5.5 million children in Pennsylvania are now covered under the State Children's Health Insurance Program (S-CHIP).

Since 1981 I have voted 20 times to increase the minimum wage and 22 times to uphold Davis-Bacon, which mandates prevailing wages for workers on federally-funded construction projects.

I stood with autoworkers in the government's bailout of Chrysler and General Motors and successfully challenged the predatory trading practices of China before the International Trade Commission in the case of tire and steel workers.

I voted against the Central America Free Trade Agreement (CAFTA) and the Singapore Trade Agreement because they left American workers vulnerable to unfair trading practices. For the same reason, I voted against admitting China to the World Trade Organization.

I favor strong labor unions with the muscle to rebuild after years of decline. That means an Employee Free Choice Act (EFCA) that makes it easier for unions to organize and negotiate initial contracts.

In these jobless times, I have consistently

see Specter, pg. 30

Environmentology

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Americans remain unaware of climate issues

by Laura Piraino

It is no surprise that climate scientist Dr. Michael Mann, part of a Nobel Prize winning department at Penn State, was cleared of any professional wrongdoing, even after checking through years and years of his e-mails for any inkling of deceptive wording about global warming. He is just one of the many messengers in the scientific community trying to tell us that the last decade is the warmest on record, and that severe weather patterns are already causing changes and suffering around the world.

Interestingly, for the most part, it is not the warming trend itself being debated in these "climate-gate" e-mail investigations, but rather which specific changes are included. But it presents enough of a distraction to disrupt progress on energy legislation, despite an international call for action. This is part of the same strategy the American fossil fuel industry has used for the last 20 years to address global warming, by derailing efforts to transition to a post-carbon economy.

Fossil fuel industries continue to finance think tanks to dispute global warming theories, despite investigative reporters repeatedly revealing these efforts. According to Mother Jones, in 2009 Exxon Mobile was still funding at least 40. It is the same strategy that the tobacco industry used to discredit smoking studies and stop anti-tobacco legislation. Even more absurd, the industries financed "grassroots activists" to disrupt public discourse about the new energy bill at town hall meetings (New York Times, August 2009) to create a "populist outcry" to cap and trade.

Funny, only a miniscule number of American voters know what cap and trade is, and only 24 percent polled knew that it was even associated with an environmental issue. 29 percent believed the bill has something to do with regulating Wall Street, 17 percent thought it applied to health care reform, and a plurality (30 percent) confessed they had absolutely no idea (Rasmussen Report, 2009). The conservative "outcry" was also ironic given that cap and trade is supported by the business community as the conservative, market-based

alternative to a carbon tax.

Last year's global economic downturn critically hampered the efforts of many major non-profit environmental advocacy groups to organize grassroots educational campaigns. In contrast, the largest pro-fossil fuel lobbying effort in Washington to date was assembled in 2009, comprising an army of 2,810 lobbyists, or five for every lawmaker in D.C. All the alternative energy, environmental and health lobbyists combined are outnumbered more than seven to one. (Mother Jones, Dec 2009).

But the problem goes beyond climate politics. With the near financial collapse of the newspaper industry nationwide, the ability of the American press to educate citizens and serve as watchdogs on these issues is severely compromised. In the last two years, 13 major newspapers disappeared, and at least three more declared bankruptcy (Common Language Project, Dec 2009). At the same time, the number of independent journalists has decreased to the lowest number in decades (The Nation, Feb. 2010).

This presents especially challenging circumstances for the environmental movement. With new technologies and unprecedented eco-business partnerships emerging, carbon reduction policies started in the 1990s need to be closely examined for lessons learned. A competent media is vitally important for communicating the eco-economic transformation and policy implications.

An especially troubling result of the decline of our watchdogs is that the culture of accountability, a foundation of our democracy, has eroded. Pundits, politicians and industry spokespersons can say almost anything, without consequences, other than to produce a chuckle on the Daily Show. That's why fossil fuel industries now call their energy sources "clean," without having proven that they are any different than before.



