

Trust

The Pew Charitable Trusts

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***Religions in the U.S.: Broad and Active
Putting Factory Farming Out to Pasture
Improving State Government Management
A Mining Law for the 21st Century***



Hard Facts

Data-based information is the fuel of democracies, providing the means by which we as a nation can address problems. Our founding fathers understood that principle. "Knowledge will forever govern ignorance," said James Madison, "and a people who mean to be their own governors must arm themselves with the power that knowledge brings."

This tenet guides The Pew Charitable Trusts as we use the power of knowledge in two distinct ways. In our work to improve public policy, Pew supports specific, nonpartisan solutions based on compelling evidence. When our aim is to fill information gaps in public discussions, we produce facts and analyses that policy makers and the public will find useful. Our goal—in advocating or informing—always starts with clear and defensible facts and is guided by impeccable research.

From the start, American civic life has had a broad religious component. The connection was recognized some 175 years ago by Alexis de Tocqueville, who identified a strong strand of our national DNA: "Religion in America takes no direct part in the government of society, but it must be regarded as the first of their political institutions," he wrote. "This opinion is not peculiar to a class of citizens or to a party, but it belongs to the whole nation and to every rank of society."

That observation might be even truer today. Most Americans call themselves religious, more faiths are being practiced in this country than ever before, and the intersection of religion and public life is dynamic, often contentious.

On any given day, we are likely to read about, among other topics, challenges to the doctrine of the separation of church and state, the religious convictions and alliances of politicians, the funding of faith-based organizations, and religious-based considerations of abortion, the death penalty, gay marriage, foreign policy, national security or scientific issues from stem-cell research to climate change.

Since 2001, the Pew Forum on Religion and Public Life has been promoting a deeper understanding of religion's place in American affairs, and this year, it released *The U.S. Religious Landscape Survey*, a comprehensive look at the role of religion in the personal and public lives of many Americans. This landmark study documents just how diverse and religiously committed—though not dogmatic—Americans are, and confirms the close link between Americans' religious affiliation, beliefs and practices and their social and political attitudes.

The information and insights will prove valuable in today's public discussions and in serving as a baseline for subsequent surveys—starting with a follow-up later this year on life in a religiously pluralistic society and on religion and political identity.

Hard facts are also fundamental to Pew's advocacy work. The Pew Campaign for Responsible Mining seeks reform of the General Mining Act of 1872, which gave prospectors incentives to develop terrain rich in gold, silver and other hardrock minerals by offering public lands royalty-free at \$5 per acre or less. With the pioneer-era law still in place, corporations have been snapping up the bargain, resulting in an 81-percent jump in mining claims over the past five years, including more than 1,100 claims on lands adjacent to the Grand Canyon.

The campaign's fact sheets explain why, for the sake of future generations as well as our own, it is high time to

reclaim our public lands through responsible reform: ending the land and mineral give-away, protecting national parks and other sensitive grounds, creating 21st-century environmental standards and financial-responsibility requirements and accelerating the cleanup of abandoned mines.

Hard facts have also brought to light changes in animal husbandry. Gone is the family farm, with herds of cattle on the open plains or chickens and pigs feeding contentedly in the barnyard. The reality is that most market-bound livestock spend shortened lives in concentrated, or confined, animal feeding operations.

But, as the Pew Commission on Industrial Farm Animal Production confirmed in a major report released this spring, the mechanized process has serious impacts on public health, the environment, animals and rural communities. For instance, animals routinely receive antibiotics to prevent illness, but this indiscriminate use of medicine is contributing to antibiotic-resistant strains of disease, a clear threat to human health. The commission has issued practical recommendations for reform while simultaneously assuring American consumers that quality food products at reasonable prices will continue to be available.

"Facts," said Winston Churchill, "are better than dreams." Churchill had his dreams, of course, but knew he could reach them only by gathering rock-solid information to inform his decisions and guide his leadership. For Pew as well, the first step to serving as a credible and compelling voice, either in pursuing policy reform or in public discourse on an issue of moment, is to gather the hard facts. Our work must always begin with using the power of knowledge to best serve the public interest.

Rebecca W. Rimel
President and CEO

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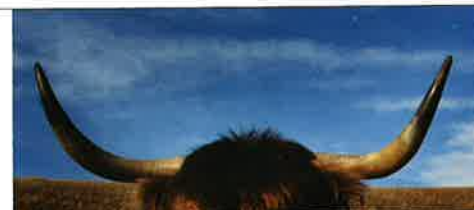
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Cover: Captions and credits on page 22.

A Carnivore Nation's Dilemma

2

Industrialized animal farms put meat on the table—and create problems. Bill McKibben examines a Pew commission's recommendations to reduce the negative effects.



Getting It Done

9

The Government Performance Project serves states with report cards—and with follow-up support—so that they can provide their citizens better service.



A Backyard Disaster in Montana— And Next Door to Everyone

14

Ed Dobb looks across town, and across the West, and finds a gross misuse of public lands due to an 1872 mining law. Can it be changed?



Pilgrims' Progress, American Style

22

The Pew Forum on Religion & Public Life shows again why the role of religion in American life is not an underlying discussion but the discussion.



Departments

NOTES FROM THE PRESIDENT

Facts are the starting point for Pew's initiatives.

Inside
front
cover

PROGRAM INVESTMENTS

29

BRIEFINGS

Primary voting problems, carbon nanotubes like asbestos?, Mark Dion and Bartram's Garden, foreclosures state by state, conflicts of interest for doctors, Dear Fleisher, pre-K status, Pew Internet project on writing electronically, Pew Center on Global Climate Change at 10, Settlement at 100, Stateline.org, Pew News Now.

34

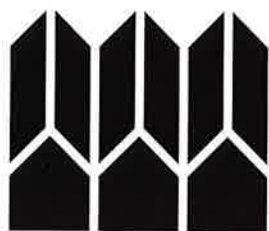
LETTERS

39

The Pew Charitable Trusts serves the public interest by providing information, advancing policy solutions and supporting civic life. Based in Philadelphia, with an office in Washington, D.C., the Trusts will invest about \$280 million in fiscal year 2009 to provide organizations and citizens with fact-based research and practical solutions for challenging issues.

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A Carnivore Nation's **DILEMMA**

By Bill McKibben

A 3,000,000-gallon waste lagoon at the 500,000-pig Circle Four Farms in Utah. Elsewhere in the U.S., such storage areas spilled, especially after heavy rains, and sewage made its way into lakes and rivers. Neighbors complain about the odor, too.



A Pew commission
has ideas to minimize
the damaging impacts of
huge-scale animal farming.



I live in bucolic Vermont, traditional home of thousands of small dairy farms. But even here the trend seems inexorable—every year more of those family dairies disappear, and the ones that remain grow steadily larger. You don't see the cows in the field—they're all inside, standing on concrete, in what only a sentimentalist would still call a milking parlor. Most of the farmhands come in, illegally, from the border at the other corner of the continent. And it's all, pretty much, invisible.

Now take note of a new report, *Putting Meat on the Table: Industrial Farm Animal Production in America*, the final in a series from the Pew Commission on Industrial Farm Animal Production. It tries to help readers and policy makers see through the pole-barn walls (and the spreadsheets) that obscure the huge revolution in American farming in recent decades: its transition to an essentially industrial enterprise. Nowhere is that more evident than in the meat industry, which is where the commission focuses: on the concentrated animal-feeding operations that now supply most all our pork and poultry.

The numbers are startling. We have chicken barns as long as football fields, some holding 25,000 birds. One single hog farm in Utah boasts half a million head of swine. And this industrialization of animals has worked, at least in bottom-line terms. You can bring a broiler chicken to market weight in 45 days now, down from 84 half a century ago. Meat is, by any historical standard, cheap. In 1979 Americans on average bought 194 pounds of meat annually, and it took 4.2 percent of

© AP Photo/Douglas C. Pizac



The astonishing increase in the number and size of confined animal operations has been spawned largely by the very structure of American farm supports, which always has been skewed in a way that concentrates farming in fewer and fewer hands. As both of these reports [the Pew study and one by the Union of Concerned Scientists] make clear, the so-called efficiency of industrial animal production is an illusion, made possible by cheap grain, cheap water and prison-like confinement systems.

Editorial, The New York Times

their income; now we buy 221 pounds apiece, and it requires only 2.1 percent of earnings. It's the very hallmark of "efficiency."

But that efficiency comes with a cost. Or rather, costs—big ones. The Pew commission singles out four for careful scrutiny.

Public health, first. When you put enormous numbers of creatures in the same place, they spread disease easily, to each other and to human beings (think salmonella). They're also fed great quantities of antibiotics, sometimes to slow down those diseases but mostly to make livestock grow more quickly—and the fact that half the antimicrobials in America disappear into farm animals clearly has much to do with the emergence of resistant disease strains.

The commissioners, among other things, make a compelling case for a link to the multiple-resistant strains of staph now becoming eerily common in America. The so-called MRSA bacterium can also be found in a quarter of all pigs in some samples, and in some places pig farmers are 760 times more likely than the general population to carry the bacteria.

Oh, and then there's the little things—farm kids whose asthma rate tops 44 percent because of the bad air they breathe, people dying of hydrogen sulfide poisoning when they turn over the manure in vast pits.

About that manure—it's at the center

of the next big risk the commission cites, this one to the environment. That farm in Utah with half a million head of swine? It produces more sewage each year than . . . Manhattan. Waste streams like that work toxic mischief on streams and estuaries—even oceans, where vast dead zones grow ever larger at the mouths of rivers that drain farmland. (And unlike towns and cities, too many of these facilities don't come with sewage treatment plants; the owners are allowed to put the costs on whoever lives downstream.)

Water use in this kind of farming is profligate—a five-pound, grain-fed chicken represents 2,000 gallons of water. Industrial livestock farming is also an enormous contributor to global warming. The commission cites data showing that, globally, meat-raising produces more greenhouse gas emissions than even automobiles.

The commission's third cost is perhaps the most obvious—efficiency like this comes at the sacrifice of animal welfare. If you want chicken at \$1.29 a pound, then you can't afford to give the chicken much of a life. Many of these animals never see the outdoors. They're caged in ways that keep them from moving, and certainly from behaving, like animals. They're bred to be, essentially, machines: What do you think of when you hear the word *bovine*?

The commission—clearly concerned after many visits to the facilities—concludes unequivocally: "The most



Farm Sanctuary



B. Anthony Stewart/National Geographic/Getty Images

[The Pew report] confirms what our organization has been saying for quite some time—that the industrialized type of agriculture is not sustainable, . . . and it's not necessarily the best system for society.

This is something that we have seen that is driven by consumers. . . . They are concerned about the quality of living, the quality of their environment. I think it's a sign of the times. I think that we must heed the warning.

**Russ Kremer, president,
Missouri Farmers Union**

intensive confinement systems, such as restrictive veal crates, hog gestation pens, restrictive farrowing crates and battery cages for poultry, all prevent the animal a normal range of movement and constitute inhumane treatment." That's about as blunt as the warning on a pack of cigarettes. You could post it over the meat case at your local supermarket.

And if animals suffer, humans and their communities don't do much better. In the section on Rural Life, the commissioners let out the dirty secret of country living in 21st-century America: It's poor and getting poorer. And the more industrial agriculture there is in your neighborhood, the worse off you become—more confined or concentrated animal feeding operations in your county, more people on food stamps.

To a large degree, that's because the farms don't benefit the regional economy. Those big battery poultry houses aren't buying their grain locally—they're bringing it in from some equally oversized corn operation somewhere else.

And even the people who still have jobs and incomes find their quality of life suffering, if nothing else from the stench that can hang over a whole region when you crowd that many animals together. "The smell can have dramatic impacts for the surrounding community," the commissioners write. "Social gatherings are affected through the disruption of routines that normally provide a sense of belonging

and identity—backyard barbecues, church attendance and visits with friends and family."

In many ways, the panel's list of complaints is not novel. Anyone who's read bestsellers like Eric Schlosser's *Fast Food Nation* or Michael Pollan's *Omnivore's Dilemma* has seen the same ground covered (and, it must be said, in somewhat more gripping prose—they're unlikely to make a movie from this report). And in fact, the commissioners ignore some of the most obvious problems with our agriculture, including the fact that our food doesn't taste very good and isn't making us very healthy—anyone really want to argue that we're better off than we were in 1970 because we're eating 27 more pounds of red meat annually (or, to put it another way, 108 more Quarter-Pounders)? No.

In a sense, what makes this compelling reading is the list of people who put it together: not outsiders, but people who have played vital roles in the industry. Dan Glickman, for instance, former secretary of agriculture, or Tom Dempster, Republican state senator from South Dakota, or Dan Jackson, former president of the Western Montana Stockgrowers Association.

Commission chair John Carlin, former governor of Kansas, writes in his introduction that he was initially reluctant to get involved because "the nature of partisan politics makes the

Above: Confined chickens.

Left: A female pig tries to escape her gestation crate—not for the first time, either, judging from the abrasions around her eyes, indicating constant rubbing against the crate's metal bars.



This report has provided me, and others who are attempting to clean up the Chesapeake Bay and restore Maryland's water quality, an important tool for finding the middle ground that will allow our agriculture heritage to shine while improving water quality.

I look forward to sharing this report with the other members of the National Association of Attorneys General.

Douglas Gansler, attorney general of Maryland

discussion of any issue facing our country extremely challenging." But it was Carlin, say other commission members, who really helped set the tone. At the end of an early hearing in California, recalls commissioner Fred Kirschenmann, "all the guys from the industry were up there saying, 'There's no problem, there's nothing wrong.' And John, who's a fairly conservative guy, looked at them: 'We're really here to help you. But you're telling us there are no problems, and we all know there are.' After that, the room got kind of quiet."

Kirschenmann clearly emerged as one of the central thinkers on the panel. An early convert to organic farming and a prolific and highly regarded writer on sustainable agriculture, he authored a five-page "conclusion" on behalf of the commission that reads like an essay by the Kentucky farmer and writer Wendell Berry. It delves deeper than the rest of the report, asking tough questions about whether industrial agriculture can survive a future where oil becomes expensive, water scarce and climate unstable.

He argues that we will need to back away from the very idea of concentration—the heart of the factory-farm paradigm—in favor of dispersion: scattered renewable energy like wind

and sun instead of concentrated forms like the fossil fuels; cultivation of diverse crops ("polycultures") that can cope with periodic drought and heat waves better than concentrated, single-crop monocultures. Think cows wandering in pasture and munching on sun-fed, rain-watered grass, leaving behind fertilizer. Think less meat, think more farmers.

Kirschenmann is a realist, though, and describes several transitional farms: a 3,000-head California dairy, for instance, where the farmers manage to treat their animals and the surrounding environment well enough to earn a nod of approval, or a chicken operation that produces 90,000 dozen eggs a day but also composts the manure and sells it to landscapers and gardeners.

"Tweaking the current monoculture confinement with such methods will be very useful in the short term," he concludes, "but as energy, water and climate resources undergo dramatic changes, it is the commission's judgment that U.S. agricultural production will need to transition to much more biologically diverse systems, organized into biological synergies that exchange energy, improve soil quality and conserve water and other resources. . . . Long-term sustainability will require a transformation from an industrial economy to an ecological economy." That's a pretty radical notion for a former secretary of agriculture to sign off on.

The report ends with a set of recommendations, some of them tweaks, most that would result in large-scale change. In the area of public health, for instance, the commissioners call for the end of the use of antibiotics except to treat sick animals—a step already pioneered by several European governments. Among other things, they point out that farmers can obtain antibiotics easily online, a loophole



Grass-fed Highland cattle on the Kammerzell family ranch in Washington state.



Shoppers find sustainably-raised meat as well as fruits and vegetables at the Clark Park Farmers' Market in West Philadelphia.



Flooded animal-waste ponds are one source of "creeping dead zones" in offshore waters, where lack of oxygen kills off almost everything, as in the Mississippi River Delta.



Amanda Smith/Spokane Spokesman-Review/Myn



M. Ledger



Liam Gurney, Space Science and Engineering Center, University of Wisconsin-Madison and the MODIS science team.

PUTTING RECOMMENDATIONS ON THE TABLE

It's a mystery why the report excluded the most current research on food animals and the stringent animal care and environmental practices required by food-animal producer certification programs.

The Pew commission report seeks nothing less than to radically change American food-animal production.

Brian Kramer, North Dakota Food and Fiber Alliance, quoted in *The Bismarck* (N.D.) *Tribune*

Regulation varies widely from state to state. Most state regulation is not adequate. There are laws on the books, but not enough resources out in the field to regulate CAFOs.

We found that the agro-industrial complex has an overwhelming and undue amount of influence at most every level of government. They dominate the research, too.

Robert Martin, Pew commission executive director, quoted in *The Joplin* (Mo.) *Globe*

Despite what these and many other so-called "experts" assert about modern livestock production, those involved in animal agriculture know the truth. Livestock production makes efficient use of resources leading to a more affordable food product for all consumers. Improvements in livestock-production technology have helped the industry do a better job of feeding more people.

