

Primary Election Results: Epp Beats Nicholson in Commish Race, Low Turnout

by George Gramlich,
News and Commentary

Tuesday’s (June 25th) voter turnout was low in Custer County and across Colorado. Out of 4,411 registered Custer County voters, only 1,495 bothered to vote. (With the country spinning out of control, this low voter turnout is a disgrace.)

In the only county level contested race, incumbent District 3 County Commissioner Lucas Epp beat challenger Veronica L. Nicholson by a hefty margin of 753 (66.29%) to 383 (33.71%) in the Republican Party Primary.

The other race results were: Custer County Commissioner, District 2, Republican: Paul Raymond Vogelsong got 787 votes; District Attorney 11th Judicial District, Republican Party: Jeffrey D. Lindsay received 813 votes; State Representative, District 60,

Republican Primary, Stephanie Luck nailed 813 votes; State Representative, District 60, Democrat Party Primary, Kathryn Green got 303 votes.

For Regent of the University of Colorado, At Large Republican Party Primary, Eric Rinard received 732 votes and on the Democrat side of that slot, Elliot Hood beat Charles “CJ” Johnson 164 to 113.

Brittany Pettersen won the uncontested 119th United States Congress District 7 Democrat Party Primary with 332 votes while her Republican counterpart won his uncontested race with 760 votes.

In some other noteworthy election news: Jeff Hurd won Colorado’s 3rd Congressional District Primary with 42% over Ron Hanks with 28% of the vote. Greg Lopez won the election to replace retired Ken Buck in Colorado’s 4th Congressional District.



District Attorney 11th Judicial District, Republican Party: candidate Jeffrey D. Lindsay.

(He will be seated right away and his term is up in January.)

Firebrand incumbent Lauren Boebert won a hard-fought Colorado 4th Congressional District Primary by a solid marge (43% of the vote) over Jerry Sonnenberg.

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ALERT!**
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But the Word
is very near you. It is
in your mouth
and in your heart, so
that you can do it.
Deuteronomy 30:14

2nd Amendment March on July 4th

Join us in the Patriots Section
in the Westcliffe, CO Independence Day Parade



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March with your fellow Patriots and make a statement
that WE still believe in our Constitution and we want it
RESTORED in Colorado. You have to SHOW UP to make a
statement. Bring the family, bring the kids, bring Grandma,
bring your friends. Stand up for your rights.

Assemble at 9:15 a.m., July 4th at the east end of Main Street (Highway 96), Silver Cliff/Westcliffe, CO, at the open field just west of the Conoco convenience store and gas station). Look for the Patriots assembly area (USA Flags, Gadsden Flags, and guns, guns, guns). All vehicles welcome! Plenty of places in town for lunch. The March is about one mile long and takes about 45 minutes.

The parade begins at 10 a.m.

Firearm Protocol: Rifles: unloaded, safety on, no detachable magazines inserted in rifle, chamber flag appreciated, **MUST BE SLUNG on shoulder or back.** All rifles welcome. Handguns: Holstered, open carry. **Bring your Trump/MAGA Hats, Signs!**

NO handling of weapons during the parade. Questions? Call us at 719-783-3360 or email SDC.sentinel@gmail.com.

BOCC OK's Guns in County Buildings

by George Gramlich, News
and Commentary

All three members of the Custer County Board of County Commissioners (BOCC) were present at their regular June 19, 2024 meeting: Bill Canda, Lucas Epp and Kevin Day. The meeting was at their regally appointed throne room across from the courthouse building. The meeting started at 9 am.

In New Business, Human Resources talked about instituting a new way to handle abuse or neglect cases. It is called the Differential Response method. This method would be used for low-risk families. For serious cases, HR would continue to use their traditional case processing methodology. HR is having a public meeting on the subject at Lange Hall on July 17th at 1 p.m. All are invited.

The next subject was the expiring Subdivision Moratorium that will end next month. There was a lot of discussion on it including what it really is. No vote was taken so it looks like it will expire.

Resolution 24-07, Vacation and Sick Time Accrual was next. It appears that due to

a prior BOCC resolution, the county employees had a July 16 deadline to use any old vacation or sick time accruals. This again caused a big discussion. Eventually, the Commissioners voted to extend the deadline to September 30, 2024, to use the accrued time.

The big megillah was next: Resolution 24-08, Lawful Possession of Firearms in Public Buildings. (The democrats in the Colorado State Legislature passed a bill, SB 24-131 that banned firearms in state owned and county owned buildings. This of course creates a perfect kill zone for innocent civilians visiting government buildings plus no bad guy is going to obey this nonsense. But they allowed counties to opt out if they want. Several counties starting opting out after It was passed. The *Sentinel* has been forwarding news stories about those counties to Canda and Epp encouraging them to do the same thing here in Free Custer. Fremont County just did their opt out. Epp requested a copy of that resolution for us and had County Attorney Slater to modify for Custer.) Epp led the discussion on this. He reviewed what the

**BOCC
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SENTINEL

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of Conservative
Colorado!



We believe that freedom is a gift from God and not granted to us by politicians or governments. Freedom demands responsible behavior of all citizens and must be consistent with the truths expressed in the great moral and governing guides as The Ten Commandments, The Declaration of Independence, The U.S. Constitution and The Bill of Rights.

These were the principles that guided our founding fathers and which we believe are still relevant. These are the principles that will guide our reporting and be the basis of all our views.

We will not be constrained by the illogical, misleading and inaccurate thinking and use of "political correctness" but by truth, facts, logic and common sense.

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Our Opinion...

Guest Editorial

Remembering
the American Revolution



by Bill Wilson,
Dailyjot.com

As we approach the day of our Independence from Britain, it may be helpful to be reminded of the sufferance of the Founding Fathers and what was going through their minds as they decided to take on the most powerful political and military force on the planet. They said, "A Prince whose character is thus marked by every act which may define a Tyrant, is unfit to be the ruler of a free people." What happens when that "Prince" collectively becomes the government and the news media working to usurp and awe the will of the people? What happens when people are so confused about our history and our Constitution that they cannot act even to save themselves? Great introspect is needed. Let us remember.

The Declaration of Independence is a masterful document that served as the true "preamble" to our Constitution. It begins by saying: "When in the Course of human events, it becomes necessary for one people to dissolve the political bands which have connected them with another, and to assume among the powers of the earth, the separate and equal station to which the Laws of Nature and of Nature's God entitle them, a decent respect to the opinions of mankind requires that they should declare the causes which impel them to the separation. We hold these truths to be self-evident, that all men are created equal, that they are endowed by their Creator with certain unalienable Rights, that among these are Life, Liberty and the pursuit of Happiness.

--That to secure these rights, Governments are instituted among Men, deriving their just powers from the consent of the governed, --That whenever any Form of Government becomes destructive of these ends, it is the Right of the People to alter or to abolish it, and to institute new Government, laying its foundation on such principles and organizing its powers in such form, as to them shall seem most likely to effect their Safety and Happiness.

Prudence, indeed, will dictate that Governments long established should not be changed for light and transient causes; and accordingly all experience hath shewn, that mankind are more disposed to suffer, while evils are sufferable, than to right themselves by abolishing the forms to which they are accustomed.

"But when a long train of abuses and usurpations, pursuing invariably the same Object evinces a design to reduce them under absolute Despotism, it is their right, it is their duty, to throw off such Government, and to provide new Guards for their future security.--Such has been the patient sufferance of these Colonies; and such is now the necessity which constrains them to alter their former Systems of Government." The signatures of 56 men were written on the Declaration after this sentence: "And for the support of this Declaration, with a firm reliance on the protection of divine Providence, we mutually pledge to each other our Lives, our Fortunes and our sacred Honor."

In other words, they risked everything. They counted the cost. They understood the will of God. They acted. This Independence Day, please take time to remind yourself and others about the sufferance of those who made such a pledge on their Lives, Fortunes, and sacred Honor.

Please contemplate our national condition. Please seek God. For as Peter and the disciples said in Acts 5:29, "We ought to obey God rather than men." And recall the words of James 1:25, "But whoso looks into the perfect law of liberty, and continues therein, he being not a forgetful hearer, but a doer of the work, this man shall be blessed in his deed." The body without spirit is dead, faith without works is also dead. Please consider your destiny.

Have a Blessed and Powerful Day!
Bill Wilson is a columnist and missionary. Sentinel readers have enjoyed his insights for over a decade. To read his daily column or to donate to his ministry in Ghana, see dailyjot.com



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Oak Ridge Fire Update

by George Gramlich

As of June 26, 2024 the Oak Ridge Fire located in the Beulah, Pueblo County area (right on the Custer County line) has grown to approximately 787 acres with 0% containment. There were several fixed-wing and rotor-winged aircraft fighting the fire and over 300 personnel. The fire is on United States Forest land. The Rocky Mountain Complex Incident Management team was taking control on June 26th. **For updates, go to <https://www.facebook.com/oakridgefire2024>**

The Custer County Sheriff's Office has noted that the fire had crossed into Custer County.

Photo: Custer County Sheriff's Office



Dan S. Bubis Passes

Dan Bubis passed away unexpectedly on June 20, 2024, in St. Mary Esther, FL where he and his wife, Jackie, had moved several years ago. (Jackie passed away in 2022.) Dan (Rebbe) was a longtime friend of the *Sentinel* crew and was the *Sentinel's* IT guy for the last seven years. He and Jackie lived in Westcliffe on two separate occasions and had many friends in the area. Dan founded the local Liberty Rocks group. He will be sorely missed and fondly remembered. An obituary from the family is forthcoming.

Prayer is appreciated for his son, Zach Bubis and partner Albie, grandson,



Boston, son Travis Crouch and grandchildren Charlie and Scarlett and daughter, Amber Ford Crouch, and granddaughter Alexis, all living in the Colorado

Springs area, and for Dan's siblings, Donna Nash of Syracuse, NY, Sandy (Frank) Verra, Lucerne, NY, and Murray Bubis, Co. Springs, CO.

Hold fast the form of sound words, which thou hast heard of me, in faith and love which is in Christ Jesus. **I Timothy 1:13 KJV**

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law says and noted that other counties had opted out including Fremont County. He said we have a Constitutional right to bear arms, even in county buildings. (Of course! They are OUR buildings.)

Canda seconded Epp's motion to vote on the Resolution. All three Commissioners voted to pass it. (Note no firearms are allowed into the courtroom and adjacent court related offices. This is due to another state law. There was

some discussion about not allowing firearms into the courtroom when the court is not in session. The policy before SB 24-131 for Custer County was that it was ok. The Commissioners did not come to a conclusion on this, so it is up in the air right now.)

The next subject was the expiring Subdivision Moratorium that will end next month. This Moratorium only effects parcels less than 35 acres east of Highway 69. There was a lot of discussion on it including what it really is. No vote was taken so it looks like it will expire.

Vernon Roth representing the Finance Department was up next with a bunch of Resolutions moving money around in our accounting system. There were seven Resolutions. All passed.

(Editor/GG: Was expecting a big Screaming Karen mob from our local lefties to show up against the effort to allow firearms in our county buildings. Nobody showed up and not a peep out of them on Zoom. Odd.)

And that was that. The 2nd Amendment is still alive and well in Free Custer!

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Viva la Libertad! Freedom Rings Loud at Liberty Rocks

by Fred Hernandez

Last Thursday, June 20th, at Lange Hall, in Westcliffe, the Liberty Rocks meeting was called to order by Chair Ann Barthrop. After the opening procedures, including the Pledge of Allegiance and the group singing America the Beautiful, the invocation was delivered by Ms. Lisa Kidwell from the Book “Prayers and Presidents” by W.F. Federer. This time the quote was from President James Garfield on July 4,1876, commemorating the 100th Anniversary of the Declaration of Independence, when he was still a Congressman serving as the Chairman of the Committee of Appropriations. He said: “Now more than ever before, the people are responsible for the character of their Congress. If that body is ignorant, reckless and corrupt, it is because the people tolerate ignorance, recklessness and corruption. If it is intelligent, brave and pure it is because the people demand these high qualities to represent them in the national legislature. If the next centennial does not find us a great nation....it will be because those who represent the enterprise, the culture and the morality of the nation do not aid in controlling the political forces.” These sage words could very easily be applied to the state of affairs in America today.

Immediately after the invocation the audience got their first surprise of the evening. The Chair introduced a pair of nonagenarian sisters who moved slowly to the front and center of the hall. Everyone seemed puzzled at first but just for a split second as the ladies opened up with a strong and passionate story that seemed to shout out VIVA LA LIBERTAD! VIVA LA LIBERTAD! As young ladies they managed to escape the encroaching clutches of Fidel Castro’s tyranny and communism. As rumors built up about the impending invasion of a dissident army making their way to the capital city of Havana, they left their native and beloved Cuba for the shores of freedom in America. Their powerful message for America was simple; stand up to tyranny, fight for freedom, there is no other country in the world with the promise of the United States. Don’t lose it by being indifferent or inattentive to what is going on at this time. The powerful message was contagious and resonated with the audience which erupted to a boisterous standing ovation. VIVA LA LIBERTAD. LONG LIVE FREEDOM! GOD BLESS THE U.S.A.!!

The main feature of the evening as scheduled on the agenda was a presentation by Westcliffe Town Manager Caleb Patterson. For some unexplained reason he could not be there in person and instead he made his presentation via ZOOM. But, even that was delayed.

So the second surprise was a talk by Ms. Candice Stutzriem, the author of the Anti Rank Voting Petition. Well prepared with PowerPoint slides and delivering her presentation eloquently, Ms. Stutzriem candidly delivered the message relating to an electoral system known as Ranked Choice Voting. Briefly explained, it is a system of casting votes for multiple candidates and ordering them by preference from first to last depending on how many candidates there are on the ballot. The candidate getting the highest number over fifty percent is declared the winner. No election system is perfect and this system also has its pros and cons. For instance under pros it is claimed that this system determines the candidate with the strongest support, it encourages civil campaigning, reduces wasted votes and eliminates the need for multiple elections. In short, the will of the majority emerges reducing the importance of having political parties. The cons are: too complicated, too expensive, delayed results, the person

with most votes can still lose and, most importantly, violates the one person-one vote rule. It behooves the electorate, in particular all Colorado State voters, to find out everything they can about this system before agreeing to accept it for statewide adaptation. A huge change in the election process can have devastating effects on the rule of law since, as in this system, “majority wins”. Current national and state election laws have been in place for more than a hundred years.

At this point in the evening Mr. Patterson, Westcliffe Town Manager was coming up on the big screen and the attention was turned to his presentation which was to be The Five-Year Plan of the town. The delivery by internet was, in general, problematic. The slides shown were so small and blurred they were impossible to read. The audio was of very poor quality and thus speech was difficult to understand and, at times, incomprehensible.

Despite the difficulties the following points are the highlights gleaned from the five-year plan as presented: 1) focus development of certain areas in the town identified for affordable housing. 2) more roadway improvement by constructing more sidewalks and street crossings including on both sides of Hwy. 69 from Main Street up to Hermit Lane. 3) As previously announced the town will expand its borders through the Annexation Law and the three-mile statute allowing the town to claim areas as long as they are able to provide the required services to the new areas. 4) Improvement of all the town’s parks, especially Memorial Park on Third Street and the Hermit Lane Park. There were other parks mentioned as well. The plan to fund all these infrastructure projects over the five-year period will be by applying for various grants. One figure mentioned in particular was for ten million dollars which would be acquired through a combined community effort involving non-profits, government agencies, local businesses, private entities and individuals cooperating together to achieve the common goal for the town. The overall objective is to make the town attractive and more inviting for visitors and newcomers who may want to relocate to Happy Valley.

