

Flower Recall Election Is a GO! Judge Rules Recall Petition Valid

REDACTED -See hard copy

RECALL see page 24

Class of '23 Scholarships

Custer County High School graduating Senior class members accepted scholarships on Thursday evening, May 25th. The list of scholarships and recipients is below:

- American Legion**
Marlee Foster
- Ben and Weldon Rusher Memorial**
Emma Rusk
- Ben Kettle Memorial**
Emma Rusk
- Custer County Alumni**
Brooke Bomgardner, Emma Rusk
- Custer County Board of Commissioners**
Haley Nameth
- Custer County Cattlewomens**
Emma Rusk
- Custer County Sheriffs Office**
Paige Lorenzen
- Dan Riggs Memorial**
Kylee Morrell, Cameron Penkoff, Emma Rusk
- CCSC-1 Faculty-Staff**
Brooke Bomgardner, Jonah Carichner, Weston Jones, Kylee Morrell, Haley Nameth, Emma Rusk
- Fremont County Cattlemen's Association**
Emma Rusk
- Jack and Ruby Geroux Memorial**
Emma Rusk
- Jack Slater Memorial**
Joey Arnone
- John and Mary Dilley Memorial**
Brooke Bomgardner



Custer County Class on '23.

Photo by Donna Holt Photography

- Kirkpatrick Bank**
Brooke Bomgardner, Jonah Carichner, Kylee Morrell, Emma Rusk
- Lighthouse Pregnancy Resources**
Brooke Bomgardner, Marlee Foster, Emma Rusk
- Mission Wolf**
Brooke Bomgardner
- Mt. Moriah Lodge**
Brooke Bomgardner
- PEO**
Portia Arrigo
- PTSO**
Brooke Bomgardner, Jonah Carichner, Marlee Foster, Kylee Morrell, Emma Rusk
- Rebecca's Fund**
Haley Nameth, Cameron Penkoff
- Richard and Iris Wilson Memorial**
Haley Nameth
- Royal Gorge Realtors Association**
Haley Nameth
- Sangres Art Guild**
Haley Nameth

- Sangre de Cristo Electric**
Cameron Penkoff
- United Business Bank**
Brooke Bomgardner, Jonah Carichner
- Wet Mountain Fire Auxiliary**
Ty Bomgardner, Marlee Foster
- Wet Mountain Valley Rotary**
Brooke Bomgardner, Marlee Foster, Paige Lorenzen
- Thank you to the Local Agencies for over \$60,000 in Local Scholarships!
Congratulations Class of 2023!

Bobcats 8th Grade Grads:
Photo Feature
pages 12-13

Tax District's Meeting
page 7

Recall Findings
page 15

Westcliffe Twn. Mtg.
page 5

CO Rent Increases
page 17

Liberty Rocks
page 5

CO Drug Overdoses
page 17

Corrupt Government
page 18

Sheriff Report
page 14

PATRIOT ALERT!
Deadly Force Ruling
page 21



Therefore God has highly exalted him and bestowed on Him the name that is above every name,
Philippians 2:9 ESV

SANGRE DE CRISTO SENTINEL

Copyright © 2023

The Voice
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: 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 ideological, misleading and inaccurate thinking and use of "political correctness" but by truth, facts, logic and common sense.

The Sangre de Cristo Sentinel (ISSN 11280) is an independent newspaper, published weekly by The Mountain Publishing Company, Inc. P.O. Box 79, Westcliffe, CO 81252.

POSTMASTER: Please send address changes to The Mountain Publishing Company, Inc. P.O. Box 79, Westcliffe, CO 81252. Periodicals postage paid at Westcliffe, CO and additional mailing offices.