K. Scott Jones, South Dakota Cattlemen's Association; Scott E. VanderWal, South Dakota Farm Bureau; Dave J. Uttecht, South Dakota Pork Producers, op-ed in the *Argus* (S.D.) *Leader*

Their missions [U.S. Department of Agriculture, the Environmental Protection Agency, and the Food and Drug Administration] were formulated before we had the kind of questions we have today. We need each of these agencies to consider if new regulation is needed or [current regulations can be] enforced in a more robust way to deal with this new kind of issue that has some benefits but also some real concerns.

Pew commission vice-chair Michael Blackwell, D.V.M., M.P.H., quoted in *Risk Policy Report*

It's naïve to think we can do away with antibiotics and modern livestock production systems and still feed the world.

Dave Warner, National Pork Producers Council, quoted in *The Baltimore Sun*

I want to be very clear. This commission is not recommending the elimination of . . . feeding operations. We are bringing attention to some intensive practices that we would change.

Pew commission vice-chair Michael Blackwell, D.V.M., M.P.H., quoted in *Feedstuffs*

We know we have to feed the world, but we have to do it in a way that is sustainable.

Pew commissioner Fedele Bauccio, CEO, Bon Appetit Management, quoted in *Reuters*

The good news is that, among the trends laid out in the report, the most troubling is also among the most fixable: overuse of antibiotics in livestock, a major contributor to the creation of drug-resistant bacteria and thus a direct assault on human health. . . . No matter how frightening the grocery tab is getting, we cannot afford to lose the effectiveness of existing antibiotics. Public health comes before cheap meat.

Editorial, Los Angeles Times

Actually, in recommending restrictions on animal antibiotics, the commission merely was echoing something the medical community has been saying for years. . . . The livestock industry should stop stonewalling and start listening.

Editorial, Lincoln (Neb.) Journal Star

While I do not concur with every recommendation put forth by the Pew commission, the Pew report on industrial farm animal production provides important insights into the public health and environmental effects of agriculture concentration.

. . . The Committee on Energy and Commerce will continue to pursue these matters.

*U.S. Rep. John D. Dingell, chair,
House Committee on Energy and Commerce*

they want to close and replace with far greater oversight by veterinarians.

They endorse a controversial national animal-identification program to allow for easier tracking of diseases—but with the crucial qualification that small farmers will get the help they need to pay for the ear tags or microchips, without which the law will simply become one more boon to consolidation.

Their environmental recommendations center on manure. They demand real enforcement of the Clean Water Act and a new system to deal with farm waste, including putting some of the responsibility for paying for treatment on the “integrators” like the big poultry firms that contract with individual farmers.

They call for the phase-out of liquid-manure systems—and maybe most importantly of all, they call for a new way of thinking about our factory farms. Forget the countrified beer-commercial pictures of a guy in overalls with a hay bale in the back of his Ford pickup. “Most animal production facilities in the United States . . . have become highly specialized manufacturing



Red MorganWorld Picture News LLC

endeavors and should be viewed as such.”

Crucially, they also call for the enforcement of federal antitrust laws on the farm, and if that’s not enough to break up the giant monopolies dominating American agriculture, then “further legislative remedies should be considered.”

The panel pulls no punches when it comes to animal welfare, either. Pigs and cows and chickens should not suffer prolonged hunger or thirst; they should be comfortable in their lying areas with the space to move around freely, and they should be allowed to “perform normal, non-harmful social behaviors,” i.e., live like animals, not fleshy machines.

That recommendation alone would undo most industrial farming in the country. Indeed, the commissioners call quite directly for an end to battery cages for chickens and the crates where sows are kept from turning around. Cows and hogs, they say, should not spend their lives on concrete.

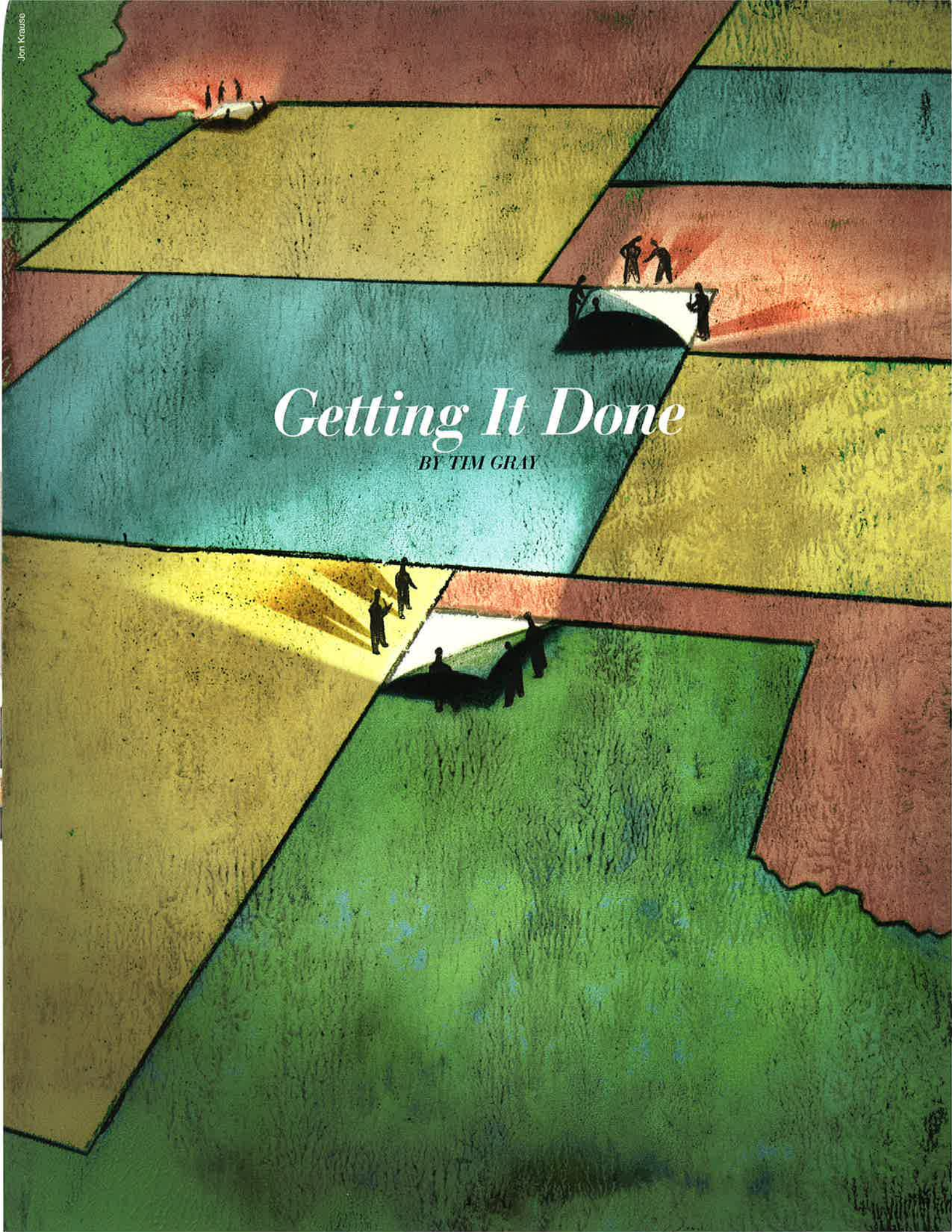
The panel could have gone further—after all, ruminants like cows are not designed to eat grain; “normal” cow-like behavior is to stand in a pasture eating grass. But even so, says Kirschenmann, if the recommendations were ever implemented, many existing operations simply couldn’t continue.

Which raises the question, of course, of whether the panel’s advice will be taken. Much of the initial reaction from around farm country was positive—and the coverage in the nation’s newspapers was widespread and mostly glowing. *Pork*, the magazine for the pig industry, didn’t much care for it, though, and the director of the Animal Agriculture Alliance called many of the ideas, like banning antibiotics, “extremely unrealistic.”

Since one effect of the concentration of animals has been the concentration of profits—and with it, political power—the report may not have immediate effect. But it’s hard to read its comprehensive diagnosis, and its powerful prescriptions, without concluding that factory farming is a very sick enterprise, in need of just the kind of radical surgery the panel recommends. ■

The Pew Commission on Industrial Farm Animal Production is a project of The Pew Charitable Trusts and the Johns Hopkins Bloomberg School of Public Health. For downloadable copies of the commission’s final report, as well as its interim reports and discussion of the issues, go to www.ncifap.org.

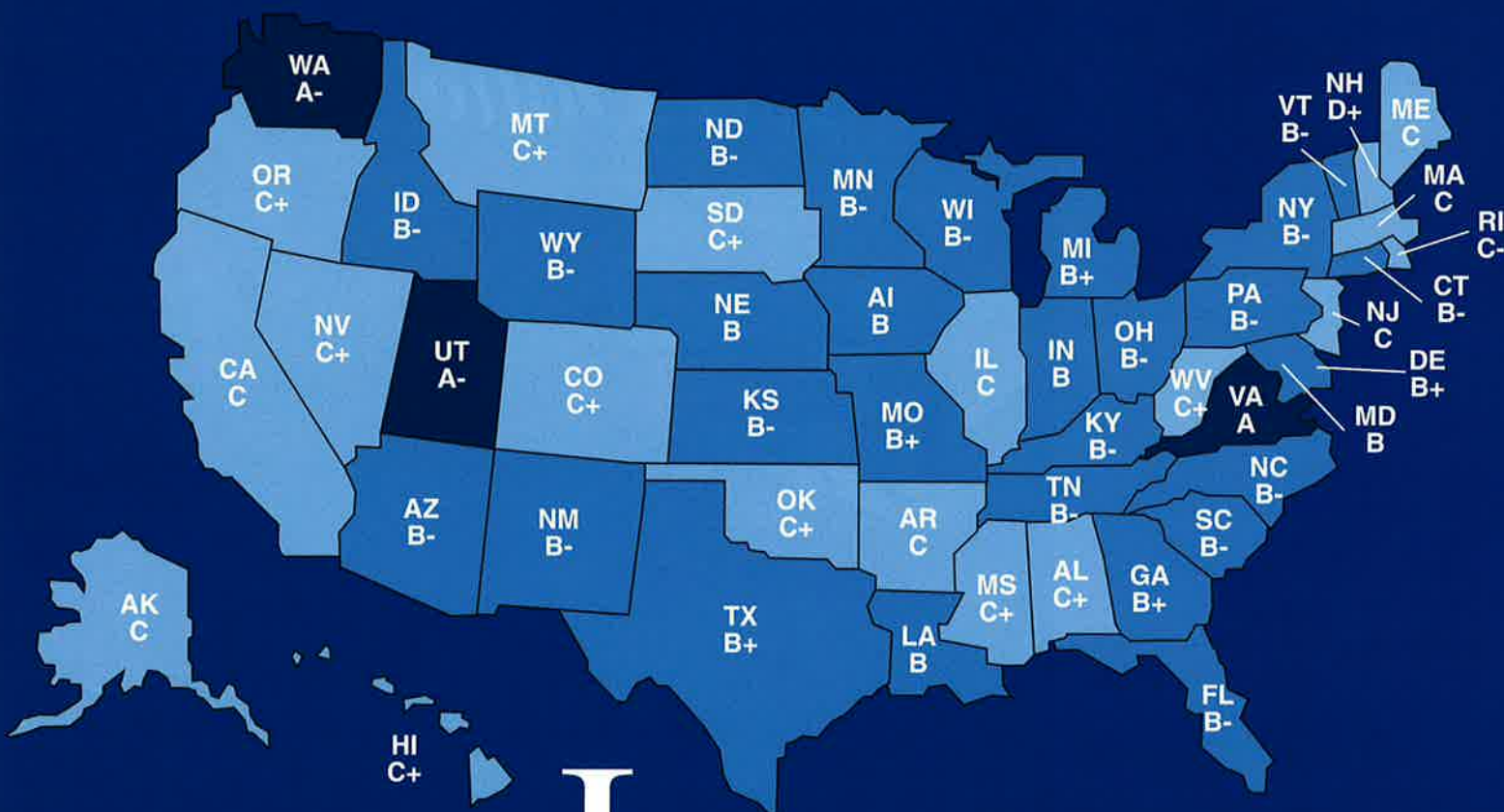
Bill McKibben is the author of a dozen books on the environment, including The End of Nature. He writes regularly for national magazines ranging from Harper’s and The Atlantic to National Geographic and Christian Century.



Getting It Done

BY TIM GRAY

The Government Performance Project
analyzes state management in key areas.
Then it serves states with report cards—
and follow-up support—so that they
can provide their citizens the service they deserve.



In Georgia this year, about 2 million people will renew their driver's licenses. Not all of them, of course, will line up at a Department of Drivers Services office, but those who do will wait an average of just 6 minutes each. A few years ago, they would've idled typically for two hours, undoubtedly grumbling about government inefficiency and bumbling bureaucrats.

They can partly thank Pew's Government Performance Project for the time that they'll save—and the annoyance they'll be spared.

Part of Pew's Center on the States, the project, based in Washington, D.C., identifies and promotes best practices in state-government management.

And if that mission sounds dull and dutiful, the results are anything but.

Shaving precious minutes from a wait in line marks one level of achievement. At another level, Washington state has made it a priority to protect vulnerable children from abuse. By focusing on results, tracking data and holding state managers and front-line workers accountable, Gov. Chris Gregoire and her management team have spurred social workers to respond much faster to reports of child abuse. In just three years, 24-hour response rates have risen from 74 percent to 90 percent.

In addition, Washington children are now safer in the long run. Quicker responses to abuse have significantly reduced the number of children who are abused again within six months.

With the project's help, state managers around the country have found ways to make government "faster, friendlier and easier" for citizens, as Georgia Gov. Sonny Perdue puts it.

Georgia, under Perdue, has been one of the leaders in the push to make state governments run better by importing and adapting management techniques, information systems and performance measures from the business world.

The initiative has been one of his lodestars. "We began this process back in 2003 with the goal to become the best-managed state in America," says Jeff Strane, head of Georgia's Office of Implementation. "And the Government Performance Project is our scorecard—it's the best one out there. It represents what we thought to be the fairest approach to measuring the management of government."

Strane is referring to the project's well-known *Grading the States* report, which is published every three years in *Governing* magazine. The assessment, as its name suggests, assigns

grades to all 50 states based on the quality of their management.

Like all of Pew's efforts, the project is nonpartisan. It drills down into four critical areas of governance—people, money, information and infrastructure—and assesses how well each state handles them. A state can achieve a top ranking whether Republicans dominate its politics, as in Utah, or Democrats do, as in Washington state. Both states earned a grade of A- in the most recent report, re-

Report-card grades are sure to start a conversation. The project's next step is to offer recommendations for improvement.

leased in March, giving them, along with Virginia, the highest marks in the country. The lowest went to New Hampshire, with a D+.

Strane says that Georgia's push to improve its governmental management and raise its grade has resulted in moves such as a 10-percent reduction in the size of the state's automobile fleet. "We realized that we didn't have an accurate count of cars," he explains. "When we counted, we realized that we could eliminate 2,000 of 22,000 vehicles."

The grades garner lots of media attention—*Washington Post* political columnist David Broder, for example, trained his readers' attention on the March report, heralding a new generation of "governor-managers."

But grades are only part of the project's efforts to help state officials refine their operations and better serve the public, says Neal Johnson, the project's director. "They're the beginning of the conversation, not the end," he points out. "We think of ourselves as a catalyst for change. We start with the grades but now go beyond them by getting these best practices and practitioners onto people's radar

screens." To that end, Johnson's staff and affiliated researchers also make specific recommendations for reform in each state.

In addition, the project is focusing on management challenges in top-priority policy areas. In May, for example, the Pew Center on the States published *Ten Steps Corrections Directors Can Take to Strengthen Performance*. Why prisons? Because prison populations are swelling nationwide and straining state coffers. The number of inmates has nearly tripled over the last two decades, and in many states, it's expected to keep growing at double-digit rates for at least another decade.

"There are just some terrific opportunities in corrections," Johnson says. "In partnership with the Public Safety Performance Project [also part of the Pew Center on the States], our team showed that there are real ways to improve performance—to help keep the streets safe *and* save money—if states properly plan and execute their policies and focus on things such as reducing recidivism and weighing the cost/benefit of prison construction."

The project also convenes meetings. One was held in May in Washington, D.C., which brought together officials from 30 states. Attendees, many of them cabinet secretaries and agency heads, heard California's chief information officer, Teri Takai, explain how she's consolidating and streamlining one of the largest computer systems in the country in order to make better information available for budget and program decisions.

They learned, too, how Utah manages to annually set aside 1.1 percent of the replacement value of its infrastructure, earmarking the money for maintenance, and has more than \$400 million stashed in a rainy-day fund. And they saw how Washington state is using new communication techniques in polling to learn where citizens want officials to focus their efforts.

"Pew gives us a chance to come

together and say, 'What are our industry benchmarks?'" says Larisa Benson, director of Washington's Government Management Accountability and Performance Project. "You don't normally get a bunch of chiefs of staff in a room to share this kind of information."

And just before the National Governors Association Centennial Meeting in Philadelphia in July, the project convened former governors to discuss "effective state government policy and management"—focused on the management lessons they learned from their public service and new initiatives the project plans based on the recent report card.