The meeting wound down to a close on a note that has divided our otherwise civil community: election integrity. There are those who maintain that the election machines used can be manipulated with ease and those that oppose that view. Presentations have been made recently featuring “experts” on both sides of the issue. As a result of those presentations, including one with the Deputy Secretary of State, there is a growing interest in further exploring the idea of hand-counting ballots.

A concerned local businessman, Charley Ellison, working with a national professional organization CauseofAmerica.org, has taken the leadership role in planning and organizing a local team for this purpose. One important responsibility of this team is to negate the claims that hand counting is as much as 25% inaccurate and very expensive.

The team will start off by creating a budget that they are confident will show that hand counting is not cost prohibitive and very accurate contrary to what is claimed. The local community will hear more about this in the coming weeks. In keeping with the state law that requires machine counts, the goal is to replace the current machines in Custer County with an equally government approved electromechanical device like the tabulator used in other states.

The latest development at press time is that the Custer County Republican Committee is interested in assuming a more involved role in this endeavor.

Houseplant Care 101

Press Release

The West Custer County Library staff is excited to offer Houseplant Care 101 on Wednesday, July 10th from 5 to 6:30 p.m. led by Amy Good – McQuaide. For the first portion of the class Amy will offer a presentation along with a handout. She plans to cover: lighting, soil, soil types, watering, reporting, and troubleshooting for different types of common

houseplant groups. Her talk will be followed by a question and answer session. Herbal tea will be served during the class. People are welcome to bring from one to three houseplants for a consultation. Her love of nature, plants, and wellness grows from her like a well-tended plant.

Registration is required for this class please visit www.westcusterlibrary.org to sign up or call the (719)

783-9138 for registration assistance.

Amy is a certified herbalist, aspiring botanist, certified yoga instructor, animal lover, wife, mother, and owner of Wild Whimsy Apothecary. She gained valuable knowledge through her previous employment in greenhouses, and experiences in houseplant sales and cut floral sales.

Common Culinary Herbs, and Creative Ways to Use Them

Press Release

Herbalist Amy Good-McQuaide will teach “Common Culinary Herbs, and Creative Ways to Use Them” on Wednesday, July 24th at 5 p.m. at the West Custer County Library. She will share the health benefits of multiple herbs along with creative ways to use culinary herbs like: oregano, basil, marjoram,

thyme, rosemary, ginger, cinnamon, clove, and others. To sign up please visit www.westcusterlibrary.org events page or call (719) 783-9138 to register.

Amy earned her certification in Herbalism Roots in 2017. She has had over 1,000 hours of herbalism, botany, and aromatherapy training.

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email: pbailey@solarsolutions.com

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719-783-9321
www.westcliffecoloradoselfstorage.com

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larryfinneydrilling@gmail.com

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Custer Senior Center Menu

Monday, July 1
#112 Turkey Tetrazzini *Calories 1043*
Italian Green Beans *Carbs grams 95*
Strawberry Applesauce *Fat grams 48*
Chocolate Chip Cookie *Sodium mg 771*
WW Bread w/Butter *Fiber grams 10*

Tuesday, July 2
#10 BBQ Pork Ribs *Calories 879*
Creamy Coleslaw *Carbs grams 92*
Corn Cob *Fat grams 30*
Seasoned Greens *Sodium mg 1080*
Watermelon *Fiber grams 11*
Bran Muffin

Thursday, July 4
CLOSED
4th of July Observance

Served Mondays, Tuesdays & Thursdays at noon.
612 Main St. , Silver Cliff Townhall (lower level)
The following major food allergens are used as ingredients:
Milk, Egg, Fish, Tree Nuts, Peanuts, Wheat, Soy and Sesame.

Please call (719) 783-9508 before 9:30 a.m. for reservations
A \$3 suggested donation per meal is appreciated, but not required. All menus subject to change.



**High Peaks
Animal Hospital**

Dr. Kayla Ingram

**Call for an appointment:
719-783-3770**

1200 Broadway in Silver Cliff

Recurring Events

- Mondays**
10 a.m. Pickle Ball Silver Cliff Memorial Park
More info: lizbrannen@gmail.com
6 p.m. Alcoholics Anonymous (CLSD) 12 Step study, at St. Luke’s, 3rd & Rosita in Westcliffe. Martha at 719-371-1853.
- 1st Monday of the Month**
5 p.m. Post 170 Auxiliary monthly meeting (year-round) at Cliffe Lanes
2nd and 4th Monday
6 – 7 p.m. Narcotics Anonymous
Community United Methodist Church Fellowship Hall. Children Welcome. colobamanana@yahoo.com
- Tuesdays**
12 noon – 1 p.m. Alcoholics Anonymous (CLDS) “As Bill Sees It” St. Luke’s, 3rd & Rosita in W/C. Call Martha at 719-371-1853.
- 1st Tuesday of the Month**
9 a.m. - 3 p.m. Old Schoolhouse Quilters Comfort Quilters @Valley Bible
6:30 p.m. American Legion Post 170 monthly meeting at Cliff Lanes meeting room.
4-6 p.m. Christian Music on KLZR 91.7 FM
- 2nd Tuesday of the Month**
9 a.m. Old Schoolhouse Quilters Guild Meeting @Valley Bible
- Wednesdays**
8 -9 a.m. Veterans Coffee Social, Veterans and Caregivers welcome. West Custer County Library Community Rm., 209 Main St. Westcliffe
9:30 – 11 a.m. Line Dancers meet at United Methodist Church, 204 S 6th St. Call Debbie Underwood at (432) 553-7483.
- 10 -11 a.m. Westcliffe Band of Brothers & Sisters Bible Study** ‘Ragamuffin Gospel’ Book & the Bible Valley Bible Fellowship, 116 Hermit Lane, Silver Cliff
- 10 a.m. Pickle Ball** Silver Cliff Memorial Park
More info: lizbrannen@gmail.com
6 p.m. Alcoholics Anonymous (CLSD) Big Book Study at St. Luke’s, 3rd & Rosita, in Westcliffe. Martha at 719-371-1853.
- 6 p.m. Prayer Group Meeting.** First Baptist Church of Westcliffe. Call 719-783-2498.
- Last Wednesday of the Month**
9:45-11:30 a.m. The Posse Ladies Bible Study. at 3305 County Rd 159, Westcliffe. June 26, July 31, August 28. Holly 703-338-4100
- First Thursday of the Month**
9 a.m. - 3 p.m. Comfort Quilters, First Baptist Church Community Room (log bldg next to the church) located at 417 S. 6th St. Contact Delores at 719-371-1451.
- 2nd Thursday of the Month**
6 p.m. Custer County Republican Central Committee meeting. Ranchers Roost. The public is welcome and encouraged to attend. See www.CusterGOP.com or Facebook page at https://m.facebook.com/custergop
- 3rd Thursday of the Month**
2 p.m. Round Mt Water District Meeting.
- Liberty Rocks 5:30 meal, 6 p.m. Presentation FREE**
June Location: Lange Hall - (Enchilada Bar is optional \$20)
- Fridays**
10 a.m. Pickle Ball Silver Cliff Memorial Park
More info: lizbrannen@gmail.com
- 1 - 4 p.m.- Mah Jongg** at the Senior Center
- 6 p.m. Alcoholics Anonymous** Open Discussion, St. Luke’s, 3rd & Rosita. Call Martha 719-371- 1853
- 2nd Friday of the Month**
8 am- Westcliffe Band of Brothers & Sisters Men’s Prayer Breakfast, at the Senior Center followed by **Monthly Meeting at 9:30** - all are welcome
- Saturdays**
10 a.m. Wet Mountain Al-Anon Family Group meets at St. Luke’s Episcopal Church. Call Dee (719) 404-1851 or Jean (719) 371-1229.
- 3rd Saturday of Month**
8 a.m. Valley Bible Fellowship Men’s Breakfast Open to all Men of the Community, 116 Hermit Lane, Silver Cliff Questions, Jerry @ 719-783-0120.
- 1 p.m. VFW meeting** at Cliff Lanes Conference Room, Post Commander Burt Daniels 719-783-3050

BOCC Election Workshop: Reflections

by George Gramlich, Commentary

Last Monday’s (June 17) Custer County Board of County Commissioners’ second Election Integrity workshop was proposed and moderated by Commissioner Kevin Day. As we know, he brought in a bunch of election fraud deniers including a representative from the corrupt, leftist Colorado Secretary of State’s office. It was a total pro government dog and pony show. That’s what Day wanted.

Day set the workshop rules. Only written questions would be allowed, and they would be answered after all the speakers were done. *(Day is not a big fan of public comment. He should have allowed questions after each speaker both in writing and orally. To have to wait three plus hours to answer a question about something 2.5 hours ago was ridiculous. But Day is not big on hearing from all the citizens. And that is how he rolls.)*

About 60 people attended, the vast majority from the conservative side. *(It is kind of amusing that the libs wouldn’t attend their own show.)*

The Sentinel sent Fred Hernandez to report on it. I didn’t see it (although I later saw some clips from it). When Fred came in on Tuesday morning he was upset a bit. Fred commented that the presentations were very professional and well done (except for one guy who was a bit angry and aggressive) and that much of it was false or misleading. Plus they went totally political at various points attacking conservatives.

Fred said that several conservative attendees were rude and angrily interrupted the speakers by yelling out questions or comments during the speakers’ presentations. Fred said that they were visibly angry and rude, and their behavior was totally out of place. He also said a few had an outburst and then stormed out of the workshop in a huff.

Also that morning, I had several other

people who went to the workshop come in and state the same thing: that several audience members had interrupted the speakers. One guy said he was one of them.

Later that day, Fred and I sat down and talked about that. We agreed that interrupting the speakers, especially in a loud and angry manner was NOT what conservatives do. WE are the “free speech” people. And it made us conservatives look bad because we can’t control our temper. And, as noted below, showing anger is weakness.

We compiled some points that should be considered by our brothers and sisters going forward:

- Interrupting speakers because you don’t agree with them IS EXACTLY WHAT THE LEFT has been doing for years. Especially on our college campuses. And it is WRONG. Conservatives have condemned this speech suppression and now, in our own neighborhood, we DO THE EXACT SAME THING. This was flat out wrong and rude. And extremely immature.
- The attendees knew the rules coming in. Especially with regards to how questions were to be submitted (in writing). If you aren’t going to obey the rules, then don’t go. The speakers were guests of the BOCC (and us citizens) and should have been treated with respect. If you didn’t like what they were saying, just politely get up and leave. We all knew the speakers were bobble headed leftists spewing lies and twisting the truth. If you can’t take that and be polite, don’t go.
- We can ALWAYS learn from listening to the left. Always. Do not underestimate your opponent.
- The people who interrupted, according to several attendees, were ALL ANGRY. And their anger was visible and loud. ANGER IS WEAKNESS. Period. And SHOWING ANGER is even worse. When you hear somebody start speaking and showing anger, the vast majority

of people simply tune them out, as they are not being rational. Even If you do have a good point, saying it in an angry tone destroys it and you look like a per-son who can’t control his emotions. We have seen this behavior at the BOCC meetings for years, from both the right and the left.

Note that no lefties interrupted the conservative speakers in the first Election Integrity forum. There weren’t many there, but they remained polite. So why can’t our people do that?

(I am not saying one can’t get angry over some valid reason. Mature people compartmentalize it and do not show it in public. Immature people let it take over their mind and soul. Displays of anger are always detrimental in a public forum.)

- You often see angry speakers, when they finally sit down and shut up, act like they just did something good. Like, “I told him!” etc. They sit down all smug and angry. Wrong. What you see is an immature child sitting there. They didn’t do anything good. They looked like fools.

Day didn’t help the atmosphere with his completely over-the-top response to people interrupting. Totally out of place.

We know almost everyone who interrupted. Good people. But those actions are not who we are. We don’t want to be labeled as speech suppressors like the left is. We use reason, facts and logic to make our case. Not anger. Not yelling. Not being rude. Nor interrupting somebody because we disagree with them.

Fellow conservatives: Logic, facts and reason are our weapons. Not an immature outburst of anger like the left. Don’t fall for that trap. Stand tall, look those fascists in the eye, and make your point in a calm, controlled manner. That is how we are going to win this war being waged against our country.

Come and Worship

Christian Science 9:30 a.m. Worship <i>8 Bassick Place, Westcliffe</i> Church of Christ 9:30 a.m. Bible Study 10:30 a.m. Worship <i>818 Ohio Street, Silver Cliff 719/783-4601</i> Church of Jesus Christ of Latter Day Saints <i>240 Ridgeline Dr, Westcliffe Pres: 719/545-1196</i> Cody Park Community Church 9:30 a.m. Sunday School 10:30 a.m. Worship Tues. 8:30 a.m., Prayer Mtg. Wedn. 7 p.m. Bible Study <i>0157 County Rd. 27A Cotopaxi 719/942-3526</i> Community United Methodist Church 8 a.m. & 10 a.m. Worship <i>202 S. 6th Street, Westcliffe 719/783-2511</i> Cotopaxi Community Church 9:45 a.m. Sunday School 11 a.m. Worship 6 p.m. Wedn. Bible Study PastorSteveHolcomb@gmail.com <i>20326 Hwy. 50, Cotopaxi</i>	First Baptist Church of Westcliffe 9:30 a.m. Sunday School 10:30 a.m. Fellowship 10:45 a.m. Worship 6 p.m. Worship <i>417 S. 6th Street, Westcliffe 719/783-2498</i> High Country Mennonite Church 9:30 a.m. Worship 10:45 a.m. Sunday School <i>103 N. Adams St, Westcliffe 719/783-9045</i> Huerfano Community Bible Church 10:30 a.m. Sunday Worship 7 p.m.: Thursday Bible Study <i>603 Leon Street, Walsenburg (719) 251-9053</i> Hope Lutheran Church 2 p.m. Worship 3:15 p.m. Bible Study <i>3rd & Powell Streets, Westcliffe Pastor Dan Kletke 719/783-2323 Lange Hall 719/783-2561</i> Living Stone Calvary Chapel Saturday evenings: 5:30 pm Sunday Mornings: 9:30 am in the Amphitheater <i>830 Bridge St., Canon City, CO Pastor Sean Meagher 719/276-0863</i>	Our Lady of the Assumption Roman Catholic Church <i>Diocese of Pueblo</i> 11 a.m. Sunday Mass 10 a.m. Tuesday Mass (summer) 10 a.m. Wednesday Mass <i>109 S. 5th Street, Westcliffe 719/783-3507</i> Our Lady of Mt. Zion Catholic Church 11 a.m. Mass, 2nd & 3rd Sunday of month <i>210 S. 2nd St, Westcliffe 719/783-2491</i> Praise Community Church Sunday School 9:30 a.m. Praise & Worship 10:45 a.m. <i>215 N Pikes Peak Ave., Florence 719/784-1184</i> St. Luke’s Episcopal Church 10:30 a.m. Worship & Eucharist 11:30 a.m. Fellowship 8:30 a.m. Prayer Service, Thursdays <i>3rd & Rosita Streets, Westcliffe 719/783-2477</i> St. Patrick’s Anglican Church 11 a.m. Worship 403 S. 2nd S., Westcliffe 925/339-0175 or 719/783-2500 Sacred Heart Catholic Church <i>Diocese of Pueblo</i> Saturday Mass 4 p.m. Highway 69, Gardner Bldg. Mickey. 719/746-2037	Sangre de Cristo Cowboy Church <i>Pastor: Mike Shields</i> 10 a.m. Sunday School Bible Study 11 a.m. Worship Last Sunday of Month: Potluck at Noon sangredecristocowboychurch.com also on Facebook <i>60260 HWY 69, Westcliffe 719/232-5372</i> Sangre de Cristo Fellowship 9 a.m. Meet & Greet 9:30 a.m. Service <i>120 Jerry Drive, Westcliffe 719/783-0903</i> Sangre de Cristo Seminary Chapel 10 a.m. Worship <i>6160 County Rd. 130, Westcliffe 719/ 371-1822</i> Valley Bible Fellowship 10 a.m. Worship <i>116 Hermit Lane, Silver Cliff 719/581-7572</i> Wetmore Baptist Church 9:45 a.m. Sunday School 10:45 a.m. Worship 6 p.m. Worship <i>Junction of Hwy 96 & 67, Wetmore 719/371-1230</i> Wetmore Community Church 9 a.m. Sunday School 10 a.m. Worship <i>699 County Rd. 395, Wetmore 719/784-0596</i>
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Send Church updates to sdc.sentinel@gmail.com (719) 783-3360

For by him were all things created, that are in heaven, and that are in earth, visible and invisible, whether they be thrones, or dominions, or principalities, or powers: all things were created by him, and for him: And he is before all things, and by him all things consist.

