



New Prices Effective May 1, 2010

Martin Cleaning Service

Carpet & Upholstery Cleaning Residential & Commercial Services
Minimum Service CHG. \$45.00

A small distance/travel charge may be applied

CARPET CLEANING

2 Cleaning Areas or more \$30.00 Each Area

Pre-Spray Traffic Areas (Includes: 1 small Hallway)

1 Cleaning Area (only) \$40.00

Includes Pre-Spray Traffic Area (Hallway Extra)

Stairs (12-16 stairs - With Other Services): \$25.00

Area/Oriental Rugs:

\$25.00 Minimum

Area/Oriental Rugs (Wool):

\$40.00 Minimum

Heavily Soiled Area:

Additional \$10.00 each area (Requiring Extensive Pre-Spraying)

UPHOLSTERY CLEANING

Sofa: \$69.00

Love seat: \$49.00

Sectional: \$109 - \$139

Chair or Recliner: \$25 - \$49

Throw Pillows (With Other Services): \$5.00

ADDITIONAL SERVICES

- Area & Oriental Rug Cleaning
- Auto/Boat/RV Cleaning
- Deodorizing & Pet Odor Treatment
- Spot & Stain Removal Service
- Scotchguard Protection
- Minor Water Damage Services



SEE CURRENT FLYER FOR ADDITIONAL PRICES & SERVICES
Call for Appointment (503) 281-3949

OPINION



America's Wealth Concentration has No Limit

A callout for our leaders to change course

BY BOB LORD

You have to consult Dictionary.com for the definition of "trillionaire."

Webster's doesn't yet recognize trillionaire as a word.

But it will. If you're under 60, America's first trillionaire will likely appear in your lifetime.

And the recent budget deal in Congress does nothing to alter that scenario.

In 1982, Forbes magazine published its first survey of the 400 wealthiest Americans. The wealthiest American at that time, Daniel Ludwig, held a reported net worth of \$2 billion. Bill Gates topped the 2013 Forbes 400 list at \$72 billion. That's a 36-fold increase in America's largest fortune over 31 years.

And the increase could have been larger. By all appearances, Gates lost interest in building his fortune years ago. Had he not given away billions in charitable gifts since then and had his primary focus remained personal wealth accumulation, the Microsoft founder's net worth would now top \$100 billion. If you count total family wealth, Sam Walton's heirs already are comfortably past the \$100-billion mark after inheriting the Walmart fortune.



As Forbes acknowledges, its survey tends to undercount wealth. Last year, a Tax Justice Network analysis put the unreported global wealth stashed in offshore tax havens at \$21 trillion.

The super-rich are setting new records, \$10 billion, \$50 billion, and soon enough \$100 billion. Rather than objecting, our nation celebrates the increasingly obscene fortunes of the super-rich as we do athletes breaking sports records.

Taxes on income from capital and inheritance taxes, in the end, stand as the only meaningful constraints on wealth accumulation by the super rich. But these taxes have decreased over recent decades. Policy makers have, in effect, lifted the lid on wealth accumulation by those who already have significant wealth, while holding firmly in place the lid on wealth accumulation for those who don't.

Reaching \$1 trillion will be what hitting 73 home runs was before we knew Barry Bonds cheated to get there.

Will our first trillion-dollar fortune also be tainted by misdeeds of the achiever? Could that be what finally wakes us from our slumber?

A fortune worth \$1 trillion — \$1,000,000,000,000 — would today be enough to buy every square foot

of real estate in Manhattan. A trillionaire could take everyone on the planet out for a \$100 steak dinner, if we had a restaurant that could hold 7 billion people. A \$1 trillion fortune would equal the wealth of a million millionaires.

What's fueling this astonishing concentration of wealth? Tax policy. In Bill Clinton's words, it's just arithmetic.

All individuals face four principal constraints on the wealth they can accumulate: living expenses, the

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And things are getting worse. States are engaging in a destructive "race to the bottom," competing to see who can give the wealthy the best deal at tax time. At the federal level, an underfunded IRS cannot keep up with tax lawyers and accountants developing ever more sophisticated tax-saving schemes.

The unavoidable result: Wealth at the top is growing faster than everyone else's wealth. That's where the arithmetic comes in to play. If the wealth of one group grows at a faster rate than the nation's total wealth, that group's piece of the pie will increase. That's a mathematical certainty.

And unless our leaders change course, America's wealth concentration has no limit.

Bob Lord is a veteran tax lawyer from Phoenix and an associate fellow with the Institute for Policy Studies.