



# HUMAN INTEREST

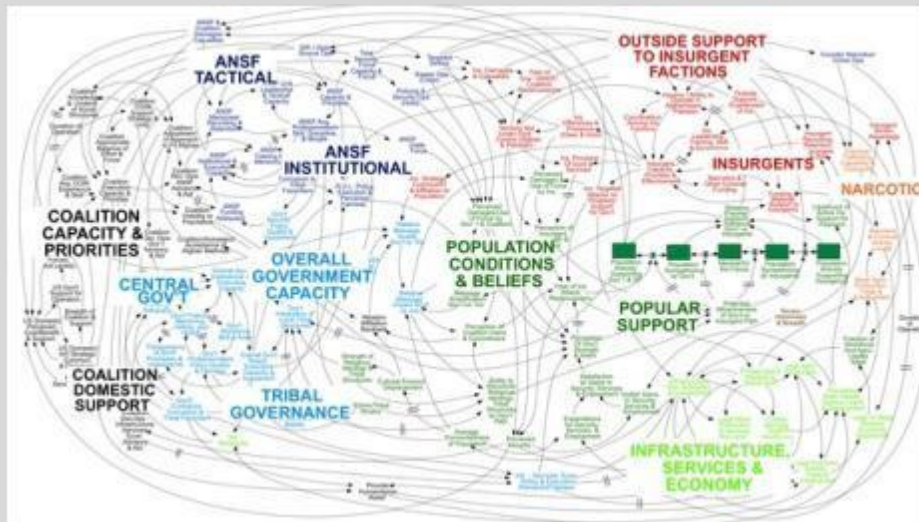
Tuesday, April 27, 2010



## Canadian Woman, 74, Extradited To U.S. On 30-Year-Old Pot Charge

Hamilton, Ontario -- A 74-year-old woman from Hamilton, Ontario who attempted to cross the U.S./Canadian border into New York earlier this week was arrested when officials discovered a marijuana charge from 1980. U.S. Customs and Border Protection (CBP) agents said Homenella Cole advised officers at the Lewiston-Queenston border crossing Monday that she had previous criminal convictions in Canada, reports the National Post. "She said she wanted a waiver to enter the U.S., which is not uncommon," CBP spokesman Kevin Corsaro said. When officers then ran a routine criminal record check, they learned Cole had an active felony warrant issued on April 1, 1980 by the New York City Police Department. Cole was arrested on the outstanding warrant and was extradited to New York City. The senior citizen will face the charge of possession of marijuana with the intent to distribute.

## We Have Met the Enemy and He Is PowerPoint



WASHINGTON — Gen. Stanley A. McChrystal, the leader of American and NATO forces in Afghanistan, was shown a PowerPoint slide in Kabul last summer that was meant to portray the complexity of American military strategy, but looked more like a bowl of spaghetti. "When we understand that slide, we'll have won the war," General McChrystal dryly remarked, one of his advisers recalled, as the room erupted in laughter. The slide has since bounced around the Internet as an

example of a military tool that has spun out of control. Like an insurgency, PowerPoint has crept into the daily lives of military commanders and reached the level of near obsession. The amount of time expended on PowerPoint, the Microsoft presentation program of computer-generated charts, graphs and bullet points, has made it a running joke in the Pentagon and in Iraq and Afghanistan. "PowerPoint



makes us stupid," Gen. James N. Mattis of the Marine Corps, the Joint Forces commander, said this month at a military conference in North Carolina. (He spoke without PowerPoint.) Brig. Gen. H. R. McMaster, who banned PowerPoint presentations when he led the successful effort to secure the northern Iraqi city of Tal Afar in 2005, followed up at the same conference by likening PowerPoint to an internal threat. "It's dangerous because it can create the illusion of understanding and the illusion of control," General McMaster said in a telephone interview afterward. "Some problems in the world are not bullet-izable." In General McMaster's view, PowerPoint's worst offense is not a chart like the spaghetti graphic, which was first uncovered by NBC's Richard Engel, but rigid lists of bullet points (in, say, a presentation on a conflict's causes) that take no account of interconnected political, economic and ethnic forces. "If you divorce war from all of that, it becomes a targeting exercise," General McMaster said. ([Full Story](#))