State officials praise the meetings, yet the report card, understandably, starts most discussions about the Government Performance Project. Everyone understands letter grades, having dreaded them since grade school, and Americans have a lust for lists, whether David Letterman's Top 10, *The New York Times* bestsellers or the untold number of rankings of places to live, work, eat and vacation. Humans have been called the tool-making animal, but a better description might be the list-making beast.

The project's state-management assessments began about two decades ago with the work of two journalists—Katherine Barrett and Richard Greene. Partners in business and life, the writers, based in New York, did their original ranking of state governments for *Financial World* magazine. After *Financial World* closed, Pew approached them about backing and expanding the report. Barrett and Greene continue as senior consultants to the project and helped to research and write this year's report as part of a far-flung team of academics and journalists.

Michael A. Pagano, Ph.D., who is dean of the School of Urban Planning and Public Affairs at the University of Illinois at Chicago, oversees the

STATE	OVERALL PERFORMANCE GRADES
Utah Virginia Washington	A-
Delaware Georgia Michigan Missouri Texas	B+
Indiana Iowa Louisiana Maryland Nebraska	B
Arizona Connecticut Florida Idaho Kansas Kentucky Minnesota New Mexico New York North Carolina North Dakota Ohio Pennsylvania South Carolina Tennessee Vermont Wisconsin Wyoming	B-
Alabama Colorado Hawaii Mississippi Montana Nevada Oklahoma Oregon South Dakota West Virginia	C+
Alaska Arkansas California Illinois Maine Massachusetts New Jersey	C
Rhode Island	C-
New Hampshire	D+
NATIONAL AVERAGE	B-

infrastructure research. He participates because *Grading the States* raises the visibility of good governance and sparks much-needed discussion about how states can improve. "The conversation is a prelude to any real change," he says. "The conversation is people wanting to know why they received the grade they did."

Put differently, the report creates a virtual town square, where officials can gather to debate—through the media; e-mail, phone calls and meetings—which practices work and how they might implement them. "We're advocating attention to the criteria," Pagano says. "Which technique is used to reach a criterion is entirely up to a state."

While some states dismiss the report when they receive a middling or low mark, others use it as an opportunity for frank reflection. A few years back, Alabama received a D, putting it not only at the bottom of the ranking but also behind neighboring Mississippi. After discussions with project researchers, officials there "reported back that they would've given themselves that same grade," Pagano recalls.

Alabama began working to improve its performance, says Jim Williams, executive director of the Public Affairs Research Council, a Birmingham think tank that advocates for budgetary and managerial reform. "I've always found here in Alabama that, if I can show that Mississippi is doing something better than we are, that's motivator enough," he quips.

Like many states, Alabama faces tight budgets. Before its bad grade, one of the ways it economized was by cutting funds for the state police. "We'd underfunded the highway patrol for a number of years, and traffic deaths had gone up," Williams says. "People knew they weren't going to get tickets, so they drove too fast."

When Alabama officials committed to improving their performance, they made reducing highway fatalities a priority and devised ways to strategically allocate state troopers. "Now, they do these sweeps in individual counties," Williams says. "They give out thousands of tickets, and then they move on to someplace else." The sweeps seem to help. "Just the other day there was a headline in the paper about deaths coming down."

To be sure, the state's bad mark—and Mississippi's better one—weren't the only reasons Alabama changed course, but the grades, in addition to

A nerdy project? Just try telling that to folk when they realize it helps their states make better use of tax dollars.

serving as a goad, provided a benchmark for improvement. "The checking is a big value—it creates accountability," Williams says. "If you don't have a system like this, how can you show that you're doing any better?"

Folks in top-performing states such as Washington and Utah are, not surprisingly, equally adamant about the benefits of the grading and the analysis that underpins it. "Human beings want to achieve, and friendly competition helps us focus our energies," says Washington's Benson.

Just as the Government Performance Project recommends, the top-performing states have pushed to assign performance metrics to even hard-to-quantify functions—for instance, social services, as in Washington.

Critics might say that states long committed to good governance would have improved even without the project's scrutiny. Benson does not buy that, or at least believes that progress wouldn't have come as rapidly. "It would've been slower going," she says. "The conversation matters, and you

don't start the conversation unless you have the grade."

John Nixon, Utah's director of planning and budget, agrees, pointing to the ways in which he and his colleagues use *Grading the States* and the project's meetings to keep getting better. As part of its HR evaluations, *Grading the States* gave Utah an average rating for its hiring practices and workforce planning, noting especially the absence of regular evaluations for all employees. "Our emphasis right now," he says, "is on human resources," which is why the state's HR director went to the May meeting. "We're working on a whole new HR system. That will help us move up that grade."

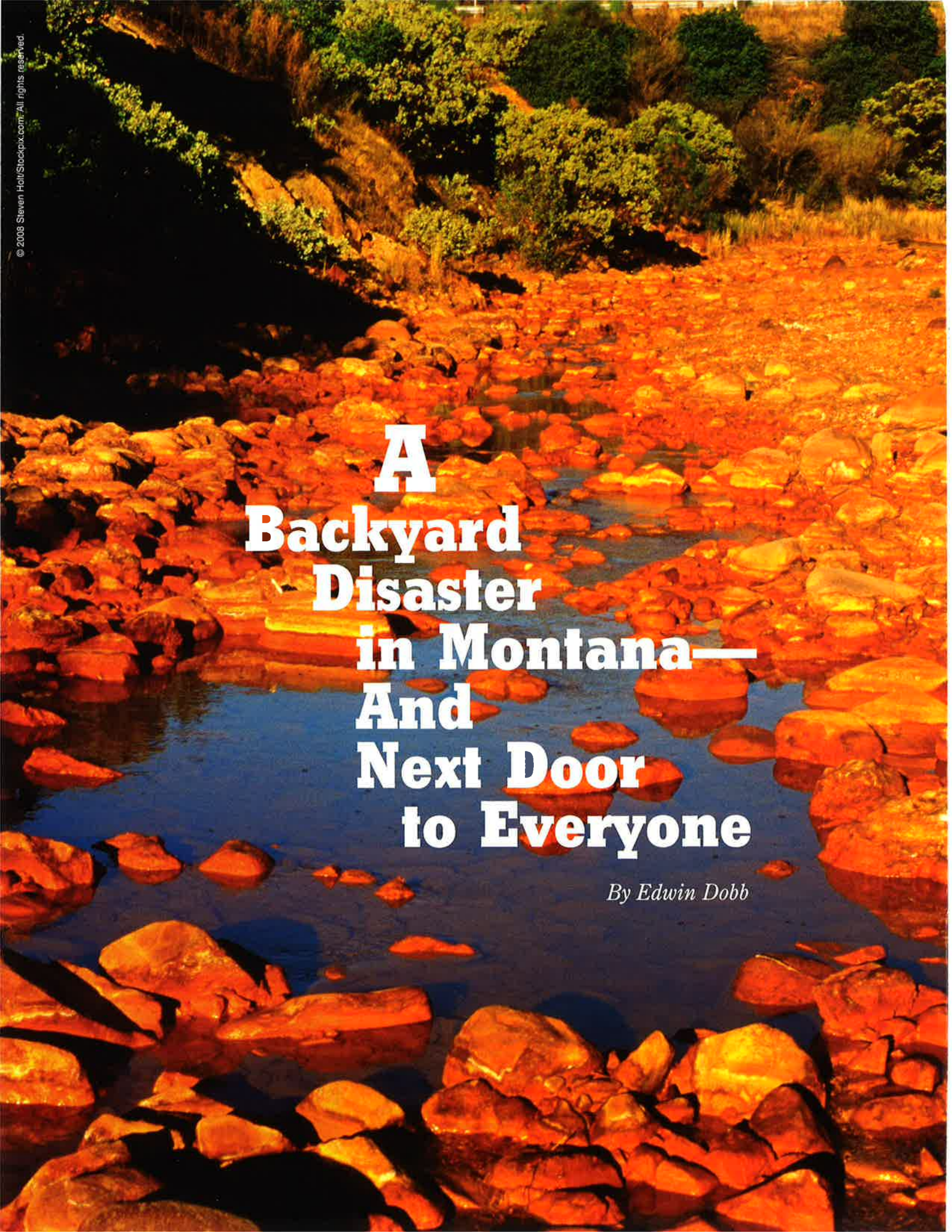
Perhaps the biggest challenge for proponents of government-management reform is that the field resembles insurance—it's essential, important and, except among its evangelists, perceived as administrative and procedural. Nixon concedes that and says he tries to drive home the relevance of his metrics, decision rules and process improvements by always thanking audiences of Utahans for their investment in state government. "You sex this up by saying, 'You're paying for government, and your dollars aren't being wasted.' Whenever I talk with people, I emphasize that we're trying to spend their tax dollars appropriately."

When abused children can receive proper relief more quickly—and when the line at the motor vehicles department takes only 6 minutes to breeze through—citizens are well on their way to understanding that boring can be beautiful. ■

Go to www.pewcenteronthestates.org and click on Government Performance to access *Grading the States 2008*, as well as the project's previous reports, and to sign up for its newsletter.

Massachusetts-based freelancer Tim Gray writes frequently for Trust on management-oriented stories.

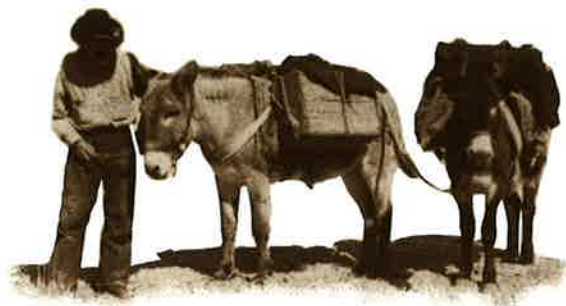




A Backyard Disaster in Montana— And Next Door to Everyone

By Edwin Dobb

**THE PEW CAMPAIGN FOR RESPONSIBLE
MINING SEEKS REFORM OF AN 1872
LAW THAT HAS LONG BEEN PLAYED OUT.**



If you look closely, you can see the entire saga of hardrock mining from the Granite Mountain Memorial, a prow-shaped concrete overlook on the northeast side of Butte, Mont., once the world's greatest producer of copper. The memorial is a homegrown homage to the 168 men who died in the Granite Mountain-Speculator Fire, which broke out the night of June 8, 1917, and which remains, 91 years later, the worst hardrock mining disaster in United States history.

Standing a few hundred yards in front of the overlook are the stark remains of the Granite Mountain headframe, a seven-story derricklike structure that lowered miners thousands of feet below the surface and hauled up the mineral-rich ore that, as an early 20th-century journalist put it, "plumbed and electrified America."

Copper made Butte, and Butte copper contributed mightily to the industrialization of the country.

But in time the high-grade ore played out, as it always does, even in the geologically blessed place known as "The Richest Hill on Earth," and underground mining, along with its many attendant perils for the men who did it, gave way to a new form of large-scale metals extraction, one whose costs would be measured not in terms of human injury, illness and death but, instead, lasting damage to land and water.

That fateful transformation also is visible from the Granite Mountain Memorial—in the Berkeley Pit, started in 1955 and soon after to become the largest truck-operated mine in the

world; the East Continental Pit, which succeeded the Berkeley when, in the early 1980s, the latter began to consume more resources than it yielded; and, finally, the vast earthen berm of the Yankee Doodle Tailings Pond, a sea of finely ground waste rock—the byproduct of crushing and concentrating low-grade pit ore—that covers some 1,400 acres to a depth of 700 feet.

This ravaged landscape lies within my backyard, a mere 10-minute walk from the former miner's cottage where I live. And this town, this former urban-industrial island on the American frontier, is where I was born and raised. I'm a fourth-generation descendant of Cornish tin miners and Irish copper miners; only a half-generation separates me from cousins who labored underground.

Perhaps, then, it is no surprise that I'm haunted by the dilemmas posed by hardrock mining, especially the scale and intensity with which it's practiced today.

And no dilemma is more vexing than the juxtaposition that dominates the view from the Granite Mountain Memorial. Consider the Berkeley Pit: a mile-and-a-half long, a mile wide and a quarter-mile deep; filling over the years with metals-laden, highly acidic groundwater, making it the largest manmade body of contaminated water in the United States; and designated since it fell idle as the uppermost reach of one of the largest Superfund complexes in the country.

Next door to the Berkeley is the East Pit, which is smaller, yes, but growing larger by the hour, because it's an active operation—indeed, a hyperactive operation. Why? The recent sharp increase in worldwide metals consumption.

Virtually overnight, it seems, China and other Asian countries have developed an insatiable appetite for all manner of minerals, from gold and

uranium to copper and molybdenum—and Butte, yet again, is helping meet the demand, bringing much-welcome benefits to the people who live here as well as to those who reside on the other side of the globe.

That one of these largely identical mines is universally recognized as an environmental catastrophe and the other is deemed by most an economic godsend is indicative of our schizophrenic attitude toward extractive industry, as well as toward the overall enterprise of urban industrialization, a planetary transformation that *Homo sapiens* appears hell-bent on completing before the close of the 21st century.

The ironic opportunity: Just as hardrock mining in the U.S. is accelerating because of world-wide demand for precious metals, curbing a permissive 136-year-old law seems within reach.

But besides reflecting chronic ambivalence, the juxtaposition of the Berkeley and East pits also underscores a more immediate cause for concern. The overseas building and manufacturing boom that's keeping the East Pit alive in Butte is also driving a resurgence of mining throughout the American West. With the prices of gold, silver, copper and other metals at their highest levels in recent memory, hundreds of hardrock mines are being reopened and expanded.

New exploration is under way everywhere, and much of that exploration is taking place on public lands. According to an analysis of federal data by the nonprofit Environmental Working Group, the total number of active mining claims in 12 Western states has increased more than 80 percent in the past five years, with thousands within a stone's throw of the Grand Canyon, Yosemite and other national parks.

The sudden, widespread increase in

© Stuart Jennings, Montana State



Acid mine drainage discharge from underground workings prior to remediation in the Heddleston Mining District, Mont.

With his wife, Julia, listening closely, President Grant earlier this year read from a proclamation: "I, President Ulysses S. Grant, do hereby formally bid farewell to the 1872 Mining Law and call on the U.S. Senate to take immediate action to give modern mining a modern law." Their Western tour was sponsored by the Pew Campaign for Responsible Mining.



claims is worrisome because hardrock mining on federal public lands is governed by antiquated Civil War-era legislation whose purpose wasn't to regulate a particular industry or protect the overall interests of U.S. citizens but rather to encourage rapid development of the West.

Called the General Mining Act of 1872, and signed into law by President Ulysses S. Grant, the statute effectively legitimizes the indiscriminate giveaway of irreplaceable natural resources held in common by all Americans while providing no protection whatsoever for the environment.

Hundreds of millions of acres of federal land, mostly in the Rocky Mountain West and Alaska, are at risk, and the risk increases daily, with each new factory and skyscraper planned for Shanghai, Madras or Djakarta, each new nuclear power plant in need of uranium and each new jewelry case filled with golden trinkets and luxury watches.

Fortunately, conditions may now favor long-overdue changes to the General Mining Act. Policy makers are increasingly sympathetic to calls for reform. More and more Americans recognize that the long-term economic and social benefits of conserving public resources outweigh the short-term benefits of unchecked exploitation by private parties. And for the first time, even some segments of the mining industry concede that the law is out of step with present-day needs and circumstances.

All this adds up to an unprecedented—and surely ironic—opportunity: Just as hardrock mining is yet again accelerating and widening its reach, we have a better chance than ever to develop a hardrock mining policy that keeps public lands in the public domain, guarantees that the public is fairly compensated for metals removed from public lands and provides for

adequate environmental safeguards and remedies.

Simple in intent and devastating in its unforeseen effects, the 1872 mining law was enacted during a time when control of the West was still a matter of contention—the Battle of the Little Big Horn, where General George Armstrong Custer died, wouldn't take place for another four years—and the nation was in an expansionist mood. America's destiny had become manifest to all but the subjects of colonization, and what better way to engineer historical inevitability than to give Americans a stake in that destiny?

And so it came to pass that anyone in possession of sufficient daring and resolve was allowed to lay claim to a piece of tomorrow, to induce them not, as with earlier legislation, to homestead and thereby make a commitment to the long-term well-being of that particular piece, but instead to extract minerals, exchange them for cash unto exhaustion, then move on to the next boom, leaving the consequences to others to contain or repair.

In the construct of the original law, mining was considered the “highest and best use” of public lands. Remarkably, that's still the view—because that's still the law, 136 years later.

But only in an upside-down universe could the words *highest* and *best* continue to be applied to the following practices:

- The General Mining Act permits any individual or corporation to stake any number of claims almost anywhere on the federal “public domain,” so long as the land has not been deemed off-limits under special legislation or targeted regulation.

This “public domain,” the lands held by the government since initial acquisition, is now largely found in the West. Upwards of 270 mil-



lion acres—roughly equivalent to Colorado, Idaho, Montana and Wyoming combined—fall into this category.

- Holding a claim requires only \$100 worth of exploration work per year, yet, oddly, mining itself is not necessary.
- Unlike the oil and gas and coal industries, which pay royalties to the U.S. Treasury on any resources they remove from federal lands and must demonstrate “due diligence” in pursuit of resources, hardrock miners and mining companies can extract as much or as little of any metal as they wish without paying so much as a penny in compensation.
- They can hold their claims, pass them on to heirs or sell them on eBay.
- Under federal tax law, they can also take a tax write-off for the depletion of the very metals that cost them next to nothing.

