

The New York City Republican News, Analysis and Lifestyle Magazine

## Inside...

P. 4, 2008  
Congressional  
Analysis

P. 5, Pakistan's  
Problems

P. 6, NYC Transit

P. 7, Blackstone and  
Tax Legislation

P. 8-9, International  
Commentary from the  
UK and Germany

P. 10-11, Calendar &  
Book Review

P. 12, Social @ DIP

P. 13, Faith and the  
Primaries

# ***Roy Blunt, P.2***

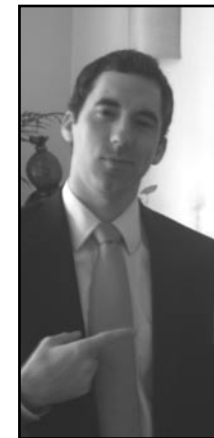


The 2nd highest-ranking Republican in the U.S. House talks about Majority Speaker Nancy Pelosi and her dangerously misguided philosophy known as the *Pelosi Doctrine*.

# The RECORD

# Around the City...

## Commentary from the Editor



It's here! The new Record! In one year's time the NYYRC's Publication Committee has turned a four-page newsletter into a 16 page magazine recognized by top Republicans in the United States. Many thanks are in order but mostly to the tremendous effort and support of the patriotic writers and financial supporters that have made this possible. We have a lot further to go and with your help we'll keep climbing.

In our expanded platform we'll be able to keep bringing you prominent guest contributors like this month's U.S. House Republican Whip, Roy Blunt, who reminds us that there is another battle directly under one of the most exciting Presidential Primary seasons in United States history. This battle is for another third of the government, the legislative branch. Nancy Pelosi's failed leadership in the House (along with Sen. Harry Reid's failed leadership in the Senate) has produced one of the most historically low Congressional approval ratings (25%) leaving the Republicans looking to make progress in the second term of this legislative session.

In addition to Congressman Blunt's evaluation of the Pelosi Doctrine, Rick Brownell provides an outlook and framework for how to win the 2008

Congressional elections.

No, we're not ignoring the primaries but since every hour of the day is saturated with coverage and Super Tuesday falls between publishing dates we are going to provide a full recap in next month's issue of "Everything Primary". Now that Mitt Romney has won Michigan, the field for a Republican nominee is still as wide open as it was a day before Iowa. But for the record Mitt Romney leads all candidates with 41 delegates followed by Mike Huckabee (21), John McCain (19), Fred Thompson (6), Ron Paul (2), and Rudy Giuliani (1). Ultimately, these numbers mean very little at this point given the vastly diverse national strategies by each campaign. And we're all still waiting to see if Mayor Bloomberg will actually run or not. Gerald Rafshoon, a former spokesman for President Jimmy Carter, and Doug Bailey, a longtime Republican consultant have recently filed with the Federal Election Commission and the I.R.S. to start a 50 state petition drive for the Mayor. There are other smaller "Draft Bloomberg" groups but this is by far the most legitimate.

Internationally, Pakistan's selections have been pushed back due to the instability caused by Benazir Bhutto's death. Anthony Genovese covers the situation for us. And Nitesh Palana and Mischa Hecker bring us social issues from the United Kingdom and Germany. In its increasing big brother habits, the UK is dealing with the issue of national ID cards and in Germany the fight over minimum wages has just begun.

Given our current locale, Molly

Casey will be providing New York City news every month. She offers an insider's edge and knows the ins and outs of NYC and Albany politics extremely well. Aside from politics, New York City has so much to offer culturally, politically, and in matters of wellness and recreation. These are all things we'll be bringing you starting next month. Also this month Matt Bucklin writes a great article on the issue of Blackstone, hedge funds and the tax code. He also provides some interesting party contribution facts.

Lastly, how could we talk about Republican elections and not talk about religion. Aaron Gulbransen gives us a brief synopsis of the role that faith plays in every candidates campaign.

As always, we are on the search for passionate Republicans who want to get involved with The Record. We have many opportunities for people looking to write or get involved with the management and administrative side of a publication. We also welcome all letters and comments in response to any of our articles and will print your opinions. So if you are looking to see the behind the scenes or if you want to write an article about anything political, economic, or about one of your hobbies from cooking, bocce ball to current fashion just shoot an email to [publications@nyyrc.com](mailto:publications@nyyrc.com).

Have a great month and make sure to check out the website, [www.nyyrc.com](http://www.nyyrc.com), the monthly meetings, socials and other events around the city.

- Kellen Giuda

### NYYRC Executive Board

*President:*  
Lynn Krogh  
[president@nyyrc.com](mailto:president@nyyrc.com)

*Vice President:*  
Kendal Elliott  
[vp@nyyrc.com](mailto:vp@nyyrc.com)

*Treasurer:*  
Nick J. Vertucci  
[treasurer@nyyrc.com](mailto:treasurer@nyyrc.com)

*Secretary:*  
Open  
[secretary@nyyrc.com](mailto:secretary@nyyrc.com)

### NYYRC Committee Chairs:

*Alumni:*  
Jason Weingartner

*Campaign:*  
Anthony Genovese

*College Chapter Liaison:*  
Suzanne Mizeski

*Community Outreach:*  
Sean White

*Dinner:*  
Kristin Coffey  
Sharlene A. Santercole

*Events:*  
Gail Allen  
Sandra Innocenzi

*Membership:*  
Craig Schwartz

*Public Relations:*  
Jennifer Saunders

*Publications:*  
Kellen E. Giuda

*General Counsel:*  
Eric Heindel

### NYYRC Board of Advisors:

*Chairwoman:*  
Sharlene A. Santercole

*Members:*  
Richard Brownell  
Salvatore J. Calise  
Hon. E. Virgil Conway  
Hon. Richard Greco  
Leo Kayser, III  
Phil Kent  
Sonny Lee, PhD  
Hon. James A. Ortenzio  
Hon. Jerold Ruderman  
Anton Srdanovic  
Elizabeth Tretter, Esq.  
Hon. Dennis Vacco  
Hon. Rudy Washington  
Jason Weingartner, Esq.  
Paul Windels, III  
Ed Cox, Esq.  
Grover Norquist  
Jennifer Saul Yaffa

# The Pelosi Doctrine

By United States House of Representatives Republican Whip, Congressman Roy Blunt (R-Missouri)

It was our nation's fifth president, James Monroe, who put forth perhaps the most serious and important statement of U.S. foreign policy of his or anyone else's generation. Intended as declaration of peace, the "Monroe Doctrine" nonetheless eliminated any doubt as to who the preeminent power in the western hemisphere would be. And in so doing, it forever became synonymous with the notion of acquiring peace through strength - and of speaking to the world in clear terms when it comes to matters of national security.

