



FRIENDS OF THE MIDDLE NEWSLETTER #255 — OCT. 25, 2012

Welcome to always lively political discussion and whatever else comes up.
<http://www.FriendsOfTheMiddle.org> FriendsOfTheMiddle@hotmail.com

[INDEX: Click here.](#)

The Evil God of Conservatives

(posted by Steven W. Baker / SteveB, Oct. 25, 2012)



Indiana GOP U.S. Senate candidate Richard Mourdock indicates the size of penis he happens to know God intends for victims of rape.

I'm so happy these conservatives know what God wants for each of us other folks! They know it beyond the shadow of a doubt, and they aren't really shy about seeking to impose their "heavenly vision" on the rest of us—the Constitution be damned! I can't really see the difference between Muslims wanting to impose their view of God on the world and what these anti-American Christians want to do. And, actually, with R0mney's \$2 trillion more for defense, the Christians and Mormons prove they want to impose their crap on the rest of the world too, not just Americans!

I guess Mourdock is not a very good Christian. Otherwise, wouldn't he have to believe in...gulp, shudder...Satan? And wouldn't he have to believe that some acts on Earth are caused by evil rather than directly by God's intentions? So how does he happen to know which intentions are which? Does he have a pact with Satan, as his facial expressions seem to indicate?

Have you ever noticed how history shows that, once someone "knows" what God wants or intends and decides to impose it on the rest of society, tragedy, destruction, and suffering are sure to follow?

"Richard Mourdock on Abortion: Pregnancy from Rape Is 'Something God Intended'" by Michael McAuliff, Huffington Post

Oct. 23, 2012, (http://www.huffingtonpost.com/2012/10/23/richard-murdock-abortion_n_2007482.html)

(WASHINGTON) Indiana GOP U.S. Senate candidate Richard Mourdock declared Tuesday night he opposes aborting pregnancies conceived in rape because "it is something that God intended to happen."

Debating Rep. Joe Donnelly (D-Ind.) in their final Senate race showdown, a questioner asked them and Libertarian candidate Andrew Horning to explain their views on abortion.

All three said they were anti-abortion. But Mourdock went even further, putting himself in territory near Missouri GOP Senate candidate Rep. Todd Akin, the anti-abortion congressman who infamously asserted that women don't get pregnant from "legitimate rape."

"The only exception I have to have an abortion is in the case of the life of the mother," said Mourdock, the Tea Party-backed state treasurer. "I struggled with it myself for a long time, but I came to realize life is that gift from God. I think that even when life begins in that horrible situation of rape, that it is something that God intended to happen."

Murdock unseated veteran Republican Sen. Richard Lugar in the May primary, and has battled Donnelly for the longtime senator's supporters since. Abortion has been a touchy issue for the candidates, with Mourdock accusing Donnelly of lacking strength on the issue because Donnelly backed the health care reform law. Donnelly has criticized a requirement that ensures women can get birth control, even when their employer objects to contraception.

"I believe in pro-life," Donnelly said, carving out somewhat more moderate anti-abortion stance. "I believe that life begins at conception. The only exceptions I believe in are for rape, incest and the life a mother."

Horning argued that the Supreme Court's Roe v. Wade decision was unconstitutional, and that abortion issues should be state matters.

UPDATE: 10:20 pm:

GOP presidential nominee Mitt Romney, who has endorsed Mourdock and supports him in a campaign ad that began running in Indiana on Tuesday, took issue with Mourdock's abortion comments, a spokeswoman said.

"Gov. Romney disagrees with Richard Mourdock's comments, and they do not reflect his views," Romney campaign spokeswoman Andrea Saul said.

UPDATE: 9:55 pm:

Murdock tried to clarify his comments soon after the debate, saying God does not intend sexual assaults.

"God creates life, and that was my point," Mourdock said in a statement. "God does not want rape, and by no means was I suggesting that He does. Rape is a horrible thing, and for anyone to twist my words otherwise is absurd and sick."

Nevertheless, Democrats jumped on the comments as further proof that Murdock is an extremist.

"I think rape is a heinous and violent crime in every instance," said Donnelly in his own statement. "The God I believe in and the God I know most Hoosiers believe in, does not intend for rape to happen -- ever. What Mr. Mourdock said is shocking, and it is stunning that he would be so disrespectful to survivors of rape."

"Richard Mourdock's disturbing comment about rape is a window into Mourdock's extreme view of the world, " said Shripal Shah, spokesman for the Democratic Senatorial Campaign Committee. "Indiana can't afford to send a self-proclaimed 'zealot' and Tea Partier like Richard Mourdock to the Senate."

Murdock has been trying to soften some of his positions for the general election after running on a platform that described compromise as when Democrats came to agree with him.

Horning had argued earlier in the debate that Mourdock should stick with the harder line.

"As I was reading about the extreme stands of Richard Mourdock I was thinking, 'Hey, there's hope for this guy.' A lot of the stuff that he said was correct," Horning said, referring to Mourdock's suggestions that entitlement programs such as Medicare and Social Security may not be constitutional.

"He has repudiated a lot of those statements. Some of it was about the unconstitutionality...right on," Horning said. "We need somebody who is going to stick with principles."