In effect, this allows for the exploitation of public resources for private gain.

And the encouragement of privatization doesn't end there; the law established a process, called “patenting,” by which stakeholders can purchase their claims outright for \$2.50 or \$5 per acre.

Remember, this applies to federal public land, including national forest land, much of which is pristine and staggeringly beautiful, to say nothing of being graced with many other resources besides the minerals in the ground. Were it sold at full market value, it would be worth thousands, tens of thousands, even millions per acre.

It should come as no surprise that legislation designed to promote settlement of the Western frontier, and allowed to reign supreme long after the frontier closed, has yielded a troubling legacy. Earthworks, an

advocacy group created to improve environmental practices in the mining industry, has estimated that \$245 billion in mineral resources have been removed from federal public lands since the General Mining Act was passed. Measured against the royalty rates that other extractive industries pay (8 to 16.7 percent), this translates into between \$100 million and \$200 million per year in lost revenue.

Perhaps most disturbing, because it's irreversible, about 3.7 million acres, or an area the size of Connecticut, have been given away via patenting. This land, once part of every Ameri-

The “highest and best use” of federal public lands was said to be hardrock mining. But the cleanup of contaminated sites and waterways could total \$72 billion. It is high time to do better than “best.”

can's heritage, is now closed to all other public uses, including hunting, fishing, snowmobiling and hiking. And of those patents, some 20 percent are owned by foreign corporations.

No less alarming are the consequences of the 1872 law's blind eye to environmental impacts. When the law first took effect, hardrock mining was a pick-and-shovel enterprise, and mine wastes were commonly dumped in rivers and creeks. Over the years, some practices have changed, and new environmental laws have been adopted, but problems have continued. As a result of historic and continuing operations, says the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, 500,000 abandoned mines are scattered across the country and about 40 percent of the headwaters of Western streams remain polluted by mining. Were the country to mount a serious effort to restore all these contaminated sites and waterways, the bill would total between \$32 billion



Tim Jarrett



A National Historic Landmark, Utah's Bingham Canyon Mine is a mile deep and 2.5 miles across. It has been producing copper, gold, silver and molybdenum since the mid-19th century, and the value of the extraction just in 2006 was estimated at \$1.8 billion. A plume of contaminated groundwater beneath the mine extends for 72 square miles, according to the EPA. The liability for taxpayers, according to the mining watchdog group Earthworks: more than \$1.3 billion.



and \$72 billion. Such is the cost to taxpayers of the highest and best use of the land under the General Mining Act.

During the past 20 years, periodic efforts have been made to reform both the law and its interpretation, but the only significant change took place in 1994, when Congress reluctantly agreed to a moratorium on new patents. Fortunately, the moratorium has been renewed and is still in place. Unfortunately, however, all patent applications that were outstanding at the time of the original legislation have been excluded, so some sale of lands continues.

Once again, Earthworks has run the numbers and, as of 2005, come up with the following revelatory picture: The estimated value of the land included within the grandfathered patent rights is \$152 million to \$179 million, whereas the estimated cost to the claimants is only \$130,000. Among these, the largest single sale involves 3,000 acres outside Phoenix valued at \$85 million. Bargain-basement price: \$9,000. Who wouldn't want to get in on a deal like that?

Taken together, the claims involve 11 states and cover more than 45,000 acres of public land, all of which can be converted to private property and all of whose mineral resources, also previously a public holding, can be sold off as the new owners see fit.

No portrait of hardrock mining would be complete or, for that matter, fair that leaves out the many ways all of us benefit from copper, iron and other base metals. Living, as I do, in the so-called Mining City, a town whose soul was forged in a copper crucible, I'm never allowed to forget the extent to which I rely on extractive industry.

Nor should I. An honest ecological perspective requires that we always

keep in mind the connections between consumption and extraction and, more importantly, that we face up to the implications of that fuller yet morally conflicted perspective.

If bridges and buildings are taken into account, per-capita consumption of base metals in the U.S. is greater today than ever before, even during the two world wars.

Granting that as a nation we could be more frugal, as well as increase reuse and recycling, we can be sure that mining will nonetheless continue, including on federal lands, all the more so now that the rest of the world is pursuing the same lifestyle we've enjoyed since our own transformation into an urban-industrial society heavily dependent on the large-scale extraction of natural resources.

The question, then, is this: Are there better ways of doing what we're going to do anyway?

Yes, certainly, there are. And one of those better ways was outlined in bipartisan legislation passed by the U.S. House of Representatives in November 2007 that at long last recognizes that public resources are indeed public.

Known as the Hardrock Mining and Reclamation Act of 2007, the bill addresses all of the shortcomings of the General Mining Act but leaves in place the fundamental claim-staking system that the mining industry has so staunchly defended for more than a hundred years.

For starters, patenting would be eliminated altogether. Never again could a mining claim be used to convert federal land into private property.

What's more, an 8 percent royalty would be imposed on all new mines, bringing hardrock mining into line with other extractive industries. Two-thirds of the royalty revenues would be used to clean up abandoned mine sites while new mining operations would be required to post bonds that

more accurately reflect actual costs of reclamation.

The current law's silence on environmental protections leaves room for mine operators to argue against environmental restrictions that would affect what they see as their "right to mine" on public land. The Hardrock Mining and Reclamation Act of 2007, however, would provide a more balanced approach, putting environmental-protection obligations on par with the privilege to mine.

The House bill would establish strict new standards, including restoring habitat to pre-mining conditions, protecting fish and wildlife, protecting surface and groundwater resources and guaranteeing that, within 10 years of a mine's closure, water-quality specifications would be met without the need for further treatment of any streams or aquifers that have been accidentally contaminated.

In other words, the law would seek an end to perpetual pollution, a signature legacy of hardrock mining in the American West.

In Butte, for example, the final reclamation plan approved by the E.P.A., the Montana Department of Environmental Quality and mine owners calls for treating the highly toxic groundwater in the Berkeley Pit for as long as it flows into that vast cavity, which everyone assumes will be hundreds, even thousands of years.

Green economists argue that sustainability—simply speaking, using natural resources only in amounts and at rates that allow for their continual replacement—depends in large part on taking into account *all* costs before extraction begins, then factoring those costs into the price of whatever might be made from the resources.

But that's precisely what didn't occur in the case of the Berkeley Pit or, for that matter, any other hardrock mine in the U.S. Certain fateful liabilities were inadvertently overlooked, deliberately hidden or otherwise

postponed. Consequently, copper wire, steel beams, cars and appliances manufactured decades ago are still being paid for—via a deferred environmental tax—by you and me.

So not only are valuable minerals being taken off U.S. lands and sent overseas, but the process is also leaving a mess behind. And until the law is changed, the true costs of gold baubles made from U.S.-mined minerals and sold overseas will impose more of those taxes on our children and grandchildren.

By requiring a more inclusive reckoning of costs and consequences, mining reform proposals such as the House bill would provide a fairer and more balanced approach to use of our public lands. Federal land managers would have much greater authority in decid-

A new policy could change the "right" to mine to a privilege. Mining operations would incur obligations that end the cycle of "perpetual pollution" and protect the public's interest.

ing where and when mining can take place, including more power to designate special areas off limits to mineral exploration and development.

Most importantly, the underlying assumption in all deliberations regarding hardrock mining would be that the common good includes a wide range of land uses, from fishing, hunting and hiking to maintaining a healthy watershed so that cities downstream can rely on an uninterrupted supply of clean water. The outmoded, increasingly destructive notion that mining always represents "highest and best" would be permanently retired.

None of these proposed reforms is new. What's new is the climate within which they've come up for debate in Congress, with more and more Western lawmakers feeling the

Image Science & Analysis Group, Johnson Space Center/National Aeronautics and Space Administration



YOU'RE KIDDING.

GOLD GOES OVER \$1,000 AN OUNCE, AND THE U.S. IS GIVING IT AWAY!

In 1872, President Grant signed the nation's landmark mining law as an incentive for opening up the West. But what would he say today when the dollar is falling and gold is going over \$1,000 an ounce?

The U.S. Senate comes up with its reform the 1872 Mining Law that still allows giant global corporations the same special deal it gave the 19th century prospector.

- Gold and other precious metals, to be taken for free
- Mining gives priority to public lands, regardless of the impact on agriculture, wildlife or local communities
- Public land for sale at \$5 an acre or less

How could reform legislation be passed last year by the House? It's time for the Senate to stop stalling and act.

Give modern mining a modern mining law.

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The Berkeley Pit, created near Butte, Mont., by hardrock mining operations, is the largest manmade body of contaminated water in the United States, with an estimated 40 billion gallons of water. To its left is the tailings pond.

need to safeguard precious water supplies and seeing economic benefits in the protection of public lands.

What will happen when the House bill reaches the Senate is harder to predict. But America is ready for reform, according to Jane Danowitz, director of the Pew Campaign for Responsible Mining, which has joined forces with several environmental and sportsmen groups to educate citizens, especially in the West, as well as to lobby Congress.

"The role of public lands has changed," says Danowitz. "Protection of public land is making sustainable economies possible."

She also points out that more and more hunters and anglers are recognizing the merits of strictly regulating hardrock mining on federal lands because of the potential damage to habitat upon which fish and wildlife depend.

Reformers are also encouraged by a prominent business leader whose public statements on behalf of reform broke new ground. When the House leaders held a press conference to announce their proposed legislation, they were joined by the CEO of Tiffany & Company, Michael J. Kowalski, who said that it was "self-interest" that motivated his support. "We desperately need new mines in this country," he explained. "This bill is a hugely important step in the right direction."

Visible from the Granite Mountain Memorial, on the far side of the Berkeley Pit, are remnants of sidewalks and foundations, collapsed picket fences and scraggly lilac bushes, as well as patches of lawn, long neglected and overgrown. These are the remains of McQueen, one of several old ethnic neighborhoods that were bulldozed or displaced to make way for the pit.

How could the residents be dispossessed? Early in the 20th century, the Anaconda Copper Mining Com-

pany had bullied an eminent-domain law through the state legislature that essentially equated private corporate gain with the public good. Whatever claims the Italian, Serbian, Finnish, Austrian or other working-class families might have had, based on their having lived for generations in those homes, those neighborhoods, were trumped by the claims of the Company.

The debate over what constitutes the public good continues in the West, especially with respect to land use, and it remains as contentious—and consequential—as ever.

At the heart of the conflict are the vast reaches of public land, from state and federal parks, forests, prairies and deserts to roadless areas, wild and scenic river systems and wildernesses, without which the West would be indistinguishable from the East.

Among those engaged in the debate are people, many of them thoughtful and well meaning, who want to erase that very distinction, who believe that the answer to all the West's ills, including its environmental troubles, is to privatize public lands—to sell off what we hold in common as Americans and could continue to hold in perpetuity.

If anything demonstrates the bankruptcy of privatization, it is the sorrowful legacy of the General Mining Act of 1872. Reform is necessary, necessary now, not only to protect public lands but also to preserve an irreplaceable birthright. ■

You can keep up with the hardrock-mining issue at www.pewminingreform.org, the Web site of the Pew Campaign for Responsible Mining, where you can also consult the project's fact sheets and its statements in response to reform developments.

Edwin Dobb, a contributing editor of Harper's, is the associate producer and co-writer of a documentary film about Butte, Mont., that will be broadcast on national public television. He is also writing a book about the subject for Houghton Mifflin. Dobb is a former editor of The Sciences magazine and has held three teaching fellowships in the School of Journalism at the University of California at Berkeley.

HELLO?! IT'S BEEN 136 YEARS!

GRAND CANYON MINING?

SENATORS, THIS ISN'T 1872.

In just six months, we're over nearly a 140 percent jump in new uranium and other hardrock mining permits within the miles of the Grand Canyon.

This bill means there are now 1,138 potential mines, who would the Company's not that can't be reigned under current law. And other national resources and threatened too.

Not the U.S. Senate seems to be ready to reform the 1872 Mining Law is signed by Andrew Johnson. This process will give uranium mining, gold, silver, and other public lands, and will allow the public to own the uranium, gold and other precious metals for free.

Long carbon reformers together can protect our jobs for the future. It's time for the Senate to stop stalling and act.

Give modern mining a modern mining law.

<http://www.pewminingreform.org>

1872 2008

Ads sponsored by the Pew Campaign for Responsible Mining comment on today's relevance of the General Mining Law of 1872.

Pilgrims' Progress, Am

By Sandra Salmans

A diverse people enjoy having a wide range of religious options—and they willingly make their own choices.



Participants at a Catholic youth rally in Yonkers N.Y., heard Pope Benedict XVI last spring.

Chris McGrath/Getty Images

“This civilization is the result . . . of two quite distinct ingredients, which anywhere else have often ended in war but which Americans have succeeded somehow to meld together in wondrous harmony; namely the spirit of religion and the spirit of liberty.”

Penned nearly 200 years ago by Alexis de Tocqueville, the French chronicler of American democracy, those words remain a strikingly accurate description of the role of religion in America—as evidenced by the *U.S. Religious Landscape Survey*, an exhaustive new study by the Pew Research Center’s Forum on Religion & Public Life. What it found was that, unlike that of other industrialized countries, America’s “spirit of religion” remains strong. “People are very devout,” observes Luis E. Lugo, the forum’s director. “They take religion very seriously.”

More than half of those surveyed said that they attend religious services regularly and pray daily. Furthermore, a plurality of those surveyed who are affiliated with a religion wanted their religion to preserve its traditional beliefs and practices rather than to either adjust to new circumstances or adopt modern beliefs and practices. And significant minorities across nearly all religious traditions saw a conflict between

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Cover (clockwise from upper left):

An evangelical choir in Orlando, Florida.
© Janet Jarman/CORBIS

Muslims pray in Austin, Texas.
Jay Janner/Austin American-Statesman/WpN

A Roman Catholic midnight mass in San Francisco.
© Phil Schermeister/CORBIS

A worshiper sings during a religious service in Annapolis, Md.
© Kevin Fleming/CORBIS

Sunday Service at the Great Auditorium in Ocean Grove, N.J.
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A bar mitzvah in Seattle.
Ted Spiegel/CORBIS

A faith-based budget protest in Washington, D.C.
Ryan Beiler/Sojourners

erican Style

Faith-based voter-registration drive in Chicago.



Religion and Ethics Newsweekly

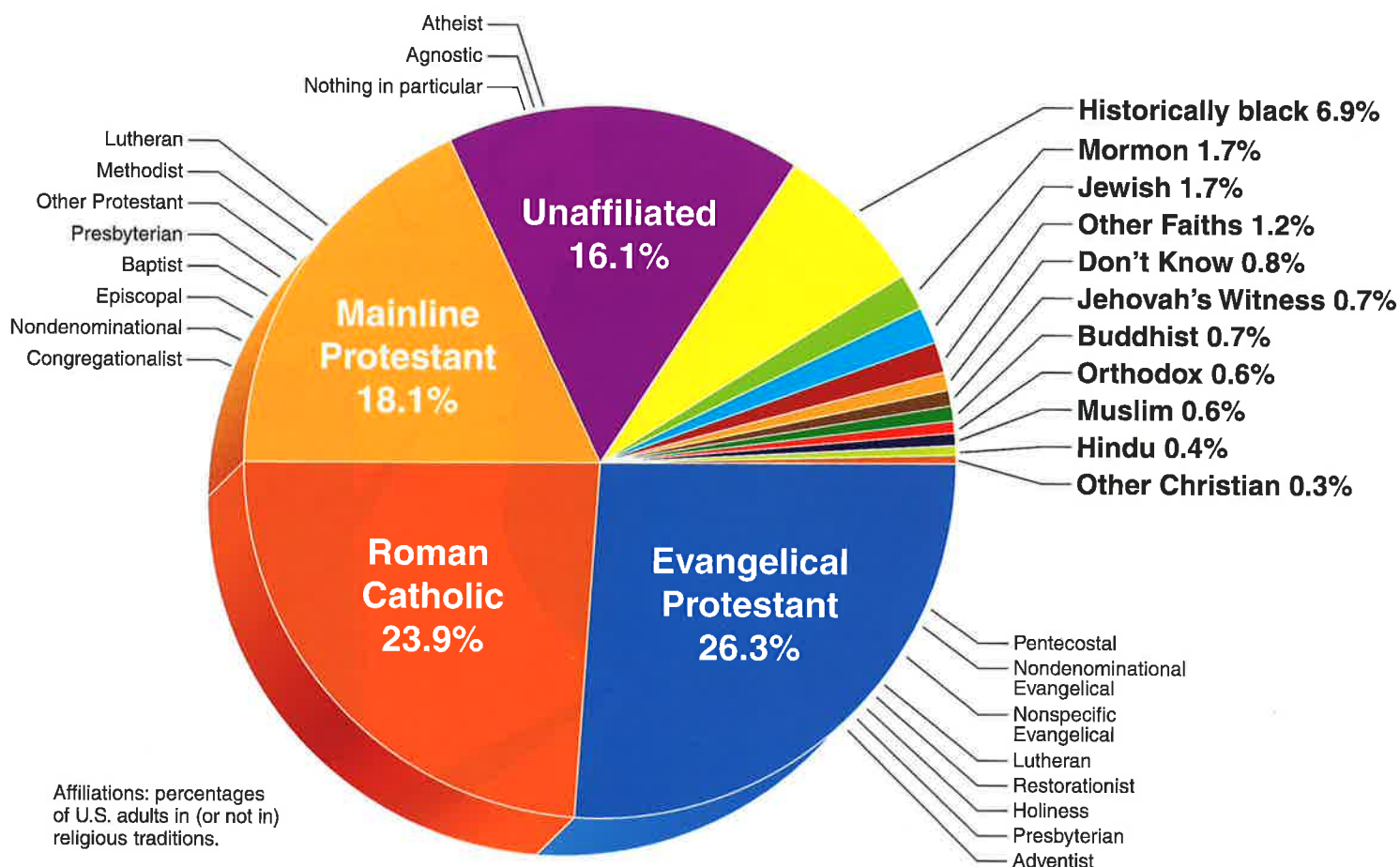


Muslims listen and pray in Detroit.