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Dozens of nations are already experiencing real suffering from drought, flooding and other changes in weather patterns due to global warming. According to Donald Brown, professor of Climate Ethics at Penn State, this requires a moral response, rather than simply an economic or political response to climate policy. Brown emphasizes that like the civil rights movement in America in the 1960s, the public can decide that "business as usual" is no longer socially acceptable as public policy. Is there an alternative to this business as usual?

The EU 27's overall domestic emissions last year were 9.3 percent below 1990 levels, (European Environment Agency, 2009) demonstrating a dramatical-

ly different policy response to the same global warming data Mann and others published years ago. The European strategy in Copenhagen was to try to lead by example, largely the reason the negotiations were held in one of their many poster-child cities with a booming green economy. Unfortunately, the press paid more attention to corporate conference logos rather than these successful policies.

Sadly, few Americans are aware of carbon reduction efforts in our own country. Individual states are quietly taking the lead while the politics of climate change continue to fester in D.C. They have already launched three regional cap and trade initiatives. Over 900 local governments have signed the Mayors Climate Protection Agreement. Cities such as Portland and Seattle have been meeting their carbon reduction targets, despite periods of population growth normally associated with increased emissions. According to a Pew Charitable Trust 2009 study, workforce development generated from the new clean energy economy has been outpacing all other job growth. Organizations such as

see Environment, pg. 30

Instructions:
Fill in the grid so every row, every column and every three-by-three box contains the digits 1 through 9. There is no math involved. You solve the puzzle with reason and logic.

Thanks to Peter Morris for contributing this puzzle.

The solution to this month's puzzle can be found on page 31 of this issue.

Sudoku

				9		6		5
7		5		2				
	4				3	1		7
	3	9	2				5	1
2				1				6
5	7				9	2	8	
8		6	9				7	
				7		8		2
1		7		4				

Vote for yourself—fill in your census form

by Carol Eicher and Elizabeth Goreham

By now you—and every other household in our country—should have received a big envelope that has “2010 CENSUS” written large. Filling out the form and returning it is more important to your own life than you might think. Your participation also has direct impact on your town, county and state.

The Constitution of the United States mandates that the number of people in America will be counted every ten years. This year will be the 23rd time that everyone in America is being counted. Why would our forefathers write that into the Constitution? Well, there are many reasons. Here are a few things everyone should know.

The Census Form is easy to fill out—just 10 simple questions that take about 10 minutes to answer. Questions include name, gender, age, race, ethnicity, relationship and whether you own or rent your home.

2. You are not asked about your citizenship. That’s not important to the Census. What’s important is that you are counted. Questionnaires are available in Spanish, Chinese (Simplified), Korean, Vietnamese and Russian. In addition, there are language guides in 59 languages available on request.

The Census also doesn’t care whether

you are living on a friend’s couch and not paying rent. This information is not shared with anyone, landlords, local government, State, Federal—for 72 years after the Census is taken, it is confidential!

Census tracks who Americans are, how many we are and where we live. The foundation of our American democracy is dependent on fair and equitable representation in Congress. Achieving an accurate assessment of the number and location of the people living within the nation’s borders determines how many representatives each state will have in Washington, D.C.

Census data is used to determine districts for State Representatives and Senators and the U.S. Congress. In the last two Census counts, Pennsylvania lost two Congressional seats—two in 1990 and two in 2000, four all together—and we are on track to lose again. That means Pennsylvanians are losing their voice among the lawmakers of our country because we are not being counted.

Census data is used to allocate more than \$400 billion in state and federal funds distributed to agencies for programs such as



Filling out the census form is voting for yourself, your community, your state and your country. Census 2010 provides a snapshot of America on April 1, 2010. Funds are distributed based on that snapshot and where they are counted, including students.

the following:

The Medicaid program is the largest of federal formula grants to state and local governments, amounting to 44.7 percent of the estimated fiscal year 2001 total.

Agriculture: including Child, Adult Care Food Program and the National School Lunch Program

Rehabilitation Services: Those individuals who are unable to pay for rehab services whether they are uninsured or underinsured may not receive the services they need.

Title I Grants to Local Educational Agencies. If a 9-year-old child was not counted in the last census and is missed in this one, that means all the years that child has attended public school, the school system has not received funds for that child’s education.