Key Personnel

George Grunick - President & Managing Editor

George.Grunick@sentinel.com

Fred Hernandez - Vice President

Fred.Hernandez@sentinel.com

L. Hov - Secretary and Art Editor / Graphic Layout

l.hov@sentinel.com

Katherine Bruchley - Advertising Coordinator

Katherine.Bruchley@sentinel.com

Office Support

Accounting Services

Bonnie@sentinel.com

Don Zuber - IT Support

don.zuber@sentinel.com

Kevin Phillips

kevin.phillips@sentinel.com

Mailing & Delivery

Galen@sentinel.com

Sentinel Founders

Mike Hov
George Grunick
Mary Zuber
Kath Bruchley

Sentinel Honor Roll

Jackie Rubin
Carol Channing
Scott Channing
Barbara Negelien

Contributors

Antony Hov
Glen Peters
Art Photo by Leo by Peter O'Brien

Business Hours:
Mon: 10 a.m. - 2 p.m.
Tue: 9 a.m. - 4 p.m.
Wed: 9 a.m. - 4 p.m.
Fri: 9 a.m. - 12 p.m.
Closed Thursdays & Saturdays.

Subscription Rates:
\$34 yearly for digital only code
\$44 yearly elsewhere
\$29 yearly for digital Edition

How to contact us:
719-783-3568
P.O. Box 179
608 Main Street
Westcliffe, CO 81252

www.SDCSentinel.com

Please send your letters or other submissions to: sdcsentinel@gmail.com

2022 – TAL Westcliffe Post #170 Year in Review

Press Release

THANK-YOU, to Custer County, Silver Cliff, and Westcliffe for your generous support of The American Legion. Have you ever wondered, "What happens to the money I donate to TAL Westcliffe Post 170 or their Auxiliary Unit 170 or S.A.L. Sq 170? What do they do with that money? Here is a short list of American Legion Family accomplishments in Custer County April 2022-April 2023.

Always keeping our 4 Pillars, Veterans Assistance & Rehabilitation, Children & Youth, Americanism, and National Security at the forefront of what we do, We:

- Assisted 25 Custer County Veterans and/or widows with almost \$12,000 for home repairs.
- for safety issues; generators,

windows, wood, solar supplies, heaters, reliable bedding for a Veteran with medical issues, new porch/ramp for a widow; helped a Vet get home when stranded out of state; funds for Veteran's family who lost their house to a fire and SAL helped with kids supplies (Children's Welfare Foundation funds); electrical install for a Veteran; and that's just the tip of the iceberg.

- Hosted a free holiday dinner for approximately 60 CC Veterans with a gift bag for everyone. Funded in part by our Poppy Program (All Poppy monies must be spent on local veterans).
- Sponsored one CCHS student to attend Boys/Girls State in 2022 – an experience of a lifetime. We offer this opportunity to all students entering their junior year of high school.

- Awarded one \$500 scholarship to a graduating senior of CCHS.

- Maintained and displayed our "Main Street Flags" for nine patriotic holidays including the large flag at the end of Main St.

- Remembered our POWs/MIAs in a service at the large flag pole on POW/MIA Day in September.

- Performed full military honors for four Veterans including a three-rifle volley; playing taps; and folding and presenting a flag to the family.

- Supported our local Cub/Boy Scout Troops

- Remembered our "Fallen" Veterans with an official Memorial Day observance.

- Recognized ALL Veterans with a banquet on Veterans' Day (November 11th). The Post paid half on the tickets and one generous

local donor paid for 20 veterans to attend.

- Established "Coffee with the Commander"; FREE weekly Veterans' PT; and Active "Buddy Checks" on Veterans, all in support of "BE THE ONE" program.

As you can see, Our Legion 170 Family does support our local Veterans (VA&R), our Children and Youth, Americanism, and our National Security – the 4 Pillars of the American Legion.

Next time we're selling burgers; "passing a boot"; setting up the Poppy tables; hosting an event (like the Blues, Brews, & BBQ); seating and serving you at Willie's (Tip-A-Vet); or any other fundraiser that may come our way – just know that the money you donate is truly going to support Veterans and their families in Custer County.

Michael Thiem's HVAC

Service, Replacement
& New Installation of
Air Conditioning &
Propane Fueled
Forced Heat

Over 36 Years Experience
Locally Owned & Operated

cell 719-429-9989

Fully Insured

HARALD FRANK SKID STEER SERVICES

Owner/Operator 719-371-1570

Driveways - Site Pads - Backfills - Entryways

My work speaks for itself...