Sean Simmers

Baptist ceremony in Danbury, Conn.



being a devout person and living in a modern society.

But, as de Tocqueville also noted—and the survey underscored—a “spirit of liberty” pervades the practice of religion in America. “Churn” in religious affiliation is extremely high: More than one-quarter of American adults (28 percent) have left the faith in which they were raised in favor of another religion, or no organized religion at all. If change in affiliation from one type of Protestantism to another is included, the number rises to 44 percent of adults.

Moreover, for all their religiosity, most Americans have a non-dogmatic approach to faith. A majority (70 percent) of those who are affiliated with a religion, for instance, do not believe that theirs is the only way to

salvation. “What we’re seeing,” says Lugo, “is that there’s extraordinary diversity.”

The free-market approach that characterizes the American economy

Americans are on a “religious journey”: As many as 44 percent have left the faith they were born in and gone to another type of the same religion, another religion or no organized religion at all.

applies to religion as well, adds John C. Green, a senior fellow in religion and American politics at the forum, noting, “There’s extraordinary dynamism.” Green, who is also Distin-

guished Professor of Political Science at the University of Akron, points out: “When Americans have more options, they take advantage of them. And perhaps because of that diversity and dynamism, there’s an absence of dogmatism when it comes to faith.”

Overall, the report finds strong links between Americans’ views on political issues and their religious affiliation, beliefs and practices. The message for politicians is clear. “First, because America is so diverse, you can’t rely on a single religion in order to get elected,” says Green. “In fact, you have to build a coalition of different groups. And because Americans have a variety of beliefs and behaviors, you can appeal even to members of different affiliations on the basis of particular issues. And because Americans,

despite being diverse, are overall quite religious, then as a practical matter it's good to be a religious candidate of one kind or another."

As the ampersand in its name suggests, the forum focuses not on theology but on the nexus between religion, politics and public policy; Director Lugo, for example, is a former professor of political science who has taught and written about religion and public life. Accordingly, the survey—which interviewed more than 35,000 Americans and was pathbreaking for its reach into some of the smallest and previously least-researched religious denominations—sought detailed information on the size of religious groups in America, their demographic characteristics, religious beliefs and practices, and basic social and political values.

Thus, while the survey affirmed links between faith, on the one hand, and social and political attitudes, on the other, the connection is often complicated. In general, it found that people who identify themselves with an organized religion tend to be more conservative on issues such as abortion and homosexuality; the more religious they are, the more conservative they are, too.

"It's not just that Catholics are different from evangelicals, but regular mass-attending Catholics are different from those who never darken the door of a church," notes Green. "And there's a similar kind of division among evangelicals, between those who go to church regularly and those who don't."

Yet race and ethnicity can transcend religion. White evangelicals and members of historically black Protestant churches may share many views on faith and cultural issues, but evangelicals tend to vote Republican and members of historically black churches are heavily Democratic.

The unprecedented level of scrutiny allowed the researchers to tease apart

the numbers and reveal unique insights into America's varied religious landscape. For example:

- While many religious groups are holding their own in terms of membership, there is often significant turmoil below the surface.

The Catholic Church has lost more adherents than any other religious group in the U.S. and converts are relatively few, but defections have been offset by the disproportionately large number of Catholic immigrants.

Jehovah's Witnesses have the lowest retention rate of any reli-

"In their very homes, 37 percent are living with someone who is of a different religious tradition," says forum director Luis Lugo. "This shows that diversity is not only in the public square" but right at the kitchen table.

gious tradition—only 37 percent who were raised in the faith remain in it—but the group wins enough converts so that total membership has, in fact, grown.

- The number of people who say they are unaffiliated with any particular faith today (16 percent) is more than double the number who were unaffiliated as children. In fact, the unaffiliated are the fourth-largest category in the survey, after evangelical Protestants, Catholics and mainline Protestants. Moreover, young adults (ages 18-29) are much more likely to be unaffiliated.

If those generational patterns persist, researchers say, recent declines in the number of Protestants and growth in the size of the unaffiliated population may continue.

However, only one-quarter of this group (4 percent of all respondents) describe themselves as

atheists or agnostics; the others say their religion is "nothing in particular."

- Of all the major racial and ethnic groups in the United States, African Americans are the most likely to report a formal religious affiliation, and members of historically black Protestant churches are among the most devout respondents, generally trailing only Mormons and Jehovah's Witnesses in the degree of their piety.
- Intermarriage between Americans is high. Among married respondents, 37 percent had a spouse with a different religious affiliation. That included Protestants who were married to another Protestant from a different denomination, such as a Baptist who was married to a Methodist. (Hindus and Mormons were the most likely not only to be married, but also to be married to someone of the same religion—90 percent and 85 percent, respectively.)

"In their very homes, many people are living with someone who is of a different religious tradition," notes Lugo. "This shows that diversity is found not only in the public square."

- Political orientation and attitudes on social and cultural issues are often closely associated with religious affiliation, but views on certain political issues, such as the economy and the environment, are less closely linked.

For example, there is broad agreement among most groups on the need for environmental protection and government assistance to the poor, even if it involves the government's going into debt.

Like much new information, the survey's findings raise as many questions as they answer, and the forum is planning a follow-up study. One area of ongoing investigation is churn—

Three Ideas on Why Americ

By Sandra Salmans

or, as Green puts it more elegantly, Americans' "religious journey." While the survey essentially took two snapshots of respondents, capturing their religious affiliation now and as children, the hunch is that many adults have converted a few times between those start and end points.

"There are plenty of people who start out as something, go to college or wherever and just lose their religious identity and don't think of themselves in that tradition or maybe even join a different group, and then come back—what I affectionately call 'reverts,'" Lugo says. "In particular, we'd be interested in how that's correlated with middle age and people rediscovering their roots."

At the same time, Lugo and his colleagues recognize that—in deference to that ampersand—they need to further explore the nexus between religion and public life. Accordingly, the next survey will seek to assess different religious groups' views on a broader range of economic and social issues as well as degrees of political participation.

"We know that Latinos and African-Americans are very liberal on economic questions," says Lugo. "On social questions they tend to be more conservative than most. So why is it that, for some folks, social conservatism leads to a more liberal political ideology and to vote Democratic, and for others it doesn't?"

The goal, he concludes, "is the first-of-its-kind religious-political typology that digs deeply on both sides, religion and politics, and comes up with a very nice portrait of the country." ■

You can read the entire *U.S. Religious Landscape Survey* at <http://religions.pewforum.org>. The online presentation includes dynamic tools that allow users to easily access information about the country's religious composition and comparative data about religious groups.

Sandra Salmans is senior writer of Trust.

A MINI-FORUM WITH THE PEW FORUM ON RELIGION & PUBLIC LIFE



Converts to Buddhism in Hacienda Heights, Calif.



The Hindu Diwali, or festival of lights, at a Philadelphia temple.



"Holy Spirit Procession" celebrating the centennial of the Pentecostal movement, in Los Angeles.



Walking Meditation in Buddhism: Buddha dharma Sangha

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ans Remain Religious

While other industrialized nations are increasingly secular, Americans remain highly religious—a fact underscored by the findings of the recent *U.S. Religious Landscape Survey* by the Pew Forum on Religion & Public Life. In an interview, *Trust* asked Forum Director Luis Lugo and Senior Fellow John Green why secularization is one trend that America has not followed.

Green: It's called American exceptionalism. The term covers a number of things: The fact that the United States is a very modern industrial country that is also highly religious is just one of the features that make the United States different.

Green: "Having lots of faiths may not produce a secular society, it may in fact produce a pluralistic society, and there's a huge difference."

There are basically three theories as to why Americans are still religious. One of them simply has to do with history, that the United States was founded as a country—at least from the point of view of European immigration—of people who cared very much about religion. In fact, many of them came here for exactly that purpose.

And if you look at immigration even today, we have lots of people still coming to the United States because it is a place where religion is respected, where people have the freedom to pursue their particular faith. So some of this just has to do with the way that our country was structured and organized.

A second hypothesis, ironically, is that the formal separation of church and state has done an enormous amount to bolster American religion. The separation is limited only to the relationship between religious organ-

izations and governmental organizations. And much of American life, including religious life, is private from that point of view, and therefore not directly covered by those sorts of concerns.

On the one hand, there was no state monopoly on religion, which you've had and still have in countries that have established churches or established faith.

Lugo: Economists might say there is a free market in religion.

Green: But then on the other hand, the only way that religious services and religious institutions can be provided, with just a few modest exceptions, is by private action, voluntary action. And so you have not only a marketplace set up by law, a free market, but you have many producers and consumers within the market.

When we use these analogies, people oftentimes get very uncomfortable because they don't think of the market and religion as being similar. And of course they're not exactly the same, but there are certain similarities.

So the second hypothesis is that, because of the separation of church and state, we have strong incentives for entrepreneurial religious activity that produces this very strong, vibrant set of private religious institutions.

Lugo: Another way to put this is that there were two contemporaneous European models that the founders of this republic had in front of them—and they rejected both of them.

One was the older model of the established church, and that's still true in several parts of Europe, where the government literally collects taxes to fund their favorite religious institution. Even in Sweden, a highly secular place, you would find these arrangements. Sweden recently severed its relations with the Lutheran Church.

And even in other places where you no longer have that, like Germany, you have relationships—institutional relationships between government or the state and religious institutions that Americans would be in the streets about.

So that was the one model, which was the predominant one. Then, at the time that the Constitution was being written, a second model emerged, which was a strong reaction to that. That was the model of the French Revolution, which not only severed the relationship between church and

Lugo: "So government, in a sense, sent out the signal that it was 'secular'—quote, unquote—but secular in a way that accommodated itself to religion."

state, it went much farther—it severed religion from public life. Religion and public life simply just didn't mix.

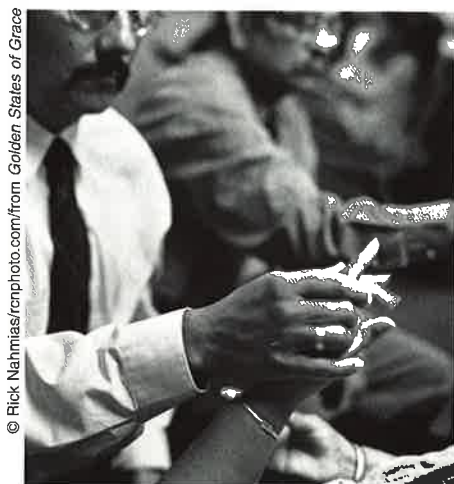
Well, what we have in this country is an interesting combination of institutional separation on the one hand, but very much of a free exercise on the other.

The ethos is, let's not keep religion out of the public sphere, let's accommodate the religious diversity that we have in the public square. So government, in a sense, sent out the signal that it was "secular"—quote, unquote—but secular in a way that accommodated itself to religion.

And I think you see this, for instance, reflected in our tax law with the deductibility for faith-based organizations, which after all had a big role to play in social welfare and education—which is another interesting distinction.

In Europe there was the emergence of the big-state notion, where the state basically controlled the social-welfare functions. In this country, because we've always had a much more limited

notion of the state, it left a lot of room for non-governmental organizations, many of them religious organizations, to provide many of those services. And again, not with direct government subsidies, but through indirect government subsidies, so that if I want to give my contribution to United



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Deaf Branch of the Mormon Church.

Jewish Appeal to help refugee resettlement, it's tax-deductible.

That's an indirect way for government to basically acknowledge that citizens have these connections and we need these institutions. So it's a friendly kind of secular, as opposed to the French reaction to the established church.

Green: The third hypothesis is related simply to the diversity of the United States. From the very beginning, it was not dominated by one particular denomination. And today, of course, it's even more diverse than it was back in those days.

It may very well be that diversity itself generates more diversity. So having lots of faiths may not produce a secular society, it may in fact produce a pluralistic society, and there's a huge difference between pluralism and secularism.

Interestingly, this is a point that some scholars are beginning to apply back

to Europe: that with the diversification of some European societies, particularly the immigration of Muslims, European societies are beginning to rediscover their Christian roots. A lot of the secularization that took place in Europe occurred in countries that started out fairly homogeneous in religious terms.

Lugo: "I think it's hard to overestimate the degree to which the revivalist tradition in evangelicalism, in the context of a free market in religion, has basically challenged everybody else really to step up their game."

Lugo: I would just extend the market analogy to say that it's not only an open system internally. It's a system without a whole lot of tariff protection, as it were—in other words, a constant wave of immigrants. I think this is a very interesting thing to look at, the extent to which wave upon wave of immigrants, who have tended to come from areas where religion was fairly important, has added to the mix and to the dynamism.

I would add one other thing sociologically here, and that's evangelicalism. I think it's hard to overestimate the degree to which the revivalist tradition in evangelicalism, in the context of a free market in religion, has basically challenged everybody else really to step up their game. I am surprised by the number of even non-Christian traditions that look at places like Saddleback Church and others. These are Muslims and others saying, let's look at their outreach activities. Mainline churches, Catholic churches—now you see many of them sort of duplicating their practices.

So in most markets, when you have very, very vibrant markets, you always have a market leader. And if there

has been a market leader in religion in this country in terms of being very aggressive and recruiting new members and meeting the needs of the congregants, it's been evangelicalism. So I wouldn't underestimate that important driver.

And that hasn't happened in Europe. Evangelicalism, even though it began in Britain, has not come close to the success anywhere in Europe that it's had in the United States.

Green: I think that's very important, and in fact the rise of evangelicalism is related to the three previous hypotheses. Because a lot of the forbearers of today's evangelicals came to the European colonies and then later to the United States precisely because they wanted to have the kind of freedom to evangelize that they weren't going to have in other places. They turned out to be awfully good at it, and they found that they could compete with other forms of religious organization quite effectively.

But then beyond that, just the diversity of the country meant that there were many people to proselytize. And it's interesting because the evangelical impulse has been around through almost all of American history. What we call evangelicalism today is just one version, but it was around at the time of the American Revolution. It was around right before the Civil War and, of course, in the late 19th century, and so forth.

It's changed a little bit with the times, but that's a very important part of the American scene. And in fact, in our data in the *Religious Landscape Survey*, today's evangelicals often show certain distinctive patterns. They have competitors, of course, people who have other patterns, but they're a very distinctive group. In religious terms they often stick out as being particularly devout, and they do connect their faith to politics, especially in certain areas. ■



Sea (2000) by Bo Bartlett, 1993 Pew fellow in the arts. Oil on linen, 56 x 80 inches. © Bo Bartlett.

IMPROVING PUBLIC POLICY

PEW ENVIRONMENT GROUP

Conservation of Living Marine Resources

The Antarctic Krill Conservation Project (Pew-operated)
Philadelphia, PA, up to \$2,357,000, 2 yrs.

To ensure that krill, a small, shrimp-like organism that is central to the Southern Ocean food web, will not be next in a long history of overexploitation of marine species.
Contact: Thomas A. Wathen
202.887.8812
www.krillcount.org

The Campaign for Healthy Oceans (Pew-operated)
Philadelphia, PA, up to \$620,000, 1 yr.

To promote federal legislation establishing a national policy requiring the protection, maintenance and restoration of marine ecosystem health.
Contact: Joshua S. Reichert
215.575.4740
www.pewtrusts.org

The Port State Controls on International Illegal Fishing (Pew-operated)
Philadelphia, PA, up to \$3,000,000, 21 mos.

To secure a binding international treaty to constrain illegal fishing and to support concurrently a series of implementation workshops with governments throughout the world.
Contact: Joshua S. Reichert
215.575.4740
www.pewtrusts.org

Protecting the Deep Sea (Pew-operated)
Philadelphia, PA, up to \$1,000,000, 21 mos.

To secure permanent fishing closures and new management controls to protect deep-sea ecosystems from bottom fishing in a significant portion of the world's high seas.
Contact: Joshua S. Reichert
215.575.4740
www.pewtrusts.org

University of British Columbia Vancouver, BC, \$723,000, 18 mos.
For the Global Ocean Economics project to determine the global economic contribution of activities supported by healthy fish populations, now and in the future.
Contact: Rashid Sumaila
604.822.0224
www.ubc.ca

Global Warming and Climate Change

The Global Warming Campaign (Pew-operated)
Philadelphia, PA, up to \$11,991,000, 2 yrs.

