

Executive Alert Extra

VOL. 9, NO. 5

WHAT'S HAPPENING AT THE NCPA

SEPTEMBER/OCTOBER 2003

Goodman Addresses Medicare Reform

NCPA President John C. Goodman joined Sen. Don Nickles (R-OK) and Tom Miller, director of Health Policy Studies at the Cato Institute, to discuss Medicare reform bills before both houses of Congress at a Capitol Hill briefing by the Cato Institute.

“There are lots and lots of people who frankly have a lot better deal right now in the private sector than what the Senate bill is proposing and my colleagues haven’t figured this out yet,” Nickles said. “They will, especially if John Goodman and crew keep talking.”

Goodman told Capitol Hill staffers and media attending the briefing that “...bills in both houses push private money off the table that was already there and substitute a burden for taxpayers’ money instead.”



NCPA President John C. Goodman (left) and Senator Don Nickles (R-OK) discuss Medicare reform.

Goodman also said unfunded obligations promised by the Social Security and Medicare programs are 30

times the national debt, and a prescription drug benefit adds unfunded obligations equal to two-thirds the national debt.

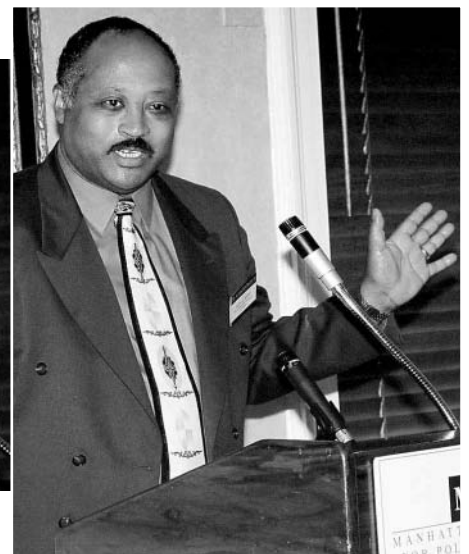
Black Chamber NCPA Partnership

The National Black Chamber of Commerce (NBCC) has joined forces with the NCPA to educate a wider audience about the crisis facing Social Security and the benefits of investment-based reform. The NBCC is the world’s largest organization dedicated to black business empowerment.

“Blacks, on the average, pay far more in Social Security taxes than they can ever expect to receive in benefits,” said NBCC President Harry Alford at a recent Team NCPA/NBCC luncheon hosted by the Manhattan Institute. “Using personal retirement accounts to reform Social Security will allow not only blacks, but all Americans, to save for a better retirement and also provide an asset to pass on to their heirs.”



The NBCC will work with Team NCPA (www.teamncpa.org), a volunteer-driven educational campaign that monitors and responds to the ongoing debate about Social Security reform at the national and local levels.

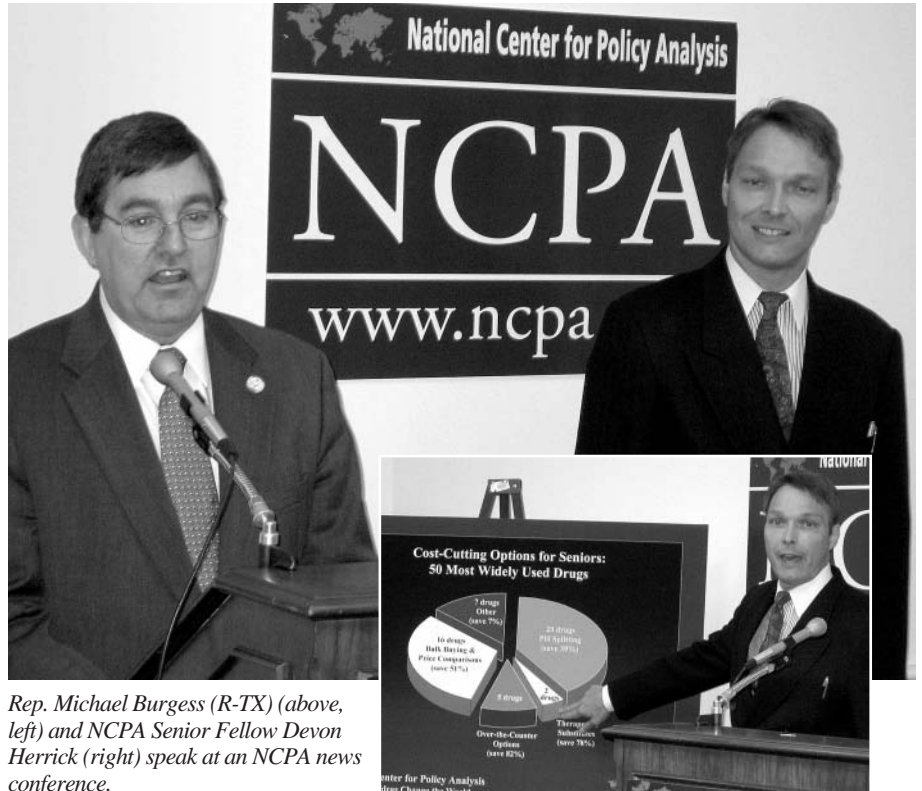


NCPA Board Chairman Thomas W. Smith (left) and National Black Chamber of Commerce President Harry Alford (right) discuss Social Security reform.

