Advocates of individual liberty and limited government can easily become depressed reading about President Barack Obama’s latest exercise of unconstitutional power or the tragicomedy of the upcoming presidential election. But looking behind the headlines reveals something very different and positive: We are turning the tide in favor of freedom.

**Global Warming**

Obama seeks to tear down the world’s most reliable and lowest-cost energy system and erect in its place a system relying on unreliable and expensive
solar and wind generators. His motivation is partly ideological – environmentalists hate fossil fuels and the freedom and prosperity they make possible – and partly realpolitik – alternative energy producers pour hundreds of millions of dollars into liberal advocacy groups and Democratic campaign coffers.

Obama is waging his war on energy via the Environmental Protection Agency, suppressing dissent within the agency and circumventing clear congressional intent to impose unnecessary and constitutionally dubious regulations. Regrettably, the courts and Congress have failed to stand up to this abuse of authority.

But here’s the good news: Despite almost mind-numbing repetition of “the debate is over” and “don’t believe climate deniers,” the American public is unconvinced that man-made global warming merits the policies this administration is pushing. Republicans in Congress are unified on the climate change topic, acknowledging that while there may be some human impact on climate, it does not justify the sweeping taxes, regulations, and subsidies supported by the current administration. They will block cap and trade, carbon taxes, and international treaties.

State legislatures are starting to repeal mandates requiring the use of alternative fuels such as wind and solar, which can be 10 times as expensive as fossil fuels. The “fracking” revolution has made natural gas and oil plentiful and cheap, making the contrast with expensive and unreliable wind and solar even more apparent.

EPA’s draconian regulations will be rejected by the courts in the coming months, and the next administration will repeal whatever is still on the books come January 2017. The next United Nations climate conference, taking place in Paris in early December, will be a flop: no international treaty, no binding caps, no massive payments of “reparations” to third-world countries.

The global warming hysteria movement has waxed and is now waning. It will soon recede as a threat to our liberties and prosperity.

**Transforming Education**

Obama wanted to transform K–12 education in America by nationalizing the curriculum. That would be illegal if done directly so he launched Common Core State Standards, a set of learning goals tied to achievement tests intended to force every K–12 school, public as well as private or religious, to teach the left’s perverse vision of English literature and dysfunctional theory of math instruction.

Common Core got off to a fast start as most states adopted it in exchange for federal money under Obama’s Race to the Top program. But then groups including The Heartland Institute revealed the true origins, content, and intent of Common Core, and support for the standards began to evaporate. One by one, states withdrew from the consortia created to administer the Common Core-linked tests.

The debate over Common Core has had the opposite effect Obama hoped for. The public learned the national government doesn’t belong in the school curriculum business, and that activist groups on the left use schools to indoctrinate rather than educate their children. Parents are fleeing public schools for private schools or are homeschooling their children rather than risk exposing them to Common Core.

The controversy over Common Core has made parents and legislators more interested in school choice today than they were before. In June, Nevada adopted the country’s most comprehensive school choice program. That program gives parents the option of having about $5,100 deposited into personal education savings accounts, to be used to pay for tuition or fees charged by the education service providers chosen by parents.

The Nevada program is a huge breakthrough for the school choice movement and was a long time coming. The Heartland Institute has been advocating education savings accounts since 1992. We have done more to promote the idea to state legislators than any other think tank or advocacy organization in the country.

**Health Care Reform**

The year The Heartland Institute started promoting education savings accounts, 1992,
we also entered the national debate over health care reform by publishing a book titled *Why We Spend Too Much on Health Care ... And What We Can Do About It*. That book was widely credited with helping defeat “Hillarycare,” Hillary Clinton’s plan to nationalize the nation’s health care system.

The left has been scheming to transform health care in America ever since and came close to achieving its goal with passage of the Affordable Care Act, a.k.a. Obamacare, in 2010. Obamacare was designed to fail – it simply could never deliver on its promises of preserving choice of private insurance coverage while also controlling spending – and to destroy the private health care system in the process, leaving the path clear for single-payer or nationalized health care.

But just as Obama’s plans to transform energy and education have failed, so too has his effort to transform health care. Surveys show the American people remain opposed to Obamacare despite years of propaganda and billions of dollars in subsidies. Millions of people still refuse to buy insurance.

Insurance premiums are rising at double-digit rates, sparking widespread anger. Republican governors are refusing to expand Medicaid, the mechanism through which a large majority of people were to become “newly insured.”

The U.S. House of Representatives has passed bills to repeal and replace Obamacare more than 60 times. Unfortunately, Republicans in the Senate haven’t been able to meet the 60-vote threshold to achieve closure in that chamber or to override a promised presidential veto. Candidates for the Republican nomination for president – notably governors Scott Walker and Bobby Jindal and Sen. Marco Rubio – have proposed replacing Obamacare with plans incorporating many of the ideas we first presented in *Why We Spend Too Much on Health Care*.