Low Income Home Energy Assistant Program: In today’s economic environment, many people need assistance in keeping warm and having electricity.

Social services and special programs for the aging: Centre County United Way members include 40 local social services agencies that would not be in existence without funding and fundraising efforts.

Housing and urban development grants: Our local Affordable Housing Coalition funding is affected by Census counts.

Unemployment Insurance Program: Centre County may have a lower number than other counties, but that doesn’t make it easier for the individual family who has no income due to loss of employment.

Public transportation: Think of services provided by CATA.

Funding for repair of roads and high-

ways: Our local population creates wear and tear on our roads and highways whether they live in Centre County year round or just during the school year.

You save the government money by filling out and sending in your form—otherwise someone will have to be hired to knock on your door. For every 1 percent of population not returning forms, it costs the federal government \$85 million to send door-to-door counters.

Are you and your family into tracking family origins? Census data is critical to finding your ancestors.

Filling out the census form is voting for yourself, your community, your State and your country.

Census 2010 provides a snapshot of America on April 1, 2010. Funds are distributed based on that snapshot and where they are counted, including students.

The Census Bureau also has a nifty Web site that will allow us to track the participation level of our community, including an online interactive daily rate map, easy-to-imbed local rate widgets. The interactive map is at 2010.census.gov/2010census/take10map. Just enter your ZIP code or city and state in the search field and click the “find” button.

The Census Office is hiring part time/temporary employees to assist with the count. The next two weeks are critical recruiting times. Census counters receive good pay, flexible hours and work close to home. Training is provided. All Census workers are credentialed. The toll-free job line is 1-866-861-2010. Local number: 814-689-4353. Web site: www.2010censusjobs.gov.

Carol Eicher is co-chair and co-founder of the Community Diversity Group created to foster an inclusive and interactive community.

Elizabeth Goreham is the mayor of State College and former borough council president. She lives in State College with her husband Jack Matson.



Whitey Blue says cut postal costs by cutting all home mail delivery

by David M. Silverman

I was talking the other day to Whitey Blue, longtime Centre Region resident and hard-nose.

There’s been some news about cutting mail delivery out on Saturday to cut costs; any thoughts about that?

“I sure do! I think they should cut out all home delivery.”

How would people get or send their mail?

“Let ‘em get off their butts and walk or drive down to the post office to send or receive mail!”

How about those folks who are too old or too physically unfit to walk or even drive

that far?

“They could pay someone to handle it for them.”

There are probably many who couldn’t afford to pay for such service!

“They could use e-mail or one of the other computer-oriented services.”

Those services have costs, too. And maybe some of these folks are too old to learn how to become computer users.

“If they are that much out of it, who would want to communicate with them?”

Family and friends. And, of course, bill collectors.

“Then their families should put them into old-age homes.”

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All of these questions address issues of justice.

For example, some people accept climate change's reality but look at narrow American economic self-interest as their guide, arguing that climate change policies will hurt the U.S. economy. However, we

from Solutions, pg. 26

'free speech' – Speak up when someone curses in front of your kids or spouse or grandma. Exercise true free speech and call disgusting, disgusting.

Solution #6. Develop and adopt with fanfare a "community covenant," a standard of community values. Draw a line in the sand.

Solution #7. Require a one credit course for all new Penn State students, educating them on what it means to be a Penn Stater, including showing the latest data on dangerous drinking and the legal, academic and social consequences of irresponsible behavior.

know that current greenhouse gas emissions from the United States threaten people's wellbeing. Do our leaders deny that the United States has duties, responsibilities and obligations to cease or reduce harmful emissions levels?

What about the economic interest of people who have been and continue to be harmed by our emissions?

What about historical responsibility? If

Solution #8. Form a Downtown Arts Consortium to promote and further develop State College as an art and entertainment destination.

Solution #9. Provide/promote accessible public restrooms during evening and late nights.

Solution #10. Night time trash pick up on the busiest Friday and Saturdays.

A more detailed version of these solutions can be found at www.DoingOurPart.net or e-mail info@KeyChurch.net.