For readers who have followed with interest and admiration the work of Peter King (R-NY) on the House Homeland Security Committee, the idea that a different kind of doctrine - one diametrically opposed to Monroe's and in open rejection of Rep. King's efforts - could hold sway on Capitol Hill may come as a surprise. But what we've seen so far is that this Congress supports the notion that a new set of foreign policy principles have gained the ascendancy - principles adopted by many Democrats in the House, and starting to be known collectively as the "Pelosi Doctrine."

The Doctrine may be new to the halls of the 110th Congress, but its central tenets are as old as the institution itself: "peace" through isolation, "security" through concession, and "diplomacy" for the sake of appearance - not done in a way that furthers our nation's vital interests.

Examples of the Pelosi Doctrine in practice aren't difficult to find - but some of them aren't all that easy to believe. Take the speaker's insistence earlier this year to condemn the modern nation of Turkey - not for what it's government may have done this year, this decade, this generation, or very nearly, this century. Rather,

**A whip is a member of a political party in a legislature whose task is to ensure that members of the party attend and vote as the party leadership desires.**

**...as Whip, Congressman Blunt is the second highest Republican in the House of Representatives. He selects and leads a team of Deputy and Assistant Whips, which columnist Robert Novak has described as "the most efficient party whip operation in congressional history."**

condemn it for what the Ottoman Empire did more than 90 years ago to ethnic Armenians - even if doing so would alienate an important American ally in Iraq.

Determined to use the speaker's gavel to castigate our friends in Turkey - and risk surrendering a key strategic supply point for our troops in theatre - it took the authors of the resolution itself to wrest her away from that position. The chairman



House Speaker Nancy Pelosi (D-California) promised much but has delivered little while running a Congress with one of the lowest approval ratings in history.

of the Defense Appropriations Committee called the resolution a fatal mistake. Other Democrats who took the time to talk to our commanders in the field issued the same verdict. Finally, she relented. But not before the rest of us caught a glimpse of a much larger - much more dangerous - pattern of policy-making at play.

Simply put, the incident drew even greater attention to the misplaced priorities that form the majority's foreign policy agenda: on one hand, undermining our allies around the world, while on the other - reaching out to foreign adversaries like Syria and Iran at every turn. Add to that Democrats' recent effort to extend U.S. constitutional rights to international terrorists, while simultaneously engineering a plan to make it more difficult for our own intelligence agents to track them abroad, and what we're starting to see is a series of actions directed by a very specific, short-sighted, and altogether dangerous view of the world.

This, my friends, is what I mean by the "Pelosi Doctrine." And it's on full display in the U.S. Congress.

More striking than the Doctrine's tenets, though, is the frequency with which its ideology has been called upon to address some of the most serious issues facing this nation. Keep in mind that Democrats have only been in control of Congress for a year. But in that period, their record on issues related to national security and foreign policy has been as scary as it has been consistent. And as time has passed, a clear pattern of philosophy has begun to emerge.

Take, for example, the speaker's declaration that there is "no war on terrorism" in Iraq - even as the leaders of terrorist syndicates around the world continue to cite Iraq as the centerpiece in their global war on the West. That pronouncement came only two months after the speaker traveled to Syria to sit down with President Assad, declaring the "road to Damascus is a road to peace" - only to be not-so-gently reminded by Israeli Prime Minister Ehud Olmert that Syria continues to actively promote his nation's annihilation.

The list of foreign policy missteps does not end there. Readers will remember Democrats' attempt to divert scarce intelligence resources, previously used to assess our vulnerabilities to terrorist attack, to conduct detailed studies of global warming. While perhaps an argument can be made, not without effort, that researching the health of arctic ice and the migrations of local polar bears is an appropriate function of a U.S. government agency, it cannot be argued that such research should be conducted at the expense of gathering intelligence or analyzing security threats. Or so one would think.

Just as disappointing has been Democrats' performance on international trade. In a world where trade is an essential tool of diplomacy - a tool that can be used to align disparate interests and secure favorable outcomes - the majority continues to hold trade agreements with Colombia and Panama hostage to parochial political interests. In the case of Costa Rica, the speaker and Senate majority leader even went as far as attempting to influence the outcome of a national referendum on whether to ratify the Central America Free Trade Agreement (CAFTA), a pact that had already been passed by the United States Congress.

To head off that agreement, the two actually sent a letter to Costa Rica's ambassador ahead of the vote insisting the nation wouldn't lose its preferred trading status with the United States if it voted to reject the formal agreement. And to drive home the point, Sen. Bernie Sanders (I-Vt.) traveled to Costa Rica with opponents of trade whom he liked nothing more than the rejection of widening of distance between the United States and theirs. the Costa Rican status with the voted to reject - a dangerous legislators in the matter. the point, Sen. Vt.) traveled Rep. Mike - many of unfavorable States, and would've than to see CAFTA and a between our Thankfully, people held a different view, and the agreement was ratified in October.

*"As the second session of the 110th Congress is about to begin, Republicans in the House plan to do our part to hold this majority to account..."*

As the second session of the 110th Congress about to begin, Republicans in the House plan to do our part to hold this majority to account - insisting that we exit Iraq on the right terms and in the right way, and that we work with our friends to achieve a measure of security and prosperity that will outlive us all. Peter King will be an important ally in that fight, and so too will Vito Fossella, Tom Reynolds, and a host of other Empire State Republicans.