The backlash against Obamacare will soon lead to the adoption of consumer-driven health care reforms such as tax credits, enhanced health savings accounts, interstate insurance markets, and malpractice insurance reforms. It’s entirely likely these reforms would not have been proposed or embraced were it not for Obamacare and its disastrous consequences.

**No Time for a Victory Lap**

It’s tempting to step back from the fight and take a victory lap or two. After all, we are on the brink of repealing expensive alternative energy mandates and subsidies, bringing school choice to every family in America, and finally empowering patients to find and use the medical care services they feel are best for them.

But if we quit the fight now, there is no assurance we will win these battles. The forces against freedom and for tyranny in each case are enormous, well-funded, and powerful. We are David against Goliath, confident and hopeful but still battling heavy odds.

This much is certain: We have turned the tide on statism in each of these three important areas. We’ve risen to the call to come to freedom’s defense and have fought a good fight indeed. Let’s finish what we’ve begun: Win these battles – and the others likely to come our way – and then the war.

*Joseph L. Bast (jbast@heartland.org) is president and CEO of The Heartland Institute.*
By the Numbers

During the second quarter of 2015, The Heartland Institute …

► Moved to its permanent new home in Arlington Heights, a warm and friendly northwest suburb of Chicago.
► Sent a delegation of climate scientists and policy analysts to Rome in advance of Pope Francis’s workshop on climate change and hosted the Tenth International Conference on Climate Change.
► Contacted elected officials 240,610 times, including 5,635 one-on-one contacts by phone, email, or in person.
► Generated at least 250 broadcast and print media hits reaching 51.7 million subscribers and 1,388 online hits.
► Released one booklet, three Heartland Policy Studies, one Policy Brief, and 39 Research & Commentaries.
► Added 63 interviews to podcasts, attracting 378,603 listeners.
► Addressed 27 events with audiences totaling at least 1,731 people.

Center for Transforming Education
► Published two issues of School Reform News, the only national monthly publication devoted to transforming education with parental choice and market-based solutions.

Consumers for Health Care Choices
► Published three issues of Health Care News and eight issues of Consumer Power Report.
► Produced nine Research & Commentaries on health care issues.
► Testified in Pennsylvania on certificate of need reform.
► Logged 1,189 personal and 36,379 group contacts with legislators for a total of 37,568 contacts with legislators on health care issues.
► Generated at least 57 broadcast, online, and print media hits reaching more than 401,300 people.
► Produced seven new podcasts attracting 34,341 listeners.

Center on Budgets and Taxes
► Published two issues of Budget & Tax News, one Policy Study, one Policy Tip Sheet, and 21 Research & Commentaries on budget and tax issues.

Logged 1,520 personal and 86,838 group contacts for a total of 88,358 contacts with legislators on budget and tax issues.

Generated at least 10 broadcast, 60 online, and 17 print media hits reaching more than 4.7 million people.

Spoke at five events with 485 people in attendance.

Produced 16 new podcasts attracting 67,647 listeners.

Center on Climate and Environmental Policy

Published two issues of *Environment & Climate News* and 11 issues of *Climate Change Weekly*.

Produced two *Policy Studies*, one *Policy Brief*, one booklet, seven *Research & Commentaries*, and 198 *Somewhat Reasonable* blog posts on energy and environment issues.

Logged 2,229 personal and 70,231 group contacts with elected officials, for a total of 72,460 contacts with legislators on energy and environment issues.

Sent a delegation of climate scientists and policy analysts to Rome in advance of the Vatican’s workshop on climate change and sustainable development, establishing a web page featuring each of the speakers’ PowerPoint presentations, videos, and links to the media coverage Heartland’s counter-events received.

Hosted the Tenth International Conference on Climate Change, with more than 40 speakers, more than 350 attendees, and international representation from Canada, China, Germany, India, Ireland, Sweden, Switzerland, Malaysia, the Navajo Nation, New Zealand, and the UK. State representatives and senators from Connecticut, Georgia, Iowa, Minnesota, Montana, New Hampshire, North Dakota, South Dakota, Tennessee, Utah, Wisconsin, and Wyoming attended.

Generated at least 42 broadcast and 152 print media hits reaching nearly 43 million subscribers and 1,189 online hits on energy, environment, and climate issues.

Addressed 21 events with audiences totaling at least 1,246 people.

Produced 27 podcasts attracting 91,315 listeners.

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Heartland Vital Signs

### Twitter

![Twitter chart](chart1.png)

- **June**: 11,483 Twitter followers

### Facebook

![Facebook chart](chart2.png)

- **June**: 98,376 Facebook fans
On June 2, Nevada enacted the country’s most inclusive education savings account (ESA) law, spurring renewed interest in a school choice option The Heartland Institute has been advocating since 1992.

