



Executive Alert Extra



VOL. 7, NO. 6

WHAT'S HAPPENING AT THE NCPA

NOVEMBER/DECEMBER 2001

Terrorism in America

The horrific events of September 11 marked a turning point in our nation's history, and served as a wake-up call to all Americans. In the hours and days following the attacks, the Internet was flooded with people searching for information and answers. Congress, showing a united front, momentarily dropped partisan considerations and began to seek action on a variety of policy fronts, from stimulating the economy to securing our homeland.

In this time, the NCPA has sought to help in the way we know best – by providing policy makers and the public with the most comprehensive collection of information available and publishing timely, free-market analysis of policy proposals. The NCPA launched a new online initiative, "Terrorism in America," easily accessed from both our home page (www.ncpa.org) and our site for high school debaters (www.debate-central.org). These sites have links to more than 1,200 studies, articles and opinion editorials.

Debate-Central has also become an essential resource, as this year's high school debate topic could not be more timely – Resolved: That the United States federal government should establish a foreign policy significantly limiting the use of weapons of mass destruction. The site features in-depth information in areas including terrorism, national missile defense, biological weapons and chemical weapons, among others. The site also features a bulletin board where students can ask questions of leading experts, including Dr. Hans Mark, a former Secretary of the Air Force, who headed the spy satellite program under President Carter and oversaw the missile defense program under President Clinton.

To support this ongoing program, contact the NCPA's Development Department at 972-386-6272.



Robert McTeer, President of the Federal Reserve Bank of Dallas (left), and Wayne Angell, Chief Economist for Bear Stearns (right), at a recent Policy Forum.

Angell Says Fed Can Still Loosen

The nation's economy is going through a very difficult time, made even worse by the events of September 11. That was the message of former Federal Reserve Governor Wayne Angell as he addressed a Policy Forum co-hosted by the NCPA and the Federal Reserve Bank of Dallas.

Angell, who currently serves as the chief economist for Bear Stearns, Inc., did offer some hope to the group of Dallas business leaders assembled for his speech. His Index of 10 commodities, for which he is widely known, shows that inflation is not a worry. Therefore, he said, there was plenty of room for the Fed to continue to lower the discount rate, and that he thought they would do so by 50 basis points by end of year. He also said he thought it was reasonable for people to put money in the market over the next several months.



Michael Whalen

Whalen Joins NCPA Board

The NCPA is proud to announce the election of Michael Whalen to the NCPA Board of Directors. He is the president and chief executive officer of Heart of America Restaurants and Inns, headquartered in Moline, Illinois. He was named entrepreneur of the year by Inc. Magazine in 1991 and won the U.S. Small Business Administration's Entrepreneurial Success Award in 1993.



Gov. Pete du Pont, NCPA Policy Chairman, speaks at an NCPA news conference.



NCPA Senior Fellow Bruce Bartlett speaks at the American Enterprise Institute.

NCPA Unveils Social Security Reform Plan

NCPA President John C. Goodman provided the president's Social Security reform commission with a roadmap for transforming the Social Security system from a pay-as-you-go program into a funded system. In a news conference, Goodman and NCPA Policy Chairman Gov. Pete du Pont described how the government could fulfill its promises to younger workers without having to raise taxes on future workers at the time today's young workers retire.

"If we act quickly, we can guarantee today's 20-year-olds that they will get all the benefits they have been promised," Goodman told the commission. "However, if we delay action for another decade, keeping our promises to the next generation of workers is very unlikely."



John C. Goodman (left), Gov. Pete du Pont (right) and Jack Strayer, Vice President of External Affairs (center), at the NCPA's news conference.

Bartlett Discusses Tax Policy

When Is a Tax Not a Tax? That was the question NCPA Senior Fellow Bruce Bartlett sought to answer at a recent seminar hosted by the American Enterprise Institute.

Bartlett argued that many provisions of the tax code are barely distinguishable from spending programs. For example, congressional spending programs are often put into effect as "tax credits" and eventually become classified as "tax expenditures." Bartlett concluded that the definitions, which are used by the Joint Tax Committee and by the Treasury Department, are often in conflict with one another and with common sense.

NCPA & Wye River Group Release Report

The bipartisan Wye River Group on Healthcare (WRGH), of which the NCPA is a part, released a groundbreaking report in October that advocates giving employees even more healthcare choices and more security than Congressional leaders have been contemplating.

NCPA President John C. Goodman appeared with Congressman DeMint and others at a briefing at the Capitol to release the report.



Rep. Jim DeMint (R-S.C.) (left) and NCPA President John C. Goodman (right) speak at a Congressional briefing hosted by the Wye River Group on Healthcare.