But as we were reminded in the first session, these goals tend to confront head-on the foreign policy agenda at the core of the Pelosi Doctrine - presenting us with a very real challenge. But I can say for certain that we're up for it in Washington, and I have every confidence that you are as well. □

## Record Supporters

Record Supporters pledge a minimum of \$20 per month to support The Record. If you are interested in becoming a Supporter please contact [publications@nyyrc.com](mailto:publications@nyyrc.com)

Hon. Robert J. Giuda, Former Deputy Majority Leader, NH House

Mr. & Mrs. Robert Genovese

Mary Jane Frisbee

Micah Dawson

# 2008 Congressional Outlook

By Richard Brownell

The 2008 congressional elections will have one major point in common with the 2006 races—when it comes to seizing the majority, it is up to the GOP to either win or lose. The Democrats found themselves in power in 2007 because Republicans quite simply fouled the ball. They owned the tools to rein in spending, but they did not use them. They possessed solid market-based ideas for combating energy issues, but they did not implement them. They had top-notch polling data to fine-tune their nationwide political machine and their respective campaign messaging, but they did not act on it.

What have House and Senate Democrats done with their marvelous first year in power, though? They passed a minimum wage increase that will make high school grocery clerks across the nation very happy. They introduced a wave of ethics legislation that actually had some teeth before bipartisan conference committees performed a debilitating root canal on the final product. They've been able to hold down spending only because President Bush has drawn a line in the sand on appropriations bills, reflexively vetoing legislation with a moxie we never knew he had.

Other gems promised during the 2006 midterm campaign like summarily walking away from Iraq, closing the terrorist detainee facility at Guantanamo Bay, and ending the terrorist surveillance program all fell flat. Gitmo remains open, the terrorist surveillance program is actually stronger than it was before liberals got their mitts on it, and, thanks to a new strategy, we are now winning in Iraq.

Republicans can capitalize on this situation and retake at least one chamber of Congress in 2008. Why not both chambers? Well, it can happen, but the House will be easier for the GOP to reclaim than the Senate. House Republicans need to gain 31 seats to remove Nancy Pelosi's liberal



The U.S. House of Representatives

army from power this November. That is a realistic swing, provided Republicans fight district races rather than one big national race and target their resources smartly. Regaining control of the Senate will be no Sunday stroll, however, because the GOP is defending 22 seats just to maintain its minority status, to say nothing about adding seats.

Just the same, if voters are as disgusted in November as they are now—Congress's approval rating is hovering around an historically low 25 percent—throwing the bums out might be the order of the day. This can work to Republicans' advantage because nothing upsets the electorate more than promises not delivered, and this is why 2008 is their election to lose. All the Democrats can really run on is, "elect more Democrats, and we'll do the job next term we promised to do last term." Republicans, however, just have to take voters on a tour of recent events.

Fiscal responsibility? President Bush brought us that, not the Democrats who were trying to foist upon the country an expensive plan that would have taxpayers paying for insuring middle class children. Tax relief for the middle class? Rep. Charles Rangel is currently stirring a

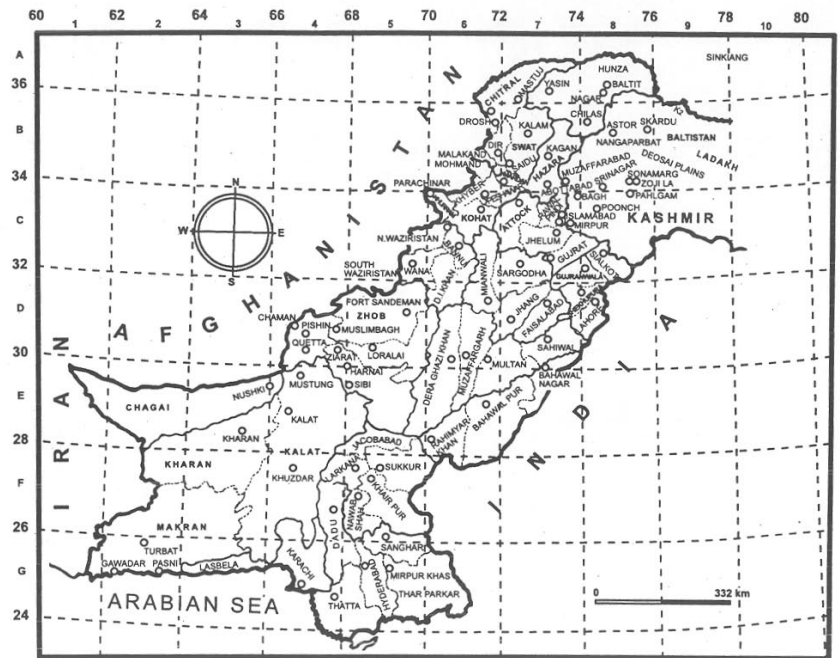
bubbling pot that will cook up the largest tax hike in American history to "offset" the repeal of the Alternative Minimum Tax. Even the promise to bring the troops home from Iraq, which runs counter to the GOP stance on the issue, can be exploited. Hard core liberals will be upset with Dems for not pulling our troops out of Iraq, but Republicans can frame the whole fiasco as Democrats wasting valuable legislative time on fruitless and frankly unpatriotic pursuits.

It will be hard to focus on the congressional elections while the seemingly endless speculation over the "who," "when," and "what for" of the 2008 presidential primaries monopolizes the attention of the media, and by extension, the country. However, the politically astute, which is just a euphemism for political junkie, recognize that the House and Senate races coming up this year also have a high degree of importance in this modern age in which the electorate is so closely divided. We can't afford to let them slip under our radar, particularly if we are looking to restore a Republican majority. □

*Richard Brownell, a columnist for the Patriot Post at [www.patriotpost.us](http://www.patriotpost.us), is currently writing a book on the Cold War for Gale Cengage Learning.*

It's unfortunate for America, even more so for the Pakistani people, that we are left asking the question of what to do now after the assassination of former Prime Minister Benazir Bhutto. In recent months Madame Bhutto had become the main figure of "change" in Pakistan. Bhutto and her opposition party, the Pakistan People's Party (PPP) were anticipated to win the majority in parliamentary elections which were to take place, now postponed, on January 8th. Washington had come out in support of a proposed power sharing arrangement between Bhutto and President Pervez Musharraf. Bhutto had vowed to destroy the Taliban in Pakistan and al Qaeda and fight Islamic terrorism. Musharraf's policy towards tribal regions like Waziristan, a Taliban and al Qaeda stronghold, seemed to point to a decrease in zeal regarding this conflict. Her passing leaves Washington bereft of their favored leader and anxiously waiting to see what happens next.