Taste the High Country

Simple to Get
Local Beef



Grass Finished Beef

719-783-2222 x 2

sangresbest.com

promo code: Eagle \$20 OFF
with purchase of \$199 or more



REGULAR FEATURES

Business Directory	page	10-11
Classifieds	page	8
Churches	page	9
Crossword Puzzle	page	22
Events	page	8-9
Obituaries	page	9
Sheriff's Report	page	14

Business Directory QR
(Scan to download)



website <http://SangreDeCristoSentinel.com>



Sarah & Brock Flynn, Brokers/Owners
Mountain Land Properties LLC

719-783-0563

www.mountainlandproperties.com
info@mountainlandproperties.com

Listening to your needs and meeting them is our goal.
Your Westcliffe, Colorado, Real Estate Experts since 2001.

**\$2 OFF
ANY LUNCH ITEM**
1 per Coupon

STAGE STOP

Breakfast Lunch & Fun!
Corner of Third Main Street

[FACEBOOK.COM/INTHESANGRES](https://www.facebook.com/inthesangres)

719-735-0323



Offering top quality,
fresh products from
LOCAL vendors like:

Westcliffe Cheese
(Goat Cheese, Milk, Soap)

Nutripeak Farms
(Eggs - only \$4.89/dozen!)

Local Honey
(Multiple Suppliers)

Wisdom of the Ages
(supplements)

Rocky Mountain Soda
Peregrine Coffee

Stop by and say hello!

Mon - Sat

10 am - 5 pm

and local produce coming soon!

405 Main St., Westcliffe • 719-783-9266



“We the People” Speak

Letters to the Editor



Please send your submissions to us at sdc.sentinel@gmail.com, mail them or bring them in to the office at 601 Main St., Westcliffe CO 81252.
Rules: We will print, at our discretion, the thoughts and ideas of our fellow citizen-patriots. Please limit your offerings to 500 words or less. No profanity or vulgarity, no personal attacks, and please sign your name and give us the general location of your residence. Also please provide your phone number or email - for confirmation only. *The opinions expressed here are solely those of the author; they do not reflect the opinions held or endorsed by the Sentinel.*

50 Years



Wishing Dick and Barb Jones a Happy 50 Golden Years of Wedded Bliss!

Upcoming Custer County Free Legal Clinic

Wednesday, June 14th from 2 - 5 PM
Free help for parties who have no attorney
Contact your local library at (719) 783-9138 to be added to the sign-up sheet
ALL FREE, Space is Limited.

Bring Back Market Mentorship Permissions for our Youth

Hello Westcliffe Board Members,

I am writing on behalf of my 13-year-old son, Colden Kamholz. He was able to sell homemade gluten-free baked goods and plant starts at last year’s Westcliffe Farmer’s Market under their Market Mentorship program, sponsored by Matt [Granger]. Colden asked on his own volition to be a member of the market last year. He obtained a Cottage Food Safety certification, paid insurance, produced his own signage, and when his schedule allowed, really enjoyed his first foray into business enterprise. Through the mentorship program, he was able to pay the Custer County and Westcliffe sales taxes directly to the market; as he was considered an employee of the market.

He did not have to obtain an EIN to obtain a Colorado Tax License, start an LLC, nor pay the Town of Westcliffe \$40 license fee. Matt supplied him with a tent and table. A

good arrangement for a sometimes-present minor market vendor who was essentially running a bake sale at a very modest level.

It was an excellent program, allowing a child to dip their toes in the waters of business, and a great way to interact with our fellow Westcliffe peeps and tourists, to build community. His baked goods were always popular and sold out almost every time.

This year, the Town of Westcliffe has informed us that the mentorship program is no longer allowed, and that an additional seven forms must be filed, and a license fee paid to the Town of Westcliffe. As a junior micro-vendor, he finds this unreasonable to the point of exclusion.