Richard Mourdock's mentor, Satan, speaks at a Mourdock fundraising cabal. (Tea Party Tribune)



FotM NEWSLETTER #255 (Oct. 25, 2012)—HYPERTEXT INDEX

<u>DATE-ID</u>	<u>TIME</u>	<u>FROM</u>	<u>SUBJECT/TITLE</u>
20121025-00		SteveB	The Evil God of Conservatives by Steven W. Baker / SteveB ("Richard Mourdock on Abortion: Pregnancy from Rape Is 'Something God Intended'")
20121024-06	09:28	MarthaH	Re: The Evil God of Conservatives (reply to SteveB, above)
20121024-10	09:58	Pam	Re: The Evil God of Conservatives (reply to SteveB, above)
20121024-12	11:02	Art	Re: The Evil God of Conservatives (reply to Pam, above)
20121024-17	12:23	SteveB	Re: The Evil God of Conservatives (reply to all, above)
20121024-18	12:25	Pam	Re: The Evil God of Conservatives (reply to SteveB, above)
20121024-19	12:52	Phil	Re: The Evil God of Conservatives (reply to all, above)
20121024-22	16:36	Art	Re: The Evil God of Conservatives (reply to all, above)
20121024-01	05:05	MarthaH	Pens to Paper, So to Speak...
20121024-02	05:21	MarthaH	"Supreme Court Makeup Not a Top Campaign Issue"
20121024-05	09:29	Pam	Re: "Supreme Court Makeup Not a Top Campaign Issue" (reply to MarthaH, above)
20121024-07	09:30	SteveB	Re: "Supreme Court Makeup Not a Top Campaign Issue" (reply to Pam, above)
20121024-13	11:05	Art	Re: "Supreme Court Makeup Not a Top Campaign Issue" (reply to SteveB, above)
20121024-16	11:13	Pam	Re: "Supreme Court Makeup Not a Top Campaign Issue" (reply to Art, above)
20121024-03	08:05	SteveB	Happy Birthday! Thank You All!
20121024-08	09:52	Pam	Re: Happy Birthday! Thank You All! (reply to SteveB, above)
20121024-15	11:11	Art	Re: Happy Birthday! Thank You All! (reply to SteveB, above)
20121024-04	08:21	MarthaH	Fw: British Humour
20121024-09	09:55	Pam	Re: British Humour (reply to MarthaH, above)
20121024-14	11:08	Art	Re: British Humour (reply to MarthaH, above)
20121024-11	10:32	Ben	Re: "International Monitors at U.S. Polling Spots Draw Criticism from Voter Fraud Groups" (reply to Tom, FotM Newsletter #254)
20121024-20	13:52	Ben	Photos: Yesterday's & Today's Seafood Lunches at Apple
20121024-21	15:35	Ben	"The Donald' Trumps Even Himself for Idiocy"
20121024-23	16:38	Lianne	Eisenhower's "Cross of Iron" Speech
20121024-24	19:31	Bob&BettyW	Fw: Future Terrorism
20121024-26	21:55	SteveB	Re: Future Terrorism (Reply to Bob&BettyW, above)
20121024-25	20:05	Marissa	Re: 'Where Do We Come From, Grandpa?' (reply to SteveB, FotM Newsletter #252)
20121024-27	23:57	Marci	Photo: Special Moments #8
20121024-28	23:58	Dennis	Graphics: Why We Can't Let Our Newspapers Go Out of Business #3
20121024-29	23:59	SteveB	Photo: Ike!

20121024-06	09:28	MarthaH	Re: The Evil God of Conservatives (reply to SteveB, above)
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Amen, brother. But they are too pious to see the forest for their trees. The first thing I thought of was W's code word usage for the Further Right to a fan showing up on election day. I can't see that our wackos are any less scary than the foreign ones--and they DO talk funny!!!!!!! Remember Akin...and...

That times have been like this before and we weren't alive yet sort of makes all this IGNORANCE more scary, perhaps?

20121024-10 09:58 Pam Re: The Evil God of Conservatives (reply to SteveB, above)

If God doesn't intend for rape to happen, then why does it?

20121024-12 11:02 Art Re: The Evil God of Conservatives (reply to Pam, above)

Is this the same loving, caring God who brought us the Black Death and innumerable wars, killing millions, many in God's name? Makes sense to me.

20121024-17 12:23 SteveB Re: The Evil God of Conservatives (reply to all, above)

SPECIAL ANNOUNCEMENT: I just learned (from my sources, and one of them is a cat) that God intends President Obama to win the election! You heard it here first, Satan be damned!

And if God intends the lady in question to be raped, and get pregnant... how the hell do we know he didn't "intend" for her to get an abortion? If pregnancy from rape is part of God's plan, don't they believe that everything is? Didn't God "invent" abortion because he thought it might prove useful to some of us? Like hand grenades?

After all, maybe God intends women to be raped who dress a certain way, or even vote a certain way! We all know Progressives have loose morals, right, Rush?

I guess we can't expect logic or consistency from these people, but a government and even a political party like the GOP should.

At least we know now that God must intend abortion to be legal, because it is! Surely, He wouldn't want us to change something he intends.

But conservatives might respond: "But God intends for us to change the law."

I say, "Exactly!" Maybe God intends for us to change that unwanted pregnancy so cruelly thrust upon the woman, using the law (actually a court decision) God so conveniently has provided for that purpose.

If God intends everything, that doesn't leave much room for the highly vaunted FREEDOM conservatives like to talk about so much, does it? Freedom can't exist in that view of the world, but, then, neither can logic—all is paradox.

I wonder what they think God intended with Mohammed with his slaves and Biblical revisionism, or Joseph Smith with his many wives and radical Biblical revisionism?

20121024-18 12:25 Pam Re: The Evil God of Conservatives (reply to SteveB, above)

It's called "magical thinking."

20121024-19 12:52 Phil Re: The Evil God of Conservatives (reply to all, above)

I am writing with the full intention of "eating crow". I know I have espoused on more than one occasion that we should throw "all the bums" out, both sides of the aisle. Now to my extreme embarrassment as a Hoosier, I am left to ponder the success of that promotion since we voted (NOT ME) in Indiana to replace Lugar with this idiot!! Quite obviously, this is not what I meant.

