

Weekly Posting of the Conservative Cow Doctor

Krayton Kerns, DVM
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The First Day of Winter

Perhaps it was Benjamin Franklin's *Poor Richard's Almanack* who first made the mistake, but labeling June 21st as the first day of summer is a misnomer. Based strictly on the length of the day, our gradual descent into winter begins the instant the days get shorter—June 22nd. Conversely, the first day of summer is when the daylight period increases—December 22nd. I propose we correct that error. Life in the temperate latitudes would improve greatly if we toss our spring and fall seasons and let the daylight period establish the two seasons of winter and summer. Here is how it will look on paper: January, February and March become summer months, while July, August and September become part of winter. Suddenly our summers statistically become cooler while similarly our winters would become warmer. From a political science perspective, this is simply applying Marxist wealth redistribution techniques to temperature rather than money. Since Americans have been fooled to think the redistribution of dollars will expand the economy, certainly they can be tricked that the redistribution of degrees will stabilize temperatures. This is a brilliant and easy way to battle climate change.

Okay, I am being facetious. News events demand I address climate change yet again; a worn-thin subject demanding a different opening to avoid redundancy. Recently, there were three news events addressing climate change and since I was personally involved in one of them, I will close the news loop in this column.

Montana's Supreme Court sent the Our Children's Trust climate change lawsuit back to the district court level. It was their opinion no emergency existed to justify skipping the fact-finding step of the lower courts. This is a temporary victory for those of us on the science, logic and constitution side of the aisle, but the climate change prophets are rabidly attracted to the raw, unbridled, government power behind carbon taxes. We may have dodged this bullet, but they are quietly reloading.

The second event is found in the pages of the newly published book, *Cold Sun*, by John Casey of the Space and Science Research Corporation. Mr. Casey noticed my involvement in the Our Children's Trust climate change lawsuit, and out of the blue he offered his expertise disproving man-caused global warming. His research corporation advances the theory it is the variability in the sun's activity which affects earth's climate. He predicts, and NASA, the US Air Force and the National Solar Observatory have confirmed, the sun is entering a 30 year hibernating cycle where earth's climate will experience significant cooling. Winters like 2010 will become the norm rather than the exception for the next three decades. I expect the climate-changers will fall back to the "impending ice-age" position they adopted in the 1970's. Just like before, the only way

we can save the earth is through the redistribution of tax dollars. Somehow this makes sense to them.

The final, and most frightening news event, occurred June 27th on the east coast. The Maryland State Board of Education now requires prospective high school graduates to demonstrate “environmental literacy” prior to receiving a diploma. Without defining which portion of the “three- Rs” would be replaced by this new mandate, Governor Martin O’Malley praised this as a “foundation for green jobs.” Opponents argued it will create a generation of easily led, poorly educated and misinformed students. In the battle between indoctrination and education, it appears indoctrination just took a commanding lead in the Old Line State.

In closing, and after further thought, please disregard my opening paragraph. If winter begins on the 22nd of June, then the 12th day of winter was the Fourth of July—it was 90 degrees in Laurel. Progressives will spin this as definitive proof of global warming and they will hysterically scream for massive tax increases to cool the earth. The scientific truth inconveniently escapes them once again.