I would like to address this at the board meeting on Tuesday 20th, June, but I am already scheduled to work out of town and cannot attend.

I am hoping you might consider

this request to allow the Market to reinstitute the mentorship program, and promote entrepreneurial enterprise in our children, a population very underrepresented in this county. I do not think we should put unnecessary roadblocks in front of our children but support them so that they might in turn support us. There is already so little to offer our middle school and high schoolers, especially homeschooled children, in this county. Please allow Matt to reinstate this Market Mentorship program, and remove these barriers, so that my kid can have a bake sale at the market and sell some of these 400 extra plants he’s nurtured since the winter in anticipation of the program continuing.

Thank you,

Lieve Kamholz, DVM, MVA

Resident of Westcliffe for eight years, homeschooling, homesteading mom, veterinarian and voter.



**109 N. 3RD ST
WESTCLIFFE**
**OPENS AT 2PM
THU-SUN**
ZITASPATIO.COM
719-235-5820
FOLLOW US 



CHICKEN WINGS
SELECT SPIRITS
CRAFT BEERS
CREATIVE SMALL PLATES
FINE WINES

**UNIQUELY DIFFERENT
• NEW MENU ITEMS WEEKLY •**



**Auto Insurance • Home Insurance • Life Insurance
Business Insurance • Health Insurance
Mortgages • Auto Loans**

Dennis Podzemny Insurance Agency
719-275-1548
**1004 S. 9th Street
Cañon City, CO 81212-4918**
www.canoncityinsurance.com
**Office Hours: M - F 9:00 am to 5:00 pm
Saturdays & evenings by appointment**





Dan Hight
Realtor®

Honesty & Integrity with a proven track record. List with me; you'll be glad you did! Specializing in finding buyers.
Call me.
720-436-1335
DannyHight77@gmail.com



**We create heirloom furniture
so you can create lasting memories.**



*Now also offering
quality footwear and
outdoor wear with
brands like Merrell,
Zamberlan, DryShod,
Tony Lama, Justin,
Twisted X,
Kenetrek boots
and MORE!*

*At Yoder's, we only source the highest quality materials.
Our furniture is built by the best Amish craftsmen in the country
and will last for generations to enjoy.*

Open Mon - Sat | 9am-5pm
57965 Hwy 69, Westcliffe | 719-783-0988 | <https://shopyoders.com>

May Westcliffe Mtg: Charging Station Grants, New Fees, PR Hire, Greening Jess Park

by Becky Olson

The regular monthly meeting of the Board of Trustees for the Town of Westcliffe was held on May 16th, 2023, and convened as scheduled at 5:30 p.m. in Patterson Hall. All Trustees were present and proceedings commenced after recitation of the Pledge of Allegiance and unanimous adoption of the consent agenda.

The first item of old business was consideration of a request by Town Manager, Caleb Patterson, to modify the type of electric vehicle (EV) charging stations the town will be installing with the help of a grant from two “fast” (level 1) and two “slow” (level 2) chargers to one fast and three slow ones. The request came as a result of the increased cost of the EV chargers since the grant was originally awarded. After a fair amount of discussion, the motion passed with Mayor Wenke and Trustee Art Nordyke dissenting and voting no.

Next in old business was consideration of the four applications for the façade improvement grant program that have been received this year. The Trustees voted unanimously to approve the first three and require the

hopeful new owners of the Courtyard Inn to re-submit their application when the sale of that business is completed. Note: the sale of that business has since been finalized, so the new owners can re-submit their application and obtain approval for their improvement plans.

In a series of motions, the Trustees next unanimously approved a Request for Proposal (RFP) and job description for the town’s new Public Relations consultant; a search committee consisting of Mayor Wenke and Trustees Cathy Snow and Loree Lund was formed and tasked with interviewing candidates; and the consultant who wrote the RFP and job description, Heather Ottem, was granted authority to screen applicant resumes before sending them on to the Trustees.