Quoted in School Reform News, Nevada state Sen. Scott Hammond, who wrote the ESA legislation, said: “This is monumental. We want parents engaged. … This program puts parents in control.” A few days before Nevada Gov. Brian Sandoval signed the bill, we sent a Research & Commentary to 40 members of the Nevada legislature.

In an op-ed for Townhall, Research Fellow Heather Kays wrote of the Nevada measure, “What makes this law so potentially transformative is exactly what makes its critics nervous. The flexibility of the ESA offers opportunities never before available to families.”

Our weekly Leaflet e-newsletter reported the Nevada news to 10,082 state and local elected officials and education allies. The lead essay highlighted progress being made by other states across the country to pass ESA legislation. In June, for example, Florida expanded its ESA program for special-education students. Kays discussed the expansion on June 19 as a guest on Freedom Works!, hosted by Paul Molloy, on Talk1340 in Tampa Bay, Florida.

Common Core education standards continues, and Heartland staff were in the thick of it.

We sent 63 Nevada lawmakers an op-ed published in the Las Vegas Review-Journal co-authored by Research Fellow Joy Pullmann and Christina Leventis, a mother and grassroots organizer. They wrote, “No amount of advertising can paper over the truth about Common Core: It is academically mediocre, socially manipulative and politically illegitimate. Nevadans deserve better.”

We sent a Research & Commentary on Common Core to 35 Alabama state senators, urging them to “repeal Common Core and … help create a free market in education by letting the money follow the child, providing schools greater autonomy while increasing accountability.”

Investor’s Business Daily published an op-ed by Senior Fellow Robert Holland titled “Populist Force of Parents Against Common Core Grows Strong.” He wrote, “Anti-Common-Core activists range from progressive to conservative to libertarian to many parents who aren’t particularly into political ideology and just care about their stressed-out children.”

Senior Fellow Bruno Behrend spoke with allies and lawmakers in Arkansas about Common Core and did a segment on the Dave Elswick Show on KHTF in Little Rock. He also testified before the Governor’s Council on Common Core Review, which expects to make recommendations to the governor later this year.
An oped by Kays in the Toledo Blade, cited by The Fordham Institute’s Gadfly Bites column, took Ohio Gov. John Kasich to task for dismissing his constituents’ opposition to Common Core. In June, Kays discussed Common Core, standardized testing, and school choice with allies and lawmakers at the National Charter Schools Conference in New Orleans.

**Fighting for Parental Rights**

In its 1925 decision in *Pierce v. Society of Sisters*, a unanimous U.S. Supreme Court declared, “The child is not the mere creature of the State,” affirming the right of parents to direct their children’s education. Today, parent empowerment takes the form of choosing the schools their children attend, opting their children out of excessive standardized testing, and protecting their children against the unnecessary collection and dissemination of data about them. Heartland addressed those issues in print publications and online and also worked with grassroots groups focused on preserving parental rights.

During the second quarter Kays produced three podcasts related to Common Core, testing, and student privacy, interviewing Leonie Haimson, co-chair of the Parent Coalition for Student Privacy; Gina Ray, a mother of four and member of the self-proclaimed Mommy Lobby in Arizona; and Moriah Costa, an education reporter for Watchdog.org.

The *Holland Sentinel* published a letter to the editor by Senior Fellow Robert Holland, “Home schooling not at fault.” He wrote, “Unfortunately, in numerous instances nationwide, some politicians have seized on any excuse to try to deny parents their hard-won freedom to educate their children at home.”

**Examining Education Funding**

Education funding that follows the child is key to creating an education marketplace where all schools, public and private, must focus on satisfying the needs of students rather than teachers, administrators, or union officials. Heartland staff addressed education funding issues at events, in print, and online during the second quarter.

Kays discussed public schools’ overspending on administrative activities with lawmakers and other allies at an Americans for Tax Reform meeting and the weekly Paul Weyrich luncheon gathering in Washington, DC. Both presentations led to several legislators and other allies following up with compliments and requests for more information.

The *Pittsburgh Tribune-Review* published an op-ed by Holland titled, “Leave it to parents.” With school choice, he explained, “the money follows the children to better schools that their parents choose for them.”

*Breitbart* published an op-ed by Editor Justin Haskins quoting Pullmann and Kays, “Democrat Says School Choice Advocates Are ‘Raping’ Children, Compares Reforms to Jim Crow Laws.” Haskins quoted Kays as saying: “Sen. Lena Taylor’s remarks are despicable. … She is just flat-out wrong about the policy issue she is discussing.” Kays also was quoted on this issue in an article on *Truth Revolt*.

