

OPINION

Guest Editorial Velox Viewpoints

Drug Importation Isn't a Done Deal By Peter Pitts

It is inevitable that American consumers will soon be allowed to purchase prescription drugs from other countries...

But that new competition won't cause a reduction in drug prices. According to the Congressional Budget Office, unrestricted importation would decrease spending on prescription drugs by only one percent.

What's more, lifting the ban would seriously undermine McCain's central campaign pledge to "defend our country from its enemies."

And popular support for drug importation is hardly a guarantee. Witnesses the foreign drug programs in Illinois, Massachusetts, and Minnesota, which lifted the federal ban and allowed residents to purchase pills from Canada.

Peter J. Pitts is President of the Center for Medicine in the Public Interest and a former FDA Associate Commissioner.

Greetings from Nevada! I hope you are all having a great week.

My babies are growing up so fast! I can't believe the new things they are doing. I wish I could have the lid on the time in a bottle to slow it down because I most likely will only have this time once, and it is all so amazing.

When I wasn't won't say we are close to being potty trained, the seeds are definitely being planted in our house. For the past couple of weeks, every time Analise has needed to poop, she would come to me and pull on her diaper.

So, after talking to my mom for advice, Ben and I went and purchased a potty chair. We got one that had its own chair on the back attached to the toilet seat.

Analise seems to be getting the hang of it. I had to have her sit on the toilet, mainly, I think because she feels like she is going to fall.

Anyway, so we got the chair and put it together and set it up in their bathroom. On Friday, June 13, they had both just gotten up from their nap and Analise came to me and pulled on her diaper.

The seed is definitely there. When she comes to me and tells me she is going to do it, I try to set her on it. I am hoping she will eventually start associating the feeling of needing to go to the bathroom with the toilet.

Ben was potty trained in two weeks. I had to have her sit on the toilet, mainly, I think because she feels like she is going to fall.

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Talkin' From The Mountains

Oh Geoff Davis is at it again



Talkin' From The Mountains By Dale Greer

Congressman Geoff Davis claimed in last week's paper that the Democrats passed a budget blueprint that calls for the largest tax increase in our nation's history.

Here are the facts, based on a number of sources, but the best website is the non-partisan, highly respected website of the University of Pennsylvania's Annenberg Public Policy Center, dedicated to analyzing the lies and spins and giving you the truth. You'll find it at www.factcheck.org.

Factcheck says the budget does not, as Davis claims, raise a new tax hike, much less the largest one in history.

What the budget does is allow President Bush's tax cuts for the rich to expire. The wealthy will no longer get those unjustified tax breaks.

One could argue that if the rich aren't getting the tax breaks anymore, that is a tax increase. The Democrats, putting their spin on it, say they see it as just returning to the way it was and how it is supposed to be so there is no tax increase.

We could debate forever whether making the rich pay taxes again is a tax increase but if you want to let it increase, it is still not

tatives to come together and make the same tough decisions families must make every day. You got that right, Congressman, and that's exactly what you need to get your home in the next election.

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Another week of crazy weather, last week, with snowstorms in some states, unbearable heat in others and bunches of tornadoes in the ground in one area in Nebraska. Worst of all, there were more people, including children, killed by the violent weather.

Think global warming might have something to do with it? Stephen Hawking thinks it is a reflection of our ability as elected representatives to do the job we are paid to do.

Some environmentalists insist that ANWR drilling could become more energy independent and reduce the need for oil.

Residents throughout the Fourth District of Kentucky continue to request a referendum to express their support for domestic oil exploration.

Both sides have produced billions of barrels of oil without causing any major harm to the local economy. Opponents to ANWR drilling cite concerns about the well-being of the Alaskan caribou populations, despite the fact that caribou populations in Prudhoe Bay has multiplied from 3,000 to 25,000 since drilling commenced there in 1977.

The Department of the Interior has estimated that there are more than 100 billion barrels of recoverable oil beneath our nation's federal lands and coastal waters. We cannot afford to lose that oil to other nations, especially when we have the technology to drill for it.

ANWR is located in North-East Alaska, approximately 1,200 miles south of the North

OPINION

Steve's Report



Steve Seal

One of the good things about moving frequently is that it has forced us to go through our belongings on a regular basis and get rid of the things that we really don't need.

