

Local Mountain News & Notices

The Sentinel Interviews The Printz: Commissioner Candidate

by Fred Hernandez

It was a most special experience witnessing the interview of Mr. Jay Printz running for District 2 County Commissioner by Mr. George Gramlich, Managing Editor of the *Sangre de Cristo Sentinel*. For over an hour the engaging exchange, between two of the main movers of the Wet Mountain Valley area, was a fascinating display of open and honest dialogue. With no holds barred, it was an eye opening conversation that revealed a shared interest in the long term well-being and advancement of Custer County as a whole. It started with a bang as Mr. Printz stepped into the office of the *Sentinel* and, with a rap on Mr. Gramlich desk, asked "What can I do for you and the readers of your paper". With that, the discourse was on.

Describing himself as a "conservative Republican" Mr. Printz expressed his deep respect and high regard for The Constitution referring to it as an "unbelievably fabulous doc-

ument" which has been changed, by amendments, only twenty-seven times since 1787. By following it, he continues, you have a good and orderly government. To a series of queries from *Sentinel's* editor, many of which were called in or sent by *Sentinel* readers, he acknowledges that he may have been tagged as too liberal due to some positions he has taken as a lawyer for certain Custer County businesses/entities. He defends himself effectively by citing the fact that his profession, as attorney at law, obliges him to defend client's positions which he might not personally espouse, but, to do a good job for the client, needs to present convincingly. However, he is careful to make sure that he is understood that, while being a Republican, he is not going too far to the right either, reiterating his preference to remain, strictly, within the tenets of The Constitution and quickly establishing his support of the Second Amendment and not for Obamacare. However, he feels that af-

fordable healthcare is absolutely essential for all American citizens. He also said he was opposed to the unconstitutional gun laws passed two years ago by Colorado democrats (especially the 15 round magazine limit). Responding to a question from the Editor concerning national politics, Mr. Printz responded that his favorite Republican candidate for President is Ted Cruz.

Born in Brooklyn, New York, and raised in Connecticut, Mr. Printz did his undergraduate studies at the University of Oklahoma where he took up political science. He spent some time in New Orleans, Louisiana, before ending up in the Lone Star State of Texas in both Houston and Fort Worth. With an MBA from the University of Dallas he ventured into the oil and gas industry successfully running a company for twenty years. He became a lawyer as he says "late in life". Actually, he was a young man of fifty when he got his degree at Texas A & M. He has been in Westcliffe not

quite ten years, owns and operates the pawn shop, Loan-A-Ranger, on Main Street, Westcliffe, and lives in nearby Rosita.

As far as running for County Commissioner is concerned, Mr. Printz is very clear in his mind as to what his vision is. In fact, it is quite simple. As he sees it, the job is to manage efficiently many real or perceived needs on a modest budget. With the extensive experience of running successful and profitable companies over long periods of time, he confidently approaches the commissioner position with a clear concept of what needs to be done for the county to, not only operate efficiently, but to thrive and prosper. After more solicitations from the editor, Mr. Printz offhandedly ventured some ideas that may be considered such as, giving incentives to businesses (local or from out of the county) to operate in the area, short term SBA type loans from the local bank to induce new ventures and productivity, maybe a much needed phar-



Jay Printz, Candidate for Commissioner for District 2

Sentinel photo by George Gramlich

macy which could be part of the new management of the supermarket, expansion of the health center into a larger facility to ensure the needs of the growing elder population. He goes on to say that he wants to have, and very much looks forward to regular (quarterly) dialogues with the community. He wants to assure everyone that he is a hundred percent approachable anytime; in person, by phone or by email. With the many years of experience

and the service he has provided in the communities in which he has lived and worked, Mr. Printz is convinced he can do a stand up job for the people of Custer County. Regarding the current controversy of pay raises for county employees, Mr. Printz said he is legally bound to take the salary but will refund to the county the new 30% raise.

See PRINTZ on page 5

Jared M. Smith, DMD

GO BRONCOS

Advanced Dental Technology
For Your Health & Beautiful Smile



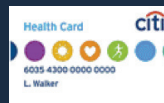
- Same Day Porcelain Crowns, Bridges, Inlays, Onlays, Veneers
- Root Canals
- Dentures, Partials
- Dental Implants

- In-Chair Bleaching Available
- Laser Soft Tissue Treatment
- Digital X-Rays & 3D X-Rays
- Invisalign



New Patients Welcome General Dentistry

618 Main Street, Cañon City, CO
275-0661 Jaredsmithdmd.com



Local Mountain News & Notices

Custer County High School Cheer Team Fundraiser

The Custer County High School Cheer Team would like to invite the community to participate in a fundraising event which will help us raise much needed funds to attend summer camp as well as purchase new uniforms. Our goal is to raise \$2000. To achieve this goal the cheer team has teamed up with Little Caesars Pizza and is currently selling frozen pizza kits! Each kit contains all the ingredients you need to make pizza, breadsticks, or desserts in your home! These kits are great to have on hand for after school snacks, dinner,

family gatherings, or any other occasion.