20121024-22 16:36 Art Re: The Evil God of Conservatives (reply to all, above)

And some are still thinking of voting for these people??????????????????

"I struggled with it myself for a long time, but I came to realize life is that gift from God. I think that even when life begins in that horrible situation of rape, that it is something that God intended to happen." —Republican Senate candidate Richard Mourdock at a debate last night.

20121024-01 05:05 MarthaH Pens to Paper, So to Speak...

For all of us who have witnessed a changing world in our lives--from being raised by those who survived The Great Depression and WW II among other issues of their lives and in a time of great turmoil and change for our place in the world, I would ask for posterity that you take time to record your observations and feelings. My place to start is with 2000, where I feel I can now see behind and in front of me. Many on Friends of the Middle have word skills, and I feel it imperative that we record what we sense from our diverse but common vantage points. There has been plenty of change since most of us were growing up in small town America. Many twists were good things, and some were directionally challenged by no fault of our own. All of us have our areas of "expertise," and perspective, and that will add to the annals of history for our grandchildren, if not a larger audience. We have a lot to say! The time is now. The first person chronology trumps, I believe, as the historian takes them and blends them into the whole picture. Surely you read some of the colonial, war, exploratory, or literary journals in your trek called life. Please add to them in your way.

[Thank you, Martha! I hope many of our contributors and readers will avail themselves of this opportunity to create a record of their thoughts and feelings for posterity. —SteveB]

20121024-02 05:21 MarthaH "Supreme Court Makeup Not a Top Campaign Issue"

"Supreme Court Makeup Not a Top Campaign Issue" by Richard Wolf, *USA Today*

Oct. 24, 2012, (<http://www.usatoday.com/story/news/politics/2012/10/23/supreme-court-not-top-campaign-issue/1653413/>)

(The chance that Obama or Romney could tilt the court very far in one direction or the other is remote.)

(WASHINGTON) The Supreme Court could be transformed by the man elected president Nov. 6, but you wouldn't know it from the campaign the candidates are waging.

Despite four justices in their 70s, a political impasse over lower-court judges and a slew of controversial social issues that could come up in the next four years, the high court has been relegated to the bench in the campaign between President Obama and Republican Mitt Romney.

The reasons are many: Democrats were satisfied with the court's ruling in June that upheld Obama's health care law. Republicans can't really criticize a court still dominated by conservatives. Most voters are more focused on jobs and the economy. And those who care deeply about judicial issues likely chose a candidate long ago. Perhaps most important, the chance that Obama or Romney could tilt the court very far in one direction or the other is remote. That's because most justices choose to retire when their party is in power, and no retirements are immediately forecast.

"The Supreme Court is a theoretical problem, not an actual problem" because there are no vacancies, says Wade Henderson of the Leadership Conference on Civil and Human Rights, a coalition of advocacy groups. But he says potential vacancies in the future, as well as a huge number of lower court vacancies, should make the judiciary more of an issue in this and future elections.

The last four court vacancies show how most presidential nominations have had a small but potentially significant impact. Obama's choices of Sonia Sotomayor and Elena Kagan solidified liberals' hold on four seats. George W. Bush's selections of John Roberts and Samuel Alito firmed up the conservative side.

The most likely opportunity for a significant change would come if Romney were elected and Justice Ruth Bader Ginsburg left during his presidency. Ginsburg is 79 and a cancer survivor. Three other justices also were born when Franklin Roosevelt was president: Conservatives Antonin Scalia and Anthony Kennedy are 76 and liberal Stephen Breyer is 74. All three are in relatively good health, however, and unlikely to step down if their party is out of power.

Curt Levey, executive director of the conservative Committee for Justice, says conservatives should not be "lulled into a false sense of security." One key opportunity for Obama could swing the court to the left. "We're more at a tipping point than we've ever been in my lifetime," he says.

Kennedy's departure would be noteworthy. Since moderate Sandra Day O'Connor's departure in 2006, he has been the most frequent swing vote. "It's going to be World War III when somebody gets to replace Anthony Kennedy," says Carrie Severino, chief counsel and policy director at the Judicial Crisis Network and a former law clerk for Justice Clarence Thomas.

Vice President Biden raised the court as an issue in his debate with Rep. Paul Ryan of Wisconsin earlier this month. "The next president will get one or two Supreme Court nominees. That's how close Roe v. Wade is," Biden said, referring to the 1973 decision that legalized abortion nationwide. "Just ask yourself: With Robert Bork being the chief adviser on the court for Mr. Romney, who do you think he's likely to appoint?"

Romney's website answers that question. "As president, Mitt will nominate judges in the mold of Chief Justice Roberts and Justices Scalia, Thomas and Alito," it says.

Biden led the opposition to Bork's Supreme Court nomination a quarter-century ago. The court hasn't been as high on the political agenda since.

Still, the court went through one of its most contentious terms in 2011-12, concluding with its 5-4 ruling on health care and a split decision on Arizona's immigration law. Already this term, it has heard arguments on racial preferences in college admissions; cases involving gay marriage and voting rights are expected by spring.

"I think it would greatly help the president to talk about the Supreme Court," says Nan Aron of the liberal Alliance for Justice Action Campaign. Either president's appointments "will last long after he leaves office."

20121024-05	09:29	Pam	Re: "Supreme Court Makeup Not a Top Campaign Issue" (reply to MarthaH, above)
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This whole issue has been much on my mind. And it's not just the Supreme Court that is important, though it definitely is. All the appellate judges that get appointed determine which cases make it to the Supreme Court, and they can do a lot of damage too.