To persuade the United States to join with other developed nations in setting mandatory national controls on greenhouse gas emissions.
Contact: Kevin Curtis
202.887.8832
www.pewtrusts.org

The Global Warming Campaign will build support for a mandatory national policy to reduce greenhouse gas emissions through nonpartisan research and analysis as well as an intensive public education and media effort.

In-depth analyses will help strengthen the case for federal action on global warming by addressing concerns often raised by policy makers: for instance, the impact of climate policy on electricity rates and the costs/benefits of emission-reduction policies, including the impact on coal production, natural-gas use and investments in renewable energy and energy efficiency. Activities will engage a diverse set of constituencies, among them hunters and anglers, minority

groups, religious leaders and health professionals.

The campaign will also collaborate with international nongovernmental organizations to raise awareness of key issues as well as educate members of Congress of both parties on international policy options and the need for the United States to both pass domestic legislation and reenter the negotiations about the next phase of the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change.

Strategies for the Global Environment
Arlington, VA, \$8,000,000, 2 yrs.
For general operating support.
Contact: Eileen Claussen
703.516.4146
www.pewclimate.org

HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES POLICY

National Program

The Safe Banking Opportunities Project (Pew-operated)
Philadelphia, PA, up to \$2,100,000, 2 yrs.

To develop and promote standards for starter bank accounts to help low- and moderate-income working Americans gain access to safe and affordable financial products.
Contact: Matt Fellowes
202.552.2246
www.pewtrusts.org

The Safe Banking Opportunities project is the latest addition to Pew's work in financial security, a group of initiatives united by a common goal: advancing practical solutions to help Americans manage debt and save for the future.

The project hopes to benefit traditionally underserved groups, such as low- to moderate-income families, by developing clear standards for basic bank accounts, encouraging banks and credit unions to voluntarily adopt the standards and educating the public about these financial products. The norms will meet three core principles—clarity, consent and fairness—and be developed in consultation with industry representatives, governors, big-city mayors, consumer advocates and personal-finance experts.

Other Projects

The Salvation Army - Eastern Pennsylvania and Delaware Division
Philadelphia, PA, \$750,000, 2 yrs.

For the construction of the Salvation Army Ray and Joan Kroc Corps Community Center in Philadelphia.
Contact: William Carlson
215.787.2837
www.salvationarmyphiladelphia.org

PEW CENTER ON THE STATES

Campaign Finance Reform

Brigham Young University
Provo, UT, \$297,000, 17 mos.
For the Center for the Study of Elections and Democracy to support objective monitoring of the role of donors, candidates, party committees and independent groups in the 2008 elections.
Contact: David Magleby, Ph.D.
801.422.5462
www.byu.edu

Center for Responsive Politics
Washington, DC, \$800,000, 2 yrs.
For general operating support.
Contact: Sheila Krumholz
202.354.0104
www.opensecrets.org

National Institute on Money in State Politics
Helena, MT, \$600,000, 3 yrs.
For general operating support.
Contact: Edwin Bender
406.449.2480
www.followthemoney.org



Early Education

Child Care Services Association
Chapel Hill, NC, \$300,000, 2 yrs.
For the T.E.A.C.H. Early Childhood Project to help states increase both the demand for and supply of highly qualified prekindergarten teachers with four-year college degrees.
Contact: Sue Russell 919.967.3272
www.childcareservices.org

Government Performance Project

The Government Performance Project (Pew-operated)
Philadelphia, PA, up to \$3,000,000, 2 yrs.
To ensure that key states launch significant fiscal, capital and human-resource management reforms over the next two years, based on policy proposals spurred by the March 2008 state-government management report card.
Contact: Neal Johnson
202.552.2024
www.pewcenteronthestates.org

The Government Performance Project improves service to the public by strengthening government policy and performance. It evaluates how states manage their money, people, infrastructure and information—four areas critical to a fiscally responsible and well-functioning government. The project outlines its findings in its signature product, a 50-state report card, geared to help state audiences learn from each other about best practices.

The project is building on proposals laid out in the most recent report card (see feature story, pages 9-13) through a series of education and technical-assistance activities aimed at aiding the states most motivated to improve as they begin reforms in areas covered by the project's reports—for instance, in assessing personnel systems and crafting plans to strengthen the recruitment and retention of top talent.

Through "management academies" and other convenings, the project will also bring together the governors and managers of the highest-performing states with a cadre of experienced business leaders to map out the next generation of cutting-edge state management strategies and tactics.

Public Safety Performance Project

The Council of State Governments
Lexington, KY, \$2,500,000, 2 yrs.
For the Public Safety Performance project to assist states in identifying and implementing policies that will increase public safety while reducing expenditures on corrections.
Contact: Michael Thompson
212.482.2320
www.csg.org

Vera Institute of Justice, Inc.
New York, NY, \$650,000, 1 yr.
For the Public Safety Performance project to assist states in identifying and implementing policies that will increase public safety while reducing expenditures on corrections.
Contact: Daniel F. Wilhelm
212.376.3073
www.vera.org

PROGRAM PLANNING AND ECONOMIC POLICY

Committee for a Responsible Federal Budget

Washington, DC, \$820,000, 2 yrs.
For the Fiscal Responsibility Initiative: U.S. Budget Watch to raise public awareness about the importance of fiscal responsibility during the course of the 2008 presidential election and during the incoming administration's first year in office.
Contact: Maya MacGuineas
202.986.6599
www.crfb.org

INFORMING THE PUBLIC

INFORMATION PROJECTS

The Pew Research Center

The Pew Internet & American Life Project
Washington, DC, \$3,700,000, 2 yrs.
To conduct research on the social impact of the Internet and related information and communication technology with a particular emphasis on how people's Internet use affects families, communities, health care, education, civic and political life and workplaces.
Contact: Harrison M. Rainie III
202.419.4510
www.pewresearch.org

In the nine years since it started, the Pew Internet & American Life project has established a reputation for authoritative tracking and evaluation of online technology and its manifold implications for society and culture.

The project follows the Internet's impact on family life, health information, political activity and news consumption and, in recent years, has expanded its field of vision to include, for instance, social networks and emerging technologies such as cell phones, PDAs, digital cameras and gaming devices. It has also developed a first-of-its-kind typology of information and communication-technology users.

Over the next two years, the project will update its trend lines and also delve into such areas as intellectual property as well as creativity and "content creation." And it will examine the Internet's influence on how people allocate their time and attention, both at work and at play, how they interact with each other and how they search for, assess and use knowledge to make decisions, solve problems and understand the world.

SUPPORTING CIVIC LIFE

PHILADELPHIA PROGRAM

Culture

Support for Regional Culture

Greater Philadelphia Cultural Alliance
Philadelphia, PA, \$5,045,000, 4 yrs.
In support of funding for Engage 2020, an effort to double regional cultural participation by the year 2020.
Contact: Thomas Kaiden
215.557.7811 x17
www.philaculture.org

The Greater Philadelphia Cultural Alliance helps make the arts more accessible to more people in the region, and its latest effort to that end is Engage 2020, which aims to double participation in culture over the next 12 years.

Key to the project's success will be new initiatives that respond to trends in audience demographics and consumer behavior, such as the growing proclivity of younger people to log on to programming via technology on their own schedules.

Through Engage 2020, the alliance will establish statistical baselines of audience commitment by conducting new research, including the development of a cultural-engagement index, which will measure all forms of cultural participation in the for-profit and nonprofit sectors.

From that knowledge, the project will support novel approaches to audience engagement and provide arts and culture organizations seed money and marketing support for innovative planning and product development.

Upgrades to PhillyFunGuide.com, a popular arts calendar, and the PhillyFunSavers ticketing program will directly stimulate increases in audience involvement.

Central Montgomery Mental Health/Mental Retardation Center
Norristown, PA, \$135,000, 3 yrs.
For support of Project Connect to link individuals with serious mental illness to needed services.
Contact: Clark E. Bromberg, Ph.D. 610.277.4600
www.centralmhmr.org

Committee for Dignity and Fairness for the Homeless Housing Development, Inc.
Philadelphia, PA, \$150,000, 3 yrs.
To provide supportive services to help homeless families stabilize their lives and achieve independence.
Contact: Alicia Christian 215.713.0960
www.dignityhousing.org

Community Learning Center
Philadelphia, PA, \$105,000, 3 yrs.
For continued support to provide information, referrals and counseling to students of literacy and adult basic education.
Contact: Jean L. Fleschute 215.426.7940
www.communitylearningcenter.org

Community Women's Education Project
Philadelphia, PA, \$150,000, 3 yrs.
For operating support to provide education and social services to low-income, unskilled women.
Contact: Alexis T. Brown 215.426.2200
www.cwep.org

Congreso de Latinos Unidos, Inc.
Philadelphia, PA, \$195,000, 3 yrs.
For support of the Wellness to Work program, providing on-site mental health services to clients at its Employment Advancement and Retention Network Center.
Contact: Nicholas Torres 215.763.8870
www.congreso.net

The Crime Victims Center of Chester County, Inc.
West Chester, PA, \$150,000, 3 yrs.
For operating support to provide supportive services to victims of sexual assault and abuse and other crimes in Chester County.
Contact: Margaret D. Gusz 610.692.1926
www.cvcoccc.org

Delaware County Community College Educational Foundation
Media, PA, \$115,000, 3 yrs.
For continued support to provide job counseling, training and placement assistance to low-income women living in Chester and Delaware counties.
Contact: Susan M. Shisler Rapp 610.359.5040
www.dccc.edu

Delaware County Women Against Rape
Media, PA, \$90,000, 3 yrs.
For continued operating support to provide comprehensive services to victims of violent crimes.
Contact: B. Joyce Dale 610.566.4342

Domestic Violence Center of Chester County
West Chester, PA, \$115,000, 3 yrs.
For continued support of services to victims of domestic violence in Chester County.
Contact: Dolly Wideman-Scott 610.431.3546 x11
www.dvccc.com

Drexel University
Philadelphia, PA, \$210,000, 3 yrs.
For support to provide integrated primary care and behavioral health services for low-income adults in North Philadelphia.
Contact: Patricia Gerrity, Ph.D. 215.762.4215
www.drexel.edu

Family and Community Service of Delaware County
Media, PA, \$135,000, 3 yrs.
For continued support of the Ralph Moses House, providing housing, health and employment services to formerly homeless men living with HIV/AIDS.
Contact: Alan L. Edelstein 610.566.7540 x222
www.fcsdc.org

Family Service Association of Bucks County
Langhorne, PA, \$200,000, 3 yrs.
To enhance services for persons with co-occurring mental illness and substance abuse disorders.
Contact: Audrey J. Tucker 215.757.6916 x204
www.fsabc.org

Hedwig House, Inc.
Norristown, PA, \$150,000, 3 yrs.
For support of peer services to individuals with serious mental illness.
Contact: Karen Bitting 610.279.4400 x11
www.hedwighouse.org

HIAS and Council Migration Service of Philadelphia, Inc.
Philadelphia, PA, \$150,000, 3 yrs.
For continued support to provide legal services to low-income immigrants.
Contact: Judith Bernstein-Baker 215.832.0906
www.hiaspa.org

Homeless Advocacy Project
Philadelphia, PA, \$90,000, 3 yrs.
For continued support of legal assistance to homeless individuals.
Contact: Marsha I. Cohen 215.523.9590
www.homelessadvocacyproject.org

Horizon House, Inc.
Philadelphia, PA, \$180,000, 3 yrs.
For continued support to assist adults with serious mental illness to receive technical certifications or college degrees.
Contact: Jeffrey W. Wilush 215.386.3838
www.hhinc.org

Impact Services Corporation
Philadelphia, PA, \$228,000, 3 yrs.
To provide job placement and case management support for ex-offenders served by its Community Reentry Center.
Contact: John MacDonald 215.739.1600 x144
www.impactservices.org

Interim House, Inc.
Philadelphia, PA, \$150,000, 3 yrs.
For support of its Job Readiness program for women who are recovering from serious substance abuse problems.
Contact: Kathy Wellbank 215.849.4606
www.phmc.org/addictions/Interimhouse1v2.asp

Jewish Employment and Vocational Service
Philadelphia, PA, \$160,000, 3 yrs.
For support of Resources for Recovery, a substance-abuse education and support program for low-income women.
Contact: Jay Spector 215.854.1804
www.jevshumanservices.org

La Comunidad Hispana, Inc.
Kennett Square, PA, \$160,000, 3 yrs.
For continued operating support to provide social, health, employment and other supportive services to Latino farm workers and their families.
Contact: Michelle Tucker 610.444.4545
www.lacomunidadhispana.org

Lutheran Children and Family Service of Eastern Pennsylvania
Philadelphia, PA, \$102,000, 3 yrs.
To provide continued information, referral and mental-health counseling services to immigrants and refugees.
Contact: Denise Michultka, Ph.D. 215.747.7500 x249
www.lcfsinpa.org

Mental Health Association of Southeastern Pennsylvania
Philadelphia, PA, \$180,000, 3 yrs.
For continued support of Montgomery County HealthCHECK to link individuals with serious mental illness to needed health care.
Contact: Rosemary O'Rourke 215.751.1800
www.mhasp.org

Metropolitan Area Neighborhood Nutrition Alliance
Philadelphia, PA, \$135,000, 3 yrs.
For operating support to provide nutrition counseling and meals for people with chronic or serious illnesses.
Contact: Richard Keaveney 215.496.2662 x111
www.mannapa.org



Ronald Wimes, lead host at the wireless-Internet café in the central location of the Free Library of Philadelphia, on the Benjamin Franklin Parkway. The operation, which opened this past spring, is a collaboration of the library, the Bank of America and Project H.O.M.E., a nonprofit that addresses homelessness and poverty.

The coffee is free-trade and organic, the pastries and breads are artisanal from Metropolitan Bakery, and the specialty sandwiches and salads come from Back H.O.M.E. Café and Catering.

The café provides full- and part-time employment opportunities for formerly homeless individuals as well as for youth participating in the Harold A. Honickman Entrepreneurial Program. Participants receive training in customer service and job skills.



National Nursing Centers Consortium

Philadelphia, PA, \$200,000, 3 yrs.
To provide housing support services for participants of the Philadelphia Nurse-Family Partnership program.
Contact: Tine Hansen-Turton
215.731.7140
www.nncc.us

PathWays PA, Inc.
Holmes, PA, \$146,000, 3 yrs.
For continued support to provide information and education to improve the ability of low-wage workers to access available resources.
Contact: Carol Goertzel
610.543.5022 x224
www.pathwayspa.org

People's Emergency Center
Philadelphia, PA, \$140,000, 3 yrs.
For continued support of the Job Opportunities and Business Skills program, providing comprehensive employment and career-advancement services to homeless women.
Contact: Gloria Guard
215.382.7522 x244
www.pec-cares.org

Philadelphia College of Osteopathic Medicine
Philadelphia, PA, \$225,000, 3 yrs.
For support of behavioral health services to low-income patients of the Philadelphia College of Osteopathic Medicine's health care centers in North and West Philadelphia.
Contact: Matthew Schure, Ph.D.
215.871.6100
www.pcom.edu

Philadelphia FIGHT
Philadelphia, PA, \$165,000, 3 yrs.
For continued support of the Diana Baldwin Clinic, which provides behavioral health services to persons with HIV/AIDS.
Contact: Jane Shull 215.985.4448
www.fight.org

The Philadelphia Health Management Corporation
Philadelphia, PA, \$215,000, 3 yrs.
For support of comprehensive health care for chronically homeless adults.
Contact: Richard J. Cohen, Ph.D.
215.985.2501
www.phmc.org

Celebrating the April graduation of 44 Ready, Willing & Able participants who have reentered the workforce.

RWA operates a shelter for homeless men and—with the motto "Work works"—sponsors a program that enables them to get and keep permanent jobs. Participants clean up litter and perform landscaping tasks such as clearing weeds, gutters and overgrown brush from parks and other public areas in and around Center City Philadelphia.

After the work day, they are offered educational and supportive services, including drug counseling and life skills, job preparation, basic education and computer classes. The goal is to prepare them to find and keep permanent jobs and housing when they complete the nine-to-12 month program.