Greg Scandlen, Senior Fellow, speaks at the State Policy Network's annual meeting.

Scandlen Speaks at SPN Meeting

NCPA Senior Fellow Greg Scandlen addressed state health insurance trends and defined contribution health insurance as the wave of the future during a special one-day session of the annual meeting of the State Policy Network (SPN). Also participating in the conference, NCPA Senior Vice President and COO Drew Anderson moderated a panel on foundation fund raising.

SPN is a collection of leaders from state-based think tanks. Over 150 people attended this year's conference, which was the largest such annual conference to date.

NCPA Web Sites Undergo Facelift

The NCPA recently unveiled its new online look, with a complete redesign of all four of the NCPA's online sites that provide a clearer sense of consistency and interconnection.

The concept behind the new streamlined look is to make it much easier for the user to read and access all NCPA publications, news releases, opinion columns and event information. Users can also easily subscribe to the NCPA's several policy newsletters, including Daily Policy Digest, What's New @ The NCPA, Weekly Health Policy Digest, and Greg Scandlen's Health Policy Comments. Other enhancements include an improved search engine, an opinion poll and a daily issue highlight. Please check out our new sites, and tell us what you think.



www.ncpa.org



www.debate-central.org



www.womenintheeconomy.org



www.mysocialsecurity.org

Burnett Speaks on Environmental Issues

NCPA Senior Fellow H. Sterling Burnett traveled to Biloxi, Mississippi, to speak to the Southern States Annual Environmental Conference and Exposition. Burnett discussed the need for state laws that encourage improved environmental performance by industry, such as laws that shield companies from sanctions if they discover an environmental problem during a self-audit, so long as they correct the problem. Self-audit laws encourage proactive corrections from companies that might otherwise have an incentive to cover-up problems.

Also in October, Burnett participated in a debate over the role of the media and global warming, sponsored by the Environmental Journalism Center at the University of North Texas.

NCPA 2001-2002 Event Schedule

The NCPA is pleased to announce the following events for 2001-2002. Details for each event will be forthcoming. Please contact the Events Department at 972-386-6272 to reserve your place at one of these exciting events or register online at www.ncpa.org, on our new user-friendly, secure registration form.



November 2, 2001

NCPA's Hatton W. Sumners Distinguished Lecture Series
*A Conversation with former Senator **J. Robert Kerrey***

November 2-4, 2001

NCPA's Hatton W. Sumners Scholars University



December 6, 2001

NCPA's Hatton W. Sumners Distinguished Lecture Series
*A Conversation with Congressman **Henry J. Hyde***



January 2002 (date t/b/d)

NCPA's Hatton W. Sumners Distinguished Lecture Series
***Rick Perry**, Governor of Texas*



February 14, 2002

NCPA/Federal Reserve Bank of Dallas Policy Forum
***Philip K. Howard**, author of "Death of Common Sense"*

The Hillcrest Foundation, founded by Mrs. W.W. Caruth, Sr., has made the Policy Forum series possible through a grant to the NCPA.



March 14, 2002

NCPA's Hatton W. Sumners Distinguished Lecture Series
***Paul Gigot**, Editorial Page Editor for the Wall Street Journal*



April 16, 2002

NCPA's Hatton W. Sumners Distinguished Lecture Series
***Robert Gates**, former CIA Director*

Staff News



Morgan Reynolds, Ph.D.

The NCPA congratulates Dr. Morgan Reynolds, who has taken a leave of absence to serve as the chief economist with the Labor Department.

H. Sterling Burnett has been promoted to the position of Senior Fellow, and has attained his Ph.D. in applied philosophy specializing in environmental ethics from Bowling Green State University. Burnett has specialized in environmental, energy and firearm policy for the NCPA for almost seven years.

Janice Estes has joined the NCPA as our new controller. In this role she is responsible for the NCPA's overall financial operation, which encompasses financial reporting, internal control and regulatory compliance. She has more than 20 years of financial accounting experience in both for profit and not for profit organizations, including seven years as Chief Financial Officer for United We Stand America, Inc., and The Perot Projects Group.

Jon Kokko has joined the NCPA as our new network administrator. Jon is responsible for the operation of the internal network and maintenance of all the NCPA's computer equipment.

Executive Alert Extra®

Editor..... Sean Tuffnell

The NCPA is a research and education organization operating under Section 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code. You can contribute to our effort by mailing your donation to our Dallas headquarters or logging on to our web site at www.ncpa.org, and clicking "Join Us."

National Center for Policy Analysis
12655 N. Central Expressway, Suite 720
Dallas, Texas 75243
(972) 386-NCPA
e-mail: ncpa@ncpa.org.