

The

Real News

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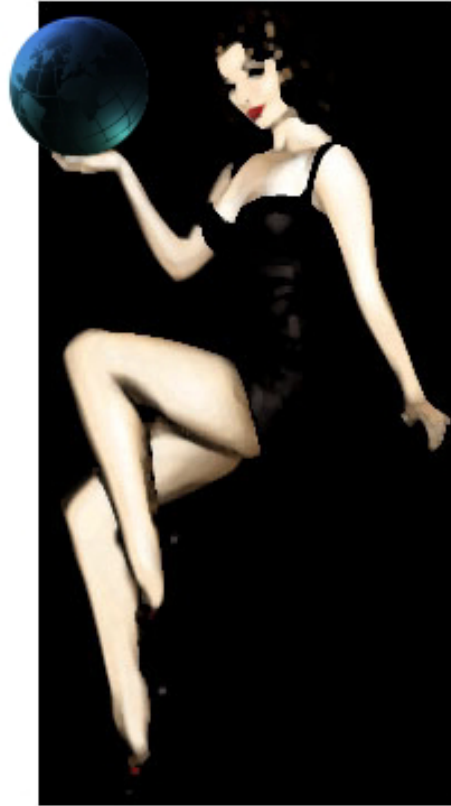
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*Five random words
from a dictionary*

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NEW YEAR 2014 EDITION

POST-ELECTION HANGOVER CONTINUES

The nation turned a sharp corner on Election Day. The voting demographic has changed; the new immigrants left a paternalistic states for the land of opportunity: jobs. But once arriving in the US, they found the land of entitlements, greater welfare than their old socialist roots. The American Dream was awakened by the nightmare of tidal wave of neo-socialism, big government policies.

After the election, the federal government admitted that

more than 70 million Americans are on Medicaid (public aid). That is 20 percent of the population. That does not include Seniors on Medicare or Social Security. And those groups voted to keep their “free” government benefits. Free in the sense that they do not have to work to receive money. As Bill O’Reilly said early on election night, people are voting for those candidates who are “going to give them stuff.”

In his first post election

speech, Obama was defiant in his positions that the only compromise on the Hill will be people agreeing with his policies of taxing the rich and increasing government programs.

The majority have given the people who can’t balance a budget for three years a free pass taken away more private liberties than an invading army under marshal law . Reckless spending is a blank check driving everyone off the fiscal cliff to the abyss of sovereign bankruptcy.

The definition of insanity is doing the same thing over and over again, thinking that the outcome will be different. Obama Term 2 will be more grinding stalemate with a bureaucratic runaround of the legislative process by implementation of the more stealth social agenda of the Democrats.

How else can the federal disability rolls skyrocket to a record 11 million people during the Obama term?

There is a very old adage that stated that it was the role of government to convince 67 percent of the population to support the other 33 percent. But in the U.S. today, it is quickly becoming a 50-50 split, which is an economic burden the half that is working cannot pay for and have a quality of life of their parents.

The Republicans are to blame, too. They failed to get a clear message to the voters, even those barely hanging on to their full time jobs, from the next financial nightmare. Candidate Romney was a better manager of big government executive; a man without specifics. A man without a clear vision of the near future.

The combination of a world "fairness" standard to wealth and human rights, with micro-marketing of single issue ads to women and minorities brought Obama his victory over reason and common sense. Even the stupid have a right to their vote. And you reap what you sow.

The grim reaper will hit half way through Obama's term when full nationalization of

Obamacare hits the middle class. Many small businesses are at the edge of throwing in the towel.

It is matter of basic math. A federal government printing money 24/7 to reach a \$16.5 trillion deficit with a declining working population base there is no ability to repay the treasury bills. When the federal government pulls in less than \$3 trillion in taxes but spends \$4.7 trillion in operating expenses, there is no hope to right the sinking financial ship. The federal deficit is already bigger than the entire gross domestic product of the United States. That means if every person's annual wages and services were used to pay the deficit, it would not solve the problem. The deficit would remain in the trillions, with more interest due.

But no one seems to grasp the magnitude of the problem. If they do, they just don't care. Kicking the can down the road to the next generation is a politician's stock and trade. But the millennials now have found themselves high in debt, unemployed or underemployed, with no real prospects for a better future than their parents.

The biggest national security threat is China stopping to roll over their U.S. Treasury bonds. China can collapse the United States economy by demanding cash to repay the America's debt. The response is more printed dollars, flooding the world with unstable hyperinflation like a third world banana re-

public.

And it has gotten worse. The alleged budget deal signed into law at the end of the year was heralded as a great compromise: it reduces the deficit by \$23 billion. But that savings is over 10 years. The current deficit is more than \$1.5 trillion. A mere \$2.3 billion budget cut is pure nonsense - - - no real savings or hard decisions at all.

But that was the point: no spending cuts or balanced budget but a signed bill so all incumbents could go back home to get re-elected in 2014. By the time those elected officials have to re-examine their great deficit reduction budget, the federal deficit would have grown by more than \$3.2 trillion to crash past the \$20 trillion mark.

By constantly spending like drunken sailors who avoid the harsh accountability of a fiscal hangover by borrowing more money to keep spending, the federal, state and local governments have created a fictional fairyland of economic bliss. By printing money as fast as the presses can roll will spike stealth inflation and hurt consumers. By borrowing money it can never pay back, governments lose the trust of the people. By exempting themselves from the hardship of these disastrous policies, officials destroy the institutions they pledged to uphold and protect from corruption and abuse. America has stalled and is turning into bankrupt Greece.



A LETTER FROM THE PUB

After a record breaking 2012 publishing year for *The Real News*, I kept churning out digital work on the web sites in 2013, the post-election Gloom. We soldier on for no apparent reason because that is what I do.