Pakistan's cooperation in the Long War or the War on Terror is paramount. It's been theorized that the country is one bullet away from becoming a nuclear armed Taliban state. At the center of this dilemma was President-General Pervez Musharraf. His support for the United States was vital after September 11, but in recent days has been apparently unable to effectively manage the country. Enter Benazir Bhutto. Her tenure as Prime Minister was not necessarily the best, Amnesty



overwhelmingly believed by Pakistanis to have been responsible for Bhutto's death. While it is more probable that the Taliban in Pakistan or al Qaeda did the deed (they after all welcomed her back to Pakistan in October with bombs) the debacle following her death with government doctors denying Bhutto had been shot does leave one wondering about Musharraf's innocence.

Nonetheless, America is now left with a nuclear armed country, an unpopular President, an army with segments sympathetic to Islamic fundamentalism and a largely discontent population. This population, along with the army, have a considerable amount of Islamic fundamentalist sympathizers. Bhutto was a pro-Western, anti-terrorist politician. Her possible successor as potential Prime Minister, Nawaz Sharif (another former Prime Minister and leader of the Pakistan Muslim League), unlike Bhutto is not very pro-West and many experts on the region suspect he would turn a blind eye towards groups allied with the Taliban and al Qaeda. He is obviously not Washington's guy.

The question then is what is America to do? The answer is simple, nothing. America must wait and see how things evolve in Pakistan. We must continue our funding to the Pakistani army as long as their senior generals remain committed to and are able to prevent an extremist Islamic revolution. And as long as Musharraf can prevent and does not arouse mass violence he will remain in power. If he does not, then as in 1969 with General Ayub Khan, the army will persuade him to step down. America intervening in Pakistan right now will only make things worse. The events of these past few months in Pakistan bring to light the fact that Pakistan is very near collapse. If America should do anything it should begin a proactive policy of carrots to Muslim nations enforcing and supporting moderate Muslim voices. This way the next time a terrorist sets off a bomb he won't take with him the only hope for democratic change. □

## Pakistan's Uncertainty

By Anthony Genovese

International often chided her for human rights violations and there were various corruption charges made against her and her husband Asif Ali Zardari who served as Environment Minister. Bhutto also represented dynastic democracy; she was an aristocrat and the PPP has always been a party dependent on strong and charismatic members of the Bhutto clan.

But Bhutto, unlike Musharraf, had been vociferous in her outcry against Islamic terrorism and seemed to be sincere in her recent enthusiasm for change. She also had the support of a large portion of the population. Bhutto represented to many Pakistanis the power and influence they could have in changing their country, Musharraf who came to power in a bloodless coup, does not inspire the people in this way. His popularity is such that he is



# New York News

Molly Casey

## NYC Transit: A Blessing, a Curse and What our Politicians are Doing About It.

Getting around is a major daily consideration for millions of New York City inhabitants. The subways and buses are generally satisfactory and New Yorkers make do with their own two feet where service leaves off. However, according to the last census, New Yorkers are burdened with the longest commute time among large cities. While an average of nearly 80 minutes a day spent traveling allows us the potential to get a lot of reading done, it increases stress on already hectic workdays.

As the nucleus of New York City, Manhattan's subway and bus system transports millions daily. With so many people dependent on public transportation, it is not surprising that two major pieces of legislation proposed this past year regarding New York City transit were met with a great deal of controversy and contention among citizens and lawmakers.

Plans to institute Congestion Pricing were initiated by Mayor Bloomberg, in an Earth Day address last April, as one of the environmental initiatives proposed in PlaNYC. It would act as one solution to concerns of pollution due to the heavy traffic in Manhattan. Last summer, with a divided council, the Mayor began pushing hard in Albany to get it passed before the deadline for federal funding expired. While the deadline was missed, the federal government granted funding to a modified version that was eventually agreed upon. In a Quinnipiac Poll just last month, Congestion Pricing, which was never able to garner overwhelming popular support in any of the boroughs, is now viewed less favorably than ever. However, the support for the plan would increase if the revenue it generated alleviated proposed MTA fare hikes.

The fare hike was an even more heated topic for New York lawmakers this past year. With the threat of increased fares looming, New Yorkers panicked and spoke out against paying extra for a transportation system that many may perceive as inadequate. New Yorkers' collective outrage was reflected in the vocal opinions of several lawmakers. The Senate Majority's New York City, Long Island, and Hudson Valley delegations spoke out in firm opposition to

the fare hike. These Senators' districts are comprised of large numbers of commuters from New York City's boroughs as well as those commuters traveling into Manhattan from Nassau, Suffolk, Westchester, Putnam, and Dutchess Counties on the Metro North Railroad and the Long Island Railroad, whose fares will also be increased.

The almost unanimous protests by residents and elected officials were ignored last month when the board voted to increase the monthly pass by \$5, while leaving the base fare at \$2. The consensus among lawmakers of both parties was that the board intended to use the fare hike as a first resort to projected financial problems rather than a last. An additional concern of the compromise is that it benefits less-frequent riders and is a disadvantage to



those who use transit daily. The Governor refuted this by claiming that it benefits those who can not afford a monthly pass, despite the statistics showing that only 14% of transit users buy single-ride passes in spite of the discounts offered by multi-ride and unlimited-ride cards.

While the fare hike is an imminent reality that will take effect in March, the details and implementation of Congestion Pricing are yet to be determined. Both of these plans were introduced out of a need to respond to New Yorkers' demands for a better quality of life. Unfortunately, better air quality and lower transportation costs that result in less strain on the pocketbooks are demands that often contradict each other and necessitate compromise. While the fare hike compromise has already failed to appease its opponents, there is still hope that a reasonable plan can be reached and enacted for Congestion Pricing. □

## Efficiency Code

By Matthew Bucklin

Last summer's controversial IPO of the colossal private equity fund, The Blackstone Group, sparked debates in congress and ultimately the introduction of the "Blackstone Bill," or the "Birthday Bill" (in reference to founder Steve Schwarzman's \$5 million dollar birthday). Senator Baucus (D-Montana) and Senator Grassley (R-Iowa) introduced the bill to fix an ambiguity in the tax code that Blackstone exploited to avoid paying the 35% corporate tax.