In new business, the Trustees unanimously approved the installation of two historical informational plaques on public property, as well as the new lease with Colorado Open Lands (which recently merged with San Isabel Land Protection Trust) for management of the Bluff Park. In other items, the Trustees decided not to charge a fee to businesses that use the sidewalks in front of their establishments for seating,

but they did request town attorney, Clay Buchner, to draft an amended section of the municipal code to address permits and fees for businesses that want to use the parking spaces in front of their establishments. Next, a workshop to prioritize which grants the town is going to apply for was scheduled, and the Trustees indicated their approval of the town’s new property and casualty insurance policy. Before moving into staff reports, the Trustees voted not to grant a request to chip seal a private road between the Lutheran Church and the private school, stating it would “set a precedent”.

In staff reports, Town Clerk, Kathy Reis, mentioned the farmer’s market was going to be refunded the amount of their permit fee due to being forced to move their location this year because of grass erosion concerns at Jess Price Park. The Clerk’s office is going to be closed on June 12th to allow Mrs. Reis and another employee to attend a grant seminar; and a request for flex hours between Mrs. Reis and another employee that still provides office support five days a week was also granted. Mr. Patterson reported chip sealing will begin

soon, followed by parking line striping, and also that the work to replace 22 lights in town due to being too harsh and bright is proceeding. Mayor Wenke reported he is still gathering information on options to repair the grass in Jess Price Park. Mr. Buchner is going to draft a robust purchasing policy that will address the acquisition and disposition of town-owned real estate (among many other purchasing topics), and the Parks Committee is going to meet to determine what to do about the dilapidated stone pillars at Memorial Park.

The Trustees voted to adjourn their regular meeting and moved into a Board of Adjustments public hearing to consider granting a variance to Tim Broll for the purpose of installing a 30,000 gallon propane tank on a parcel just south of town on Highway 69. After an admonition from a Trustee about needing to obtain permits before commencing work, and a requirement that Mr. Broll must come back before this board and provide an update if the work isn’t completed by the end of the calendar year, the Trustees voted unanimously to grant the variance. With no further items, the meeting was adjourned.

THE LIFE OF U.S. DEMOCRACY Election Integrity and Transparency Topic of Upcoming Liberty Rocks

Next week, on Thursday, June 15th, at 4Kings, **Liberty Rocks** presents one of the most important subjects for discussion. One on which our precious American Dream depends almost entirely on: the integrity and honesty of our elections.

Custer County is fortunate to have as our guest speaker Colonel Shawn Smith, a retired U.S. Air Force Colonel who served over twenty five years in active duty. Aside from having been a United States Air Force Fellow to Rand Corporation, he was also a squadron commander and a senior military evaluator for Space, Intelligence, Surveillance and Reconnaissance Systems.

Today, Col. Smith, currently based in Colorado, leads an organization of non-partisan citizen-led volunteers called Cause of America (COA). This group of patriotic individuals focus their best efforts on election integrity and all other aspects of an honest, corruption free system of electing U.S. political leaders.

COA is an independent, non-partisan, non-profit entity which facilitates citizen action to conduct, control, manage, monitor and verify local, state and national elections. For more information please visit CauseofAmerica.org

Liberty Rocks thanks Mr. Harald Frank for introducing Col. Shawn Smith to Custer County.

2nd Amendment March on July 4th

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



This is the biggest Open Carry 2nd Amendment march in Colorado!!

Bring your Rifles and Holstered Handguns! It is Time to STAND UP.

Celebrate and Defend our Constitution. Use it or Lose it! 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.

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

329 County Rd 341
Westcliffe, CO 81252

4,004 +/- Square Feet
768 +/- Garage

Offered by:
Keely Smith
Broker Associate



Custer County Realty, Inc.
902 Main St.—Westcliffe, CO
(719) 783-9221



15 Enterprise Drive
Westcliffe, CO

Commercial Buildings
9600 Sq. Ft & 1200 Sq. Ft.