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**Performance Highlights**

- Published two issues of *School Reform News*, 13 issues of *School Choice Weekly*, and three *Research & Commentaries* on education issues.
- Logged 697 personal and 30,344 group contacts with legislators, for a total of 31,041 contacts with elected officials on education issues.
- Generated at least 54 broadcast, online, and print media hits reaching 912,273 subscribers.
- Produced 13 new podcasts on school reform, attracting 44,239 listeners.
Consumers for Health Care Choices

Obamacare at the Supreme Court: 
King v. Burwell

By Kenneth Artz
Research Fellow
Managing Editor
Health Care News

The Heartland Institute was actively engaged in the fight for consumer-driven, free-market health care during the second quarter.

The quarter’s big, albeit disappointing, news was the U.S. Supreme Court’s June decision in King v. Burwell. Contravening what most observers agree is the clear language of the Affordable Care Act, the Court determined taxpayer subsidies should be given to consumers who purchase health insurance not only on state-established insurance exchanges, but on the federal government’s exchange as well.

In Health Care News, Sally Pipes, president of the Pacific Research Institute, was quoted as saying the Court’s 6–3 decision was disappointing but not unexpected. “The law is still flawed,” she said, “and the American people will face higher premiums, higher deductibles, and limited networks of doctors and hospitals in the future.”

In an op-ed for the Washington Examiner, Editor Justin Haskins noted under Obamacare, “costs continue to rise, wait times have increased, patients have lost preferred doctors and health care plans, and the poor still have no resort except to go to hospital emergency rooms instead of primary care doctors when they need routine care.” Human Events and TownHall also published op-eds by Haskins on the subject.

Policy Advisor Sean Parnell interviewed Devon Herrick, a senior fellow at the National Center for Policy Analysis, for a Heartland podcast that attracted 10,143 listeners. They discussed the fifth anniversary of Obamacare.

Power to the People

On June 10, at The Washington Court hotel in Washington, DC, Heartland announced the release of Senior Fellow Peter Ferrara’s new book, Power to the People: The New Road to Freedom and Prosperity for the Poor, Seniors, and Those Most in Need of the World’s Best Health Care. Grover Norquist, president of Americans for Tax Reform, and Goodman Institute President John Goodman also addressed the 45 launch party attendees. The event was promoted by the Conservative Book Club.

Ferrara presents a comprehensive entitlement reform agenda. Instead of the negative politics of cutting benefits, he says, “the increased productivity and market incentives of pro-growth entitlement reform would result in better benefits and incomes for the poor and seniors, and better health care for the sick.”

Ferrara appeared on The Mark Levin Show to discuss his book and also guested on the nationally syndicated Larry Kudlow Radio Show (149 stations) and stations in New York City, West Palm Beach, and Cincinnati. Throughout the second quarter, he advised presidential candidates and congressional offices regarding entitlement reform, including Obamacare repeal-and-replace strategies.
Certificate of Need

Heartland continues to fight for repeal of certificate of need (CON) laws, which increase costs and reduce competition, patient choice, and quality of service. Thirty-five states have them.

We sent Research & Commentary documents on CON reform to elected officials and allies in Kentucky, Michigan, and Pennsylvania, noting “CON laws fail to achieve many of their stated goals and instead increase costs for consumers by hindering competition and forcing providers to use older facilities and equipment.”

Research Fellow Kenneth Artz testified before the Pennsylvania House of Representatives Health Committee on a proposal to reinstate the state’s CON laws, which expired in 1996. Among other things, Artz pointed out it is not the proper role of government to decide which health care providers get to serve the marketplace and how.

Jim Waters, president of the Bluegrass Institute for Public Policy Solutions in Bowling Green, Kentucky, reported in Health Care News the Kentucky Cabinet for Health and Family Services has shown interest in modernizing the state’s CON process.

Also writing in Health Care News, Research Director S.T. Karnick reported on the South Carolina House of Representatives’ 103–1 vote in April to end the state’s CON law in 2018. The story quoted Senior Policy Analyst Matthew Glans as saying, “The legislators in the House should be commended for their effort, especially since South Carolina CON laws have failed to achieve the goals their sponsors tout.”

Attacks on E-Cigarettes

A Wells Fargo analysis predicts the e-cigarette industry will top $10 billion annually by 2017. Calls for regulation are growing louder every day.

In a June podcast, Artz spoke with Jeff Stier, a senior fellow at the National Center for Public Policy Research, about the U.S. Food and Drug Administration’s efforts to assert authority over e-cigarettes. Stier explains why FDA’s over-reach should concern not only users of e-cigarettes but all those who value individual freedom.

A Health Care News article noted only e-cigarettes marketed for therapeutic purposes are currently regulated by FDA’s Center for Drug Evaluation and Research. The article quoted Devon Herrick, a senior fellow with the National Center for Policy Analysis: “It seems odd the FDA is rushing to put the kibosh on a safer alternative to smoking.”

Writing for Human Events, Glans noted studies have shown e-cigarettes can save lives and taxpayer dollars. They are an effective way to help smokers reduce their cigarette use or quit altogether. In a Research & Commentary, he reported on a study finding e-cigarettes can save billions of dollars in Medicaid costs, and in another R&C, he discussed a proposed Arkansas tax on e-cigarette smoking.