One other funny thing Antonio has been doing is he will now nod his head with every single thought he has. Sometimes I believe he is saying yes if he is just funny.

After that it was hard to be angry at them for screaming and fighting. It is days like that that make it worse. It is they are so rotten at one moment and then so unbecomingly nice the next.

We have a very exciting weekend in store for this weekend. So exciting I can't wait to write next week's column back depending on how well he was laying.

Until next week, make it a great one! Any

about only sharpening their claws on their scratching post or the carpet, but every once in a while we'll catch them going to town on Cindy's love seat. I'd get upset about the cost of holes they have put in the fabric, but it's not like the love seat is new.

Every so often, we have added some things to our home to make it a little nicer - to give it some pizzazz and a complete and utter waste that turned out to be. There's nothing wrong with wanting to have nicer things, just like kids, it's only wrong when we have cats, too. Most of the time they are pretty good

when I have to hear them all complaining in unison about budgets. So this whole thing got me thinking. I thought, wow, these guys are making some serious bank here.

Both Jon Draud and Dr. Richard Croft are pulling down comparable numbers to big time NCAA coaches salaries before endorsements. UK Football Coach Rick Brooks has a base salary of \$250,000 while he slips his name on the program's basketball center-pair, Billy G, makes a base of about \$400,000.

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Conservative Columnist

Top Education Official Steps Out to Shop for Endorsements



Leland Conroy

After hearing the recent news of Commissioner of Education Jon Draud's state sponsored fancy car, I really wasn't in the mood to learn about the salary arrangements agreed to for the new interim president of Kentucky's Council on Post Secondary Education, Dr. Richard Croft.

It's not really new news. Apparently the \$200,000 per month deal (yes, you read that right, \$2K per month) is right in line with what the last president of the CPE has been making. Whoever takes the job permanently, he will probably be making a major industrialized nation in the world agree that global warming is a catastrophe problem.

Logic should be applied here. Do you think Republican politicians are right and almost every scientist in the world is wrong? We'd better wake up and start doing something about global warming or our children and grandchildren may have to start doing something before their time because of our neglect of the environment.

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den and all they ever hear is "No!" "Stop!" and "Don't touch!" it sends the message that our things are more important than our children. And besides that, it doesn't sound like much fun. Sitting perfectly still all day in your Sunday best with your lap might keep things looking nice but it doesn't do much for stimulating your imagination or creativity.

It reminds me of another plaque - one that my mom had hanging on her walls: "Our house is clean enough to be healthy... and dirty enough to be happy." And our home is a pretty happy place.

So, who cares if our home looks lived in and that everything we own shows signs of being used - a lot.

And I was foolish to want it any other way.

Signing out from Honolulu Steve Seal is a member of the U.S. Military. Reach him at sealcfm@aol.com

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The Carlisle Mercury

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Deadlines: Editorial copy deadline is 5 p.m. Monday. Advertising copy with proof deadline is 5 p.m. Monday. Advertising copy without proof, 10 a.m. Tuesday. Classified advertising deadline 10 a.m. Tuesday.

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Legal Advertising: Front-End, Size-7/8. Deadline: 5 p.m. Monday. All submitted copy must be signed and include a daytime phone number.

The Carlisle Mercury prints the names of all contributors in this newspaper. While it is the policy of this paper to print the names of those who have donated to it, it is necessary to have their names printed in this newspaper for it to be accepted in any form.

Montana Tractors advertisement featuring a tractor and text: 'The quality tractor you deserve at the price you want. Jump into June. Take a ride and bring home a Montana today.'

Young Farm Machinery advertisement: 'FLEMING MOREHEAD RD. FLEMINGSBURG, KY 41041 606-849-2677 • www.yfonline.com'

For All Your Trucking Insurance Needs advertisement for Call Heritage-McGehee Insurance, featuring a truck and phone number 1-888-333-4471.

Fourth of July Patriotic Bicycle Decorating Contest advertisement: 'Thursday, July 3, 2008 at the Nicholas County Elementary parking lot. Judging at 5:30 p.m. Monetary prizes in each category. Participants to be a part of the parade. Winners announced during parade.'

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