B. Perry Babb is the founding pastor of Keystone Church and Ministries in State College.

we in the U.S. have been responsible for global climate change emissions, then do we have more duties to reduce our emissions to compensate for our disproportionate historical contribution to the problem?

In short, if I learn that I have poisoned my watershed with excessive amounts of cow manure that has compromised the watershed's and its denizens' health (human and non-human), am I responsible for curbing it as soon as possible and remunerating those who I have harmed? Common sense, the Old Testament, Confucianism, and most all secular ethics say, "Yes. You have duties and responsibilities to change your actions and compensate the people and the environment you have harmed. The polluter should pay."

This is the tip of the proverbial and shrinking iceberg. We need the press to interrogate powerful people who refuse to act responsibly on climate change. The

Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change has stated that we can claim with a very high level of certainty that human activities have induced climate change and that industrialized nations—especially the United States—are responsible for its effects. Climate deniers and apologists should no longer be able to pass the buck on our moral duties.

In his state of the union address, President Obama said, "America must always stand on the side of freedom and human dignity." Whose freedom and whose dignity? We need the press to ask tough questions, demand answers, start digging where polluters resist and move them to embrace comprehensive climate change legislation.

Peter Dawson Buckland is a Ph.D. candidate in Penn State's Educational Theory and Policy programs.

from Environment, pg. 28

new chapters locally and around the nation to lobby for energy legislation, form cooperatives for reducing their congregational carbon footprint and integrate sustainability into their Sunday school curriculums.

Climate scientists are one of the few funded, independent voices left in climate politics, but act as messengers, not advocacy or public relations professionals. Instead, we need to recruit a new "Green Lobby" comprised of the interfaith community and successful "green" businesses—manufac-

turers, engineers, architects, planners, electricians, contractors and financiers—to bring their voices, their morality and their solutions, into the discussion.

When the media goes through the e-mails of this new Green Lobby, the public might finally get the information they need to support better environmental policies. Perhaps they will discover we already have the divine inspiration, and the carbon reduction strategies we need, to stop global warming

Laura Piraino is a freelance writer who lives in State College.

from Specter, pg. 27

voted to extend unemployment insurance and urged the Pennsylvania State Senate to use the economic stimulus funds to extend coverage, a step it has taken.

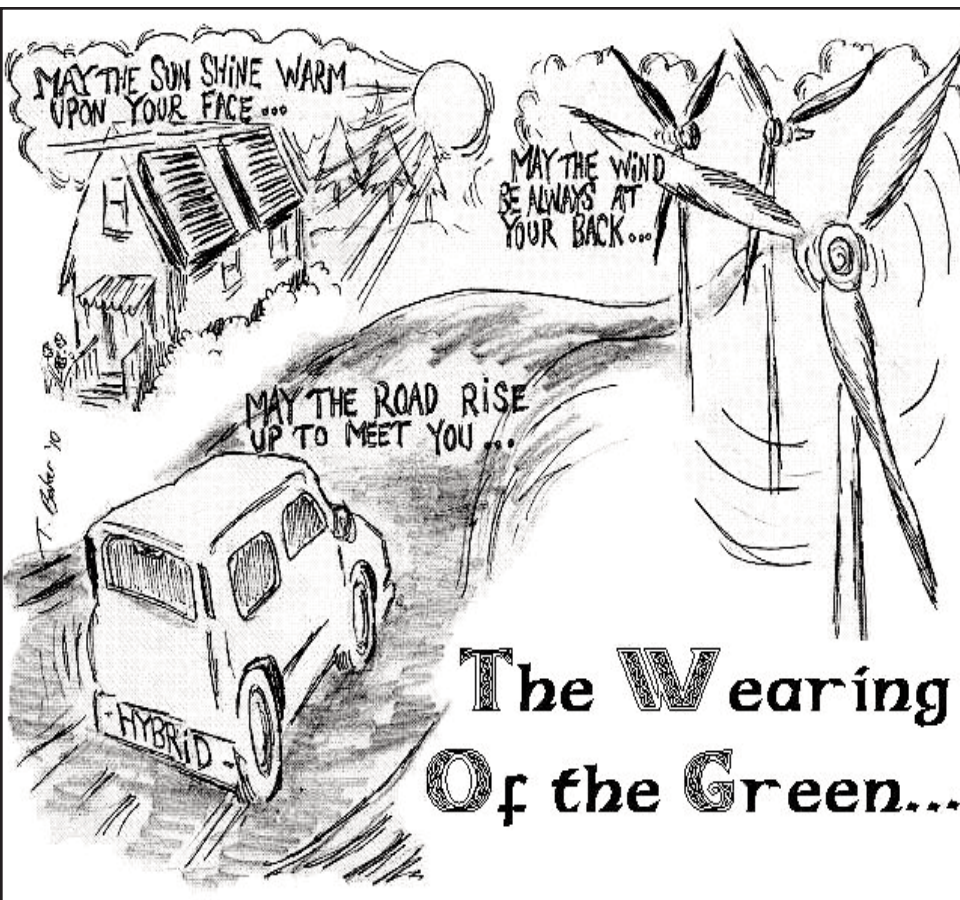
I'm running again because my job is not done. Take the American farmer and working man. They must compete today in a global economy that preaches free trade, but doesn't always practice fair trade. Countries like China, which bend the rules at the expense of American labor, must be challenged. Free trade must mean fair trade, or America must reserve the right to say no and confront a system that is destroying the jobs and livelihood of thousands of workers.