That is the bill, but the media coverage is on the related debate of carried interest. Carried interest is the earnings from the sale of an asset that are retained by the general partners of private equity and hedge funds as a performance fee. The carried interest is then taxed as capital gains at a rate of 15%, instead of as personal income at a rate of up to 35%. This is an issue over the justification and fairness of these fund partners paying a lower tax rate than the rest.

Those in support of reforming the tax code argue the preferential treatment of capital gains is intended to encourage investment and reward those who put their money at risk, which the fund partners do not. Also that the performance fee is not a capital gain, it is a bonus for good work, just like it is for traditional asset managers. They also claim there won't be any negative effects on the economy; the personal tax rate of fund partners has no influence on investment. In summary, the current tax code includes this unfair loophole that deprives the government of billions of dollars in revenue.

Those in defense of the current tax treatment argue that lower rates are justified because these funds provide the essential capital for a healthy, growing economy. They bring efficiency to troubled companies and industries, which in turn create jobs. And because the partners are owners in the investment fund they are also liable its debt, as if their own money were at stake. They conclude these funds have many positive externalities so they should be bolstered with lower taxes.

When analyzing laws it is important to consider efficiency and incentives. The tax code for carried interest was written in the 1920's at a time when entrepreneurs used their own money to start companies. The code was intended to reward "sweat-equity," the labor and capital combined, which efficiently supported entrepreneurship and drove economic growth. But now with highly developed financial markets, entrepreneurs don't use their own money and the code is no longer efficient. All of the tax incentives are now on the finance industry. And because there is so much money to be made, the brightest minds move towards finance and away from entrepreneurship. Some economic models suggest, that to achieve efficiency, taxes on the finance industry need to be higher than the rest.

*Objective commentary on  
regulation, economy and the  
markets...*

This debate will be a catalyst for wide spread reform of the tax code. Such momentous changes need to be carefully considered without prejudice, should support entrepreneurship, and have the ultimate goal of America's economic competitiveness. □

### Hedge Fund and Private Equity Statistics

- There are \$2.7 trillion dollars invested in hedge funds and private equity.
- There are 10,000 active hedge funds, making a \$120 billion dollar industry.
- Average annual returns for 2007 were only 11.7%.
- Assets in emerging markets reached \$300 billion.
- Bain Capital tried to buy the entire NHL in 2005.

### Blackstone Statistics

- The Blackstone Group has \$100 billion under management.
- Blackstone has averaged 22.8% returns after fees since 1987.
- Founder Steve Schwarzman made \$8 billion when Blackstone went public.
- Blackstone lead a syndicate to build a hydroelectric dam in Uganda.

### 2008 Election Donation Statistics

- Hedge funds donated \$5.4 million to political candidates: \$4.3 million to Democrats and \$1.1 million to Republicans.
- Rudy Giuliani leads with \$1.15 million in donations.
- Ron Paul is last with \$6,300.
- SAC Capital donated the most, \$400,000, 95% to democrats.
- George Soros's Fund gave \$82,000, 2% to Republicans
- The Most Republican Hedge Fund is Elliott Management, 98% or \$260,000 to Republicans.