Offered at
\$949,000

Offered by:
Keely Smith- Broker Associate
Bob Senderhauf, Owner/Employing Broker



Custer County Realty, Inc.
902 Main St.—Westcliffe, CO
(719) 783-9221



Local Mountain News & Notices

KIDS

Friday, June 9, 2023

Tropical Rock Lobster

Panulirus ornatus also, known as tropical rock lobster, ornate rock lobster, ornate spiny lobster and ornate tropical rock lobster. It is a large, spiny lobster which is edible and has been successfully bred in captivity.



The ornate rock lobster is a large specimen with a blue-green carapace. The carapace is the upper section of the exoskeleton or shell. It has large frontal horns and its walking legs have intricate stripe patterns, making it appear almost spider-like. Unlike the Maine lobsters, Rock or spiny lobsters don't have claws, although mature female spiny lobsters have a small claw on their fifth pair of walking legs. Many spiny lobster species are red or brown, but some have mottled patterns and display vivid colors. They can grow up to two feet in length. It is difficult to gauge the age of a spiny lobster because it gains a new exoskeleton each time it molts, but the animal's lifespan is believed to be 50 years or more.

These lobsters can be found in tropical oceans worldwide but they are most commonly found in the Caribbean and Mediterranean, in coastal waters off Southeast Asia and Australia, and off the coast of South Africa. They spend most of their time hidden in a rocky crevice or reef. During the night they may venture out to hunt. They typically eat sea urchins, snails, crabs, sea hares, mussels and clams. The crustaceans navigate and hunt using senses of smell and taste. It was recently discovered that spiny lobsters can also navigate by detecting the Earth's magnetic field. The spiny lobsters' predators include sea otters, octopuses, sharks, and bony fish, but humans are their most significant predator.

When threatened by a predator they flex their tail to escape backwards and emit a loud, rasping sound. The sound emanates when the base of the antennae rubs across a file on the antennal plate. Interesting fact: the lobster can make this sound even after it molts and its shell is soft.

The common spiny lobster (*Palinurus elephas*) is "vulnerable" with a decreasing population. The Cape Verde spiny lobster (*Palinurus charlestoni*) is "near threatened." The biggest threat to spiny lobsters is over-exploitation by fisheries.

So there is the skinny on the Ornate Rock Lobster.

by Audrey Slater. Sources: <https://bomboh.com/panulirus-ornatus/>, <https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Carapace>, <https://www.thoughtco.com/spiny-lobster-facts-4582934> Photo: scienceimage.csiro.au

Sangre de Cristo Sentinel • Westcliffe, Colorado

Corner

FREE 2023 Summer Bobcat Activities - June

June 10th	Family Fun Day (4th annual)	Memorial Park 10 AM-1 PM
June 13th	Bowl Away the Stress	2 PM -4 (Westcliffe Bowling)
June 15th	Bobcat Cafe	8:30 AM -1:30 PM
June 21st	Mini golf, laser tag, batting cage	Depart west parking lot at 2 PM... Return around 7 PM
June 22nd	Bobcat Cafe	8:30 AM -1:30 PM
June 28th	Tennis Tournament (Hermit Park)	Hermit Park 4-6 PM
June 29th	Bobcat Cafe	8:30 AM -1:30 PM

Press Release

Join us for some cool, healthy, and fun events at the start of summer for our students! These activities are paid for by the Substance Abuse Grant and are completely FREE to current 5th grade and above students of the Custer County School District.

5th grade and above is preferred, but feel free to contact us for exceptions, especially if parents/guardians plan to accompany us or if an older sibling is also attending. All events require a sign up by

the student participating and a parent/guardian by emailing Mr. Brian Bills.

If you are interested in chaperoning or have any other questions you can email Mr. Bills @ brian.bills@ccbobcats.net.

The Bobcat Cafe is a student-led, adult supervised cafe located in the school's cafeteria. The Cafe will be open to the public on Thursday's in June, beginning June 8th, from 11:30 a.m. to 1 p.m. Come and enjoy a nutritious and delicious lunch prepared and served by our 5th -12th grade Bobcat Students. 50 lunches will be served.

Rejoice in the Lord always; again I will say, rejoice.

Let your reasonableness be known to everyone.