Colossians 1:16-17 KJV



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Intake for July’s Show, June 30 & July 1, 11a.m.- 4pm
3rd Street Gallery 59000 N. Highway 69, Westcliffe

July 4, 7 to 10 a.m.
Pancake Breakfast w/All Aboard Westcliffe
Unlimited pancakes plus sausage patty & biscuits and
gravy.Adults - \$10 Children under 10 - \$5
Depot at 102 Main St.

July 4 and 5 from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m.
Flea Market/Craft Show
Heritage Center @ 110 Rosita Ave.

July 4 and 5 from 9 am to 3 pm
Dora Emporium Yard Sale
Old Dora Mine building @ 110 Rosita Ave.

Thursday, July 4th, 9 a.m. to 5 p.m.
Lighthouse Pregnancy and Family Resources
Annual Sale 412 Cliff Street, Silver Cliff

Thursday, July 4th, 10 a.m.
Parade on Silver Cliff and Westcliffe Main Streets

Thursday, July 4th, at beginning of Dark
Fireworks Display (Launch area at the Mine Tailings in
Silver Cliff -Across from Tony’s Pizza)

Saturday, July 6, 7 to 11 p.m. \$10 Cover
Independence Day Dance Band: Forever Wild
WMV Saddle Club, 90 CR 241
Proceeds forPRCA &WPRA Stampede & Ranch Rodeo

Tuesday, July 9, 10:30 a.m
Olde Schoolhouse Quilters @ Valley Bible Fellowship
Craft Sale - fabric & quilted items

Community Services

Altitude Community Fitness
(719) 783-0750

American Legion Post #170
PO Box 424, Westcliffe, CO 81252
talpost170westcliffe@gmail.com
(719) 783-2462 westcliffepost170.org

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Front Range Clinic
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www.frontrangemd.com/mobile-unit

Lighthouse Pregnancy Resources
Monday and Thursday 11a.m. to 4 p.m.
Friday 10 a.m. to 1 p.m.
(719) 783-4357

National Suicide HOTLINE
1-800-273-8255 Veterans Press 1

Solvista 24/7 Crisis Line
for Fremont and Custer Counties
Regional 719-276-5488 Local Office 719-275-2351

VETERANS SERVICE Office (VSO)
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(719) 618-8266 vso@custercounty.co.gov
Courthouse Bldg. (Rosita Rd. Entrance)

West Custer County Library
209 Main Street Westcliffe, CO 81252
(719) 783-9138

Tue. – Fri.: 10 a.m. – 5:30 p.m..
Saturday: 10 a.m. – 2 p.m.

Wet Mountain Rotary Van Service
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Announcements

Rosita Property Owners
Association
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July 7th, 1-5 p.m. at
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Garage Sale
June 28, 29
Household items,
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8 a.m. – 4 p.m.
400 CR 175, Westcliffe

Garage Sale
June 28, 29
Household Items,
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8 a.m. – 4 p.m.
6020 N. Oak Grove,
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Petition Time, Folks!

We have two petitions to Protect Kids & three petitions on Election Integrity



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Tues, Weds 9 to 3 or Fri 9 to noon

Petition #142: Parental Rights
Petition #160: Protecting Girls' Sports For Female Athletes
Petition #201: Prohibits Ranked Choice Voting
Petition #202: Ballot Access through Caucus and Assembly preserved
Petition #278: Closed Primaries. Partisan Primary Ballots chosen by Plurality vote

Read more about the petitions to Protect Kids at protectkidscolorado.org and the Election Integrity petitions at coloradocounts.com

KIDS

Friday, June 28, 2024

Giraffe

Have you been to the zoo lately? Seen the Giraffe? They sure are tall aren't they? They actually are the tallest living animal in the world, according to the Smithsonian National Zoological Park. The giraffe's neck alone is 6 foot long and can weigh about 600 lbs., their legs also are 6 foot long. Female giraffe can grow to approximately 14 feet tall and weigh almost 1,500 lbs. The males grow up to almost 18 feet and weigh in at 3,000 lbs. that is one and a half tons. Their tongues are an amazing 21 inches long.

Giraffe are mammals meaning they feed their young milk and they are herbivores which means they eat only plants. Female giraffe are called cows, males are called bulls and the babies are called calves. Both sexes have skin-covered knobs, called ossicones, on the top of their heads. Female ossicones are smaller and have a small tuft of fur on top.

The gestation period of a giraffe is around 14 months. The mothers give birth standing up, dropping the calf to the ground. When a calf is born it comes out front feet first followed by the head neck and shoulders, almost resembling a slow-motion swan dive. This fall causes the calf to take a deep long breath. Calves are fully matured at around three to six years old.

Like cattle, when the calves get older the mother will leave her calves in what appears to be a "nursery". One of the other moms will stay and babysit the calves while mom has time to eat and socialize. The youngsters get to explore their surroundings under the watchful eye of the babysitter mom.

Because of their size they don't have many predators. In fact, besides humans, only lions and crocodiles hunt them. They can defend themselves with a deadly karate-style kick. Another defense mechanism is their speed. They can run 35 miles per hour for short periods.

Giraffe are amazingly beautiful animals, with their beautiful brown eyes and long eyelashes.

This week I dedicate this article to Dan and Jax Bubis. Jax loved the giraffe at the Cheyenne Mountain Zoo. As we all know, Jax passed a few years ago and now Dan has passed and they are together again. They were a wonderful couple with hearts of gold as anyone who knew them knew this. Farewell, to two lovely people who will be missed greatly. See you again someday.

by Audrey Slater. Sources: <https://www.livescience.com/27336-giraffes.html>, <https://animalfactguide.com/animal-facts/giraffe/>, <http://animals.sandiegozoo.org/animals/giraffe>



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Corner



Custer County Fair Buyer's Group



Press Release

The Custer County Livestock Sale is one of the most successful for our county size within the state of Colorado. Due to strong local support, our sale may exclude individuals or businesses that have a desire to be involved or donate to the sale but are unable to purchase an entire animal. That is where the Buyers Group comes in. Businesses and individuals are able to make a monetary donation to help support our local sale at the Custer County Fair. The Buyers Group also eliminates the possibility of any 4-H or FFA member going home emptyhanded after many months of extremely hard work and dedication to their animal. Your donation shows tremendous support for our local 4-H and FFA kids and their projects!

The 2024 auction will be held on **Saturday, July 20th** at the Custer County Fair Grounds and everyone is invited to attend. This will be the 5th year that the Custer County Fair Buyers Group will co-op our funds and support the livestock sale. We have seen this work successful in years past and are excited to see what the Buyers Group can offer this year! Money

collected that you donate will be used 100% to support the exhibitors at the sale.

The levels of donation support are as follows:

Bronze Level Donation
Up to \$250

Silver Level Donation
\$251-\$500

Gold Level Donation
Over \$500

Agriculture is a strong part of our local heritage and an important part of not only our local future, but the future of our country. Creating this desire and knowledge within our youth secures the future for both 4-H and FFA programs for generations to come. If you would like to participate in this year's Buyers Group please stop by The Salty Pine at 411 Main Street in Westcliffe **before July 12, 2024** to drop off your contribution. Please make your check payable to the: CC 4-H Livestock Sale and note Buyers Group in the memo field or call Pepper Stafford at 719-371-3597 with any questions. The Custer County 4-H Sales Committee thanks you for your support!



THANK YOU!!!



To the 2023 Custer County Fair Buyer's Group Supporters

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Then Jesus spoke to them again, saying, "I am the light of the world. He who follows Me shall not walk in darkness, but have the light of life." John 8:12 NKJV

June Westcliffe Town Meetings: Improvements Bid, Lodging Oversight, Grant Applications, New Trustee

by Laura Vass

In a special meeting, on June 12th, the board approved a bid submitted by Langston Concrete for the “Base plan plus alternate 1” See screenshot. This project plan is for the bid came in just within budget with \$2, 085.727, leaving some expected monies for a 7% increase for any unforeseen problems.

The bid acceptance will be final after confirmation of all documents.

June18, 2024 Meeting

Expenses were approved. Minutes were approved for last month’s meeting and that June 12 special meeting.

Next on the agenda, Consideration of a request to officially give direction and intent regarding what concerns will be addressed at the Lodging Ordinance workshop. Bianca Trenker. Some background: The state of Colorado no longer inspects Lodging. (Restaurants and food service- yes.) With ordinances in place in the county and in Westcliffe, for STR’s, an STR owner complained to the board a few months ago that if they are monitored, why then is a commercial lodging business, not?

At the point where Ms. Trenker’s questions about “direction and intent” were addressed by the board, they agreed to have Town Manager Caleb Patterson contact the Lodging owners and set a

date for October for the workshop discussed several meetings ago. The Lodging owners contend that the board and town manager have too wide a scope of suggestions for the workshop and even if they only decided on a few of the proposals, it would be difficult for those in the industry to comply during peak season. It remains to be seen how far this will go. Mayor Wenke and Mr. Patterson seemed to indicate that the original purpose of developing an ordinance was only that of monitoring safety and health concerns. I.e.. Proper facilities for longer stays, fire code compliance, and thus inspections for both. Ms. Trenker’s point of view was that, as written, the outline for a workshop was much more far-reaching and too broad. Another Lodging owner also spoke about that problem and addressed Mr. Wenke with the question, that since a business

is licensed, and insurance covers fire and safety, perhaps health safety would be better addressed when the town actually has a real case to be concerned with. He asked how is the lodging industry different than your lumber business?

Patterson next requested that the board give approval for him to pursue grant money to bring taps to six lots south of Hermit Lane, and to work in conjunction with Round Mountain Water in that application. RMW and the county were mentioned as possible sources of revenue for the project. Mr. Wenke said he could discuss it but would have to recuse himself from any final approval of the Tap project due to conflict of interest. With two of the town’s trustees also on the RMW board, they had to consult the town lawyer Clay Buchner, via zoom on whether they could vote on going ahead with the grant ap-

plications to DOLA – More Housing Now. At this stage, the lawyer did say it was okay and they had quorum. The board approved. It was unclear to this reporter if they simultaneously approved to pursue the Assistance Fund grant for Housing Needs Assessment grant or if they already have applied and/or received those monies with this project in mind.

Next was Consideration of a request to continue work on the wireless camera system that began in 2019. Travis Roundtree. The way the zoom and recording is set up, the board can’t give presenters the “screen” for their presentations without giving up control of the meeting. So Mr. Roundtree spoke without whatever he had prepared. Apparently, the town had him install some cameras in 2020. With the complication of C-19, stopping any further work. The cameras

don’t work and no one in the town staff/board know how to run it anyway, though its software/hardware is stored in their building. There seemed to be some concern by the board about who does have access, and whether or not the cameras broadcast the views to the cloud. Apparently not. This was quiet a long discussion, ending with Mr. Roundtree only getting permission to work with Mr. Patterson in accessing the equipment for the purpose of finding out what is needed to make it work, and Patterson tasked with reviewing that old contract. (A lot has changed in four years and cameras can be purchased for super cheap.) After Mr. Roundtree presents a report back to the board, they’ll move ahead on whether they want him to maintain the system, or the town wants to do something different.

After the board solicited interest in the trustee position last month, left by Lorie Lund’s resignation, a few people expressed interest. The board settled on Charles (Chuck) Jagow, who is currently on the town’s planning and zoning committee. With that leaving an opening on the committee, there was quite a bit of talk about how that should be juggled, before voting to accept Mr. Jagow as town trustee through the remainder of Ms. Lund’s term.

With that, the meeting adjourned.

				BASE PROJECT			BASE PROJECT + BID ALTERNATE 1		
				S. ADAMS AND ROSITA			BID ALT 1: S. ADAMS SIDEWALK AND CULVERT		
LINE	ITEM NO.	ITEM DESCRIPTION	UNIT	Base Project Quantity	Unit Price	Total Price	Alt. Quantity	Total Project Quantity	Total Price
59	614-00011	Sign Panel (CL I)	SF	10	\$34.00	\$323.00	0	10	\$323.00
60	614-00200	Steel Signpost (U-2)	LF	48	\$17.00	\$816.00	0	48	\$816.00
61	620-00020	Sanitary Facility	EACH	1	\$2,500.00	\$2,500.00	0	1	\$3,000.00
62	625-00000	Construction Surveying	LS	1	\$15,000.00	\$15,000.00	0	1.0	\$16,000.00
63	626-00000	Mobilization	LS	1	\$200,000.00	\$200,000.00	0	1.0	\$205,000.00
64	626-01114	Public Information Management (Tier IV)	LS	1	\$12,000.00	\$12,000.00	0	1.0	\$13,000.00
65	627-00013	Pavement Marking Paint (High Build)(White)	GAL	18.9	\$150.00	\$2,835.00	0	25.0	\$3,750.00
66	627-00013	Pavement Marking Paint (High Build)(Yellow)	GAL	9.2	\$150.00	\$1,380.00	4.1	13.3	\$1,995.00
67	627-01001	Preformed Plastic Pavement Marking (Type I)	SF	1131	\$25.00	\$28,275.00	0	1131	\$28,275.00
68	630-00007	Traffic Control Inspection	DAY	8	\$425.00	\$3,400.00	3	10	\$4,250.00
69	630-00012	Traffic Control Management	DAY	20	\$1,900.00	\$38,000.00	3	22	\$41,800.00
70	630-00016	Traffic Control (Special) LS	LS	1	\$25,000.00	\$25,000.00	1	1	\$27,000.00
PROJECT TOTALS (BASIS OF SELECTION):						\$1,856,285.00			\$2,085,727.00
ALT SUBTOTALS (FOR INFORMATION ONLY):									\$229,442.00

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Colorado State News

Colorado Cake Baker Targeted (Again) for Lawsuit Weeks of Political Grandstanding

by ColoradoPeakPolitics.com

Democrats aren't serious people. They can't run for election to public office on pledges to keep an economy strong, protect voters from criminals, or secure the border against a flood of millions of migrants.