I'm pretty fed up with the media (that bogeyman everyone loves to hate), and not just Fox News. Last night on CBS Bob Schieffer said the election is too close to call, that it may come down to the Electoral College, perhaps even the Supreme Court, a la GWB. It seems improper--to me at least--for a national news program to say things that are predictive, not just objective. Saying a thing can affect whether it happens or not. It almost seems as if the TV talking heads are trying to wring as much drama out of this thing as they can.

20121024-07	09:30	SteveB	Re: "Supreme Court Makeup Not a Top Campaign Issue" (reply to Pam, above)
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I think you are so right about the media, Pam!

[20121024-13](#) 11:05 Art Re: "Supreme Court Makeup Not a Top Campaign Issue" (reply to SteveB, above)

Their business is selling news. Don't forget, that is what we honor these days—job creators.

[20121024-16](#) 11:13 Pam Re: "Supreme Court Makeup Not a Top Campaign Issue" (reply to Art, above)

Job creators. Why didn't I think of that?

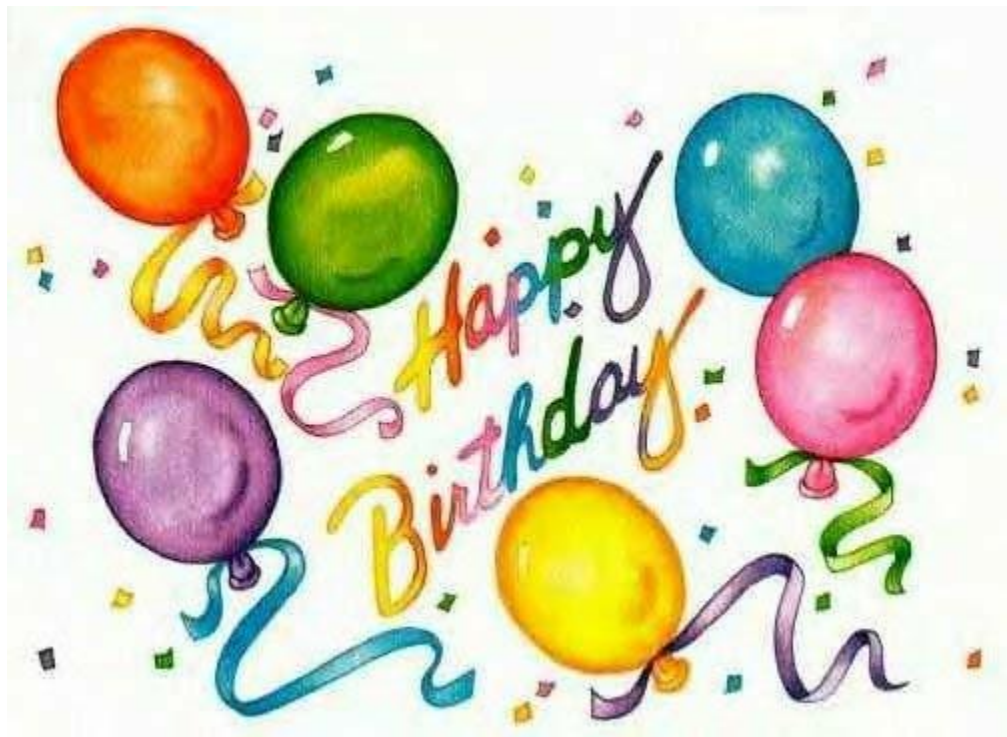
[20121024-03](#) 08:05 SteveB Happy Birthday! Thank You All!

Today marks the one year anniversary of the "official" Friends of the Middle and our FotM Newsletter. It's been a fun, interesting year, to say the least.

During the course of the year, my insistence on the importance of honesty and common courtesy has only cost me three friends (I think only three). These are people who must really, really think politics is important, so I love that we reached them at least a little. I guess they weren't really real friends anyway... Truth is what's important.

To all of you who have contributed to and/or followed this enterprise, I thank you from the bottom of my heart for all your efforts and interest.

As Superman said, may truth always triumph!



[20121024-08](#) 09:52 Pam Re: Happy Birthday! Thank You All! (reply to SteveB, above)

Yaaay!!!!

20121024-15 11:11 Art Re: Happy Birthday! Thank You All! (reply to SteveB, above)

Well done, SIR!!! Happy Birthday indeed! Think how many new friends you made.

20121024-04 08:21 MarthaH Fw: British Humour

BRITISH HUMOUR IS DIFFERENT

These are classified ads, which were actually placed in U.K. Newspapers:

FREE YORKSHIRE TERRIER

8 years old, Hateful little bastard. Bites!

FREE PUPPIES

1/2 Cocker Spaniel, 1/2 sneaky neighbor's dog.

FREE PUPPIES

Mother is a Kennel Club registered German Shepherd.

Father is a Super Dog, able to leap tall fences in a single bound.

COWS, CALVES: NEVER BRED

Also 1 gay bull for sale.

JOINING NUDIST COLONY!

Must sell washer and dryer 💎100.

WEDDING DRESS FOR SALE

Worn once, by mistake. Call Stephanie.

And the WINNER is...

FOR SALE BY OWNER.

Complete set of Encyclopaedia Britannica, 45 volumes.

Excellent condition, €200 or best offer.

No longer needed, got married, wife knows everything.

(Statement of the Century)

Thought from the Greatest Living Scottish Thinker, Billy Connolly:

"If women are so bloody perfect at multitasking, how come they can't have a headache and sex at the same time?"

Children Are Quick

TEACHER: Why are you late?

STUDENT: Class started before I got here.

TEACHER: John, why are you doing your math multiplication on the floor?

JOHN: You told me to do it without using tables.

TEACHER: Glenn, how do you spell 'crocodile?' GLENN: K-R-O-K-O-D-I-A-L'

TEACHER: No, that's wrong

GLENN: Maybe it is wrong, but you asked me how I spell it. (I Love this child)

TEACHER: Donald, what is the chemical formula for water?