America needs immigration reform, an end to Wall Street's shenanigans, clean

energy, stronger schools, a long-term solution for Social Security, better protections for civil liberties, and an end to the corrupting influence of corporate money in elections.

After 30 years in the Senate, it may surprise some to hear that I still look forward to the challenge. Be assured that I do. Like the great Vince Lombardi, I believe that hard work is the price of success. He added that people can accomplish anything if they're willing to pay the price. It has been a great privilege to be your Senator all these years. I ask you to support me as I seek reelection.

U.S. Senator Arlen Specter (D-Pa.) is a member of the Senate Committee on the Judiciary and the Senate Appropriations Committee.



ASK Cosmo



Campus and Culture from the Canine Perspective

Dear Cosmo,
Are there such things as dog terrorists?
Signed, Red Alert

Dear Dim Bulb
First off, with all the snow we had on the ground last month, the most that was possible was a yellow alert...but with the thaw, it appears we've gone green. So going from red to yellow to green, that's like a stop-light, and on the great Clue Highway, you're on the wrong path.

Yes, there are such things as dog terrorists. The ASPCA (American Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals) is designed to protect dogs from the people who terrorize them. And I think Sara McLaughlin is one of the greatest terrorists of all when it comes to turning images of tortured dogs into household objects. I know OUR household objects. Every time I hear her song "In the Arms of the Angel," I have to turn my eyes away from the TV, because I know it's only a matter of seconds before she's going to show some grizzly example of incredible sadism towards dogs—poked out eyes, burned off ears and even the occasional doggie sweater. It's like a soft-core snuff film designed to evoke sympathy and generate donations.

They've got another version of the commercial with Willie Nelson singing "You Are Always On My Mind," which is a whole lot gentler. For one thing, the song is about fond contemplation, not about needing divine protection. The dogs look hungry, flea-ridden and bedraggled, but not like they just got spat out of a Michael Vick training camp drill.

If Middle-Eastern things give you the willies, and strike fear into your sheltered midwestern heart, you might "mullah" it over that some dogs have terrorist-SOUNDING names. There's the Afghan hound, The komondor, the kuvasz, the Ibizan hound, the shiba inu, the pharaoh hound and the Rhodesian ridgeback. Then there are the somewhat menacing-sounding harriers and whippets, and that master of disguises, the elusive bearded collie. Then there are the not-so-frightening-sounding

Nova Scotia duck tolling retrievers and the dreaded cockapoos, puggles and labradoodles.

Some of the hybrid terriers can be pretty ferocious—the Jack Russell—I think a combination of the Jack Black and the Russell Crowe. But one of the worst customers is a cross between the Alaskan malamute and the American foxhound. It's the Alaskan non-mute Fox News hound (canus Palin anus). It's one of the most vicious Fox terriers ever spawned.