Performance Highlights

- Published three issues of Health Care News and eight issues of Consumer Power Report.
- Produced nine Research & Commentaries on health care issues.
- Logged 1,189 personal and 36,379 group contacts for a total of 37,568 contacts with legislators on health care issues.
- Testified in Pennsylvania on certificate of need.
- Produced seven new podcasts on health care attracting 34,341 listeners.
- Generated at least 57 broadcast, online, and print media hits reaching more than 401,300 people.
Heartland Weighs in on Welfare, Entitlement Reform

By Jesse Hathaway
Research Fellow
Managing Editor
Budget & Tax News

The 2015 Welfare Reform Report Card, released in March, continued to resonate with state lawmakers across the nation.

Missouri ranked dead last on this year’s report card, as it did on our first report card released in 2008. Throughout April and May, while the Missouri legislature was considering a bill to reform its welfare system, the report card was cited in op-eds and news articles across the state, including appearances in the St. Louis Post-Dispatch, Kansas City Star, and smaller newspapers.


Pike and State Government Relations Manager Nathan Makla also spoke to elected officials and staff in other low-ranking states including Mississippi, Ohio, Rhode Island, and Vermont. Pike delivered a presentation to about 120 elected officials and private-sector members on the American Legislative Exchange Council’s Tax and Fiscal Policy Task Force.

Heartland staff also addressed the Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program, otherwise known as food stamps. Breitbart published an op-ed by Editor Justin Haskins, and Pike sent elected officials in California, Connecticut, Georgia, Massachusetts, Vermont, and Virginia a Research & Commentary encouraging work requirements for SNAP recipients.

Fiscal and Tax Reform

Lawmakers debated bills aimed at improving their states’ business climates and lowering tax and regulatory burdens. Heartland weighed in on several of those measures.

We sent Alabama legislators a Research & Commentary on a proposal to implement a flat-rate income tax and sent Research & Commentaries to elected officials in Ohio, who were considering several budget measures, including anti-growth tax hikes proposed by Gov. John Kasich.

We sent a Research & Commentary urging Pennsylvania legislators to reconsider proposed tax hikes. Tennessee lawmakers took up reform of the state’s Hall income tax,
a levy on interest and dividend income from investments, and we sent a Research & Commentary explaining, “Phasing out the Hall Tax would … make the state a more attractive place for entrepreneurs, businesses, and high-quality workers to come.”

We sent 184 Texas lawmakers a Research & Commentary discussing the state’s margins tax, explaining the tax “has restrained the state’s economic growth and fallen well short of revenue estimates.”

We also addressed federal tax reform in a Research & Commentary about the estate tax, sent to 784 allies and elected officials. The commentary notes, “Estate taxes are a form of double taxation that stifles investment and entrepreneurship, reduces economic growth, discourages savings, increases the cost of capital, raises interest rates, and brings in relatively little revenue.”

**Free Speech and “Dark Money”**

Being able to speak freely and donate money anonymously has a long and distinguished history in the United States. Today, those rights are under attack by groups on the Left using Alinskyite tactics and campaign finance laws to silence and intimidate anyone who disagrees with them.

We confronted this topic in a Heartland Policy Study by Heartland senior fellow and constitutional scholar Nick Dranias, “In Defense of Private Civic Engagement: Why the Assault on ‘Dark Money’ Threatens Free Speech – and How to Stop the Assault.” Dranias notes, “private civic engagement serves a critically important purpose in keeping the marketplace of ideas focused on the message, not the messenger. It also protects the messenger from retaliation when speaking truth to power.”

Nearly 2,000 copies of the Policy Study were mailed to state elected officials, civic and business leaders, and Heartland donors and friends. An additional 22,400 people were sent links to the study in The Leaflet and Heartland Weekly e-newsletters.

**Public Pension Reform**

Public pension reform – a topic we first addressed in a comprehensive way with a May 2005 Heartland Policy Study on Illinois’ public pension crisis – continues to be a hot topic for state legislatures and Heartland staff.

Research Fellow Jesse Hathaway reported for The Heartlander on the downgrade by Moody’s Investors Service of Chicago’s government-issued bonds, citing the city’s massive underfunded pension liabilities as a significant credit risk for investors. We also addressed Illinois’ municipal pension problem in a Research & Commentary, noting, “If public-sector union bosses do not accept sensible changes, more state workers will lose their jobs, taxes will increase, businesses will leave, and essential public services will be crowded out.”

**Civil Asset Forfeiture Reform**

As state legislatures considered reforms to help protect due process and private property rights during civil asset forfeiture proceedings, Heartland covered their efforts in Budget & Tax News and other publications.

Oklahoma state Sen. Kyle Loveless has requested a study committee to take up civil asset forfeiture reform, and we are working with him to send Hathaway to testify.