DONALD: H I J K L M N O.

TEACHER: What are you talking about?

DONALD: Yesterday you said it's H to O.

TEACHER: Winnie, name one important thing we have today that we didn't have ten years ago.

WINNIE: Me!

TEACHER: Glen, why do you always get so dirty?

GLEN: Well, I'm a lot closer to the ground than you are.

TEACHER: Millie, give me a sentence starting with "I".

MILLIE: I is...

TEACHER: No, Millie, always say, "I am."

MILLIE: All right...I am the ninth letter of the alphabet.

TEACHER: George Washington not only chopped down his father's cherry tree, but also admitted it. Now, Louie, do you know why his father didn't punish him?

LOUIS: Because George still had the axe in his hand?

TEACHER: Now, Simon, tell me frankly, do you say prayers before eating?

SIMON: No sir, I don't have to, my Mom is a good cook.

TEACHER: Clyde, your composition on 'My Dog' is exactly the same as your brother's.. Did you copy his?

CLYDE: No, sir. It's the same dog. (I want to adopt this kid!!!)

TEACHER: What do you call a person who keeps on talking when people are no longer interested?

HAROLD: A teacher

[20121024-09](#) 09:55 Pam Re: British Humour (reply to MarthaH, above)

I LOVE these. Are those really newspaper ads? They're great.

[20121024-14](#) 11:08 Art Re: British Humour (reply to MarthaH, above)

Good ones!

[20121024-11](#) 10:32 Ben Re: "International Monitors at U.S. Polling Spots Draw Criticism from Voter Fraud Groups" (reply to Tom, FotM Newsletter #254)

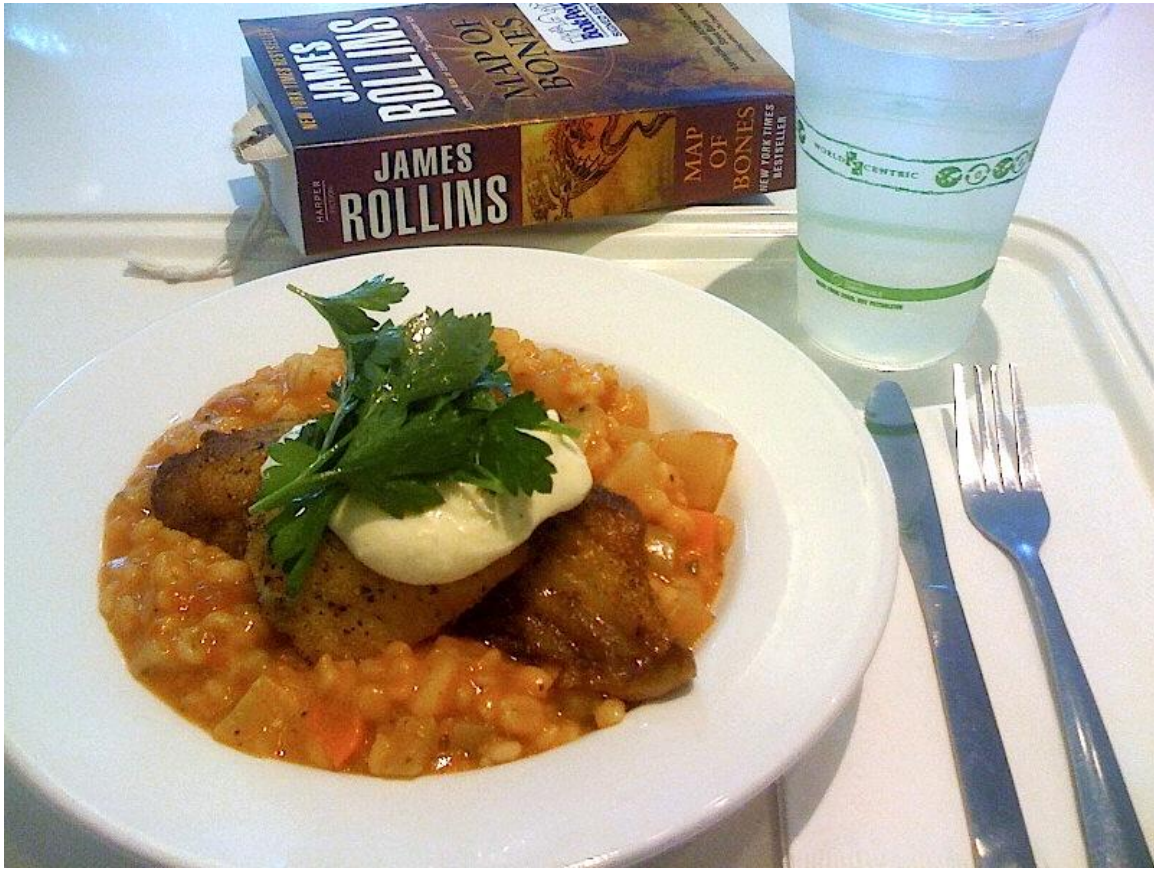
Tom: "I wonder if they will be at that polling place in Philadelphia, where, in 2008, the New Black Panthers were making comments about "white crackers," while playing with their billy clubs?"

Probably not, but as long as we remain free, you may send someone.

[20121024-20](#) 13:52 Ben Photos: Yesterday's & Today's Seafood Lunches at Apple

Apologies, but have too much on my plate to do much more than ship the photos:

Today's Seared Spiced Gulf Black Drum over barley with root vegetables (celery root, golden beets, onions, carrots) with house-made garlic mayo (wow, was THAT stuff rich and yummy!):



Here's yesterday's absolutely awesome green curry shrimp over white rice, with Faith's incredibly succulent "Marathon Chocolate" cake:



"The Donald' Trumps Even Himself for Idiocy" by Oliver Burkeman, *The Guardian*

Oct. 24, 2012, (<http://www.guardian.co.uk/world/2012/oct/24/election-diary-donald-trump?newsfeed=true>)



(Billionaire finally launches his 'devastating' bombshell; Romnesia and the Obamastare; and Lindsay Lohan is the undecided.)