Drug Reimportation Not Needed

As members of Congress prepared to vote on whether to allow patients to import American-manufactured prescription drugs from other countries – a practice known as reimportation – Rep. Pete Sessions (R-TX) and Rep. Michael Burgess (R-TX) helped present a new NCPA study showing that seniors can save as much if not more on prescription drugs just by becoming smarter shoppers.

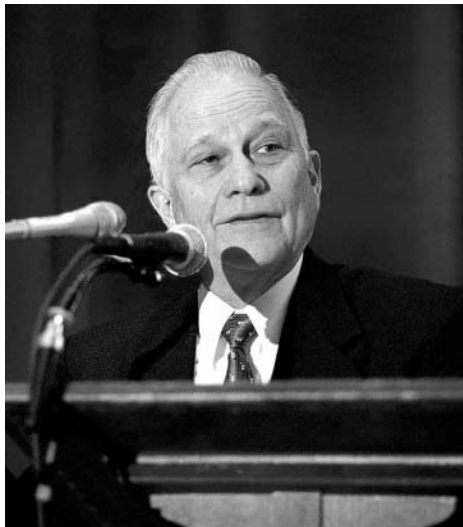
NCPA Senior Fellow Devon Herrick explained at the Capitol Hill news conference that “seniors can save a lot of money if they shop for drugs the way they shop for bread. Looking to Canada is unnecessary. Savvy shoppers can find as much or more savings here at home.”



Rep. Michael Burgess (R-TX) (above, left) and NCPA Senior Fellow Devon Herrick (right) speak at an NCPA news conference.

Saving Testifies Before Senate Aging Committee

Social Security and Medicare Trustee Thomas R. Saving testified before the U.S. Senate’s Special Committee on Aging that “The prospects for the two programs together have deteriorated significantly since just last year.” Saving is an NCPA Senior Fellow and Director of the Private Enterprise Research Center at Texas A&M University.



NCPA Senior Fellow Thomas R. Saving

Saving noted that the funding drain on both Social Security and Medicare will begin soon and accelerate rapidly. For example, federal revenues dedicated to Social Security and Medicare will no longer be sufficient to fund both programs in 2008, just five years from now. By 2040, Social Security and Medicare deficits will require nearly half (47 percent) of all federal income tax receipts.

“To cash in the bonds held by these programs’ Trust Funds in order to pay benefits in the future will require resources from somewhere else in the federal budget,” he added.

Legates Testifies Before Senate Natural Resources

NCPA Adjunct Scholar David R. Legates testified before the Senate Natural Resources Committee that the science underlying the United Nations Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change’s claim of human-caused global warming is fundamentally flawed.

Legates noted that the overwhelming scientific evidence suggests the Earth’s current warming trend is part of a natural pattern of temperature fluctuations. “Global Warming theorists with the IPCC have grossly manipulated the data to arrive at their predetermined conclusions,” said Legates, who is also an Associate Professor and Director of the Center for Climatic Research at the University of Delaware.

Committee Chairman Sen. James Inhofe (R-OK) highlighted Legates’ comments on the Senate floor during a heated debate over an amendment to the Senate energy bill that would implement some of the restrictions required by the Kyoto Protocol on global warming.



The blackout of 2003; the continuing debate over national energy policy; the never-ending crusade of global warming alarmists to impose economy-killing regulations. Seemingly everywhere you turn energy and environment issues are in the news and impacting our lives. In most cases, policy decisions are being made on the basis of misinformation and myth. To counter this trend, the NCPA has launched E-Team — an important and ambitious new initiative to monitor national news and to set the record straight.



Sean R. Tuffnell, Senior Manager of Media Relations & Public Affairs, is the manager of the NCPA's E-Team initiative.

The NCPA's E-Team consists of an advisory council of over 25 adjunct scholars who have unique expertise in a variety of energy and environmental fields. In the first month of its existence, E-Team scholars have been featured in publications from the *Washington Times* to *Investor's Business Daily* and on programs from *The Rush Limbaugh Show* to CNBC's *Kudlow & Cramer*. Visit the E-Team's online home — <http://eteam.ncpa.org> — for more information on the team and its activities.