New Mexico Gov. Susana Martinez signed into law House Bill 560, significantly reforming the state’s forfeiture laws. We reported on the good news in Budget & Tax News, quoting Rio Grande Foundation President Paul Gessing: “I wasn’t convinced … that we could get such a robust package of reforms, but I thought that if we just changed the incentives for police departments so that they no longer could use civil asset forfeiture to pad their own budgets, that would be a momentous change.”
Center on Climate and Environment Policy

Heartland Goes to Rome … and Washington, DC

H. Sterling Burnett, Ph.D.
Research Fellow
Managing Editor
Environment & Climate News

On April 28, Pope Francis hosted at the Vatican a one-day conference on “The Moral Dimensions of Climate Change and Sustainable Development” – mostly a lecture to the world on the alleged evils of market capitalism and fossil fuels. The one-sided nature of the Vatican workshop simply wouldn’t do – and, thanks to The Heartland Institute’s efforts and leadership, didn’t have to.

Heartland scheduled and hosted a press conference and workshop in Rome before the Vatican event. Four days before the Vatican’s conference took place, it was already evident Heartland would have a substantial impact when London’s Guardian and the Austin American-Statesman published an editorial titled “Conservative think tank seeks to change Pope Francis’s mind on climate change.” National Public Radio’s segment on the papal climate conference, “Vatican Hosts Climate Change Conference Ahead of Papal Encyclical,” also noted Heartland’s events.

Hundreds of U.S. and international newspapers mentioned Heartland’s Rome workshop in op-eds and news stories about the pope’s climate change conference, including multiple stories on consecutive days in The New York Times, Washington Post, and Guardian. We established a web page featuring each of the speakers’ PowerPoint presentations, videos, and links to the tremendous amount of media coverage Heartland’s counter-events received.

The Vatican Insider, National Catholic Reporter, and Catholic Courier published articles discussing Heartland’s impact on the Vatican climate conference. Several dozen media outlets, including the Arkansas Democrat-Gazette, Providence Journal, and USA Today, published an Associated Press article on Heartland’s Vatican workshop, titled “Catholics Organize to Promote Pope’s Climate Change Message.”

Communications Director Jim Lakely was a guest on The Hard Line with Ed Berliner on NewsmaxTV to talk about Heartland’s trip and Pope Francis’s encyclical on the environment. Lakely said, “The reason The Heartland Institute brought a contingent to the Vatican last week was to warn the pope about the danger of throwing in with the United Nations on climate change, because the United Nations is not telling the entire truth about what is happening to our planet.”

Research Fellow H. Sterling Burnett was quoted in a CNN Money report titled “This group is waging war on the Pope’s climate change plans,” which was picked up by WTVR in Richmond, Virginia and KCCI in Des Moines, Iowa. In an op-ed published by Inside Sources, “Pope’s Climate Plan Would Leave Billions Impoverished,” Burnett wrote, “Today’s poor deserve the chance to live as I do, not as their ancestors have done for millennia, toiling in poverty, constantly threatened with disease and malnourishment. Only fossil fuels can deliver them from this fate.” TownHall published a response by Burnett and Editor Justin Haskins to Pope Francis’s climate encyclical, “Pope’s Climate Alarmism Will Take a Deadly Toll on World’s Poor.”

ICCC-10: Taking Climate Realism to the Nation’s Capital

The Tenth International Conference on Climate Change (ICCC-10), held June 11–12 in Washington, DC, featured more than 40 scientists, economists, and public policy experts sharing the most up-to-date information on topics related to climate with more than 350 attendees.
International representation included speakers and attendees from Canada, China, Germany, India, Ireland, Switzerland, Malaysia, the Navajo Nation, New Zealand, and the UK. Among the dozens of representatives of the media attending were members of the press from Germany and Sweden. State representatives and senators from Connecticut, Georgia, Iowa, Minnesota, Montana, New Hampshire, North Dakota, South Dakota, Tennessee, Utah, Wisconsin, and Wyoming attended.

Sen. James Inhofe, who was presented with the 2015 Political Leadership on Climate Change Award, delivered the opening keynote address. University of Delaware climatologist David Legates, Ph.D. received the 2015 Courage in Defense of Science Award. Robert Carter, Ph.D., William Happer, Ph.D., and Anthony Watts also received awards.


The event was live streamed on Heartland’s Climate Conference website and the websites of several allies, including IJReview, Conservative.org, and Breitbart. Over the two-day conference, more than 10,000 viewers tuned in live.

The August edition of Environment & Climate News is devoted entirely to panel-by-panel, keynote-by-keynote conference coverage.

Spreading the Truth About Fracking
Heartland continued to highlight the myriad benefits and minimal risks from fracking with Research Fellow Isaac Orr leading the effort.