Instead, we get this.

Sean Paige
@SeanPaige

Follow

I wouldn't count on justice being done. After all, this is the same Colorado Supreme Court that became a national punchline, and earned a resounding rebuke from the U.S. Supreme Court, for attempting to toss a qualified candidate off the ballot based on partisan accusations never...

FOX31 Denver KDVR
@KDVR

Colorado Supreme Court to hear arguments in transgender cake case
<https://trib.al/SivRPCw>



8:08 PM · Jun 18, 2024

The Associated Press reports:

From plain white cakes to rainbow-colored ones, the Colorado Supreme Court considered a variety of hypothetical cake-design scenarios Tuesday as it heard arguments in the case of a Christian baker who refused to make a pink cake with blue icing to celebrate a gender transition.

The court did not make a decision right away as to whether Denver area baker Jack Phillips can make cakes that don't violate his religious principles.

The whole case reeks of a lawsuit setup, brought by a lawyer who asked

Phillips to make the cake to celebrate her transition.

Phillips was willing to bake it until the lawyer told him its purpose, then filed a lawsuit a hot second later.

The last time Phillips was sued for refusing to bake a wedding cake for a gay couple the case went all the way to the Supreme Court, which ruled the Colorado Civil Rights Commission had violated Phillips' constitutional rights to freedom of religion.

America has serious problems to contend with, and the color and significance of cakes is far, far down that list.

So while we struggle with an inflated economy, homelessness, drug overdoses and unchecked crimes, Democrats are focused on ensuring everyone gets cake.

Please see: <https://coloradopeakpolitics.com/2024/06/19/colo-cake-baker-targeted-for-lawsuit-reeks-of-political-grandstanding/>

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And with many other words he testified and exhorted them, saying, "Be saved from this perverse generation." Acts 2:40 NKJV

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Colorado State News

Rep. Boebert Introduces Zip Code Bill for Colorado Communities

—June 20, 2024
Press Release

WASHINGTON, D.C. – Congresswoman Lauren Boebert introduced a bill to benefit Colorado communities by providing unique Zip Codes for cities and towns throughout the country including the Colorado communities of Silver Cliff, Lone Tree, Castle Pines, Centennial, and Superior.

Congresswoman Lauren Boebert (CO-03) said, “More than 30 communities throughout America are being negatively impacted from not having their own Zip Code. These municipalities deserve consistent mail service, their fair share of sales tax revenue, and the other economic benefits associated with having their

own Zip Code. My bill will solve a host of ‘real world’ problems for these cities and towns by finally providing them with a definitive, representative and accurate Zip Code.”

Silver Cliff Mayor Buck Wenzel stated, “This bill would restore the Town of Silver Cliff’s rightful identity and will guarantee that sales tax is properly distributed and received by our town and not by others. Silver Cliff’s Zip Code was arbitrarily and capriciously removed from use in 1991 and our town was forced to use another town’s Zip Code. As such, the identity of our town was stolen and to date we have suffered hundreds of thousands of dollars in lost sales taxes from online, out of county, and out of state sales. The



citizens of Silver Cliff deserve for their taxes to be spent on the roads and other necessities that they use on a daily basis.”

“The City of Lone Tree fully supports the proposed ZIP Code bill for Colorado communities,” said City of Lone Tree Mayor Marissa Harmon. “This federal legislation will empower us to better meet local needs for our residents and businesses, enhance efficiencies of service delivery,

and strengthen our distinct community identities.”

“The creation of a unique Zip Code would ensure sales tax is properly collected and reinvested into our community’s critical infrastructure and services,” said Castle Pines Mayor Tracy Engerman. “It would also help alleviate resident concerns about inconsistent postal deliveries.”

City of Centennial Mayor Stephanie Piko stated, “Establishing a single Zip Code for communities would enhance their com-

munity identities and address challenges such as emergency management, public safety, business attraction and retention, insurance coverage, and mail delivery, which are beyond the communities’ control.”

Background:

Congresswoman Lauren Boebert introduced H.R. 8753, to direct the United States Postal Service to designate single, unique ZIP Codes for certain communities.

The Zip Code system was instituted in America in the 1960s. The Postal Service utilizes the Zip Code system to deliver mail, but it is also heavily used and relied on by economic developers, insurers and emergency personnel amongst others. Communities that do not have a unique Zip Code often experience associated problems that include: loss

of economic development, loss of sales tax, unjustifiably high insurance rates, tax remittance and commercial licensing issues, diminished public safety and reduced emergency response times, identity issues, and efficiency issues.

For example, first responders often go to the wrong streets and people needing help experience delays due to Zip Code issues that would be addressed by this legislation.

Small towns and cities can petition the Postal Service for a new Zip Code but it is rarely approved and if it is denied they cannot appeal this decision for up to 10 years. Congress has intervened on these matters and last passed a law enacting four new Zip Codes through the Post Accountability and Enhancement Act of 2006.

Public Trap and Sporting Clays Shooting in Custer County!

Where: Custer County Clay Busters Range (near the Landfill)
Highway 69 South of Westcliffe to Rosita Rd; turn left (east) for 1-3/4 miles; turn right (south) at the Custer County Road-Bridge sign; continue for approximately 300 yards until the road turns to the right going down a hill toward the range (no water facilities are available)

When: June 29th, Then 2nd & 4th Saturdays of the month; ongoing through the end of October; Range Opens at 8 am and Closes at 12 pm

What: Trap Shooting—25 targets from an oscillating trap machine
Sporting Clays—50 target walking course; pairs of targets imulate typical hunting situations, including rabbit targets thrown along the ground (sporting clays is sometimes called “golf with a shotgun”)

Cost: \$10 for each round of Trap Shooting and \$25 for a round of Sporting Clays; Cash or Check only (All proceeds go to support the Custer County Clay Busters Middle & High School shooting team)

Equipment and Ammunition Requirements

Trap: Any 12 gauge or smaller gauge shotgun; Eye and Ear Protection; 7-1/2 or smaller shot size (no shotgun-style pistols)

Sporting Clays: Any 12 gauge or smaller gauge shotgun capable of firing 2 shells in succession (targets are thrown two at a time); Eye and Ear Protection; 7-1/2 or smaller shot size (no shotgun-style pistols)



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Univ. Of Colorado Regents Push Back on Proposed Campus Concealed Carry Ban

by Sherrie Pief,
Complete Colorado Page Two
BOULDE, Colo.

A pair of University of Colorado (CU) Regents are leading the charge against an effort to ban concealed carry at all campus buildings and property, a move the full board is scheduled to take at its meeting later this week.

The changes to CU's policy 14.I, Weapons Control, is being brought by Regent Wanda James a Democrat who represents the 1st Congressional District out of Denver.

The policy change strikes wording that protects Coloradans rights under the state's concealed carry law while on campus and replaces it with a ban on the carrying of a concealed handgun by permit holders.

Currently the policy reads:

"In recognition of its obligation to preserve the learning and working environment, and to recognize the rights of citizens to exercise their rights under the Colorado concealed carry laws, the Board of Regents authorizes the enactment of rules lawfully regulating the possession of firearms, explosives, and other weapons."

The new law would read:

"In recognition of its obligation to preserve the learning and

working environment, the Board of Regents prohibits possession of such weapons on all campuses. This prohibition does not apply to authorized possession for use in an educational program; for carrying out the duties of university employment requiring the use of a firearm; or for the purposes of participation in an authorized extracurricular activity or team."

Regents push back

At least two regents are fighting the measure and are hoping their colleagues will see the multitude of problems the new law creates.

In a letter sent out to friends and supporters, Regent Frank McNulty, a Republican representing Colorado's 4th Congressional District (Eastern Colorado and parts of Weld and Douglas Counties), said it is imperative that the policy change be rejected because the "change to Regent policy would stand even if the state law is ruled unconstitutional and overruled."

CU previously had a conceal carry ban until 2012, when the Colorado Supreme Court ruled it unconstitutional. Concealed carry on campus has been allowed since.

However, a bill passed in 2021 and signed into law by Gov. Jared Polis, grays the subject. Senate Bill 21-256, Local Regulation of Firearms, did away with

Colorado's state preemption, allowing local authorities to enact laws and regulations around guns, so long as they are more stringent than those at the state level.

That bill has created a patchwork of gun laws that most can't follow from community to community because they are so vastly different, confusing gun owners over where it's legal to carry openly or concealed, or how long a waiting period is to purchase a new gun, among many other things.

Then earlier this year, the state legislature passed Senate Bill 24-131, Prohibiting Carrying Firearms in Sensitive Spaces. That bill prohibited all firearms, including concealed carry, in state legislative buildings, a local government buildings and courthouses. It included higher education institutions.

That is where McNulty believes enshrining the ban into CU policy would cause issues. As it stands the state already prohibits concealed carry on college campuses. But if that law is overturned, it would not overturn a ban by CU and a separate lawsuit would be needed to abolish that law.

"I support concealed carry and I am opposed to banning concealed carry in Colorado. If you support the Second Amendment, and support our right to carry concealed, I encourage you to join me and participate in this process, so your voice is heard," McNulty said in his letter, adding

ways for constituents to contact CU Regents with their opinions.

CU Regent Mark VanDriel, a Republican who represents Congressional District 8 (Weld, Larimer and Adams Counties), also took issue with the policy change for several reasons.

First, according to VanDriel, the proposal applies to all university affiliate property.

"That includes research areas such as the Mountain Research Station, a wilderness research preservation far away from any of our traditional campuses," VanDriel Said.

VanDriel said it also includes the administrative building in Denver — also distinct from the other campuses.

"Under the Constitution, we can only restrict weapons in spaces similar to those that saw firearm restriction under longstanding legal precedent," VanDriel said. "I am convinced that restrictions so broad as to incorporate office buildings and wilderness preserves violate the Constitution. Regents do not have discretion to violate it."

An unenforceable policy

Also, VanDriel said, CU operates a (mostly) open campus.

"There is no plan to enforce these rules, and doing so would be extremely expensive," VanDriel said. "In 38 years of "banned" concealed carry, we have no

records of ever enforcing or attempting to enforce the ban. ... We know what the result will be — an unenforced and unenforceable rule. These types of rules invite discrimination. It is also not clear if it would be even possible to enforce a universal rule on our different campuses."

Finally, VanDriel said it is fiscally irresponsible for CU Regents to put the college at risk for future litigation. VanDriel said he has asked many of the individuals and groups who requested this action what enforcement plans are. He has received no response other than it is a symbolic gesture.

"It is inappropriate for us to tempt lawsuits at the fringe of Constitution permissibility over symbolic actions," VanDriel said. "If we had enforcement plans that could meaningfully impact safety, it is a different scenario, but as we currently stand, these actions are merely symbolic."

The meeting was held at the Pueblo Convention Center on Thursday and Friday, June 20th and 21st. The policy change is on the agenda for 9:15 a.m. Friday. Written testimony must be submitted to CUboardofRegents@cu.edu.

Complete Colorado will continue to follow this story.

Please see: <https://pagetwo.completecolorado.com/2024/06/18/university-of-colorado-regents-push-back-concealed-carry-ban/>

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Local Mountain News & Notices

Code Red! Federal Deficit Grows by 27 Percent in Four Months

by Casey Harper,
The Center Square

(The Center Square) – The latest federal budget projections paint a troubling picture of the U.S. fiscal problem.

The U.S. Congressional Budget Office released new estimates this week that the federal deficit this year will be nearly \$2 trillion, more than double the deficits just five years ago.

“Large deficits push federal debt held by the public to 122 percent of GDP in 2034,” CBO said. “Economic growth slows to 2.0 percent in 2024 and 1.8 percent in 2026 and later years.”

CBO’s revisions include a significant increase in large part because of the recent foreign aid bill passed by Congress.

From CBO:

In CBO’s current projections, the deficit for 2024 is \$0.4 trillion (or

27 percent) larger than it was in the agency’s February 2024 projections, and the cumulative deficit over the 2025–2034 period is larger by \$2.1 trillion (or 10 percent). The largest contributor to the cumulative increase was the incorporation of recently enacted legislation into CBO’s baseline, which added \$1.6 trillion to projected deficits. That legislation included emergency supplemental appropriations that provided \$95 billion for aid to Ukraine, Israel, and countries in the Indo-Pacific region. By law, that funding continues in future years in CBO’s projections (with adjustments for inflation), boosting discretionary outlays by \$0.9 trillion through 2034.

Maya MacGuineas, president of the Committee for a Responsible Federal Budget, called the latest figures “shocking” and said the U.S. is on a path to being weakened as a nation.

“With debt growing out of control, we need leadership now more than ever,”

MacGuineas said in a statement. “This should be domestic issue number one in the presidential campaign. It’s time for Presidents Biden and Trump to put forward plans to fix our debt. And it’s long past time for Congress to act.”

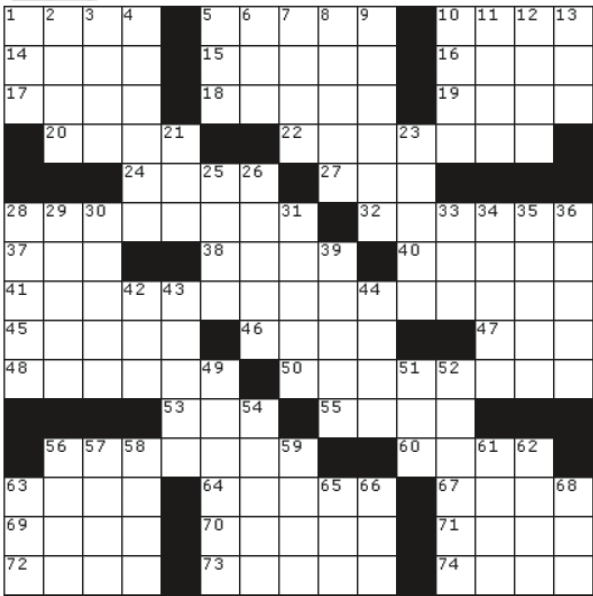
CBO also projects that interest payments alone will be nearly \$900 billion and total \$13 trillion over the next ten years.

“Over the past eight months of the fiscal year, we’ve spent more on interest payments on the debt than we have on national defense,” MacGuineas said. “We are already spending more on interest than we do on all federal spending for children, and we will see interest grow larger than Medicare spending this year.”

(Editor/GG: Bidenomics. This ain’t gonna last long.)