The Lord is at hand;

do not be anxious about anything, but in everything by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving let your requests be made known to God.

Philippians 4: 4-6 ESV



Brenda Bosse
Realtor®

(719) 371-3270
brenda@brendabosse.com
www.brendabosse.com



Jeff Ray
Owner-Master Plumber
Your Local Plumbing & Heating Service Company
719-371-9900
or 719-783-0379
pinonplumbing@gmail.com

Residential & Commercial Service and Installs, Furnaces, Boilers, Propane Heaters, Tanked & Tankless Water Heaters, Main Water & Sewer Line Replacements, Water & Gas Lines, Remodels & New Construction

Providing 29 years of Experience, Knowledge, Reliability & Honesty

LICENSED & INSURED



Local Grass Fed Premium Beef

In A Whisper Ranch
Westcliffe, Colorado

719.783.0982

No hormones, no antibiotics, no chemicals, non GMO, USDA Certified 100% Pure Grass Fed Beef



WILDFIRE MITIGATION

HOME & PROPERTY PROTECTION
SKID STEER WORK / HOME IMPROVEMENT & REPAIRS



SWOTA ENTERPRISES
SERVING CUSTER COUNTY & SURROUNDING AREAS

719-783-4477
RAY SWOTA
RSWOTA@GMAIL.COM

Local Mountain News & Notices

BOCC Hosts Taxing Districts Meeting Commissioner from Elbert County and Sen. Mark Baisley Speak

by Fred Hernandez

A public meeting was held at 10 o'clock on the morning of Tuesday, June 6th, at the bowling alley in Westcliffe. Initiated by the Custer County BOCC the get together included State Senator Mark Baisley and special guest Mr. Chris Richardson, Commissioner from Elbert County. Both these gentlemen were to be the main speakers at the event. The meeting was called to hear from the speakers regarding the bills that have just been passed and signed which, in effect, will impact current and future real property taxation on Coloradans.

Commissioner Bill Canda opened the meeting with the Pledge of Allegiance. Commissioners Kevin Day and Tom Flower were seated up front with the guests and around the room were members of the various taxing districts of

the county including local fire and hospital; however, not all districts had representatives present. The rest of the attendees were private residents interested to learn more about the details involved in the state's bills which may sound good for now but may have a far-reaching negative impact on future benefits to taxpayers.

First to speak was Senator Baisley who informed the gathering that Colorado Senate Bill 108 (SB 108) is a bill which allows the local governments of each county to address all matters regarding taxation and make decisions without interference from the state. It was a surprise to many that Gov. Polis signed the bill as it allows taxing districts to temporarily, on a year-to-year basis, reduce their mill levies.

On the other hand SB 303 was a fifty-eight (58) page bill actively

backed by the Governor which was unnecessarily held back until the very last minute of the legislative cycle at which time it passed with little resistance due to adjournment. To make a long story short, SB 23- 303 states that taxes will be slightly reduced on real estate properties that have had a surge in assessed valuation due to market forces. Properties are assessed every two years and taxed according to a formula that includes population increase, inflation and demand.

In exchange for the slight reduction in taxes, voters will be wrongly urged to pass a November ballot item known as Proposition HH which would suspend the benefits that taxpayers now receive from TABOR (the taxpayers bill of rights.) That suspension of TABOR would last for ten years. We all know that we will never

see TABOR again once it is removed for that length of time. To induce voters to pass Prop HH the state will offer to refund to everyone the proposed \$650 which is now due from previous tax collections. However, "they" propose to make the payment to everyone including those who have not paid property tax!

In the meantime, Advance Colorado, a non-profit dedicated to educating Coloradans on the benefits of a strong and sustained state and local governing solutions in the areas of fiscal responsibility, limited government, free enterprise and accountable education systems filed a suit on May 23rd with eleven other plaintiffs. The counties and special districts joining the lawsuit as plaintiffs include: Douglas County, El Paso County, Elbert County, Fremont County, Highlands Ranch

Metropolitan District, Kit Carson County, Logan County, Mesa County, Phillips County, Prowers County, Rio Blanco County and Washington County.