Orr and geologist Mark Krumenacher, a principal and senior vice president of GZA GeoEnvironmental, Inc., produced two Heartland Policy Studies on frac sand mining. The first, “Environmental Impacts of Industrial Silica Sand (Frac Sand) Mining,” demonstrates environmental and health concerns raised about frac sand mining are misplaced. In the second, “Economic Impacts of Industrial Silica Sand (Frac Sand) Mining,” they document the economic benefits of silica sand mining, including high-paying opportunities for employment, greater tax revenues for state and local governments, and more economic diversity in rural communities.

We mailed more than 7,000 copies of each study to influential audiences in Arkansas, Illinois, Iowa, Minnesota, Nebraska, Texas, and Wisconsin — all key frac sand mining states. State and local elected officials received the studies, as did university and college trustees, environment media, business and civic leaders, think tank allies, and Heartland donors. The studies also were promoted to 47,000 people through the Heartland Weekly and Leaflet e-newsletters.

Orr wrote op-eds encouraging Iowa to embrace frac sand mining, comparing energy policy in Germany and the United States, highlighting anti-fracking propaganda in Russia, and addressing the (missing) relationship between fracking and earthquakes in Oklahoma.

The day before an April vote in the Texas
House of Representatives barred local governments from banning fracking. Research Fellow H. Sterling Burnett met with a dozen state lawmakers and staffers to discuss the issue. He told them, “[S]cience and even the EPA have never shown fracking to cause air-or water-quality problems” and explained minor earthquakes weren’t due to fracking but rather poor placement of waste water injection wells. Two legislators in particular credited Burnett’s visit with giving them something to think about, and the next day both voted in favor of the bill.

In May, Oklahoma also enacted a law preventing cities and counties from banning fracking.

Clean Power Plan on the Defensive
Heartland also led the fight to inform lawmakers and the public about the damage EPA’s Clean Power Plan would do to states’ economies. Our efforts have borne fruit.

West Virginia adopted legislation requiring the legislature to approve any implementation plan developed by the state Department of Environmental Protection to comply with the Clean Power Plan (CPP). Burnett interviewed West Virginia State Delegate Joshua Nelson, sponsor of the bill, for an Environment & Climate News article and podcast.

The Mississippi Senate passed a resolution urging EPA to withdraw CPP, and Oklahoma Gov. Mary Fallin signed an executive order preventing the state’s environmental agency from producing an implementation plan and directing the state attorney general to fight CPP.

The Obama administration went on a PR offensive arguing CPP would protect public health. Heartland responded quickly; the May issue of Environment & Climate News reported on a study by researchers at Johns Hopkins Children’s Center finding no link between outdoor air pollution and childhood asthma. A Scientific American article mentioned Heartland’s work showing cold temperatures kill far more people than heat and a McClatchy Newspapers story quoting Burnett, “White House emphasizes impact of climate change on public health,” was published in multiple outlets, including the Chicago Tribune, Miami Herald, and Fresno Bee.

“Sustainability” on Campus
Beginning in 2006, many universities and colleges have offered courses and degrees in “sustainability” or “sustainable development.”

Performance Highlights
- Published two issues of Environment & Climate News and 11 issues of Climate Change Weekly.
- Produced two Policy Studies, one Policy Brief, one booklet, seven Research & Commentaries, and 198 Somewhat Reasonable blog posts on energy and environment issues.
- Logged 2,229 personal and 70,231 group contacts with elected officials, for a total of 72,460 contacts with legislators on energy and environment issues.
- Generated at least 42 broadcast and 152 print media hits reaching nearly 43 million subscribers and 1,189 online hits.
- Addressed 21 events with audiences totaling at least 2,216 people.
- Produced 27 podcasts attracting 91,315 listeners.
- Added six policy advisors.
Those programs often require a minimal amount of study in science and mathematics and emphasize instead politics, propaganda, and community-organizing techniques.

The National Association of Scholars (NAS) produced a devastating report on this unsettling trend titled *Sustainability: Education’s New Fundamentalism*. The Heartland Institute’s editorial and graphic design team worked with NAS to produce a 12-page executive summary of that report.

Were “sustainability” just one ideology among many being discussed by professors in classrooms, it would do no harm to academic freedom. But the NAS report shows open inquiry, free thought, and reasoned debate are too often excluded from these classrooms. The report notes,

We [at the NAS] … advocate for economic sensibility, respect for individual liberty, and civil debate, and these are conspicuously lacking in the sustainability movement. We advocate for principles of academic freedom that enable all sides in important debates to present evidence and be given a fair hearing. On matters such as global warming, the campus version of sustainability replaces debate with doctrinaire declaration and enforces the party line – and that’s what we take issue with.

We printed 57,000 copies of the executive summary, providing 4,000 to our allies at NAS and mailing nearly 50,000 to state and local elected officials, trustees of colleges and universities, civic and business leaders, environment-beat journalists, Heartland donors, and other influential audiences.