#### **Teen saves dog with mouth-to-snout resuscitation**

Black River Falls, WI -- Moriah Deno knew something was wrong when she heard Pumbaa bark. It was a warm March afternoon, and Deno was home sick from school. When she let the 3-year-old Boston terrier out on the deck, the puppy, Vanuchi, wanted to go too. Deno was inside getting dinner ready when Pumbaa got her attention. She ran to the deck, where she saw Vanuchi's leash tangled around the grill, then disappear over the edge. At the other end, the 5-month-old French bulldog dangled lifeless in his collar. Deno put the puppy on the deck. The 18-year-old senior at Black River Falls High School had worked as a lifeguard. She knew how to perform CPR, though she'd never had to do it. Vanuchi had vomited. She put her mouth on his and blew once. Nothing. Deno called her mother. She was sobbing. 'Noochi's dead, she said. Did you try mouth-to-mouth? Kyle Deno asked. It was too gross, Moriah said. Do it again, Kyle said. Moriah cupped her hand over the dog's snout and blew into it. After four attempts, Vanuchi opened an eye. Then she heard him take a weak breath and saw his belly moving. Kyle Deno was on her way home when Moriah called back. I think he's alive, she said. By the time he got to the vet, Vanuchi had perked up. The Denos said they were told he's a lucky dog who probably wouldn't have survived without Moriah's quick action.

#### **Putter wiz rollin' in dough**



New York, NY -- He got really teed off. An amateur golfer from Staten Island who invented a revolutionary putter has won a \$135,000 verdict against the Callaway golf-club company for patent infringement. Retired machine-shop teacher Nicholas Colucci, 86, said his aching back prompted him to come up with a way to retrieve his ball from the cup without having to bend over. After years of fruitless dreaming, inspiration struck while he watched a duffer pitch a fit after missing a putt. "He was banging the putter into the hole, and I saw him and said, 'If he can do that, I can make a putter that can pick up the ball, because the putter was fitting into the hole,'" Colucci recalled. A friend with a machine shop gave him free rein to experiment, and after about 100 prototypes, the "Jackpot Putter" was born. The unique club has an upper flange and

two walls that extend from the rear of the putting blade, allowing it to grab a ball between them. Colucci was granted a patent in 1990, and he's been selling it since 1999 through his EZ Line Putters company. Colucci said he approached Callaway but was repeatedly rebuffed. "I sent them prototypes and my patents, and they kept saying they weren't interested," he said. Then, three years ago, he learned that Callaway was also selling a putter that picks up the ball. Colucci sued, claiming five Callaway putters infringed on his patent. Although last month's verdict in a Texas federal court didn't cover his costs -- which were paid by his attorneys -- Colucci feels vindicated. "I wasn't ever really interested in making money," he said. "I'm not the type of guy who likes champagne, I prefer ginger ale." His lawyer, Dariush Keyhani, calling the dispute "a classic case of David vs. Goliath," said that Colucci "invented one of the greatest golf putters ever made." Keyhani said the evidence supported more damages, and he's seeking them. A Callaway spokesman said the company was seeking to have the verdict tossed, and noted the jury threw out three of Colucci's four infringement claims.

### **Booming turkey population ruffling feathers in urban communities**



Cleveland, OH -- In the dark of night, the intruder smashed a plate glass window of a dessert shop in Lincoln, Neb. Inside, destruction. The first cop called for backup. The two officers, guns drawn, warily entered the shop. In a back room, they found the perp, angry and ready to fight, but a little on the smallish side. It was a 25-pound wild turkey. "The police came outside and were laughing hysterically," says High Society Cheesecake co-owner Marcus Morris, who'd arrived at 11:30 p.m. to start baking for the next day, April 1. "The turkey had gone crazy. I started calling friends to tell them what had happened. Everyone thought it was an

April Fool's joke." Americans, prepare yourselves. The wild turkey is back in vast numbers and may be coming soon to a garage, backyard or windshield near you. The High Society Cheesecake caper is one of many real-life turkey dramas playing out this spring in what could be called "Turkeys Gone Wild." It's mating season, and male gobblers have begun a relentless two-month quest to have sex with as many females as possible. The urge to breed has brought these fearless, not-too-bright, testosterone-filled birds into cities and suburbs, which often provide a wonderful habitat for turkeys on the prowl. ([Full Story](#))

### **Brazil health minister prescribes more sex**



RIO DE JANEIRO - Brazil's health minister has a remedy for the nation's high-blood-pressure problem: More sex. Minister Jose Temporao says adults should be exercising more to help keep their blood pressure down — and he says a good cardiovascular workout includes sex, "always with protection, obviously." Temporao also recommends dancing, a healthy diet and regular blood-pressure checks. The minister made the comments Monday while launching a national campaign against high blood pressure in the Brazilian capital of Brasilia. The Health Ministry

says that 21.5 percent of Brazilians had high blood pressure in 2006. That jumped to 24.4 percent in 2009.