We commie pinko hounds have sniffed out new ingredients for a Red Alert – not just red lipstick on a pig, not just a red state rampage, now that rogue puppy has gone rouge. For someone who complains, "If people would just quit makin' stuff up!" she's sure spending a lot of time in makeup. Perhaps she could "red up" her resume with a few makeup lessons in journalism on fairness or balance...or maybe a little makeup sex with Geraldo Rivera. He could show her a little Kama Sutra maneuver called the Capone Vault, and she could give him a little Moosehead.

Dear Cosmo,
What's your take on Cinco de State? A lot of people are getting pretty bent about it all. What's the big deal if students want to create a party weekend that's not during finals week? People should just lighten up and let us enjoy our educational experience.

Signed, Cinco de Coolest!

Dear Drinko de Kool-Aid,
Yeah, we really need another lemming-fest in downtown State College. The cops, merchants, locals and university administration appreciate it so much. But that's no reason to pay attention to your surroundings, not with an ad campaign that's such a home run. First of all, the invitation inspired: "Get your sombreros, mustaches,

ponchos and margaritas ready," Stereotype much? And "Should be a good day no matter where you drink." Can it still be a good day if you don't?

The Facebook site said the event was cancelled. I guess we'll just have to wait and see—or wait for the next made up drinking holiday. Might I suggest Washington's Birthday, Birthington's Washday, Arbor Day, Pearl Harbor Day, New Year's Eve, Rush Week, Homecoming and the Blue and White Game?

The prototype logo for Cinco de State flyers and T-shirts shouldn't pose a problem at all. It's a modified Pride of Lions athletics mark, sporting a sombrero and moustache, with the tagline "Cinco de State April 17." They're probably just making mild hints about suggested guidelines at the University Relations Web page called Visual & Editorial Standards/Graphic Identity System. They're probably just blowing smoke with "The Pride of Lions design includes the stylized head of a mountain lion and typographic treatment of the words "Penn State Nittany Lions." There are four basic variations of the design and five separate arrangements of the typography. No other versions of the design or arrangements of the typography are acceptable." What, no sombreros?

But it seems like they're happy to share: "Pride of Lion designs are trademarked by The Pennsylvania State University and their uses are strictly controlled by the University. Artwork for these designs is available from the Department of University Licensing," You might not care about the municipal mounties, but I don't think you want to mess with the Penn State Sign Police when it comes to copyrighted stuff. I once heard it on Napster.

A Penn State spokeswoman quoted on the Onward State Web site said, "I don't understand how these students' memories regarding the real dangers of alcohol abuse can be so short, or why they continue to put their own lives and in some cases the lives of others at risk."

Hmmm, faulty short-term memory, questionable judgment, lowered inhibitions, sense of invincibility, failure to foresee neg-

ative consequences, boisterousness and self-centered pleasure seeking – I'm not sure what could be the possible causes of that! Maybe it's because most are under 22 years old, fueled by stupid juice and haven't outgrown their indestructible teen mindset yet? I think the naysayers would find it easier to understand if they realized that most students aren't stupid—many just don't care, because they don't think it's that important inside their little cocoons.

The university has to come down on these things, because it might otherwise be seen as liable through tacit approval. That acceptance is reserved for events held at Beaver Stadium where a relevant amount of revenue from alums is brought into town. Cracking down on public drunkenness by visiting adults would be bad business and might set the wrong example. We wouldn't want to confuse the students who have difficulty seeing the dangers of alcohol abuse. That might send the wrong message.

There's a big difference between intelligence and wisdom. And you can't legislate them any more than you can legislate empathy or maturity. But maybe a few healthy snorts of wisdom might lighten up students' educational experience by a few thousand megawatts. The spokeswoman's got a good, valid point, but I'm a dog, and I can lick my own nads. Who are you gonna believe? You're not gonna do as I say, but you WISH you could do as I do. You just need better role models. If common sense were all that common, more people would have it.

3	1	2	7	9	8	6	4	5
7	6	5	1	2	4	9	3	8
9	4	8	6	5	3	1	2	7
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8	2	6	9	3	1	5	7	4
4	9	3	5	7	6	8	1	2
1	5	7	8	4	2	3	6	9



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