There have been plenty of reunions recent years as covered in multiple RN editions, and in a new photo upload webpage. Smile, you are now internet fodder!

We counted down the last Mayan Days, and found the world did not macro-end but still it was a hectic and sobering year. It is tough to maintain contacts due to onslaught of work or family commitments, but it also harder losing close friends.

That is why on New Year's Eve I sit down at the keyboards and type away in random downloads of reflections.

As I have remarked for more decades than I can remember, "You Can't Back Up on the Expressway." There ought to be an exception.

OUR (DIS)CONNECTED WORLD COMPLETELY RULES OUR LIVES

We do realize how globally we are connected with the World. The internet has pushed information that would have taken days, weeks or years to get to you now takes a matter of seconds to minutes.

But when the DSL or cable modem goes down, users turn into technology zombies. We have only a panic expression on our faces; we are at a loss of what to do next. All the information we need to manipulate at work appears to reside outside our grasp.

Calls to the ISP usually is a frustrating hold; then a lame checklist from a call center to determine if you are truly off the grid. It may take hours or days for an actual person to show up to confirm that you are outcast from the world wide web.

Then the joyless hard part --- getting a new piece of hardware to recognize the internet then connect to your own LAN. Since every business machine seems to have its own IP address and compatibility issues, it may take more service techs to come to diagnose the problem.

But once you get your home page back up on your desktop screen, all is good and proper in the world. You can surf. You can access your emails. You can get a satisfying grin when you delete all the collective spam. One's mood comes back to an internal, regular calm if one's web access is restored to normal.

Which is why it is very easy to say that the internet is the crack cocaine of the tech world. It is so ingrained into our daily lives that it is on par with oxygen and water. It senselessly controls our lives on how we work, how we communicate, how we entertain ourselves, and how we have become so dependent on something we don't how it works. The internet touches everyone's life; it is the new utility for the modern age.

But does it make us better? Does the instantaneous connectivity of the net make use better writers? Better communicators? Better educators? Better human beings?

Long form sentences with structure (noun, verb, action, etc.) have no place in a realm of tweets, emails, hashtags or pings. Symbols and abbreviations are the new hieroglyphics of an advanced society. Teachers tell students to look answers up on the internet; not knowing or not caring that the web is not an authoritative textbook. The web has actually made people more hateful, narrow minded and suspect of others, especially in the area of worldwide politics, government, ethic clashes and religion.

People find their opinions validated in some corner of the web, even though it may be completely disconnected from the truth.

THE NEXT GEN HAS TO GO BACK TO THE FUTURE

The twenty-somethings or Millenials are quickly coming to the realization that this is no longer their parents' optimistic world.

The Boomer Generation before them has laid to waste many of America's foremost institutions: manufacturing, education, financial, and health care. The opportunities for even a middle class college student to inherit a family business is remote because of the struggles against high costs, high taxes and low returns.

America has fallen down the same sinkhole as other parts of the civilized world. A very highly educated working class population, heavily in debt due to the costs of education, finds themselves with no work or career path. An American graduate with \$100,000 or more in student loans will have the yoke of a barge anchor around his neck for decades.

Just as the big, sad eyed children in Keane paintings, Millenials are in shock upon graduation. A diploma is not a money making machine. The idea of immediate high paying jobs was an admission office lie. Living back at home with parents is not the idea of independence or self-worth.

But instead of rioting in the streets (which may still happen), many Millenials are begin-



ning to change their expectations. They realize that a career middle to upper management job at a Fortune 100 company is no longer in the cards. They are not going to have the same standard of living as their parents because their starting debt loads are so high. They realize that they have to rely more upon themselves and their own talent than upon the decisions of strangers.

That is why many Millenials have become entrepreneurs - - - starting their own ba-

sic businesses in order to get a paycheck. They go into the inner cities to open storefront shops, scrape by with little capital, to build a small clientele to pay the store and apartment rent for the next month. They are taking risks because they have to; they are betting on themselves.

In some ways, they are going back to the pre-globalization period of the conservative 1950s, where people worked hard, saved their money, and looked for their American dream.

WHEN LOSERS LOSE THEIR FANS

To say the Chicago Cubs franchise is a mess, is undercutting the dictionary term for an embarrassment.

Under the four years of Ricketts ownership, the Cubs have compiled the worst ownership record in the history of the club. Attendance is rapidly declining and no-shows at Wrigley ballooning as the summers wind down. Management is still fighting with the neighbors about Ricketts massive real estate development projects. Local broadcasters are not making any

money carrying the games.

Worst of all, many fans have stopped caring about their team. After spending premium ticket prices to watch a minor league team crash and burn series after series, fans have found other uses for their entertainment dollars. The mythical long season ticket holder waiting list has been exhausted by people passing on the opportunity to wait to see if the risky rebuilding plan will actually work in four or five years.

The team has a new man-



ager, new cast-off players from other teams and a lot of cooling hot air about their great minor league prospects. The only thing left to sell is Hope, but she left town with a championship hockey player.

RANDOM ELECTRONS

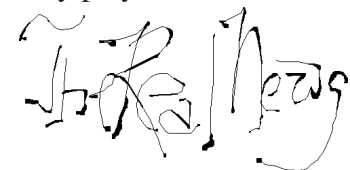
At times, I eat breakfast at dinner which for some people is some sort of food religion blasphemy.

If traditional journalism dies, then who will be left to tell the Truth?

In *Animal House*, Dean Wormer opined that being “fat, drunk and stupid is no way to go through life,” but with the U.S. government’s iron chain linked safety net programs, it is now



possible to be a Flounder.



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