Orders can be placed with any member of the cheer team from now until February 7, 2016. All orders will be available for pick up on February 18, 2016 in the Commons area of the Custer County High School between 4-6pm. Please support the Custer County Cheer Team and place your order today!

For additional information please contact Anita Bomgardner at (816) 803-3061.



Arms discourage and keep the invader and plunderer in awe, and preserve order in the world as well as property.

Thomas Paine ~ Founding Father

Sponsored by Critical Path Metalworks, Westcliffe, Colorado

Martial Arts Classes



by Carol Clemenson

Adrian Tompkins is offering Tae-Kwon-Do classes at the Cowboy Church every Monday evening from 6-8 p.m. He is a 5th degree Black Belt. He will teach folks from ten years old and up, for a fee of only \$20 per month.

Adrian moved here from Denver six years ago. He has taught this art since 1994. He is married and has a four-year-old son, Gabriel.

Adrian can be reached at atompkins.3211@gmail.com or at the Cowboy Church on Monday evenings.

Charges of Animal Cruelty in Westcliffe? Not Exactly...

On Tuesday, the Westcliffe Municipal Court was called to order by Judge Rebecca Casey to hear the case of the defendants who had been arraigned on charges of having failed to adhere to town ordinances regarding their five dogs. While the actual citations regarded barking dogs, the town authorities have received numerous complaints alleging animal abuse and neglect.

The actual defendant was the lady who was seated front and center at the packed room: Ms. Darlene Schuetz. In fact, all seats

were taken and there were at least a dozen people standing along the walls and in the hallway to hear about this emotionally charged issue.

The judge started off by explaining the proceedings and reminding people that this is a court of law and not a public forum. At the end of her opening statement, the judge asked if the defendant wanted to continue the hearing or if she would like to postpone. She was also advised that she could get her own lawyer. In this particular case, since it was not a criminal

trial with the possibility of a jail sentence, the court could not appoint legal counsel. At that point the defendant stated that she wanted to have the hearing immediately and pleaded "Not Guilty".

Mr. Jay Printz, the town attorney for Westcliffe represented the Town.

After nearly four hours, the defendant was found guilty and ordered to pay fines totaling \$900, which may be suspended if they rehome four of the five dogs by next Tuesday. Ms. Schuetz stated her intentions for appealing the decision.

Other topics touched on in the discussion were the current attempted end run around TABOR by Colorado democrats (trying to prevent a tax refund for us), the Custer County Clinic's management, future and finances, and the possibility of having a county administrator to help centralize purchases and services and lower the cost thereof.

As the interview was wrapping up, Mr. Printz reiterated that he is running for ALL the residents of Custer County.

PRINTZ from page 4

He also said he would have voted "No" on any raise although he felt that some of other elected officials deserved some raise. As for the health benefits he would not accept that either which would be additional savings for the county. He stands firmly on strict fiscal accountability as far as public money is concerned; money from taxpayers hard earned work should never fund any private enterprise.

Proud to serve as Custer County's community bank for the past 35 years!

Visit us at our new location – 102 S. Adams Blvd.!



First State Bank of Colorado

Banking as it should be

Local branch at 102 S. Adams Blvd., Westcliffe, CO 81252 719-783-9211




2015 CHRYSLER TOWN & COUNTRY TOURING EDITION



TWO TO CHOOSE FROM

STK# FP659
STK# FP660

- Leather Interior
- Rear DVD & Entertainmentnet
- 7 Passenger Seating
- Stow & Go Seating
- Middle Row Bucket Seats
- Power Seats
- Power Windows
- Power Locks
- Power Mirrors
- Tilt & Telescoping Steering Wheel
- Cruise Control
- Power Sliding Doors
- Power Rear Hatch
- Dual Zone Climate Controls
- Rear Heat & Air Conditioning
- AM/FM/CD/MP3/Satellite Stereo
- Steering Wheel Mounted Audio Controls
- Information Center
- Overhead Console

- Sunscreen Windows
- Rear Defrost
- Rear Wiper
- Keyless Entry
- Fog Lamps
- Alloy Wheels
- 6 Speed Shiftable Automatic Transmission
- 3.6 Liter V-6 Engine

SAVE THOUSANDS

ONLY

\$20,988

TOWN & COUNTRY

RAM Dodge CHRYSLER Jeep Ford

*Price does not include sales tax.

931 E. HWY 50, SALIDA
WWW.SALIDAFORD.COM

719-539-6633