Possibly the least credible statement in the election campaign so far – and that's an extremely crowded field – appeared on the Facebook page of angry multimillionaire and windfarm-hating germophobe Donald Trump, in advance of what he promised would be a gamechanging "October Surprise" revelation about Barack Obama. "This is not a media event or about Donald J Trump," he wrote – a claim that, if true, would have made it unique in his professional career. "This is about the United States of America." Oh, but it very much was about Donald J Trump – and far from being a gamechanging revelation, the much reported revelation, when it finally came, wasn't even a revelation. It was a two-and-three-quarter-minute YouTube video in which the mogul, sitting behind a desk and seemingly channelling the spirit of a Bond villain, offered Obama "a deal I don't believe he can refuse."

It was this: "If Obama opens up and gives his college records and applications, and if he gives his passport applications and record, I will give to a charity of his choice ... a cheque, immediately, for \$5m (£3.1m)." And so the political media slunk away, feeling soiled that they'd let Trump manipulate them so easily, and swearing not to be so gullible again. After all, they'd already fallen for an earlier alleged "October Surprise", when a website with the address Octsurprise.com appeared online, displaying a countdown clock and promising a devastating scoop, only to fizzle out in a lame joke. They weren't about to let that happen a third time. Besides, there was an important story to cover: the celebrity feminist lawyer Gloria Allred, Trump's opposite in almost every sense except in her enthusiasm for self promotion, announced that she'd soon be revealing material damaging to Mitt Romney. It was rumoured to concern testimony he'd given in the 1990s divorce case between the founder of Staples, in which Romney's Bain Capital had invested, and his wife. Could this be the long awaited October Surprise? It's about time we had one of them.

Whatever the so-called experts may claim, everyone knows that American presidential elections are won or lost on the strength of each side's bad puns. Judging by the frequency with which it's deployed, the Obama campaign's "Romnesia" gag must be working wonders. By contrast, the efforts by some Romney supporters to describe the president's facial expression during Monday night's debate as the "Obamastare" don't seem to be catching on. So Republicans should be thankful for a coinage by the conservative commentator Michelle Malkin, "hate couture", which refers to the scandalous fact that people in the fashion industry tend to vote Democratic, and that Diane von Furstenberg made a joke at a recent event about how Republicans weren't allowed.

Fox News has a more elaborate conspiracy theory: "Is [*Vogue* editor] Anna Wintour pressuring designers to steer clear of Ann Romney?" Wintour is a generous Obama backer, but the evidence is pretty thin, consisting primarily of the fact that Von Furstenberg's team haven't responded enthusiastically to Romney wearing their designs. If Fox has it right, though, these could be dangerous times for Isaac Mizrahi, who brazenly defied Wintour by telling an interviewer: "I would love to see Ann Romney in more of my clothes." If he's never heard from again, we'll know why.

Who are the mysterious undecided voters on whom the outcome of this election, and possibly the fate of the planet, now rests? Well, one of them seems to be the drama-prone actor Lindsay Lohan. She previously claimed to be supporting Romney, then, during Monday's debate, retweeted a pro-Obama message. Then she deleted it. Then she tweeted congratulations to both candidates for their "nice work", and suggested that the "severe anxiety" she'd been feeling during their encounter might have exceeded their own. Not that it'll matter: according to investigations by the website E! Online, she's probably not registered to vote.

20121024-23	16:38	Lianne	Eisenhower's "Cross of Iron" Speech
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Thought you would like this excerpt. This is the part of the speech by Eisenhower that I mentioned. Amazing.

Every gun that is made, every warship launched, every rocket fired signifies, in the final sense, a theft from those who hunger and are not fed, those who are cold and are not clothed.

This world in arms is not spending money alone.

It is spending the sweat of its laborers, the genius of its scientists, the hopes of its children.

The cost of one modern heavy bomber is this: a modern brick school in more than 30 cities.

It is two electric power plants, each serving a town of 60,000 population.

It is two fine, fully equipped hospitals.

It is some 50 miles of concrete highway.

We pay for a single fighter with a half million bushels of wheat.

We pay for a single destroyer with new homes that could have housed more than 8,000 people.

This, I repeat, is the best way of life to be found on the road the world has been taking.

This is not a way of life at all, in any true sense. Under the cloud of threatening war, it is humanity hanging from a cross of iron.

Complete speech: <http://www.informationclearinghouse.info/article9743.htm>.

20121024-24	19:31	Bob&BettyW	Fw: Future Terrorism
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[Source of original email unknown. -SteveB]

THIS IS SOME SERIOUS NEWS. IF WHAT I HEARD IS CORRECT NOV 9TH IS A DAY ISLAM CELEBRATES.

Whether or not you heed this advice is up to you, but please read it before deleting it. This man's whole life is fighting terrorism.....and Israel knows about terrorism!!! Read what he says about the U.S. being outdated and where they will likely "strike" the next time..... no more taking airplanes!!!

Advice from an Israeli Agent

Juval Aviv was the Israeli Agent upon whom the movie ' Munich ' was based. He was Golda Meir's bodyguard -- she appointed him to track down and bring to justice the Palestinian terrorists who took the Israeli athletes hostage and killed them during the Munich Olympic Games.

In a lecture in New York City, he shared information that EVERY American needs to know -- but that our government has not yet shared with us.