*Keit Team*

**Moving Across Town or Across the Country  
We Make Moving Easy!**

**KELLER WILLIAMS** REALTY

1-800-742-0126 keitteam.com

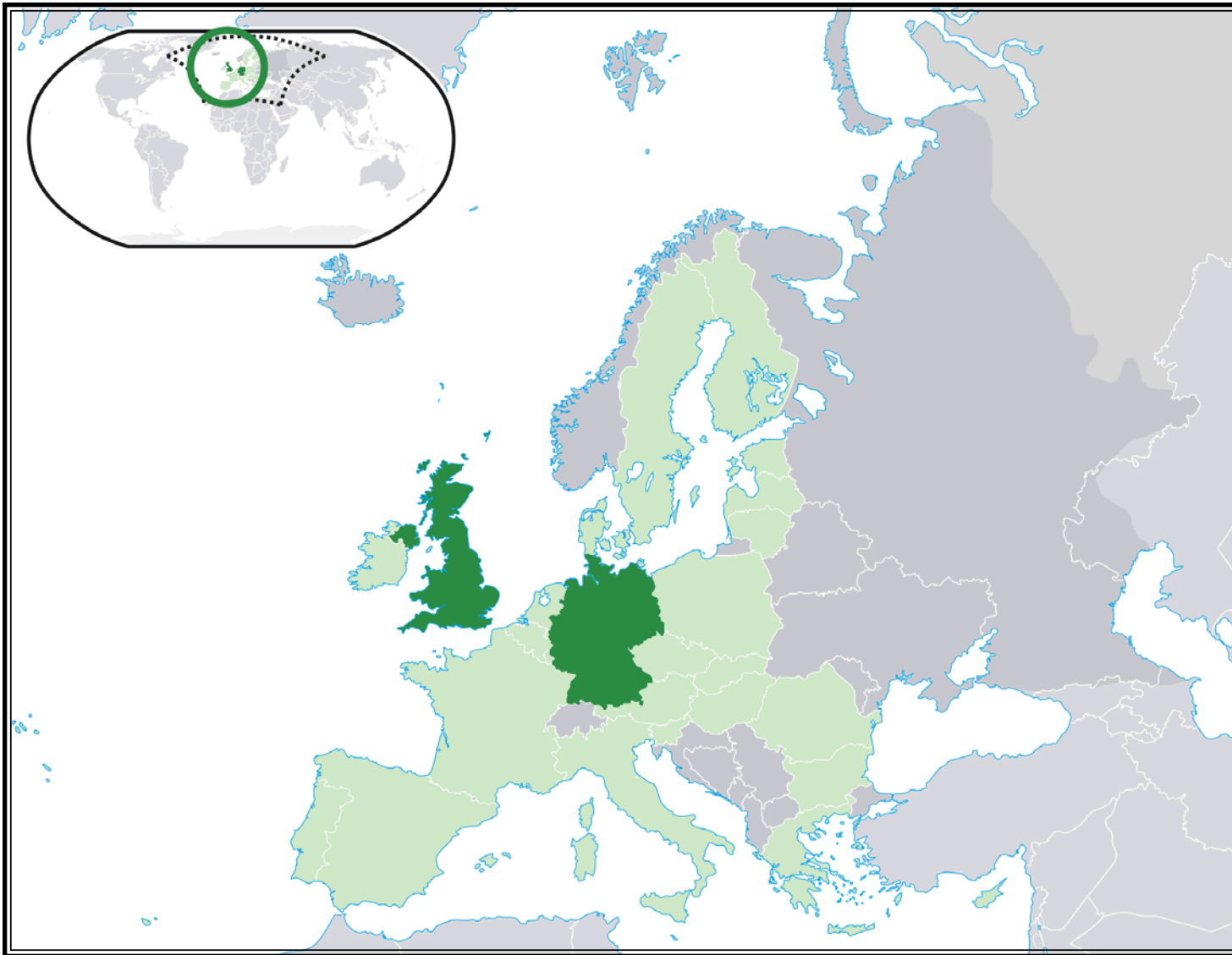
# International

Political Commentary from around the Globe each month. Local issues reported by local participants.

## Reporters:

**United Kingdom, Nitesh Palana:** Nitesh is in his 20s and is a London based lobbyist. He is involved with the British Conservative Party, the main center-right political party in the UK, and has had experience in both campaigning in general elections and advising the Party on Trade and Industry.

**Germany, Mischa Hecker:** Mischa is the President of the Young Professionals of the Free Democratic Party of Germany.



## Can I see your ID?

Nitesh Palana, London

The New Year is a good time to reflect back over the last year. In 2007, Tony Blair, our former Prime Minister, stood down and was replaced in an uncontested selection by his Finance Minister, Gordon Brown. Mr. Brown, a member of the same centre-left political party as his predecessor, was not only seen as one of the architects of many of Mr. Blair's policies, but also the only person

that had a veto over the Prime Minister's domestic policies with his control of the budget. Therefore, it is not surprising that Mr. Brown is carrying forward Blair's planned agenda, which includes introducing mandatory identity cards.

One of the reasons that the UK Government is planning to spend billions of pounds to introduce ID cards is to combat



terrorism. However, ID cards would not have prevented the July 2005 London Underground suicide bombings as the bombers were British and already had passports. It is also worth noting that it is dangerous for any source (trusted or not) to hold a significant amount of information; last year, the Revenues and Customs Department lost two CDs containing bank details, National Insurance numbers and children's names, addresses and dates of birth of nearly half the population (25 million people).

The concept of mandatory ID cards that have biometric data like fingerprints, backed up by a national identity register may seem alien to a country like America particularly as its citizens still enjoy freedoms like the Constitutional right to bear arms to defend themselves from tyrannical governments. However, the case is very different in Europe; at least 21 of the 27 countries in the European Union have some form of ID card, but these are either not biometric or not compulsory. Even the UK had compulsory ID cards during the First and Second World War, but they were finally abandoned in 1952 because of widespread public resentment.

Nevertheless, ID cards are not usually a characteristic of liberal democracies. In fact, if introduced, the UK would only be the fifth Common Law country to adopt ID cards in peacetime after Hong Kong, Malaysia, Singapore and Cyprus. In comparison, over a hundred non-Common Law countries have ID cards, for example, China, Cuba, Vietnam, Russia and Saudi Arabia. Traditionally, restrictions on civil liberties are a mark of fascist or communist states that need them to control their population instead of democracies that allow the people to control the state. If the UK does successfully adopt ID cards, then it doesn't necessarily put us in the same category as China, but it will be a step towards authoritarianism – a step that should not be rushed without examining the full consequences.

Although the distance between fascism and communism on the political compass may be very narrow and both are half way across the wheel from liberal democracies like the UK, authoritarian acts occur across the political spectrum. Every policy decision that is even a small threat on individual liberty cannot be justified by a simple cost-benefit analysis, but legislators should be required to demonstrate beyond any reasonable doubt that any change is absolutely necessary. □

# What is a Fair Price for Labor?

Mischa Hecker, Germany

This topic is the catalyst for widespread discussion in German politics and media. What justifies differences in income, and how can the German worker adjust to the rising cost of living? Is the installation of a minimum wage justified? These issues are currently being addressed in the national parliament.

However, the political decision-making process in Germany is paralyzed by a parliament controlled by a so-called "Grand Coalition", a partnership of the right wing Christian Democrats and the left wing Social Democrats. These two account for two thirds of all seats in the Bundestag (German parliament). For a long time, opinion polls have been increasingly negative for the SPD. To answer this problem, they try to present themselves as defenders of the poor and sharpen their profile while attempting to win back voters from the populist Socialist Party - the rising, yet still small, star in the German political system.

The window of opportunity to push this topic was wide open when the partly state-owned "Deutsche Post" began to lose its monopoly on mail services and was attacked by private competitors. These smaller companies could not afford to pay mail carriers as much as the Deutsche Post (9.48€ per hour) so the Social Democrats, trade unions, and the still-powerful Deutsche Post pushed the topic of minimum wages onto the agenda. They claimed it was unfair that in a society where managers earn millions of Euro a year, a mail carrier does not earn more than four or five an hour, which he can hardly live from, especially in times of economic growth. Discussion did not last long, and the Coalition installed a minimum wage of 9.48€ for mail carriers. In consequence, most private competitors were forced to close their businesses because they were not able to build up their infrastructure, compete in service prices, and still afford to pay the new minimum wage. Thousands of workers lost their jobs, many of them students, homemakers and pensioners who were not dependent on welfare, but needed the additional income. This doesn't even include jobs lost by contract partners of these companies. But in any case, we do have a few thousand mail carriers who earn about twice as much as a cleaning lady.