NCPA's E-Team Adjunct Scholars

Bruce Ames
University of California – Berkeley

Denis Avery
Hudson Institute

John Baden
Foundation for Research on Economics and the Environment (FREE)

Daniel Botkin
Center for the Study of the Environment (CSE)

Sandy Liddy Bourne
American Legislative Exchange Council (ALEC)

Wendell Cox
Wendell Cox Consultancy

Michael De Alessi
Reason

David Deming
University of Oklahoma

Becky Norton Dunlop
Heritage Foundation

Jeff Edgens
Morehead State University

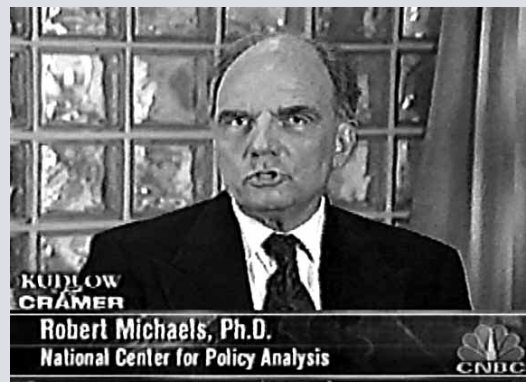
Lois Gold
University of California – Berkeley

Kenneth Green
Fraser Institute

Stephen Hayward
American Enterprise Institute

Chris Horner
Competitive Enterprise Institute

Jo Kwong
Atlas Foundation



NCPA Adjunct Scholar Robert Michaels discusses the Blackout of 2003 on CNBC's Kudlow & Cramer.

Don Leal
PERC-The Center for Free Market Environmentalism

David R. Legates
University of Delaware

Marlo Lewis
Competitive Enterprise Institute

Robert Michaels
University of California – Fullerton

Henry I. Miller
Hoover Institution

A. Alan Moghissi
Institute for Regulatory Science

Thomas Gale Moore
Hoover Institution

David Riggs
Greenwatch.org

Randy Simmons
Utah State

Joel Schwartz
Reason

S. Fred Singer
Science & Environmental Policy Project (SEPP)

Sam Staley
Buckeye Institute

Western Blue Chip Economic Forecast Recognizes Conerly



William Conerly

The Western Blue Chip Economic Forecast recognized NCPA Senior Fellow William Conerly for his high level of accuracy in economic forecasting in 2002. Conerly's 2002 forecast for economic activity in the Western states was within 1.2 percent of actual non-farm employment growth, as recorded by the U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics. Conerly forecasts economic activity for the Western states and also is an expert in labor economics.

Publications by e-mail

The NCPA now distributes publications mainly by email. This will ensure that our information gets to you more quickly and allow us to dedicate more of our resources to research and analysis.

To receive our research via email simply go to the main page of our website, www.ncpa.org and click on the "NCPA Publications by email" box and register. If you want to receive publications via U.S. mail, we are offering a special membership subscription for \$250 per year.

Promotions



Devon Herrick, Ph.D, has been promoted to a Senior Fellow. Devon started with the NCPA in July of 1996 as an intern working in the media department

and then became Information Systems Manager. He moved to the position of Research Manager in November 1997, where he has been researching, writing and speaking on health policy.

Matt Moore has been promoted to Senior Policy Analyst. Matt started with NCPA in 1997 as a Summers intern working in the media department. He worked in our D.C. office for two years while earning his Public Policy Masters degree from Georgetown University and after



graduation joined the Dallas staff, researching, writing and speaking on Social Security and education policy.



Jan Leek has moved to the Development Department as Associate Director of Development. In this role, Jan is responsible for

managing internal development projects in the areas of budget, cash flow, proposals, schedule maintenance, and administrative duties. During her 11-year tenure at the NCPA, Jan has diligently worked as John Goodman's executive assistant and as coordinator and manager of the Online Department. Jan was instrumental in the early development of the NCPA's main Web site. She managed the production and maintenance of all NCPA Web sites, working closely with all departments to ensure accurate and continuous updating of daily NCPA publications, news releases, event information and design control.

NCPA 2003 Event Schedule

The NCPA is pleased to announce the following events for 2003. Details for each event will be forthcoming. Please contact the Events Department at 972-386-6272 to reserve your place at one of these exciting events or register online at www.ncpa.org, on our new user-friendly, secure registration form.

Summers Distinguished Lecture Series Dinner with Václav Klaus, President of the Czech Republic

Date: September 22
Location: Wyndham Anatole, Dallas

NCPA Chairman's Club Conference

Host: **President Václav Klaus**
Topic: Central and Eastern Europe
Date: Oct. 11-15
Location: Prague, Czech Republic

Summers Lecture Series with Senator John Cornyn

Date/Location: To be announced

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Editor..... Sean Tuffnell

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Summer Interns

The Koch interns are on their way back to college. Eleanor Forbes of Swarthmore College and Mark Miller of Rutgers University spent a busy summer in the NCPA's Washington, D.C., office writing editorials and other publications on NCPA issues and working on projects supporting the Institute for Humane Studies, as part of the Charles G. Koch Summer Fellowship program.