Please see: https://www.thecentersquare.com/national/article_23d0f6ea-2f32-11ef-9989-13e050ecc490.html

CROSSWORD PUZZLE



ACROSS

- 1 Trash heap
- 5 Of the moon
- 10 In addition
- 14 Afloat
- 15 Positive electrode
- 16 Christmas carol
- 17 Bottomless
- 18 For God so loved the ____
- 19 Biblical weed
- 20 Eye infection
- 22 Waist
- 24 ____ to riches
- 27 Constrictor
- 28 Begin a speech with a puff of breath
- 32 City in Poland
- 37 Accountant
- 38 Coll. club
- 40 Reduce
- 41 A timely wish
- 45 Delete

DOWN

- 46 Knitting stitch
- 47 Wrath
- 48 Greek D's
- 50 Badgered
- 53 Sister for short
- 55 Welt
- 56 Floating remains of shipwreck
- 60 Object of false worship
- 63 Compensated
- 64 Group of related families
- 67 Time periods
- 69 Brand of sandwich cookie
- 70 Dukes
- 71 Los Angeles football team
- 72 Rain
- 73 *Gone With the Wind's* Mr. Butler
- 74 Killed

- 2 Usages
- 3 Sports event
- 4 Ancient paper (plr.)
- 5 Statute
- 6 Card game
- 7 “Cheers” regular
- 8 Speak without preparation
- 9 Beer brand
- 10 Opposed
- 11 Tarry
- 12 Land worker
- 13 Bullfight cheer
- 21 Serving of corn
- 23 Radio detection and ranging
- 25 Fish hook
- 26 Belt
- 28 Hurt
- 29 Extra
- 30 Of the pope
- 31 Devour (2 wds.)
- 33 Abdominal muscles (abbr.)
- 34 Lowest point
- 35 Gaze
- 36 Tonal
- 39 Hurler
- 42 Pacific Standard Time
- 43 Leaven
- 44 Otherwise
- 49 Brother’s opposite
- 51 Thai
- 52 NT church leaders
- 54 Wife of Abraham
- 56 Gambling game
- 57 In ____ of (instead of)
- 58 Scent
- 59 Morass
- 61 Spoken
- 62 Crippled
- 63 Father
- 65 Bacon-lettuce-tomato sand.
- 66 Eastern Time
- 68 South southwest

Puzzle key on page 23

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All Scripture is breathed out by God and profitable for teaching, for reproof, for correction, and for training in righteousness, that the man of God[fn] may be complete, equipped for every good work.

II Timothy 3:16-17 KJV

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The American Legion Monthly Meeting is the 1st Tuesday of every month at 6:30 p.m. at the bowling alley.
The American Legion Auxiliary Monthly Meeting is the 1st Monday of each month at 5:00 p.m. at the Cliff Lanes meeting room.

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“All That Is Necessary for the Triumph of Evil Is That Good Men Do Nothing”— Edmund Burke

The Daily Jot

Daily reporting and analysis
of current events
from a biblical and prophetic perspective.

NOTE: When writing about God and Jesus, The
Daily Jot means YHVH as God and Yeshua Ha
Mashiach as Jesus--the actual original names and
the true nature and character of them.

The China Example
of U.S. Woes

It is alarming the amount of farmland near U.S. military bases that communist Chinese entities have been allowed to purchase. Also concerning is the direct relationship between Chinese military expansion and the communist country’s trade surplus with the U.S. In October 2010, *The Daily Jot* reported that China holds trillions of dollars of U.S. debt, has funded its military on a \$200 billion plus a year trade deficit with the U.S., manipulates its currency, and assists all the enemies of America, including terrorists. This is not accounting for the millions of forced abortions, human rights violations and religious persecution perpetrated by China. Today, China has only expanded these practices.

In February 2007—that’s over 17 years ago—*The Daily Jot* reported that Chinese missile tests that attack low-orbit satellites were surprising to U.S. military analysts, but the analysis from the Department of Defense and the US-China Economics and Security Review Commission suggested that China’s export policies may be facilitating U.S. national security concerns. The analysts were concerned how China’s military exports migrate to rogue nations and non-state actors and, in turn are used against the United States, and how a fully modernized Chinese military, which has been fueled by surplus money from China’s export trade, negates the ability of the U.S .to project its own foreign-policy agendas.

Meantime, the newly elected Democratic congressional leadership from the 2006 election cycle was very vocal that it did not believe U.S. intelligence reports, that it agreed with Russian leader Vladimir Putin that America’s policies were making the world a more dangerous place, and that America should defer to diplomatic discussion and appeasement in the war on terror. That was then. Fast forward to today when the only thing that has changed is that things have gotten worse. It’s interesting that the same political party that was appeasing China and turning a blind eye to the Chinese communist threat is doing it on steroids today. Even worse, is that the Republican Party talks a more protectionist game, but does nothing little or nothing about it.

American leadership is signaling to the rest of the world that it has no will to defend itself at the same time its enemies are gearing up for a fight. The soft underbelly of the United States is its lack of moral integrity. Once strong in knowing right from wrong, Americans have become morally lukewarm, infatuated with sex, homosexuality, abortion, and short-sighted selfishness, which has clouded its judgment as a nation as demonstrated by electing immoral leadership incapable of righteous decision-making.

The Lord said in Ezekiel 22:30, “And I sought for a man among them, that should make up the hedge, and stand in the gap before Me for the land, that I should not destroy it: but I found none.” I ask, if not us, who?

Bill Wilson

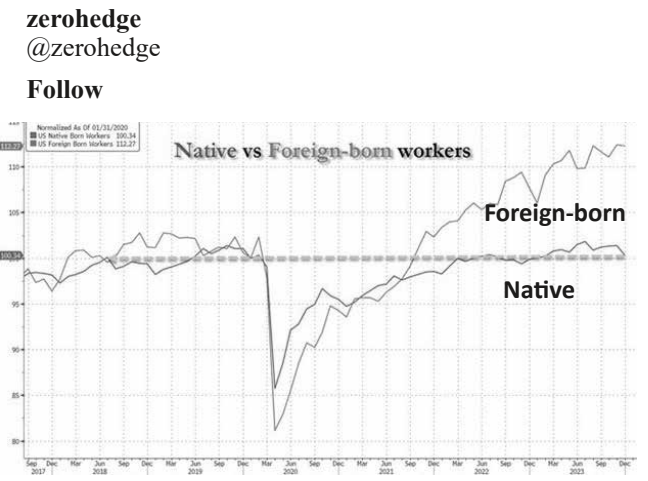
Dailyjot.com Printed with permission.

Wall Street Shocker: All Jobs in the
Past Year Have Gone to Illegal Aliens

by Tyler Durden, ZeroHedge.com

For much of the past year we had been pounding the table on two very simple facts: not only has the U.S. labor market been appallingly weak, with most of the jobs “gained” in 2023 and meant to signal how strong the Biden “recovery” has been, about to be revised away (as first the Philly Fed and now Bloomberg both admit), but more shockingly, all the job growth in the past few years has gone to illegal aliens.

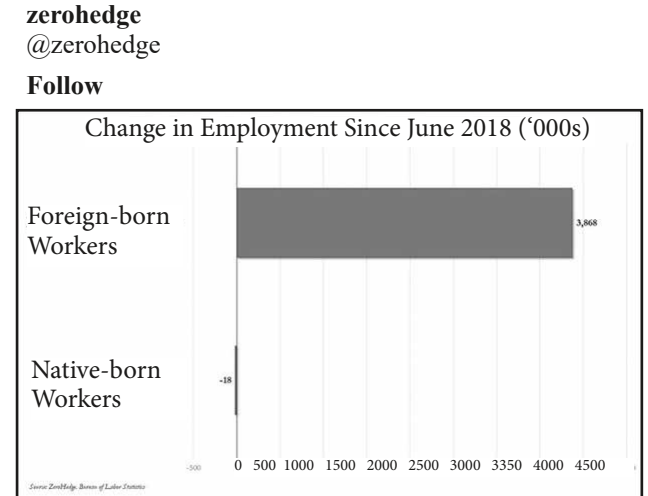
We first pointed this out more than a year ago, and since then we have routinely repeated - again, again, and again- yet even though we made it abundantly clear what was happening...



Stunning statistic: there has been ZERO INCREASE in jobs for native-born workers in over five years, since July 2018!

7:52 AM · Jan 5, 2024

... going so far as to point out the specific immigration loophole illegals were using to work in the U.S. **for up to 5 years...**



Why have all new jobs since 2018 gone to foreign-born workers (i.e. immigrants)? Because you can be an illegal immigrant in deportation proceedings (not to mention anyone seeking asylum) and get authorization to work in the U.S. for up to 5 years, no questions asked. Show more

1:45 PM · Mar 10, 2024

... and even fact-checking the senile, ballot-harvesting White House occupant on multiple occasions...

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Fact-check:

- Prices have never been higher and are starting to accelerate to the upside again
- All the jobs created in the past year have been part time.
- There has been zero job growth for native-born Americans since 2018; all jobs have gone to immigrants (mostly illegal...) Show more

... We were shocked that the topic of **most if not all U.S. jobs**

going to illegals was still not “the biggest political talking point” of all.

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How is this not the biggest political talking point right now: since October 2019, native-born U.S. workers have lost 1.4 million jobs; over the same period foreign-born workers have gained 3 million jobs. *Show more*

9:17 AM · Jan 15, 2024

That’s about to change, however, because with just under 5 months left until the election, and with **immigration by far the hottest political topic out there**, others are finally starting to connect the dots we laid out more than a year ago.

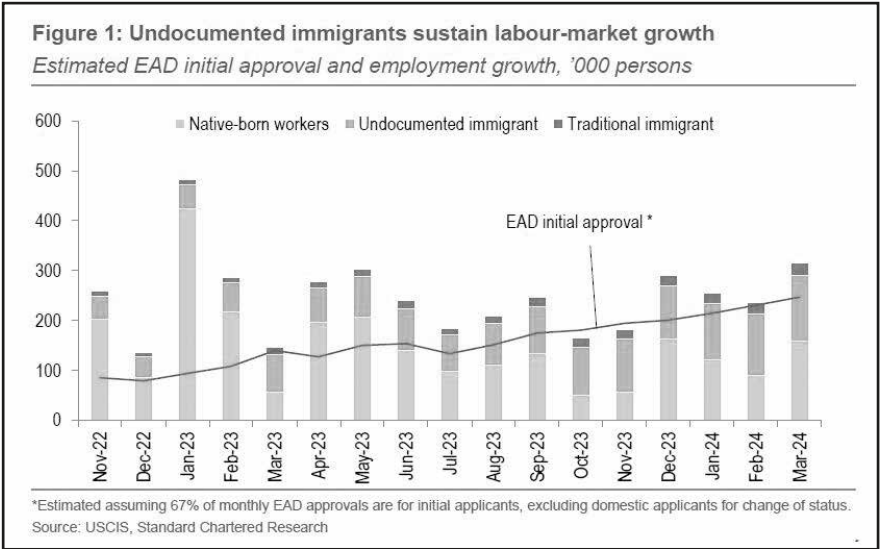
The first Wall Street analyst daring to point out that the employment emperor is **naked**, is Standard Chartered’s global head of macro, Steve Englander, who in a note titled simply enough “**Immigration leading to labor-market surge**” (and available to pro subscribers in the usual place), writes that according to his estimates “undocumented immigrants account for half of job growth in FY24 so far” (the actual number is far higher but we understand his initial conservatism), and adds that “asylum seekers and humanitarian parolees explain the surge in undocumented immigrants” before concluding that *the continued rise in EAD approvals likely will extend strong employment growth in 2024*. In other words, “strong employment growth” for American citizens, always was and remains a fabrication, and the **only job growth in the U.S. is for illegals**, who will work for below minimum wage, which also explains why inflation hasn’t spiked in the past year as millions of illegals were hired.

Below we excerpt from the **Englander** note because we hope that more economists, strategists and politicians will read it and grasp what we have been saying for over a year.

Echoing what we have said for months, Englander writes that immigration, particularly illegal immigration, “is a political flashpoint that has also become an important factor in assessing economic performance. Detailed data from U.S .Customs and Border Protection (CBP) and U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services (USCIS) suggest that **half of non-farm payroll (NFP) growth to date for FY24 (started 1 October 2023) has been from undocumented immigrants who have received an Employment Authorization Document (EAD)**” (he defines undocumented immigrants as those who entered the U.S. through non-traditional immigration pathways, such as asylum seekers, parolees, and refugees).

The ability to track EAD issuance to undocumented workers is an advantage in estimating how much they have contributed to employment growth. **NFP counts workers with an EAD just like any other**. Using that data, it is easy to estimate that **undocumented workers have added 109k jobs per month to NFP out of the average 231k increase so far in FY24**.

Which is staggering since last night we showed that about **100K monthly jobs are purely statistical distortions, and**



WALL STREET SHOCKER see page 22

Hearts and Minds

by Robert Gore,
StraightLineLogic.com

The regime has lost the hearts and minds that matter.

... *What do we mean by the Revolution? The War? That was no part of the revolution; it was only an Effect and Consequence of it. The Revolution was in the Minds of the People, and this was effected from 1760 to 1775, in the course of fifteen years, before a drop of blood was drawn at Lexington.* ...

John Adams, letter to Thomas Jefferson, August 24, 1815

“Hearts and minds” became a cliché during the Vietnam War. Somebody noticed that many of the Vietnamese had no particular enthusiasm for either the War for Freedom, Democracy, and Domino Prevention or its American sponsors. Thus began a trade-mark U.S. effort to win the hearts and minds of the skeptical and the outright opposed. It was based on a belief that’s been the undoing of centuries of rulers: that “the masses” can be swayed by the right combination of propaganda, threats, repression and fear.

The Americans had lost Vietnamese hearts and minds before most of them had even arrived. The 1954 Geneva accords partitioned Vietnam at roughly the 17th parallel and provided for reunification after elections in 1956. The U.S. government realized that communist Ho Chi Minh, a popular hero for his leadership of the resistance against the Japanese in World War II and the French afterwards, would easily win. The promised elections were not held.

That decision kneecapped the next 19 years of U.S. “saving democracy” propaganda. Even when a government controls the precious narrative, actions speak louder than words; hypocrisy’s stench overwhelms the honeyed propaganda. The man on the street, publicly lauded but privately disparaged by the

ruling class, realizes the truth and doesn’t forget it.

Back home, the U.S. government has been losing hearts and minds for decades. The showtrial verdict against Donald Trump will push more people into the ranks of the permanently disillusioned, and that group already numbers in the tens of millions.

The almost automatic faith the government enjoyed through the Depression, World War II, and the years that followed suffered its first big hit with the Kennedy assassination and the Warren Commission whitewash. The Vietnam War took its toll, exacerbated by the draft and the treatment of returning soldiers.

Since Vietnam, the government and the ruling class have destroyed

banners, and memes.) Trump’s election was the Lexington moment for a Revolution that had already been effected in “the Minds of the People.” The regime recognized its significance before the revolutionaries did and even before Trump took office set out to destroy him.

Soviet secret police chief Lavrentiy Beria reportedly said, “Give me the man and I will give you the case against him.” The regime had its man, and they tried to build case after case against him. Mueller and Russiagate came up empty, as did two impeachment efforts. Ultimately, they employed another Soviet stratagem—an obviously rigged election—to at least temporarily vanquish Trump. With the January 6 persecutions, they went after

verdict. It’s no longer just Trump supporters versus never-Trump Republicans and Democrats. It’s fair play and elementary justice versus tyrannical law and rank injustice, amplified by that inner scream of outrage every decent human being feels when confronted by manifest evil. Millions are asking themselves: who’s next? We’re all surveilled 24/7, and when law is a charade, as Beria noted, anyone can be persecuted.