And the story is not over: This Pandora's Box has been opened, and a minimum wage for all workers may be in our near future. □



PIN AG is Deutsche Post's largest competitor and fiercely opposed the minimum wage. As a result it had to slash 10,000 jobs and is now for sale.

# CALENDAR

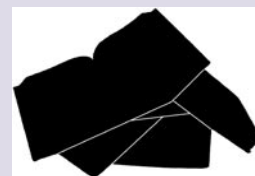
There are many events each month around NYC. From political meetings, lectures, book signings, and social events, just watch [www.nyyrc.com/calendar](http://www.nyyrc.com/calendar) for all of them. If you wish to submit an event please contact [publications@nyyrc.com](mailto:publications@nyyrc.com).

				January 17	18	19
				<b>NYYRC MONTHLY MEETING<sup>1</sup></b>		
20	21	22	23	24	25	26
				<b>NYC Republican Party Meetup:</b> Citigroup Center/Food Court 153 E. 53rd St Corner of Lexington Ave & 53rd St. Fee: \$2.00		
27	28	29	30	31	February 1	2
			<b>WNRC<sup>2</sup>:</b> Jan. 30, 6pm. The International Affairs Committee invites you to hear Grace Austin. A retired periodontist and a Club member will discuss her recent Political Pilgrimage to the Middle East.			
3	4	5	6	7	8	9
<b>WNRC<sup>2</sup>:</b> Feb 4. 6-8pm. First Monday Reception...an ideal time to catch up with old friends and make new ones, to introduce friends and colleagues to our beautiful clubhouse...and just enjoy a warm and festive get-together. Members / Non-Members No Charge.		<b>Presidential Primary Election Day in New York State</b>	<b>NYYRC MONTHLY SOCIAL LOCATION TBD.</b>	<b>CPAC</b> WASHINGTON DC, FEB 7-9		
10	11	12	13	14	15	16
17	18	19	20	21		
				<b>NYYRC MONTHLY MEETING<sup>1</sup></b>		

<sup>1</sup> The New York Young Republican Club holds their monthly meetings every third Thursday of every month at the Women's National Republican Club Headquarters @ 3 West 51st Street, New York, NY 10001. [www.nyyrc.com](http://www.nyyrc.com)

<sup>2</sup> The Women's National Republican Club holds all their events at their headquarters located @ 3 West 51st Street, New York, NY 10001. [www.wnrc.org](http://www.wnrc.org)

**For more information about any events listed here please contact [publications@nyyrc.com](mailto:publications@nyyrc.com).**



## BOOK REVIEW | Liberal Fascism

Book/Movie/Art Review offers you the latest thoughts, inspirations and trends with a Republican bend

Liberal Fascism: The Secret History of the American Left from Mussolini to the Politics of Meaning  
Author: Jonah Goldberg

It's amazing how easy it is to tell if a book describing liberals threatens their oh so sensitive and intolerant psyches - all one has to do is check a local bookstore to see if it's even on display. If the book calls the shots like they are, that book is lucky if it's even sitting on a dusty corner way in the back of the store. Why, if you take a little look for Jonah Goldberg's new book Liberal Fascism on the internet you enter the pathos of the American blogging left - incredibly spiteful, vicious, toxic and hysterical, raving and ranting liberals that vilify, damn, and doom the book before it had even been released.

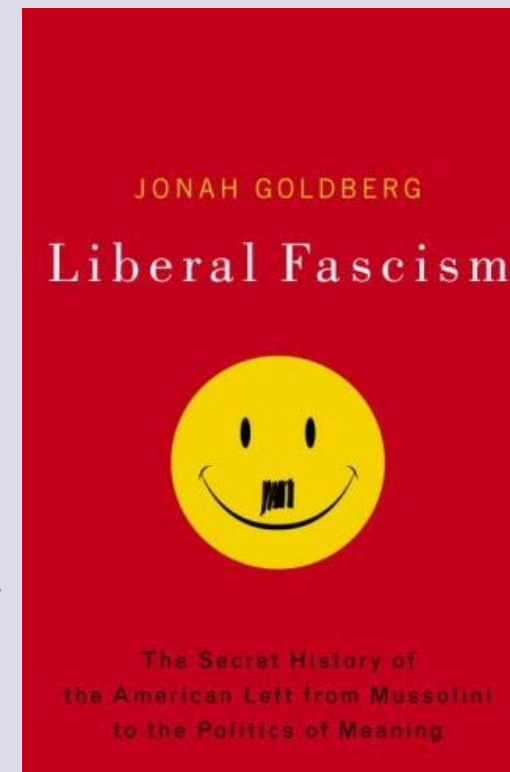
And what pray tell you, gets them so lividly raging that they even hacked into Amazon.com to change the subtitle of his book? That all the insults liberals hurl claiming that Republicans are fascists is actuality boomeranged into their own court as Mr. Goldberg meticulously researches the origins of fascism, and that fascism is from the left as is well documented from Mussolini, the father of fascism to Adolph Hitler on up to liberal fascists here in the United States.

"For more than sixty years, liberals have insisted that the bacillus of fascism lies semi-dormant in the bloodstream of the political right. And yet... no top-tier American conservative intellectual was a devotee of Nietzsche or a serious admirer of Heidegger. All major conservative schools of thought trace themselves back to the champions of the Enlightenment - John Locke, Adam Smith, Montesquieu, Burke - and none of them have any direct intellectual link to Nazism or Nietzsche, to existentialism, nihilism, or even, for the most part, Pragmatism. Meanwhile, the ranks of left wing intellectuals are infested with ideas and thinkers squarely in the fascist tradition."

There's even a chapter on the Brave New Village - Hillary Clinton and the Meaning of Liberal Fascism.

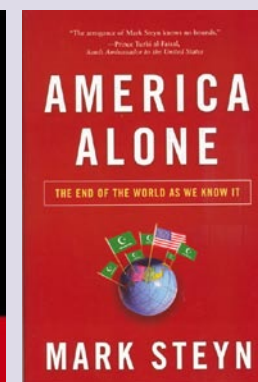
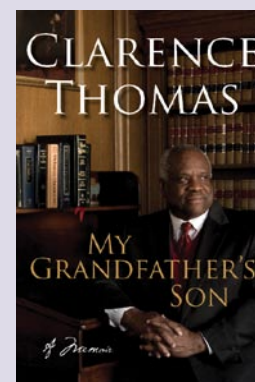
There's an old saying that says anytime someone points the finger at others, it's three fingers pointing back at themselves. Conservatives are constantly attacked in this country as fascists by liberals who typically live in the realm of fascist beliefs. Everyone should go learn that lesson from Liberal Fascism which is a well researched answer to the attack machine of the liberal left.