He predicted the London subway bombing on the Bill O'Reilly show on Fox News, stating publicly that it would happen within a week. At the time, O'Reilly laughed and mocked him saying that in a week he wanted him back on the show. But, unfortunately, within a week the terrorist attack had occurred. Juval Aviv gave intelligence (via what he had gathered in Israel and the Middle East) to the Bush Administration about 9/11 a month before it occurred. His report specifically said they would use planes as bombs and target high profile buildings and monuments.

Congress has since hired him as a security consultant.

Now for his future predictions. He predicts the next terrorist attack on the U.S. Will occur within the next few months. Forget hijacking airplanes, because he says terrorists will NEVER try and hijack a plane again as they know the people onboard will never go down quietly again. Aviv believes our airport security is a joke -- that we have been reactionary, rather than proactive in developing strategies that are truly effective.

For example:

1. Our airport technology is outdated.. We look for metal, and the new explosives are made of plastic.
2. He talked about how some idiot tried to light his shoe on fire. Because of that, now everyone has to take off their shoes. A group of idiots tried to bring aboard liquid explosives. Now we can't bring liquids on board.. He says he's waiting for some suicidal maniac to pour liquid explosive on his underwear; at which point, security will have us all traveling naked! Every strategy we have is 'reactionary.'
3. We only focus on security when people are heading to the gates.

Aviv says that if a terrorist attack targets airports in the future, they will target busy times on the front end of the airport when/where people are checking in. It would be easy for someone to take two suitcases of explosives, walk up to a busy check-in line, ask a person next to them to watch their bags for a minute while they run to the restroom or get a drink, and then detonate the bags BEFORE security even gets involved.. In Israel , security checks bags BEFORE people can even ENTER the airport. Aviv says the next terrorist attack here in America is imminent and will involve suicide bombers and non-suicide bombers in places where large groups of people congregate. (I.e., Disneyland, Las Vegas casinos, big cities (New York, San Francisco, Chicago, etc..) and that it will also include shopping malls, subways in rush hour, train stations, etc., as well as rural America this time (Wyoming, Montana, etc.).

The attack will be characterized by simultaneous detonations around the country (terrorists like big impact), involving at least 5-8 cities, including rural areas.

Aviv says terrorists won't need to use suicide bombers in many of the larger cities, because at places like the MGM Grand in Las Vegas , they can simply valet park a car loaded with explosives and walk away. Aviv says all of the above is well known in intelligence circles, but that our U. S. Government does not want to 'alarm American citizens' with the facts. The world is quickly going to become 'a different place', and issues like 'global warming' and political correctness will become totally irrelevant.

On an encouraging note, he says that Americans don't have to be concerned about being nuked. Aviv says the terrorists who want to destroy America will not use sophisticated weapons. They like to use suicide as a front-line approach. It's cheap, it's easy, it's effective; and they have an infinite abundance of young militants more than willing to 'meet their destiny'.

He also says the next level of terrorists, over which America should be most concerned, will not be coming from abroad.. But will be, instead, 'homegrown' -- having attended and been educated in our own schools and universities right here in the U. S. He says to look for 'students' who frequently travel back and forth to the Middle East .. These young terrorists will be most dangerous because they will know our language and will fully understand the habits of Americans; but that we Americans won't know/understand a thing about them.

Aviv says that, as a people, Americans are unaware and uneducated about the terrorist threats we will, inevitably, face. America still has only have a handful of Arabic and Farsi speaking people in our intelligence networks, and Aviv says it is critical that we change that fact SOON. So, what can America do to protect itself? From an intelligence perspective, Aviv says the U.S. needs to stop relying on satellites and technology for intelligence. We need to, instead, follow Israel 's, Ireland 's and England 's hands-on examples of human intelligence, both from an infiltration perspective as well as to trust 'aware' citizens to help. We need to engage and educate ourselves as citizens; however, our U. S. government continues to treat us, its citizens, 'like babies'. Our government thinks we 'can't handle the truth' and are concerned that& ;nbs p;we'll panic if we understand the realities of terrorism. Aviv says this is a deadly mistake.

Aviv recently created/executed a security test for our Congress, by placing an empty briefcase in five well-traveled spots in five major cities. The results? Not one person called 911 or sought a policeman to check it out. In fact, in Chicago , someone tried to steal the briefcase! In comparison, Aviv says that citizens of Israel are so well 'trained' that an unattended bag or package would be reported in seconds by citizen(s) who know to publicly shout, 'Unattended Bag!' The area would be quickly & calmly cleared by the citizens themselves. But, unfortunately, America hasn't been yet 'hurt enough' by terrorism for their government to fully understand the need to educate its citizens or for the government to understand that it's their citizens who are, inevitably, the best first-line of defense against terrorism.

Aviv also was concerned about the high number of children here in America who were in preschool and kindergarten after 9/11, who were 'lost' without parents being able to pick them up, and about our schools that had no plan in place to best care for the students until parents could get there (in New York City, this was days, in some cases!).

He stresses the importance of having a plan, that's agreed upon within your family, to respond to in the event of a terrorist emergency. He urges parents to contact their children's schools and demand that the schools, too, develop plans of actions, as they do in Israel .

Does your family know what to do if you can't contact one another by phone? Where would you gather in an emergency? He says we should all have a plan that is easy enough for even our youngest children to remember and follow.

Aviv says that the U. S. government has in force a plan that, in the event of another terrorist attack, will immediately cut-off EVERYONE's ability to use cell phones, blackberries, etc., as this is the preferred communication source used by terrorists and is often the way that their bombs are detonated.

How will you communicate with your loved ones in the event you cannot speak? You need to have a plan. If you believe what you have just read, then you must feel compelled to send to every concerned parent or guardian, grandparents, uncles, aunts, whatever and whomever.