Speaking of the election, will the Democrats steal this one, too? In their all-consuming quest for power, unchecked by any consideration of morality, they’ll certainly try. They may succeed. If they don’t, there will be widespread rioting. If they do, there won’t be, but the ranks of those who have concluded that the system is irretrievably corrupt and beyond repair will swell. If the Democrats conclude they can’t steal the election, that Trump’s support is too overwhelming, we may face a “national emergency” that will prevent it. The deadly germ thing won’t work a second time, but perhaps nuclear war with Russia. Anything to hold on to power.

It’s a sign of pervasive cynicism that “Uniparty” and “Deep State” have become commonly used terms. The permanently disillusioned and cynical are a multitude, and many of them—seeing what’s coming—have decided to “let it burn.” How large is the subset whose hearts and minds have moved to outright opposition to the regime—hang the consequences—or will do so when the time is right? No one knows, there are no announcements on the Internet, but it grows larger by the hour.

Revolutionaries have the debt’s compounding interest working in their favor. The financial crisis now underway will effloresce with its attendant impoverishment and bankruptcy. Those who had too much to lose to revolt will suddenly have nothing to lose but their chains. That’s when the revolution that is already in “the

Minds of the People” is most likely to go kinetic.

The regime’s dependence on fiat debt renders it a toilet-paper tiger. Revolutionaries will go to school on both guerrilla warfare and modern war as waged by the Russians in Ukraine. The U.S. military has lost repeatedly to guerrillas who have not had the firepower, resources, or expertise that American insurgents will have. For leadership, the revolutionary force will draw on active and retired military who take their oaths seriously and have experience in insurgent warfare.

Ukraine is demonstrating that modern war is not just waged on battlefields, but in cyberspace, across electronic command and control systems, and against civilian infrastructure. Even on the battlefield, UAVs are reshaping combat as \$500 drones take out \$10 million dollar tanks. Robots will soon be another disruptive force. America has more than its share of hackers, electronics experts, technical adepts who can put together drones and robots, and other revolutionaries who will wage war on the government in new and imaginative ways. A society as complex and interlinked as ours, ruled by a slow and stupid government, has innumerable pressure points.

The regime will have the support of its dependents, but those net drains will be unsupportable ballast, jettisoned under severe financial stress. The regime has lost the hearts and minds that matter; the Revolution has been effected. It will have the overt or covert support of millions. The regime is toast.

(Editor/GG: Even here in Happy Valley we are under attack by the left. Anti 2nd Amendment, more taxes, more lib outbursts at the BOCC meetings. Liberal attacks in the local media. We will see where this goes as November closes in.)

Please see: <https://straightlinelogic.com/2024/06/05/hearts-and-minds-by-robert-gore/>

“It’s no longer just Trump supporters versus never-Trump Republicans and Democrats. It’s fair play and elementary justice versus tyrannical law and rank injustice,”

sentient Americans’ belief in their probity and effectiveness. Watergate, abandonment of the gold standard, double-digit inflation, Iran-Contra, serial financial crises, the Clintons’ scandals, the dot-com bust, 9/11 and the string of disastrous Middle East interventions it kicked off, the Patriot Act, the housing bust, too big to fail, Snowden’s revelations, and the rancid legislative maneuvers used to sneak through Obamacare set the table for Trump in 2016. His election kicked the lose-hearts-and-minds project into overdrive.

In their vicious arrogance and myopic stupidity, the regime and its media minions didn’t grasp that Trump rode a wave of those who treat anything they condemn as an endorsement and reject anything they endorse. “Deplorables” became a badge of honor. (Now another has been bestowed—“convicted felon”—already gracing T-shirts, baseball hats,

both Trump and his supporters.

Trump is a Bobo doll and he’s popped back up to a sizable and undoubtedly understated lead in this year’s election polls, aided by the repeated blunders of the most inept administration in history. Even Biden’s media minions haven’t been much help. Like the regime’s, their credibility is gone.

The only ones who still believe are the village idiots. The regime has waged lawfare against Trump with about the same success as its Ukrainian proxies have had against Russia. Smirking Joe Biden and regime toadies should enjoy the verdict and sentencing, it’s liable to be their Kherson moment (one of the few battles Ukraine won).

Trump may well win this election from a jail cell. His campaign donations are overloading his website and there are reports he’s raised \$200 million since the

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1776

The Second Amendment Corner

Liberty's Line in the Sand

2024



MOLON
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"Blessed be the LORD my Rock, Who trains my hands for war, And my fingers for battle—"A Psalm of David, Psalm 144:1

Long Term Security and Defense of Your Retreat Location Part 1 of 2

by MaxVelocityTactical.com

In this article I will discuss long term security and defense of your retreat location. We cannot predict now exactly what conditions will look like after a collapse, and as such, I urge you not to make too many assumptions based on your particular idea of what such a post-SHTF situation will look like. The purpose will be to give you the general principles and techniques of defending a location, which you can tailor and apply as necessary and appropriate. It is best to adopt a mindset of flexibility and gather mental and physical knowledge and 'tools' in order to be able to develop your response and put some of these measures in place as you find them necessary and appropriate. For the article I will assume a broad post-SHTF situation of societal collapse with a general absence of law and order.

What is the threat? As a prepper hunkered down at your home,

with food stores, the most likely threat will be from looters and marauders. These could take many forms from a simple beggar, through starving neighbors, mobs, tricks and deceptions, to a tactically organized group with weapons and equipment. The worst case is some sort of organized paramilitary style force with heavy equipment bent on forced redistribution. Therefore, remain flexible and have an emergency rally point and extraction route should you be overmatched. Know when you have no alternative but to bug out. You can make this decision if you have the information before the threat arrives and conduct the bug out in good order. Alternatively, you may be forced to make the decision as the attack progresses and have to 'break contact' and withdraw under enemy fire; this is one of the most difficult tactical maneuvers. Work on your leadership, decision making and decision points so that your

response under the pressure of both time and enemy is optimal. Tied in with this is the need for clear rules of engagement and for the use of force appropriate to the threat.

This short article is mainly concerned with the defense of a single location and as such will not go into techniques such as mobile and area defense, which could be useful for a larger community. Remember, the best form of defense is to avoid the fight. But that may not be possible, and you have to always plan and prepare for that fight. You can better avoid the fight by adopting a lower profile at your location, attempting to conceal your supplies and capabilities. The opposite of this is to have a high profile and try to use threat of force as a deterrent. But remember that a good rifleman could sit out at long range and simply shoot your defenders in their sentry positions. In my opinion, the best

approach for a small survivor group is to adopt a lower profile while maintaining the capability to defeat threats as they are encountered. The following are some principles of defense that you should consider and apply to your location and plan:

- All Round Defense, in order to anticipate a threat from any direction.
- Depth, in order to prevent penetration of your defended position.
- Mutually Supporting Sectors of Fire, in order to increase the strength and flexibility of a defense.
- Concealment and Deception, in order to deny the adversary the advantages of understanding.
- Maintenance of a Reserve.
- Offensive Action (where appropriate), in order to seize or regain the initiative.

- Administration, to include:
 - Appropriate numbers of trained personnel.
 - Appropriate weapons, ammunition and equipment.
 - A watch system for early warning.

Most modern family homes do not lend themselves to defense. The structure is vulnerable to high velocity rounds which will pass through multiple frame, wood and plasterboard walls, and also simple mechanical breaches are possible with tools and even vehicles used as rams. They are also very vulnerable to fire. If you try and defend your house from the windows, then you will not be protected by the walls framing those windows and the room can be filled full of high velocity rounds by an attacking group. There is a real danger of being suppressed by superior firepower.

SECURITY & DEFENSE
see page 23

In Bump Stock Case, Court's Rebuke of ATF Is a Win for More Than Just 2A Advocates

by Amy Swearer,
The Daily Signal

The Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and Explosives has a bad habit of forgetting it isn't part of the legislative branch of government, and trying to accomplish through unelected bureaucrats and administrative rules what gun control activists in Congress could not.

Fortunately for the rule of law and the separation of powers, the ATF is also on a bit of a losing streak in federal court—a losing streak that continued Friday at the highest level in *Garland v. Cargill*.

In a 6-3 decision, the Supreme Court held that the ATF exceeded its statutory authority when it reclassified bump stocks as "machine guns" under federal law.

Although Cargill was centered around firearms, it didn't involve any arguments over whether the Second Amendment protects a right to own bump stocks, specifically, or machine guns, generally.

Rather, the question in this case was far more simplistic: Is a bump stock device a machine gun, in the first place?

Understanding Cargill requires a bit of background and context. One of the most important distinctions made by federal gun regulations is between machine guns, the possession of which is heavily restricted for civilians, and semiautomatic firearms, which have long been the type of

gun most commonly owned by civilians.

Federal law defines a machine gun as a weapon that "shoots, automatically more than one shot, without manual reloading, by a single function of the trigger." A semiautomatic rifle, meanwhile, "requires a separate pull of the trigger to fire each cartridge."

In layman's terms, the distinction between a machine gun and a semiautomatic firearm is all about what must happen for the gun to fire a second bullet.

In a semiautomatic weapon, pulling the trigger causes the gun to fire exactly one round. In order to fire a second bullet, you must release the trigger so that it resets, and then it must be physically pulled again to fire the next bullet.

But when you pull the trigger in a machine gun, the weapon will fire bullets continuously until either you release the trigger, or the gun runs out of ammunition. The trigger doesn't need to reset and be reengaged.

From a practical standpoint, then, one of the primary differences between machine guns and semiautomatic guns (and the primary reason machine guns are so heavily restricted for civilians) is that machine guns have a much faster rate of fire.

But, importantly, Congress didn't include "rate of fire" as a factor for determining whether a weapon is machine gun, choosing in-

stead to focus on the internal mechanics of the gun.

Enter the bump stock, an aftermarket device that can be affixed to many commonly owned semiautomatic rifle platforms. These devices don't change the gun's internal mechanics—one pull of the trigger will still cause the gun to fire only one bullet.

Instead, the device enables the shooter, through a combination of technique and physics, to pull the trigger much more rapidly than most shooters would be capable of, absent the device.

Between 2010 and 2018, American gun owners spent more than \$100 million purchasing an estimated 520,000 bump stocks. At the time, these purchases were completely lawful. The ATF determined on at least 15 different occasions throughout this eight-year period that the addition of a bump stock didn't turn a semiautomatic weapon into an illegal machine gun.

Even though the device could greatly increase the gun's rate of fire to rival that of a machine gun, the basic mechanics of the semiautomatic rifle hadn't changed.

Then, in 2017, on the heels of a high-profile mass public shooting involving the use of a bump stock, the ATF abruptly changed its mind. The agency not only decided that bump stocks did, in fact, turn a semiautomatic weapon into a machine gun, but that the devices had in essence al-

ways been machine guns, despite the agency's previous rulings to the contrary.

Americans who possessed a bump stock were now required to destroy the device or surrender it to ATF, without receiving compensation for their value.

Michael Cargill, one of the many law-abiding American gun owners who had legally bought bump stocks in reliance on ATF's long-standing determination that they weren't machine guns, promptly sued the ATF over its about-face.

Among other things, he argued that bump stocks plainly don't fall under the definition of "machine gun," and the ATF was therefore effectively rewriting the federal statute—something only Congress can do.

The Supreme Court on Friday vindicated Cargill and countless other peaceable American gun owners that the ATF had, for all intents and purposes, suddenly and unilaterally decided were felons with illegally possessed machine guns.

This doesn't mean that the fight to ban bump stocks is over. Far from it.

The *Cargill* decision will almost certainly result in a flurry of congressional efforts to change the federal definition of machine gun to include these devices—efforts that might very well have been successful back in 2017, had the ATF not "jumped the

gun" with its sudden reinterpretation. (And, of course, any legislative action to classify bump stocks as machine guns will, with equal certainty, be met with legal challenges arguing that bump stocks or machine guns are "arms" protected by the Second Amendment.)

The victory Friday is not that the court constructively fleshed out its Second Amendment jurisprudence or substantively protected the right to keep and bear arms from infringement.

Rather, the victory is found in the court's affirmation that the law means what the text says, and not what unelected bureaucrats think the text ought to say or would have said if they'd been left in charge of it.

It sends an important message that there's no end run around—or loophole through—the democratic process. If Congress wants to change federal law, it must do so itself, through the legislative process and with its members bearing the political consequences of unpopular or unconstitutional laws.

And, in that sense, Cargill is a victory that reverberates far beyond the Second Amendment.

It's a win for the rule of law and constitutional government.

Please see: <https://www.dailysignal.com/2024/06/14/bump-stock-case-courts-rebuke-atf-win-more-than-just-2a-advocates/>

Long Distance Rifle Academy...

LEARNING TO HIT YOUR TARGET AT EXTREME DISTANCES

by Mark Bunch/President Royal Gorge Gun Club/Chairman Fremont County NRA

I have been teaching long distance and extreme long-distance rifle shooting for the majority of my life as it has always been one of my passions. That translates into a little over 5,000 students I have taught the art and science of long distance rifle shooting to over the past 38 years or so and please don't do the math on that, lol !

As I teach all of my students, hitting your target at distance over the entire ARC of your cartridge is not for the feint of heart. Sixty percent of the equation will be decided by your skill level while the final forty percent of the equation rests on your equipment, ammunition, optics, etc.

For you NASCAR fans out there, Jeff Gordon, AJ Foyt and Dale Earnhardt JR. were some of the best race car drivers this planet has ever seen. None of them ever won Daytona in a POS Subaru!

Think of long-distance rifle shooting as part weaponized math and part mastery of earth-bound effects, all of which combine to make hitting your target at distance extremely challenging. As with race car driving, it begins with becoming brilliant at the basics and moves into learning

your cartridge ARC and TOF, or Time of Flight to your target.

The further you shoot, the more TOF will come into play and the better you understand the things that happen to your bullet in flight, the more success you will achieve. Earth-bound effects like gravity, air density, humidity and various other things such as the Coriolis Effect, spin drift, station altitude and latitude all come into play.

It is important when you are developing your knowledge and skill set, to train with purpose. Never just go out and plink, that will absolutely destroy your ability to improve. Even though there are 5 letters in the word plink, it is really a four-letter word. At the Royal Gorge Gun & Pistol Club in Cañon City, in addition to teaching our Long-Distance Rifle Academy Classes, I also run a rimfire rifle league as well as a long-distance shooting league and numerous precision rifle/sniper rifle matches for members, guests and visitors. A couple of weeks ago, we held our Medium Class Sniper Competition from 200 out to 1,500 yards. The course of fire was to engage 18 reactive steel targets with only 18 rounds, or one shot at each target. The only catch was that each shooter had only 5 minutes in which to fire all 18 of his rounds.

Nothing like adding pressure to your training to bring out all the flaws in your strategy or equipment choices. I won that match and earned the Gold Medal by hitting 16 out of the 18 possible targets in that 5-minute period. I used my Sako TRG 42 in 7mm PRC. The prevailing wind conditions that morning were reasonably challenging, 8-12 mph from 10 O'clock for the near wind zone and a tricky gust profile from 18-25 mph from 9 O'clock in the mid wind zone, and prevailing in the far wind zone of about 10-15 mph from 2 O'clock.