-Vivien Lewis



### Past Book Reviews...

- My Grandfather's Son  
By Clarence Thomas
- Do As I Say, Not as I Do  
By Peter Schweizer
- Sabotage  
By Rowan Scarborough
- America Alone  
By Mark Steyn





Cox & Forkum ©2007

www.CoxAndForkum.com

Cartoon by Cox & Forkum

www.coxandforkum.com

# "I found my own voice"

- Hillary Clinton after 35 years in the political arena and her win in New Hampshire. We'd say that 35 years is quite a curve but ultimately she's just milking another Clinton-era disingenuous political tactic.

## January Social

With over 50 people showing up, the January social organized by Events Chairwoman Gail Allen was a huge success. The social was held at Dip on 416 3rd Avenue between 29th and 30th Streets. Dip stands out from most bars simply because of the fact that they are based around offering its patrons fondue. We'd highly recommend it to anyone who's looking for a drink and wants to indulge in their sweet tooth. Dip of course offers a whole menu and many different kinds of margaritas as well.



Matthew Bucklin and Lauren Parr at Dip

### Questions posed to Matt (right)...

Q: What is your favorite part of the constitution?

A: The 21st amendment (the repealed Prohibition), without which none of us would be here, at the bar I mean.

Q: What is the most important issue of the 2008 campaign?

A: Did dinosaurs really exist? Maybe Huckabee can answer that one?

Q: Do you have any friends that have left the Democratic party?

A: My college roommate. One day I just came home and he was watching Fox News, looking up stock quotes, and complaining about government spending.

Q: Do you have trouble getting books that are written by conservatives?

A: Only at Revolution Books on 19th Street. I should have known by the all the socialist colors on the outside.

## Faith & the Primaries

By Aaron Gulbransen

Faith and America have a long intertwined history. From the Puritans at Plymouth to our Founding Fathers, America was created with the notion that freedom could not exist without religion and that likewise religion required freedom to grow. It was the concept that God gave us certain rights, inalienable by any government that the Founders could successfully establish sovereignty for our democratic nation.

The issue of faith and religion has always been apparent in American politics; politicians have always invoked the almighty. But it is in this year's Republican primary that the politics of faith have become a central issue.

While faith hasn't been a major theme of the Giuliani campaign, its importance is not lost on the campaign's staff. In November of 2007 Rudy locked up the endorsement of Christian leader Pat Robertson. The endorsement came with out any mea



The Crystal Cathedral is a Protestant, Christian megachurch in Orange County, California. World-famous architect Philip Johnson designed the main sanctuary building, which was constructed using over 10,000 rectangular panes of glass and which can hold over 3,000 worshippers. When addressing issues such as faith and democracy, candidates running for office can reach anywhere from 20 worshippers in a small-town colonial church or thousands using these modern preaching mega-structures.

culpa from Mr. Giuliani regarding his differing views on issues such as abortion and gay marriage; Robertson categorized him as the most "electable." Yet this endorsement was critically important for Giuliani. The campaign sought to pacify and relieve the apprehensions of the largely important evangelical voting block, a group that does not necessarily prescribe to Mr. Giuliani's social views.

Faith does not play a strong role in Fred Thompson's campaign or for that matter John McCain either. Aside from the controversy that occurred when James Dobson wondered aloud whether or not Fred Thompson was a real Christian, faith and religion aren't central themes of the former actor/senator's

presidential bid. The same conclusion can be made about John McCain. His campaign rhetoric revolves mainly around patriotism and service to one's country and while he occasionally refers to Judeo-Christian values in his stump speeches Christianity isn't a blatant message of "the Maverick."

For two candidates it's clear, religion is a central part of their campaigns. Those are, for better or worse Mike Huckabee and Mitt Romney. Mike Huckabee aside from being the former governor of Arkansas is also a former Southern Baptist pastor. His Christian faith is essential to his political identity. He makes constant references to Christ and has called himself a "Christian leader." He speaks with ease and sometimes quite eloquently about the role of faith in the American political process. The problem of course with this approach is that out of Iowa this is not a winning strategy; the voters of New Hampshire gave his campaign a resounding NO in their primary in early January.

For Mitt Romney, as much as he would love it not to be, faith is an issue. Many evangelicals regard Mormonism as a cult and for Romney any time spent talking about religion is not good. Much like Mike Huckabee's sly comment on the fraternity of Jesus and Satan within Mormonism, discussion of religion in this regard distracts evangelical voters from the issues and reminds them that Romney may have beliefs quite different from their own. To his credit Governor Romney has demonstrated the common values that all Americans of faith share. In a highly anticipated speech on religion this past December at the George Bush Presidential Library he made clear his message is one of inclusion, in line with the Founders' vision of America. For Mitt Romney his campaign must hope that faith and religion are ways to bring people together, not divide, as Samuel Adams said, who in his speech Romney evoked, "I don't care how you pray, if you are a Patriot you can pray with me."

Faith was central in the creation of America and still remains a central part of the lives of everyday Americans. Nowhere is this fact more evident than in this year's Republican Party primary election. In the selection of the Republican nominee, faith and religion will continue to play large roles as long as evangelicals make up an important voting bloc. Let us hope though that faith proves to be a healthy part of our political process in which voters consider the whole man and all of his qualifications, rather than become divided by creed. □



For All Your Printing Needs!

23 Orvis Place

Staten Island, NY 10306

Customer Service Phone: 1-888-469-0580

Customer Service Fax: 1-718-228-885

Sal J. Calise, CEO-President



A Publication of the New York Young Republican Club Inc. Publications Committee

© 2008

[www.nyyrc.com](http://www.nyyrc.com)

[publications@nyyrc.com](mailto:publications@nyyrc.com)