Prevention Point Philadelphia, Inc.
Philadelphia, PA, \$150,000, 3 yrs.
For continued support of a social worker for the Street Side Health program.
Contact: José Benítez
215.634.5272
www.preventionpointphilly.org

Project H.O.M.E.
Philadelphia, PA, \$270,000, 3 yrs.
For continued support to provide comprehensive services to people who are homeless.
Contact: Mary Scullion
215.232.7272
www.projecthome.org

Ready, Willing & Able
Philadelphia, Inc.
Philadelphia, PA, \$182,000, 3 yrs.
For operating support to provide housing and work experience to formerly homeless men in Philadelphia.
Contact: Maura Greaney
646.672.4234
www.rwaphilly.org

Resources for Human Development
Philadelphia, PA, \$120,000, 3 yrs.
For support of the Clearinghouse for Employing the Homeless program.
Contact: Robert Fishman
215.951.0330
www.rhd.org

Temple University
Philadelphia, PA, \$105,000, 3 yrs.
For continued support of the Temple Comprehensive HIV program to provide nutritional counseling to individuals with HIV/AIDS.
Contact: Ann Weaver Hart, Ph.D.
215.204.7405
www.temple.edu

Temple University
Philadelphia, PA, \$110,000, 3 yrs.
For continued support of the Legal Advocacy for Patients program for low-income people with chronic or terminal illness.
Contact: Ann Weaver Hart, Ph.D.
215.204.7405
www.law.temple.edu

Trevor's Campaign, Inc.
Springfield, PA, \$150,000, 3 yrs.
For continued support of Project SUCCESS to assist homeless women in moving toward independent living.
Contact: David C. Buffum
610.225.2470
www.trevorscampaign.org

Unemployment Information Center
Philadelphia, PA, \$105,000, 3 yrs.
For continued operating support to provide assistance to unemployed individuals.
Contact: John Dodds 215.557.0822
www.philaup.org

Victim/Witness Services of South Philadelphia, Inc.
Philadelphia, PA, \$80,000, 3 yrs.
For continued support to conduct outreach, offer education and provide support services to crime victims who have limited English proficiency.
Contact: Alison Sprague
215.551.3360

VNA Community Services, Inc.
Abington, PA, \$175,000, 3 yrs.
For support of the Montgomery County Personal Navigator program to assist low-income adults to apply for and obtain needed public support.
Contact: Virginia A. Coombs
215.572.7880
www.vnacs.org

Whosoever Gospel Mission and Rescue Association of Germantown
Philadelphia, PA, \$170,000, 3 yrs.
For continued operating support to provide services to vulnerable individuals in North Philadelphia.
Contact: Robert A. Emberger
215.438.3094 x11
www.whosoevergospel.org

Women Against Abuse
Philadelphia, PA, \$175,000, 3 yrs.
For behavioral health services to victims of domestic violence living in Women Against Abuse's shelter.
Contact: Cynthia F. Figueroa
215.386.7651
www.womenagainstabuse.org

Women In Transition, Inc.
Philadelphia, PA, \$140,000, 3 yrs.
For continued support to provide telephone counseling and supportive services to women in abusive situations who are also recovering from addiction.
Contact: Roberta L. Hacker
215.564.5301 x126
www.womenintransitioninc.org

Women's Community Revitalization Project
Philadelphia, PA, \$165,000, 3 yrs.
For continued support to provide case management and other supportive services to women living in the project's affordable rental housing units.
Contact: Nora Lichtash
215.627.5550 x215
www.wcrpphila.com

Women's Opportunities Resource Center
Philadelphia, PA, \$230,000, 3 yrs.
For continued operating support to provide micro-enterprise training and related loans and savings programs to low-income women.
Contact: Lynne Cutler
215.564.5500
www.worc-pa.com



At times, the 2008 primary season may have strained the candidates and the public—and it also taxed the election system because of the dramatically increased number of voters. Millions of voters, many of them first-timers, crowded polling places around the country, doubling recent turnout in some states.

The “big three” issues of election reform—voting machines, voter registration databases and voter ID—did not drive the headlines during primary season. Rather, long lines at polling places, ballot shortages, machine demands and other problems combined to produce a system overwhelmed

issues that have dominated election reform in years past took a back seat to long lines, photocopied ballots and overwhelmed poll workers.”

Nearly 58 million Americans voted in the primaries: 37 million in Democratic contests and 21 million in GOP races. States with the most remarkable turnout increases (compared to 2000 and 2004) included Alabama, Arizona, Delaware, Florida, Indiana, North Carolina, Tennessee, Utah, Virginia and the District of Columbia.

A shortage of paper ballots was a frequent problem. Some polling stations in the District of Columbia ran out of paper ballots before lunch, shifting voting to the one accessible machine available in each precinct. Some clerks around the country resorted to photocopying ballots or employing scraps of paper for voting when supplies were exhausted.

The report found that ballot-allocation formulas were largely left to localities and varied greatly across the country—from specific guidelines in Alabama requiring “55 ballots for every 50 votes cast in the preceding presidential election,” to Montana’s and North Carolina’s mandates for “sufficient” and “adequate” supplies.

In states allowing early and/or no-excuse absentee voting, nearly one in four voters took advantage of the opportunity. In California, more than 40 percent of voters cast ballots before the primary.

Provisional ballots, while a national mandate, produced disparate results across the country. Every state offered the fail-safe ballots to those who believed they were registered but were not on rolls, yet rates and counting varied during the primary season. More than 75 percent of provisional ballots in Utah and Texas were counted, but fewer than 10 percent in Louisiana.

Provisional ballots may be rejected for a variety of reasons, but the 2008 primary had the additional complication of open versus closed primaries.

Available data suggest that those seeking to cross party lines bumped up uncounted totals of provisional ballots. In Oklahoma, for example, 30 percent of rejected provisional ballots were cast by voters who were not authorized to vote in the other party’s race. Half the provisional ballots in Pennsylvania were rejected for this reason.

2008 Primary in Review is available online at electionline.org. Hard copies are available by request at publications@electionline.org. For an inside look at electionline.org, see the spring issue of *Trust*.

They can look like asbestos and behave like asbestos—so they deserve careful scrutiny as a potential health hazard. The “they” are some forms of carbon nanotubes, which a recent study finds can be as harmful as asbestos if inhaled in sufficient quantities.

Carbon nanotubes have been called a poster child for the nanotechnology revolution. They are sheets of graphite only an atom thick and formed into cylinders that are as light as plastic and stronger than steel. They are used in new drugs, energy-efficient batteries and electronics; nanotube sales are predicted to reach \$2 billion annually in four to seven years.

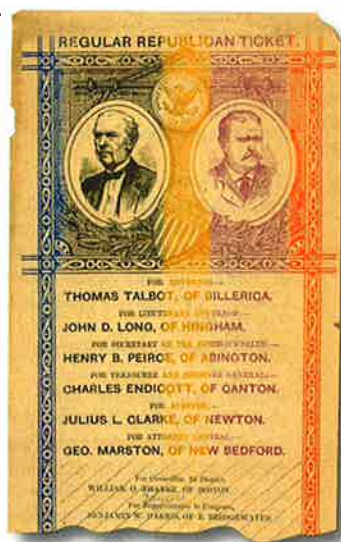
Nanotubes come in many forms, with different shapes, different atomic arrangements and varying amounts and types of added chemicals—all of which affect their properties and might

Maynard with a vial of multi-walled carbon nanotubes.



Alex Parlini, Project on Emerging Nanotechnologies

Hugh Talman/National Museum of American History



In 2008, a shortage of paper ballots, 130 years after this Republican ballot in Massachusetts.

by voter crowds, according to *2008 Primary in Review* by electionline.org, a project of the Pew Center on the States.

“We saw a primary season busting at the seams with voters,” says Doug Chapin, electionline.org’s director. “Many election officials might have identified with Sheriff Brody in *Jaws* who said, after seeing the great white shark, ‘We’re gonna need a bigger boat.’ Things did not always run smoothly, but we found that the major

influence their impact on human health and the environment.

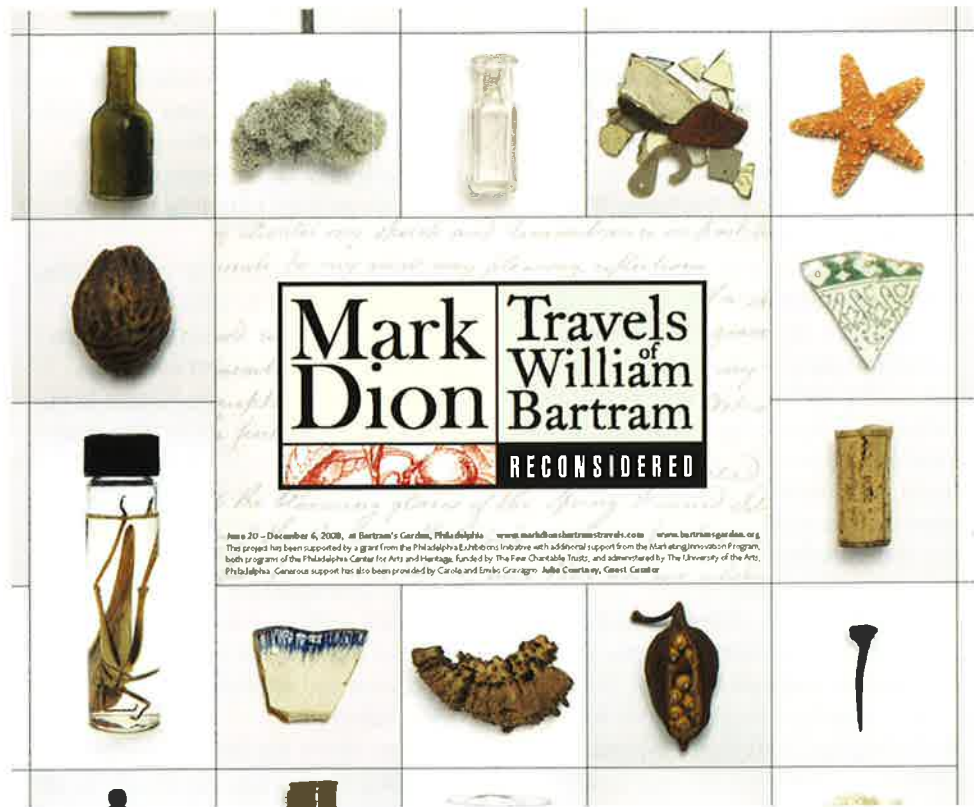
In a study published in May in *Nature Nanotechnology*, researchers used established methods to see if specific types of nanotubes have the potential to cause mesothelioma, an asbestos-caused cancer of the lung lining that can take 30 to 40 years to appear following exposure. Long, thin, multi-walled carbon nanotubes that look like asbestos fibers, the results show, behave like asbestos fibers.

The scientists tested for fiber-like behavior only, and it is possible that carbon nanotubes could damage the lungs in other ways. "More research is still needed if we are to understand how to use these materials as safely as possible," says Kenneth Donaldson, D.Sc., an expert in particle toxicology at the University of Edinburgh, who led the team.

"This study is exactly the kind of strategic, highly focused research needed to ensure the safe and responsible development of nanotechnology. It looks at a specific nanoscale material expected to have widespread commercial applications and asks specific questions about a specific health hazard," says Andrew Maynard, Ph.D., a co-author on the paper and the chief science advisor to the **Project on Emerging Nanotechnologies**, a partnership between the Woodrow Wilson International Center for Scholars and Pew.

"As a society, we cannot afford not to exploit this incredible material, but neither can we afford to get it wrong—as we did with asbestos."

A PDF of the paper can be found on the journal's Web site, www.nature.com/nnano. For more on nanotechnology issues, plus the project's oversight recommendations for the new administration, go to its Web site, www.nanotechproject.org. Also, see "Managing Safely the Gigantic Future of Very Small Things" in the fall 2007 issue of *Trust*.



Artist Mark Dion didn't bump into the ghost of John or William Bartram in his journeys to the southeast United States this past winter and spring. Still, he was hot on the trail of the 18th- and 19th-century botanists and horticulturalists.

John Bartram, named "Botanist Royal in America" by King George III, bought land along the Schuylkill River outside Philadelphia, where he started this country's first garden devoted to North American plants. He and his son William, who literally followed in his footsteps, identified and cultivated more than 200 native plants—notably the Franklinia tree, which may have died out in the wild yet survives because the Bartrams grew specimens from seeds they collected in Georgia.

Among the garden's more famous early customers were George Washington and Thomas Jefferson. Benjamin Franklin was a close friend; he encouraged John Bartram to grow soy for tofu (the first known American

mention of that food).

Today, the garden, now inside the long-since-expanded city, is a 45-acre public park, with a wildflower meadow and a water garden, both restored; a tidal wetland along the river; a historic area with native plants of the Bartrams' time; and the home, a National Historic Landmark.

John Bartram's forte was science; William's was writing and drawing (his *Travels* are still in print). Both father and son knew the range and distinctiveness of the American environment of their day not only from books and their garden but also from their fact-finding, thoroughly documented expeditions up and down the East Coast.

Enter *Mark Dion: Travels of William Bartram—Reconsidered*. Dion is a sculptor based in Pennsylvania and New York who has previously explored the relationship between the natural environment and the ways museums categorize and present exhibits from nature; in other

(heavier) words, how a subjective understanding of nature turns into knowledge that gradually becomes the accepted version of history. Last November, he began re-tracing William Bartram's southern trip, with the specific intent of exploring how a travel experience can be represented in sculpture. He used the Bartrams' travel journals, drawings and maps as his guides and, like his predecessors, collected things, natural and manmade, examined them, drew and painted them, and mailed them back to the garden, where they are displayed in the Bartram house in an exhibition that opened in June.

For the diaries, drawings and schedule of trip-related events, go to www.bartramsgarden.org. The project received support from the Philadelphia Exhibitions Initiative, a program of the Philadelphia Center for Arts and Heritage.

For most Americans, their homes are their greatest financial asset. Yet one in 33 U.S. homeowners might be headed toward foreclosure in the coming years because of subprime loans, according to *Defaulting on a Dream*, a report released in the spring by the Pew Center on the States and Pew's Health and Human Services Policy program.

In some states, the problem is even more acute. In Nevada, one in 11 homeowners is projected to be in foreclosure in the next two years, and one in 18 in Arizona.

In addition to actual foreclosures, a much larger number of homeowners—including neighbors of

affected households—could see property values drop. And municipalities will lose out with less revenue from property taxes, estimated to be as much as \$356 billion in the next two years.

A number of states, the report finds, are taking action to help troubled homeowners and, looking ahead, to prevent further problematic loans. To help those facing foreclosure keep their homes, lawmakers in nine states have voted for publicly supported mortgage-refinancing funds; Ohio, Michigan and Pennsylvania alone have committed at least \$450 million to help beleaguered borrowers. In 14 states, task forces are bringing together government leaders, lenders, advocates and experts to work on yet other solutions.

Some states lag behind, however, including California, where one in 20 homeowners is projected to experience foreclosure, as well as Florida and Utah, two of the six states with the highest number of projected foreclosures.

The report points out that, while relief for the current crisis is important, policy makers must also prevent another cycle of troubling loans by establishing basic consumer-protection safeguards. Some 31 states now regulate high-cost loan products; 24 require or recommend consumer education and counseling. Others have strengthened underwriting standards so that borrowers receive loans that they can repay.

Since the report's release, both the Federal Reserve Board and Congress have responded to the crisis. Through changes to Regulation Z (truth in lending), the Fed has strengthened underwriting and disclosure standards on mortgages.

Additionally, Congress passed, and the president signed, a comprehensive housing bill that expands help to many homeowners facing foreclosure by refinancing their loans into lower-

cost, government-insured mortgages. Among its many other provisions, the bill provides emergency funds to local governments to purchase and rehabilitate foreclosed homes.

"Given the breadth and depth of this crisis," says Tobi Walker, senior officer in Health and Human Services Policy, "it will be crucial that federal and state policy makers work together to address this ongoing crisis."

For the full report, go to the Web at www.pewcenteronthestates.org, and scroll down to Subprime Mortgage Lending.

Dan Seligson

The pharmaceutical industry is generous to doctors. It spends an estimated \$28 billion to \$46 billion each year marketing its wares, equating conservatively to \$35,000 annually for each physician (not counting the promotion done by the medical-device industry).

More than 100,000 pharmaceutical sales representatives visit U.S. physicians regularly, providing free lunches, gifts, medication samples and carefully-selected medical literature to promote their products. They want doctors to prescribe more, and more expensive, drugs, and the practice has often become a substitute for objective medical evidence.

The Pew-initiated **Prescription Project**, led by Community Catalyst in partnership with the Institute on Medicine as a Profession, is concerned that aggressive marketing to physicians creates real and perceived conflicts of interest for doctors and raises questions about the appropriateness of treatment choices. It promotes evidence-based prescribing and strives to eliminate the conflicts of interest that the marketing generates.

A report issued in June by the American Medical Student Association, in collaboration with the Prescription Project, gives an update: Most U.S. medical schools are failing to address conflicts of interest caused by such





David Wiesner engages in the “art of visual storytelling.” Many of the books of this three-time Caldecott Medal-winning artist have no written words, though they always evoke narratives in the imagination—like the painting above.

The story behind this particular work, however, lies outside the picture. Last year, it was one of the hundreds of original postcard-sized artworks made and donated by acclaimed artists from Philadelphia and beyond for *Dear Fleisher, 4x6 Inches of Art*, the annual exhibition and sale at the **Samuel S. Fleisher Art Memorial** in Philadelphia. Hundreds more—the

same 4x6—were available at this year’s event on October 5.

The works are exhibited anonymously and sold first-come, first-served, for \$50 each. Proceeds help support Fleisher’s 110-year tradition of free art instruction for children and adults, which now amounts to more than 200 free classes and low-cost workshops for some 3,000 adults and 1,000 children annually, plus artist residencies in public schools that no longer have an art teacher on staff.