No doubt some of you reading this who like shooting things from far, far away are wondering how I determined what the wind was doing hundreds of yards from my shooting position without using one of those goofy wind meters. Simple, I learned decades ago what to look for in my environment in order to determine what my wind error uncorrected is going to be. That is one of the things I teach my students how to do and how to do it well.

I offer Four different levels of Rifle Skills for students, and combined they make up my Long Range Rifle Academy of classes. Level 1 is still a pretty advanced class where we discuss

and practice modeling your hit percentage at distance, TOF, choosing equipment wisely, barricade shooting, and also shooting at running targets out to 600 yards! You have to know your equipment and cartridge pretty well to hit running targets out to that distance and my instructors and I will teach you how to do exactly that.

In my LRR Level 2 class, you will learn how to engage targets after God has turned out the lights for the day, how to operate in a two-man team as well as advanced hit modeling, six degrees of Freedom, and how to become a high confidence long-range rifleman.

Those students who continue in their pursuit of knowledge and take my LRR Level 3 class will study the effects of Density Altitude, Gravity, projectile tip friction failure, transonic effects on your chosen cartridge, as well as shooting through mediums such as glass and wood.

My Long-Range Rifle Classes 1 through 3 are all two -day classes, starting at 0800 and finishing up around 1,800 hours. I combine classroom instruction with real world rifle drills. For those of you who wish to continue to LRR Level 4 class you will learn how to stalk your targets through broken terrain, how to mask your

noise, movement and reflection signatures.

We will teach you how to operate under oppositional surveillance from a Thermal Drone and you will be taught how to counter this type of surveillance and slink away after the shot using your new Spectral Ghillie Suit that you get to take with you at the end of our Level 4 class. I am offering *Sentinel* readers special pricing to take my Long-Range Rifle Classes and yes everyone has to begin with my Level 1 class. We shoot out to over a mile in my Level 1 Class, but you have to earn it by being successful at lesser distances.

My Next LRR Level 1 class is **Sat/Sun, July 13 and 14, and the *Sentinel* reader price** is the same as my gun club member price, or \$350 per student. LRR Level 2 class is **Sat/Sun, August 10-11, and LRR Level 3 class** is slated for **Sat/Sun, September 28 and 29.**

My Long-Range Rifle Level 4 class is **Fri/Sat/Sun, November 1 - 3** and those of you who finish this class will be very skilled and dangerous riflemen indeed. **Regardless of your background, these classes will make you a better Long-Distance Rifleman than you were when you showed up. I guarantee it.**



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- Making it count 1-Shot = 1 Kill
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- Cold Bore Shots Radared Ballistic Charts
- Precision Night Vision Shooting Saturday Night

Regardless of background we will make you a better shooter

California Legalizes Drugs.

Cartels Took It Over

by Daniel Greenfield,
FrontPageMag.com

Six years after California legalized marijuana, the bodies keep piling up. Earlier this year, six men were murdered in the Mojave Desert. Four of the Latino men had been burned after being shot with rifles. In 2020, seven people were killed at an illegal pot operation in Riverside County.

Violence like this was supposed to disappear after legalization. Legalization advocates argued that making the drug trade legal would end the grip of the cartels. Instead the legal market has failed and the cartels are taking over sizable parts of California and the rest of the country.

California’s legal drug revenues have fallen consistently as have those in other legal drug states including Colorado whose model helped sell the idea that drug money would fix everything.

Despite falling revenues, Colorado legislators brag about \$282 million in drug revenue. That number may sound high, but it’s a drop in the bucket considering the money that the state and cities like Denver are spending on homelessness, drug overdoses and law enforcement.

While the legal drug business is also collapsing in California, the state is spending a fortune fighting marijuana even as it tries to tax it. Gov. Gavin Newsom paradoxically promised to close the budget deficit with \$100 million in drug revenue meant to be used to fund law enforcement and fight substance abuse. The state seized over \$300 million in illegal pot this year and uses satellite imagery and heavily armed raids to fight untaxed marijuana.

But despite all those efforts, illegal marijuana has won and legal marijuana has lost.

“Proposition 64, California’s 2016 landmark cannabis initiative, sold voters on the promise a legal market would cripple the drug’s outlaw trade, with its associated violence and environmental wreckage. Instead,” the *Los Angeles Times* warned two years ago. “The law triggered a surge in illegal cannabis on a scale California has never before witnessed.”

Some of the growers are private citizens, but they aren’t likely to remain in business for long.

The paper described “rogue cultivation centers” that “engulf rural communities scattered across the state, as far afield as the Mojave Desert, the steep mountains on the North Coast, and the high desert and timberlands of the Sierra Nevada” where residents describe “living in fear next to heavily armed camps”.

Cartels and gang members dominate the business. And open borders allowed them to bring massive numbers of laborers to boost their ranks. Not only California, but places as far afield as Maine that have large open areas and limited law enforcement resources, have been overrun by drug operations that more closely resemble parts of Latin America and Asia than the USA.

The coasts, from Southern California up to Oregon, are controlled by Mexican cartels which have expanded so much that they’re running short of workers even during the Biden open borders boom. Some have taken to brazenly advertising for illegal workers in Europe.

A local California DA described “Mexican cartel groups coming up to grow pot, and people from Bulgaria, France and Russia.” The vast exodus across the border has made it possible for cartels to freely bring in any workers they want through even as drug legalization and open borders effectively ended any real penalties for either illegal migration or marijuana.

Asian organized crime may be less on the radar, but it is no less ruthless or violent.

A few years ago, four Chinese people were murdered at an Oklahoma illegal pot farm. Chinese organized crime had “taken over marijuana in Oklahoma and the United States,” the head of the Oklahoma Bureau of Narcotics and Dangerous Drugs revealed.

Once again, “the mafias set their sights on Oklahoma when the state’s voters approved a ballot measure that legalized the cultivation and sale of marijuana for medicinal purposes.” Now the Triads run their own compounds “ringed by fences, surveillance cameras and guards with guns and machetes” with 3,000 illegal grows estimated at as high as \$44 billion a year.

The Triads are not just in the illegal marijuana business, they traffic in everything from heroin to fentanyl. Legalizing marijuana however provided them with a profitable and semi-legal market that gives them a base to expand their efforts trafficking in even more lethal drugs.

Drug legalization has failed on every level. The legal drug business is collapsing. MedMen, which once promised to be the Apple of weed, fell from a \$3 billion valuation to a bankruptcy with \$411 million in liabilities. Despite the green crosses

and online apps, 80% of Californian’s pot is still the old-fashioned illegal kind. Politicians may be boasting about hundreds of millions in revenue, but the cartels are making tens of billions and they’re taking over entire forests.

The future isn’t pot shops, weed apps or MedMen: it’s Mexican and Chinese organized crime compounds that are spreading across the West and parts of New England like a plague.

Legalization advocates still argue that if the government lowered the high taxes on legal pot, the business model could turn around again, but even without a single penny in taxes, no amount of legal labor is going to be able to compete with illegal aliens smuggled across the border and forced to work for free by gunmen. Legal businesses can’t compete with organized crime.

Drug legalization increased homelessness and drug abuse. It boosted illegal migration and organized crime. It made life worse in every state and city where it’s been tried without delivering tangible benefits to anyone (including weed users who still get theirs the old-fashioned way) except for a few politicians who temporarily have a few million more to pass around to special interests, donors and lobbyists.

And all they had to do was hand over half the country to organized crime.

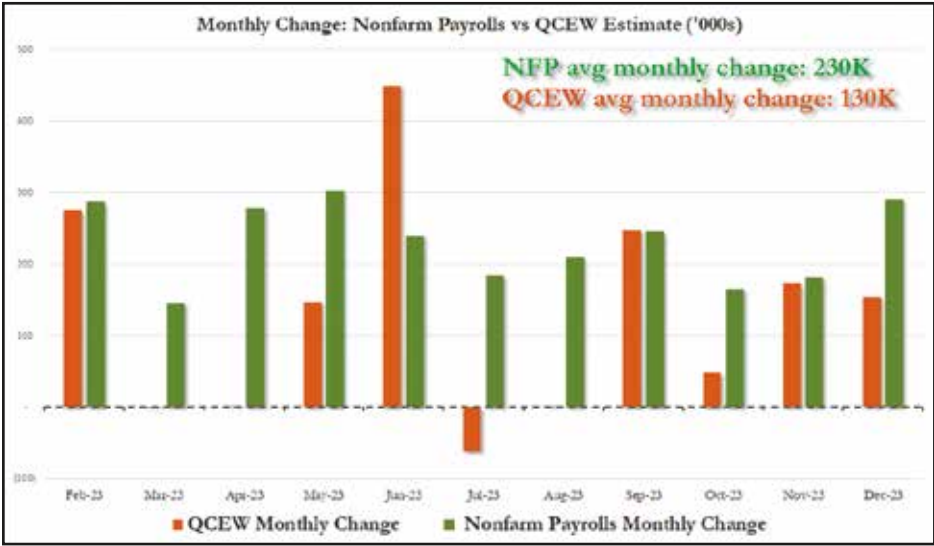
(Editor/GG: As noted above, Colorado libs did the same thing and we are paying for it now.)

Please see: <https://www.frontpagemag.com/california-legalized-drugs-cartels-took-it-over/>

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the real pace of job growth in the past year has been around 130K.

So if 100K jobs per month are fabricated birth/death artifacts (i.e., not real jobs but a statistically goalseeked fudge factor), and another 109K jobs per month are illegal aliens, that leaves just about 11K jobs for everyone else, i.e., law abiding Americans.



It also means that the labor market in the U.S. has - for the past year - been an absolute catastrophe and harbinger of economic disaster (and is why we pointed out “The “Unexpected” Reason Why The Fed Will Rush To Cut Rates As Soon As Possible”).

But wait, as Englander himself admits, the

109K estimate of illegal aliens “may be an underestimate since undocumented immigrants often have limited access to benefits, so they may be heavily motivated to find employment. The GDP impact might be lower if these workers are less educated and face language barriers in the work force.”

Taking a closer look, such increased labor supply - from illegals - should put downward pressure on wage growth relative to a baseline with less immigration (documented or not). In measures such as average

hourly earnings, the disinflationary impact would be two-fold:

1. lower wages overall from an increase of labour supply relative to labour demand and
2. a composition effect because the undocumented immigrants often work in low wage industries even with EADs.

However, this is likely to be a gradual process, so the low wage impact may not be immediately visible. In addition, insofar as these workers’ wages reflect relatively low productivity, the composition effect on wages will be offset by a composition effect on productivity – unit labour cost growth may be unchanged.

These observations notwithstanding, one can assume that the contribution of undocumented immigrants to employment is **unlikely to change any time soon**. Indeed, over the last 12 months **an average of 280k undocumented immigrants per month have been encountered nationally**, most whom can or will be eligible to work legally in coming months. The same methodology suggests that these workers contributed about one-third of FY23 employment growth.

It gets worse.

The Congressional Budget Office (CBO) estimated that in fiscal 2023 a further **860k individuals crossed the border** without contact with U.S. immigration authorities. While these people are not eligible for EADs they may still work off the books or with fake or borrowed documents. As such, their output and spending will show up in GDP, although it is unlikely that much if any of their “labor input” is captured. These, along with others (tourists who overstay visas, students whose visas have expired, etc.) are technically undocumented as well. But since few are eligible for EADs, it is unlikely that they are captured in any BLS survey.

In any event, Englander estimates that over 800k undocumented immigrants found jobs in FY23, and assumes that 64.2% of EAD recipients (the average for the foreign-born

population) are working. However, the employment rate may well be higher since these are likely to be “very motivated” workers, since they are not generally eligible for unemployment insurance and other benefits, so work is a necessity for many.

But what about those record numbers of multiple jobholders we have also discussed.

So far in FY24, on average over 170k undocumented immigrants have received EAD approvals every month and c.109k have found work based on employment rates. **And since NFP has averaged 230k per month, these workers likely accounted for around half of job growth.** Again, this number excludes the roughly 100k per month addition coming from birth/death calculation distortions which will soon be revised away as Bloomberg’s chief economist Anna Wong calculated, before concluding that “*by the end of the year the printed level of nonfarm-payrolls for 2024 likely will overstate true employment by at least one million.*”

Again, this means that when stripping away the 100K in statistical “jobs” from the 230K monthly payroll number, and then removing the 109K in illegal alien workers, **the number of jobs added by ordinary, legal, native-born, Americans in the past year has been - more or less - zero.**

We, for one, can’t wait for Joe Biden to explain how this was remotely possible during his upcoming debate with Trump in three weeks’ time.

Please see: <https://www.zerohedge.com/economics/wall-street-admits-biggest-economic-shocker-all-jobs-past-year-have-gone-illegal-aliens>

If you think you are too small to make a difference, try sleeping with a mosquito. — Dalai Lama

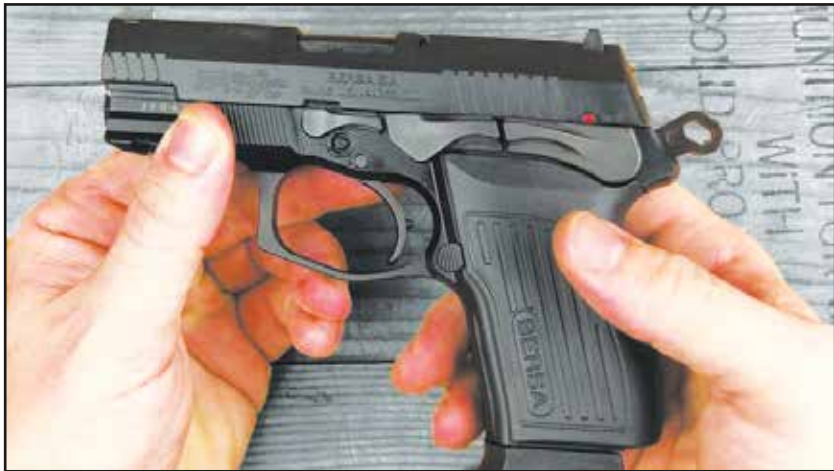
Bersa TPR9C Compact Handgun Review

by Graham Beates,
ammoland.com

If you're tired of tiny guns that are great for carrying but no fun on the range or have been looking for more capacity, you're not alone. It seems the age of the single-stack 9mm is ending, and now double-stacks in that magic 10-12 round capacity in 9mm are en vogue. Higher capacity than the singles while retaining an overall size that is easy to carry. Bersa is available in the U.S. thanks to Eagle Imports and has just released the new TPR9C, which offers 13 + 1 capacity in 9mm.

The TPR9C offers more capacity than much of the competition in the same size class while also offering the traditional hammer-fired action. Traditionalists will appreciate the weight and feel of an all-metal handgun, crisp single/double-action trigger, and an ambidextrous decocker. More details on the specifications to follow, but let's get to the point: How does it shoot?