**Oppose the Exelon Bail-Out**

Exelon, the parent company of utility ComEd, claims three of its Illinois nuclear power plants are uneconomical and is lobbying in Springfield for legislation that would force ratepayers to pay more to keep them operating. The authors of a new *Heartland Policy Brief*, Senior Fellow James M. Taylor and Policy Analyst Taylor Smith, say that would be a mistake. They analyze the issues and conclude the best option for Illinois taxpayers and electricity consumers is to allow uneconomical power plants to close and allow the most economical power options to replace them under free competition.

The report was mailed to every state legislator and hundreds of civic and business leaders in Illinois – more than 1,300 copies total – and distributed digitally to more than 16,800 subscribers to our *Heartland Weekly* and *Leaflet* e-newsletters. Heartland ran billboards and created a webpage bringing together the facts, background, and a petition people can sign opposing the bail-out. Depending on how the bail-out measure fares in the Illinois General Assembly, we may also run print ads and conduct a direct mail campaign later in the year.

**Alan Caruba, R.I.P.**

A close ally of Heartland, writer Alan Caruba, died on June 14 at the age of 77. His research and writing exposing shoddy environmental science and poorly thought out policies was regularly featured on Heartland’s *Somewhat Reasonable* blog, and he was part of Heartland’s “rapid response team” correcting false claims about environmental and energy issues in the media. He will be missed.
Renovation is complete at The Heartland Institute’s new home at 3939 North Wilke Road in Arlington Heights, Illinois, and we’re all settled in! We celebrated the grand opening of our new place with events on August 20, 21, and 22. Excitement is running high!

**Our New Home**
Living on the 27th floor of a glass and steel high-rise in downtown Chicago had its advantages, but it had disadvantages, too. The rent was steep, so our space was increasingly cramped. The events we held downtown were poorly attended because many of our donors live in the suburbs, while those who work downtown can’t get away for the time it takes for a lunch program. Parking downtown can cost $20 an hour or more!

Our new home in Arlington Heights brings us closer to where our donors live. It has easy access to O’Hare International Airport, is within 30 minutes of more than 20 colleges, and has off-road free parking for 68 cars. The space will easily accommodate our current staff of 30 and can be modified to accommodate 45 full-time staff or even more.

Best of all, the new building has lots of room for a research library and public meeting space. We hope the library will attract scholars from across the country and around the world to spend a week or two as “visiting scholars,” staying at the hotel just four blocks from our front door.

**Thanks to Our Donors**
A particularly generous donor who wishes to remain anonymous enabled us to buy our new building and pay for the renovation without having to take out a mortgage. However, he hopes we can raise funds to offset the costs so his gift can be used to advocate for freedom and limited government. That’s eminently fair, isn’t it?

We are seeking to raise a total of $2 million to cover all the costs associated with purchasing and renovating the building and a three-year maintenance and operations fund. We have raised $300,000 so far, a good start given we’ve been too busy to launch a proper capital campaign!

Special thanks to Dr. John B. Mazur, who asked to have the library named after his deceased brother, Michael Mazur. Thanks also to the Robert P. Fettig family for a contribution that gives them naming rights to the conference room. And to our first diamond sponsor, David G. Herro, for his generous support.
Your Legacy

Our capital campaign is an opportunity for you to make a one-time gift or multi-year pledge and have your name, or the name of a loved one or someone you admire, displayed at one of the nation’s leading free-market think tanks. Staff, visiting scholars, guests at events, and others will learn of your commitment and remember your generosity.

Donor recognition opportunities include naming rights to several public spaces, a donor recognition wall in the main lobby, and endowed chairs, speakers series, internships, and resident scholars. Please take a look at the two tables on this page and consider making a generous gift. Contributions are tax-deductible under Section 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code.

Want to Learn More?

Ask for a free prospectus describing our capital campaign and other major gift and donor recognition opportunities. Please contact Gwendalyn Carver, director of development, at 312/377-4000 or gcarver@heartland.org or write to her at The Heartland Institute, 3939 North Wilke Road, Arlington Heights, IL 60004.

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Learning is easier and faster when properly designed incentive systems are used. But teachers are trained not to use them – almost entirely for ideological reasons.

*Rewards: How to use rewards to help children learn – and why teachers don’t use them well* marshals the psychological and economic evidence to refute the arguments against incentives. This important new book explains how rewarding students, teachers, and schools for their progress can work – and makes a powerful case for more school choice.

To order, visit store.heartland.org or Amazon.com

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Angelo Codevilla, Ph.D.
Professor emeritus of international relations at Boston University and author of *The Ruling Class: How They Corrupted America and What We Can Do About It*

HEARTLAND LIBERTY PRIZE
Donald Devine, Ph.D.
Senior scholar at the Fund for American Studies and author of *America’s Way Back: Freedom, Tradition, Constitution*

VENUE
The Cotillion
360 South Creekside Drive, Palatine, Illinois

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