For more information on *Dear Fleisher* (the school or the event), visit www.fleisher.org.

marketing. Only 21 of 150 medical schools surveyed have strong policies (those graded A or B), according to the *AMSA PharmFree Scorecard 2008*.

The scorecard evaluates restrictions on gifts, paid speaking for products, acceptance of drug-promotion samples, interaction with sales representatives, industry-funded education and other criteria.

In the spring, the Association of American Medical Colleges proposed sweeping recommendations to medical schools to adopt strong conflict-of-interest policies to address industry

interactions. The association’s proposals affirm reforms that the Prescription Project and AMSA have actively promoted.

The Prescription Project offers tool kits to help medical schools create strong conflict-of-interest policies in many of the areas identified in the scorecard. These aids are available at www.prescriptionproject.org, the project’s Web site.

Children of all socioeconomic backgrounds reap educational rewards from an early education, but most

three- and four-year-olds in the United States go without preschool.

This was a finding of *The State of Preschool 2007*, a study carried out by the Pew-supported **National Institute for Early Education Research**, which ranked all 50 states according to percentage of children served, spending per child and number of quality benchmarks met for the 2006-2007 school year. The study concluded that while overall preschool enrollment, standards and state spending were up from the previous year, states have a long way to go toward offering top-notch universal pre-K.

“The nation made progress this year, but when you dig deep into the data, the picture is not so rosy,” says W. Steven Barnett, Ph.D., director of the institute, based at Rutgers University, where he is Board of Governors Professor.

State-funded preschools served more than 1 million children in 2006-2007, but even when including federal and private school programs, one-quarter of all four-year-olds and half of all three-year-olds still had no access to a preschool education. And 12 states offered no state-funded preschool at all.

Of the 38 that did, the average spent was \$3,642 per child, up from previous years but significantly lower than spending for K-12 programs. There was also considerable variance, with New Jersey the top-ranked state at \$10,494 per child and South Carolina last at \$1,600 per child.

States also showed a mixed record in reaching the institute’s quality benchmarks, such as limiting class size and student-teacher ratios, and requiring teachers to hold bachelor’s degrees. North Carolina and Alabama met all 10 benchmarks, as they have in previous years, and eight additional states met nine of 10. Kansas met the fewest—three—and six other states met only four.

Pre-K of high quality benefits both

children and the states. According to Sara Watson, senior officer at Pew, "Pre-k can save money both immediately, in terms of special education placement and grade retention, and over the long term, since many of the traits and skills that make adults good employees, good neighbors and good citizens start in the earliest years."

Anahi Baca

Some who have watched teens as they energetically type messages into digital devices have feared for the future of the full sentence. Is the casual, acronym-laden language style used in e-mailing, texting and instant messaging ruining adolescents' ability to write?

While no one knows the answer to that question for sure, a joint survey of the **Pew Internet & American Life Project** and the National Commission on Writing may shed some light on the raging national debate about how technological communication is affecting today's youth.

The study, which polled youngsters ages 12-17 and their parents, revealed an interesting paradox: While an overwhelming majority of youngsters at least occasionally communicate electronically, they don't consider these exchanges real writing.

Doomsayers may be relieved to learn that youth distinguish between casual and formal writing, but nearly two-thirds of teens acknowledge that they incorporate—often accidentally—informal expressions into their schoolwork.

The sporadic appearance of emoticons, non-standard grammar and text shortcuts like "LOL" ("laughing out loud") in their essays, however, may not spell the end of the art of writing. Teens write often for school, and almost all of them claim to occasionally write for pleasure. And they do appreciate standards, agreeing with their parents that competent writing is a key element of success in life.

"Those on both sides of the issue will see supporting data here," says

Amanda Lenhart, a senior research specialist at the Pew project who co-authored *Writing, Technology and Teens*, a report on the survey's findings. "There is clearly a big gap in the minds of teenagers between the 'real' writing they do for school and the texts they compose for their friends. Yet it is also clear that writing holds a central place in the lives of teens and in their vision about the skills they need for the future."

The report is available at the project's Web site, www.pewinternet.org. The project is an initiative of the Pew Research Center.

Anahi Baca

When the **Pew Center on Global Climate Change** was established in 1998, global warming was a waning public topic. The year before, the Pew Research Center found that "fewer people are greatly concerned about the greenhouse effect now than in Gallup polls taken in 1989 and 1990"—24 versus 30 percent earlier.

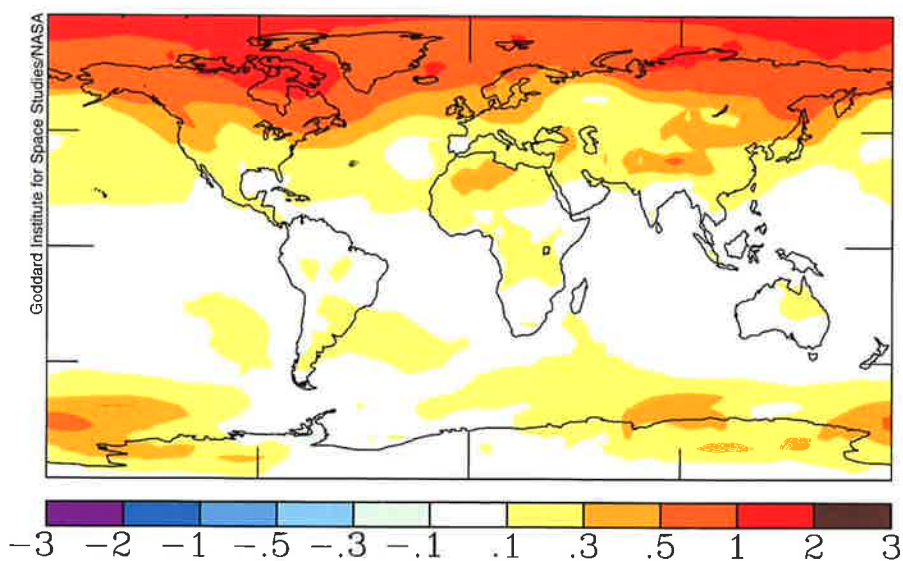
Ten years later, it tops the list of issues facing world leaders; internationally negotiators recently established a road map toward a compre-

hensive agreement on action after 2012 (the year that closes the first "commitment" period for nations adopting the Kyoto Protocol).

In the United States over the past decade, states and regions have adopted innovative climate strategies, an ever-increasing segment of the business community is calling for a reasonable—but mandatory—national climate policy, and Congress has taken significant steps toward such a plan.

"For more than a decade, the Pew center has served as an honest broker in the complex and often controversial debate over climate change," said U.S. Sen. Joseph Lieberman at a July event marking the center's anniversary. "Its message that we can protect the climate and grow the economy has resonated with Democrats, Republicans and Independents. The years of hard work the Pew center has put into this issue are a major reason why the tide is turning in Congress, and we will soon pass strong legislation that reduces greenhouse gas emissions and addresses the challenge of climate change."

The event also honored the 10th anniversary of the center's Business



Soot affects Earth's temperature, according to new research from Columbia University and the National Aeronautics and Space Administration. This chart shows the temperature changes from 1880 to 2002, and soot may be responsible for more than 25 percent of the increase, according to NASA. Increases are on the Celsius scale.

LETTERS

A Focus on Its Strengths

All of us at Historic Hudson Valley appreciate your mention of Montgomery Place Historic Estate in the article "Houses, Histories and the Future" (spring *Trust*), which deals with the financial and administrative challenges confronting many historic houses. The article is valuable in highlighting the need for historic sites to identify and test new ideas that both serve 21st-century visitors and make economic sense. The passage, however, contained some inaccuracies and gave a misleading impression of how Montgomery Place is finding creative solutions proper to its own roots.

We are not considering transforming the site into a bed-and-breakfast, community center or wedding venue, as the article indicated. This may be an appropriate direction for other historic houses, but we have chosen to focus the visitor experience at Montgomery Place on the site's real strengths, which are landscape history and architecture.

Accordingly, the mansion on the estate is indeed closed, but not "indefinitely," as the article stated. It will be closed only until Historic Hudson Valley, the parent operating institution, can implement a five-year strategic plan that is midway through development. This plan calls for



research and design of new interpretive materials for the estate's orchard and working farm; a program of self-guided landscape and garden tours; improvement of the gardens; new water and sewage systems for historic residential buildings in Annandale-on-Hudson, where the estate is located; and extensive repairs to the mansion. In 2010, we will unveil the results under the title "American Arcadia: People, Land-

scape and Nature at Montgomery Place."

Some parts of this ambitious goal are already completed, such as our landscape audio tour, which is the first in the Hudson Valley. The historic gardens are all tended, and the orchard, farm and popular farm stand are all enjoying success. Indeed, Judith H. Dobrzynski, writing in *The New York Times* last year, noted, "Not only are the gardens beautiful, but the . . . view is one of the best panoramic vistas of the Hudson I have ever seen."

The *Trust* article is right in suggesting that historic houses should be a force in their communities. What that means in individual cases must be determined by the caretakers. We at Historic Hudson Valley feel that we have defined what is unique at Montgomery Place—the totality of the estate: house, gardens, arboretum, woodlands, orchards, hamlet and natural features—and we are excited to see our plan advancing that vision.

Trust's readers should come, see and enjoy this important, and relevant, country estate. I assure you: You won't be disappointed.

RAYMOND ARMATER

Site Director, Montgomery Place

Historic Hudson Valley

Annandale-on-Hudson, N.Y.

www.hudsonvalley.org/content/view/16/46

Environmental Leadership Council, comprising companies dedicated to climate solutions. Starting with 13 members, BELC now consists of 42 members with more than \$2 trillion in combined revenue and nearly 4 million employees. That includes two new members: BASF Corporation, the North American affiliate of BASF SE, the world's largest chemical company; and Deere & Company, the world's leading manufacturer of agricultural machinery as well as a major supplier of turf equipment and materials.

"The Pew center's thoughtful analyses of the science and economics of climate change have helped bridge what was once a sharp divide between business and environmental interests," said J. Wayne Leonard, chairman and

CEO of Entergy, a BELC-member company engaged primarily in electric-power production and retail distribution operations. "Its work has helped convince many in the business community that the costs of addressing climate change are far outweighed by the costs of doing nothing."

The Pew Center on Global Climate Change was established, and continues, as a nonprofit, nonpartisan and independent organization "providing credible information, straight answers and innovative solutions," said Eileen Claussen, the center's president. In addition to growing BELC, the center's highlights over the decade include:

- engaging with federal and state decision-makers on such topics as

cost-effective policy options, the science (through nearly 100 reports by climate experts) and greenhouse gas-reduction efforts;

- founding the U.S. Climate Action Partnership;
- advancing international solutions, as at the Climate Dialogue at Pocantico, which the center convened and where senior policy makers and stakeholders from 15 countries produced recommendations to engage all major economies in the post-2012 effort; and
- building public awareness of the climate-change problem and solutions.

"We are working on an issue that is often polarized and politicized, yet we



© Lynn Goldsmith/CORBIS

Music from the stars: scientist Albert Einstein, rock-and-roller Chubby Checker (right), actor Kevin Bacon (above), singer-pianist Buddy Greco,

Philadelphia Award-winning novelist and Pew fellow in the arts Lorene Cary, jazz saxophonist Andy Snitzer, soprano Wilhelmenia Fernandez, concert pianist Leon Bates, tenor Mario Lanza, Pulitzer Prize-winning newspaper columnist Acel Moore—just a miscellany of former students at the **Settlement Music School** in Philadelphia, which celebrates its centennial this year.

But not exactly random. In honor of the event, the school has selected 100 individuals, including the 10 above, who developed and sharpened their musical abilities there—and then became (if they weren't already) leaders in a wide variety of fields. (See www.settlement100.com.)

Settlement, which receives Pew support, is the largest community-based school of the arts in the nation, serving 15,000 students each year at six branches in two states, without regard to age, race, ability to

pay—or musical ability. This year, its pre-school program earned accreditation from the National Association for the Education of Young Children, an achievement gained by only some eight percent of all such programs.



© Aaron Rapoport/CORBIS

have seen an enormous amount of progress in the last decade," said Claussen. "Obviously, much more needs to be done. We remain as committed as ever to providing objective research and analysis and developing pragmatic policies and answers that will lead to real, wide-ranging action to protect the climate."

The historic battle for the White House may be grabbing most of the headlines, but plenty of state races and major ballot measures could also be nail-biters this November—and the results could have national implications.

In fact, there are 11 gubernatorial, 11 attorney-general and seven secretary-of-state races and more than 100 high-profile statewide ballot measures that range from rolling back affirmative action and banning same-sex marriage to legalizing assisted suicide

for the terminally ill. And some 5,800 legislative seats are up in statehouse races in all but six states that do not hold legislative elections this fall.

To help voters keep track, **Stateline.org** has launched an interactive guide, *2008 State Elections: What's at Stake?*, which lists candidates for major offices and the parties currently in control of both those offices and the legislatures. It also contains more than 130 ballot initiatives, including some that are still pending certification or facing legal challenge. And more could be added to the slate, as states continue to verify signatures and validate initiatives.

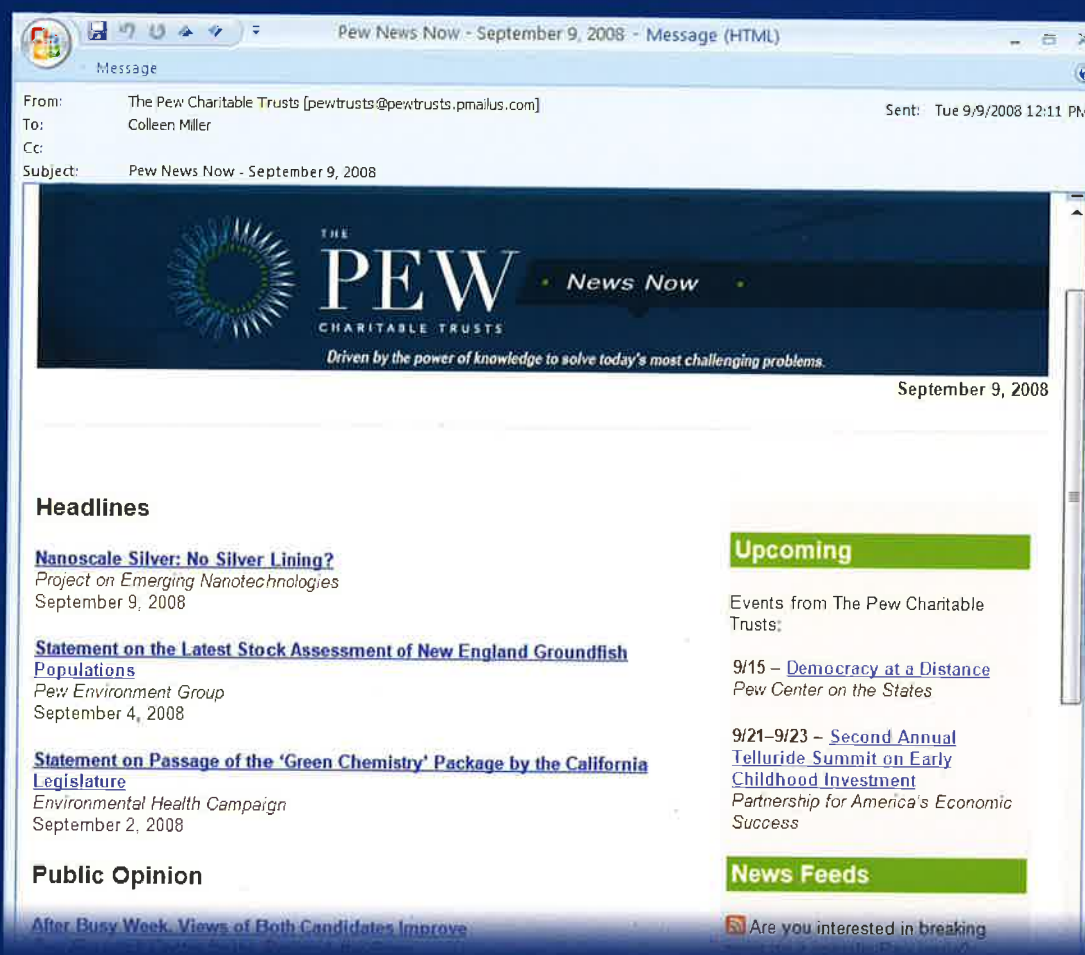
You can read the complete report at www.stateline.org, which will be updated regularly until Election Day, and after that, all of the results will be posted.

Stateline.org is an online news site that has published every weekday

since January 1999 and has earned a reputation for providing original, unbiased reporting on state issues. Most recently a project of the Pew Research Center, it became part of the Pew Center on the States in July.

Joining forces with PCS allows the editorially independent Stateline.org to tap into PCS's research and analysis, while also providing the center with an unparalleled ability to stay ahead of state policy developments and trends and better provide non-partisan information and analysis on important issues facing the states.

Stateline.org continues to maintain journalistic integrity and editorial independence by not engaging in advocacy work. As it does now, Stateline.org will periodically report on PCS research, events and other efforts—applying the same news judgment as it does to initiatives that have no Pew involvement. ■



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Michael Johnson



William Albert Allard/National Geographic/Getty Images

A Pew commission makes recommendations to reform industrialized farming.



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