If you understand, and believe what you have just read, then you must feel compelled to send this to every concerned parent, guardian, grandparents, uncles, aunts, whomever. Don't stop there. In addition to sharing this via e-mail, contact and discuss this information with whomever it makes sense to. Make contingency plans with those you care about. Better that you have plans in place, and never have to use them, than to have no plans in place, and find you needed them.

If you choose not to share this, or not to have a plan in place, and nothing ever occurs -- good for you! Telling yourself after the fact, "I should have sent this to so and so, but deleted it as so much trash from old Bill Jones, plus, I just didn't believe it", will not change anything. You were alerted, had the chance to do something, and instead of erring on the side of caution, you chose to disregard, if nothing else, a sensible, valuable warning.

20121024-26 21:55 SteveB Re: Future Terrorism (Reply to Bob&BettyW, above)
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I wouldn't worry too much. This email has been circulating since, at least, July, 2007 or even 2005, so any predictions are slightly out of kilter.

Read: http://urbanlegends.about.com/od/errata/a/juval_aviv.htm.

A 2006 article in *The Guardian* reported that "Aviv never served in Mossad, or any Israeli intelligence organisation," and "his nearest approximation to spy work was as a lowly gate guard for the airline El Al in New York in the early '70s."

And: <http://www.snopes.com/rumors/soapbox/juvalaviv.asp>.

20121024-25 20:05 Marissa Re: 'Where Do We Come From, Grandpa?' (reply to SteveB, FotM Newsletter #252)

Thank you, Dad, for including Malaya in your *FotM Newsletter*. I will definitely let her read it when she is old enough to understand. I read it with Pete and we both agree that you are right on point with what we want to teach her. We are going to teach her about all religions and raise her in a spiritual household that is open to conversation and based on truth. I hope the cookie shop is going well. I would love to try some if you are able to bring them when you come. Malaya and I are doing well and I am actually getting lots of sleep. She is a very good and peaceful little baby. I can't wait for you to meet her :)



Starvation can lead to health hazards

DEAR DR. DONOHUE: My weight is totally over the top. I am 5 feet 7 inches tall and weigh close to 3 0 0 pounds. I was average weight in high school but now I am



difficult to meet daily protein, vitamin and mineral requirements.

Get to a dietitian for diet advice that provides for essential nutrients while paring down calorie intake sensibly. Your local hospital should be able to put you on the track of one. Combine this with an exercise

Rally against apathy draws small crowd

OKLAHOMA CITY (AP) — Organizers had high hopes for a rally Saturday to battle apathy in civic life, but the event drew only a fraction of the anticipated crowd.

Thomas Payne, a spokesman for the Coalition of Civic Leadership, said he was hoping for about 25,000 participants to hear four hours of entertainment, poetry, songs and speeches.

Instead, the rally drew about 300 people, many of whom were security guards, petition circula-

tes, reporters and campaign workers handing out pamphlets.

"We understand that we had a tragic incident, and sometimes these types of incidents deter people from mass assemblies," Payne said, referring to the bombing that rocked the Olympic Games in Atlanta early Saturday, killing two people and injuring at least 130 others.

Another reason for the low turnout, Payne said, was just what his group is trying to battle — ap-

athy.

"Still, he was optimistic. "This is a beginning, not an end," Payne said.

The rally began with a march from Ralph Ellison Library to the Capitol steps a few blocks north. Payne said he was expecting groups from Millwate, Tulsa, Lawton, Enid and Muskogee.

Payne said organizers started planning the rally in April to "motivate, reclaim and renew our community."

Total lunar eclipse will be broadcast live on Northwoods Public Radio

If you're a stargazer, join KAXE 91.7 FM for a special skywatch on Sunday evening, Nov. 28. A spectacular view of the total lunar eclipse is predicted for northern Minnesota. KAXE and Itasca Community College physics professor Aaron Wenger will

If it's cloudy, call the station first for more information.

KAXE will broadcast the stargazing, and Wenger's comments about the lunar eclipse, live on 91.7 FM, beginning around midnight.

KAXE 91.7 FM is Northwoods Public Radio, a 17-

POLICE LOG

Police arrest everyone on February 22nd

The following is a partial list of the Norton Police Department's police log.

Sunday, Feb. 18

1:36 a.m. — Officer reported checking out



Parents keep kids home to protest school closure

SAN FRANCISCO (AP) — Parents kept 200 elementary school students home from school for an entire day in a parent-organized protest of the district's plans to close the school.

Monday's boycott included

up even though most of the students didn't, and that it was largely business as usual for the remaining students who studied in small classes.

"I know I'm the principal," she said. "But I'm not going to

<http://www.history.com/photos/allied-military-leaders/photo2>



—Friends of the Middle,
Steven W. Baker (SteveB), Editor/Moderator

You can subscribe to this free, no-obligation, daily Newsletter filled with lively, intelligent discussion centered on politics and government, but ranging to anything members feel is important, interesting, or entertaining. To subscribe, use the form on our website or blog, or simply reply to this email with "Yes" or "Start" in the Subject line, then add our email address (below) to your Contacts or Safe list. To opt-out, reply with "No" or "Stop" in the subject line.

Welcome to all our new members who may be here for the first time. We want to hear from YOU! To submit your comment, you can use the form on our website or blog, or reply to this email with your two cents worth. Be sure to sign with your desired user name.

Your email address will always be kept strictly confidential.

Feel free to forward this Newsletter to anyone you know on the Right or the Left, though your motives might be different in each case. Regardless, PASS IT ON! Help keep your friends and acquaintances informed and thinking.

<http://www.FriendsOfTheMiddle.org>
FriendsOfTheMiddle@hotmail.com

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