While testing wasn't performed in ideal conditions, the TPR9C ran flawlessly. My hands are larger than average but the compact Bersa was comfortable to wield. Critics and fans



Bersa TPR9C Compact Matte Handgun

alike will take notice that the gun is a little wider than other options. That extra width makes for more distribution of recoil and more contact with your hand. This translates to a more pleasant shooting experience. Combine that width with the aluminum frame, and this compact shoot handles more like a full size.

For those who like to judge by the numbers, the specifications below are taken directly from the product webpage. An interesting note is that the barrel lengths are different depending

on the caliber. Back when the Springfield XDS was released, we were all excited about such a tiny handgun in .45 ACP. Some of us later realized .45 ACP needs velocity to perform and moved away from that gun. It seems the engineers at Bersa understand physics, and so have lengthened the barrel for heavier cartridges.

Caliber 9 mm, .40 S&W, .45 ACP

Action: DA/SA

Capacity: 13+1 (9 mm),
10+1 (.40 S&W),
7+1 (.45 ACP)

Barrel Length: 3.25" (9 mm),
3.6" (.40 S&W).
3.6" (.45 ACP)

Front Sight: Interchangeable Sig Sauer Type

Rear Sight: Interchangeable Sig Sauer Type

Finishes: Duotone, Matte Black

Grips: Textured Black Polymer

Construction: Alloy Frame / Steel Slide

Safety: Intergal Locking System, Manual, Firing Pin

Weight: 23 oz (9 mm), 23 oz (.40 S&W),
27 oz (.45 ACP)

Length: 6.5"(9 mm), 6.5" (.40 S&W), 6.8" (.45 ACP)

Height: 4.75" (9 mm), 4.75" (.40 S&W), 5.1" (.45 ACP)

Width: 1.45"

Overall construction is good and the gun provides all the features of a full-size handgun in a more portable package. It is heavier and wider than others, but that translates into more comfort on the range. The TPR9C is not a tiny pocket gun, but rather a compact that will also serve well on the range. There's just something reassuring about a handgun that feels solid, and considering many of us own handguns for reassurance, the TPR9C is a great option.

(Editor/GG: Saw a couple of video reviews on this handgun. All good. Nice trigger. Very low recoil. Plus the price is right: just over \$400 retail.)

Please see: <https://www.ammoland.com/2024/06/ber-sa-tp9c-video-review/#axzz8diiXeqy>

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If you stay back from the windows as you should, then you limit your fields of fire and unless there are enough of you defending then the enemy will be able to take advantage of blind spots to close with and then breach the house. You need a basement or other ballistic protected safe room for your noncombatant personnel (kids etc.) to shelter in; otherwise they will not be protected from the violence and from the high velocity rounds ripping through the walls.

One of the key things for a prepper defense of a location is to have an appropriate number of trained personnel with appropriate firearms, ammunition and equip-ment. You will also have to take measures to harden the building to slow down attempts to breach. You need to consider whether or not you want your property to look derelict; this could be good or bad in the circumstances. It would be worthwhile to consider boarding up or shuttering at least the ground floor windows and think about putting up door bars or even board up some of the doors. This will also help with light discipline. External boards can make the place look derelict, but looking derelict could also encourage approach by potential squatters. You could put up the boards internally, or something similar, in order to maintain a low profile and slow any breaches. There a lots of pros and cons each way. When boarding up doors, ensure that you have at least two independent exits that can be used both for routine tasks but also for egress if you have to escape. Boarding up your windows and doors does not make them ballistically hardened. You could have sandbags ready to go, and you will need to consider a big pile of dirt to fill them from. Consider the benefits of simple mass of soil in protecting you from high velocity rounds, and for the construction of fighting positions. Sandbags need to

be at least two deep to protect against high velocity rounds. If you try stacking enough of these on a modern upper floor, or even a ground level floor with a basement beneath, then the weight of a constructed fighting position may cause a collapse. You could stack sandbags externally around designated window fighting positions on the ground floor, but you will need a lot of them. Other alternatives would include filling a chest of drawers with soil to create firing positions, or maybe even material such as steel plates that will weigh less but will provide ballistic protection.

From the principles of defense, it is clear that we need to establish a plan which provides early warning, all round defense and mutually supporting sectors of fire. We also need to create depth, which is best utilized outside the building rather than with fall back positions inside the house. We can create depth using external fighting positions to keep attackers away from the house, which will also aid mutual support. A key thing that will really help defense of a house is to have a second or more positions outside of the main building that can provide fire support, thus these positions support each other by keeping enemy away from the house and each other. This position(s) could also be another house or cooperating neighbor if it works out that way. This creates a 'crossfire' so you must enforce fire discipline and allocate sectors of fire to ensure you do not cause 'friendly fire'.

A very important concept is that of 'stand-off'. This can be created with a combination of fighting positions in depth and cleared fields of fire with obstacles. If you have an obstacle, such as wire, it must be covered by fire to be effective. Utilize stand-off distances to keep enemy away from the property, combined with obstacles to slow vehicle and dismounted approach. Examples like wire are good for dismounted personnel and

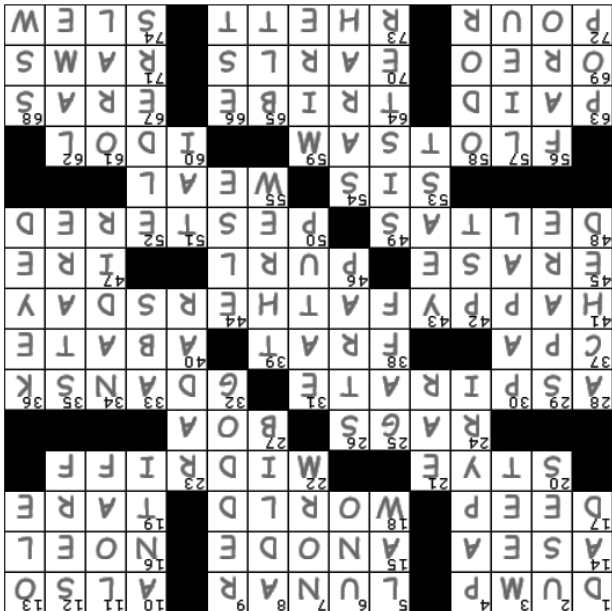
also vehicles if it is correctly laid concertina wire. Obstacles such as steel cabling, concrete bollards or planter boxes and felled trees will work well against vehicles. This will also have the effect of reducing the risk of attackers getting close to set the place on fire, which they are likely to try if they can't get in to get your stuff. If we expand this concept, we can see how a mutually supporting neighborhood with checkpoints/roadblocks and observation/fighting positions will provide a great advantage. Stand-off is also important in terms of engaging the enemy with accurate effective fire at the longest range that is physically and legally possible. If you are competent and have the equipment for long range effective suppressive fire, this can have the effect of keeping the enemy at arm's length and reducing the accuracy and hence effectiveness of their fire, which will prevent them successfully suppressing you and subsequently maneuvering onto your position to breach or burn the property. In addition, consider the presence, placement and potential hard protection of any flammable sources on your property and close to your buildings, such as propane tanks and fuel supplies. Ensure they cannot be repeatedly fired upon by the enemy to cause a fire or explosion. The ability to generate accurate effective long range defensive fire depends on skill, equipment, positioning of fighting positions, your policy for the use of force and also the way the terrain affects weapons killing areas and ranges. To engage at long range you have to reasonably fear that the enemy presents a threat of lethal force against your defended location. However, if you are in a closer urban or wooded environment you may find some of your fields of fire are limited and you will have to plan and position accordingly.

Please see: <https://maxvelocitytactical.com/long-term-security-and-defense-of-your-retreat-location-2/>

The Director of Finance and Accounting for Custer County

The Director of Finance & Accounting position, reporting to the Board of County Commissioners, is a full-time, exempt role with primary responsibilities involving the management and operation of the Finance Department. The role requires overseeing the financial systems and operations of the county, including the preparation of the county's annual budget, management of accounting records, and financial reporting. Key duties involve compliance with GAAP, GASB, and GAAS standards, managing revenue projections, and overseeing sales tax collections and debt financing. The position supervises payroll and accounts payable functions, maintains accounting records, and prepares financial statements and reports. The role demands a high level of independence in performing duties and making decisions affecting the county's financial health. Minimum qualifications include a Bachelor's degree in Accounting or a related field, with a Master's preferred, and at least four years of relevant experience, particularly in government finance. A CPA certification is also preferred. The position also requires passing a background check and potentially involves travel. The salary range is set at \$80,000 to \$125,000.

Full description and applications are available at:
<https://www.custercounty-co.gov/employment> or
Custer County Finance & Human Resources Dept
205 S 6th Street
Westcliffe, CO 81252
Monday through Thursday 8:00 am to 5:00 pm
Please submit applications to the address above or email: hr@custercounty-co.gov

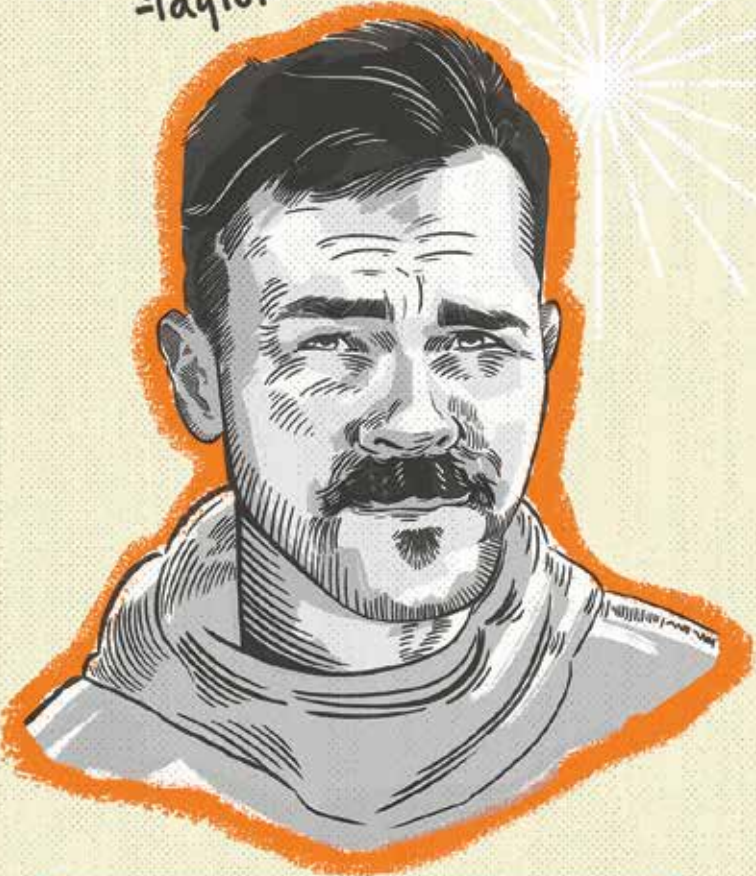




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Election Officials Defend Colorado Voting Process Before Skeptical Custer County Audience

by *Quentin Young,*
ColoradoNewsline.com

A panel of Colorado election security experts Monday attempted to persuade an audience of officials and residents in Custer County, a hotbed of election skepticism, that elections can be trusted.

The panelists faced a sometimes hostile crowd, which came out for the Board of County Commissioners workshop at Lange Hall in Westcliffe. Through occasional interruptions they described in detail how elections operate in Colorado, how they are kept secure, particulars of voting machine hardware and ballot counting mechanics, and why hand counts are not feasible. They tried to debunk the most common claims made by election deniers.

“They didn’t talk to election experts and election administrators,” one of the panelists, Matt Crane, executive director of the Colorado County Clerks Association, said about people who have propagated false claims about election systems. “They don’t know election law. They don’t know election process. They don’t know how these systems are supposed to function. Those are the common themes throughout all of this.”

The other panelists were Christopher Beall, deputy secretary of state, and Carly Koppes, the Republican Weld County clerk and recorder and vice president of CCCA. Custer County Clerk Kelley Camper also participated in the discussion.

The workshop exemplified the persistence

of the “big lie,” started by former President Donald Trump himself in 2020 and now a central tenet in much of Republican politics as Trump makes a third run for president. Only about half of Colorado Republicans think elections in the state are fair, according to a recent survey by the University of Colorado Boulder and YouGov. About one-third of American adults believe President Joe Biden’s 2020 victory was illegitimate. U.S. Rep. Lauren Boebert, the most prominent Republican office-holder in Colorado, is an election-denying Trump ally, a description that also suits the chair of the state GOP, former state Rep. Dave Williams, who is running to represent Colorado’s 5th District in Congress.

Custer County, where there are about four times as many registered Republicans as Democrats, has proved particularly susceptible to election conspiracy activity. In May it was the site of a previous workshop at which the commissioners provided a platform to several of the most influential election deniers in Colorado, including Mark Cook, activist Shawn Smith, who participated in the Jan. 6 insurrection, and podcaster Joe Oltmann, one of the originators of the false claim that Dominion Voting Systems machines, which are in use throughout Colorado, are untrustworthy.

The panelists Monday offered a point-by-point rebuttal of the election deniers’ claims. They walked through requirements for voting system security, ballot and drop box security, voter ID and signature verification, and election audits. They

highlighted the impracticalities and high error rates of ballot hand counts, which election conspiracists often tout — along with in-person voting only on Election Day — as superior to machine counts.

“I know this goes against a lot of what’s heard in conservative channels. Believe me, I’ve heard it, too,” Crane, a Republican, told the crowd. “Carly hears it, too. And it’s just not true.”

At one point, Crane pointed out that national figures who pushed election falsehoods publicly, such as Sean Hannity, Rudy Giuliani and Sidney Powell, refrained from doing so in the context of legal proceedings, where lying comes with consequences.

“Think about how they are playing people, and especially Republicans, which is why people like Carly and I get so fighting mad,” Crane said.

“Don’t get angry,” a member of the audience said.

“Well, I get frustrated,” Crane said.

Earlier this month, Crane and Koppes defended the integrity of Colorado elections before the commissioners of Rio Grande County, who had allowed Smith and Cook to present their case at a “Work Session to discuss concerns of Dominion voting systems integrity,” as the county website described the event. County executive administrative assistant Bobbie Hatton told a reporter that no recording was made of the session and no one took minutes. Crane said that at least one Rio

Grande commissioner said during the session that he thinks the local election system has vulnerabilities.

Following Monday’s Custer County workshop, Commissioner Bill Canda similarly indicated he was not altogether convinced that elections were secure, and he cited a concern that some election machine components are produced in China.

Claims that the 2020 election was fraudulent or compromised have been debunked by elections officials, experts, media investigations, law enforcement, the courts and Trump’s own campaign and administration officials.

(Editor/llv: The report says the panelists offered a point-by-point rebuttal to the election deniers’ claims. Not really, they cherry picked and probably did not base it on the previous Election Integrity workshop held in Custer County a month earlier, but rather on talking points from 2021-2022. The reporter also notes the panelists “highlighted the impracticalities and high error rates of ballot hand counts.” Custerites have done a hand count and know that it doesn’t take a lot of time and the last recount went well. Plus, there are counties all over the U.S. doing it successfully. Now, the state has passed a law that prevents us from doing a hand count until after the machine count has been certified. Ask yourself, what are these Colorado officials afraid of?)

Please see: <https://coloradonewsline.com/2024/06/18/election-colorado-voting-process-custer-county/>