At the end of the meeting it was decided to ask Ms. Ann Barthrop to organize a petition drive to back a resolution that the local BOCC will prepare stating that Custer County will join the lawsuit filed by Advance Colorado.

It is imperative that the community come together and support the efforts of the BOCC to counteract the overreach which could result in taxpayers losing the protections of TABOR. If the government is successful in suspending TABOR, taxpayers will effectively lose tax refunds in the years to come, which arguably can add up to billions of dollars. We urge everyone to stay tuned and get involved.

WET MOUNTAIN
SMALL EQUIPMENT REPAIR



719-225-3867
615 E. MAIN ST,
SILVER CLIFF

Owner Russ Benson
Mon-Fri 8 a.m. - 5 p.m.



We PAY CASH
for used trucks,
trailers, cars,
vans, RVs, buses,
and containers!

Call Henry at 303-880-8272

Liberty Rocks - 2023

Everyone is welcome to join us on
Thursday, June 15th @ 4Kings Bar & Grill
Meet and Greet at 5:30pm
Presentation begins at 6pm
Come eat, drink, discuss, engage, and learn

★ ★ ★ ★ ★
Presentation by:
Col. Shawn Smith (ret.) USAF on the U.S. Election
Integrity Plan and find out what is happening.
Stay involved and learn how to protect the future
for our children, family, friends and neighbors.

★ ★ ★ ★ ★
Proudly sponsored by: Custer Citizens for the Constitution
Contact: Ann Barthrop (303) 547-4723, abarthrop@msn.com
Facebook: Liberty Rocks in Custer County



Aristata
COMMUNICATIONS
FORMERLY COLORADO CENTRAL TELECOM

is now

Aristata Communications
formerly Colorado Central Telecom
provides high-speed residential
and business internet and voice services
to nearly 5,000 customers
in the Central and South-Central Rockies including
Custer County and the surrounding area.

Fast. Rural. Internet.
The speeds you need at prices you can afford.
Visit our website or call to switch to the
best internet provider in your area.

www.AristataCommunications.com
719.937.7700

Local Mountain News & Notices

Events

Saturday, June 10, 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. FREE
Family Fun Day (CCKC)
Memorial Park in Westcliffe

June 9, 10 & 11 Free
Faith Over Fremont Tent Meeting FREE
w/ Sons & Brothers Local & Nat'l Speakers
Bounce house, Food Carts
Lindner Chevrolet /Abbey Football Field

Sunday, June 11, Noon to 4 p.m.
Meet-a-Nonprofit and Volunteer Event
at Cliff Lanes Bowling Alley ,Sponsored by
The Wet Mtn. Valley Community Foundation
(WMVCF)

Saturday, June 17, 8 a.m. to 4 p.m.
San Isabel Area Slash Collection Day
Hwy 78 – Mile 1.0 (12 Mile Road)
Slash and natural woody debris only

Recurring Events

Monday
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.
Jim at 783-2053.

1st Monday of the Month
5 p.m. Post 170 Auxiliary monthly meeting
(year-round) at the Library Community Room

2nd and 4th Monday
9:30 a.m. Mothers of Preschoolers (MOPS) .
at Valley Bible Fellowship, 116 Hermit Lane in
Silver Cliff. Call 913-710-6109
6 – 7 p.m. Narcotics Anonymous
Community United Methodist Church Fellowship Hall.
Children Welcome. colobamanana@yahoo.com

1st Tuesday of the Month
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

Wednesday
9:30 – 11 a.m. Line dancers meet at the United
Methodist Church, 204 S 6th St. Call Debbie
Underwood at (432) 553-7483.

The Posse Ladies Bible Study
See you in the Fall! at 60260 Hwy 69. (Main Bldg.
of Cowboy Church.) Hollyly 703-338-4100

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.
Jim at 783-2053.

6 p.m. Prayer Group Meeting. First Baptist Church
of Westcliffe. Call 719-783-2498.

First Thursday of the Month
9 a.m. - 3 p.m. Comfort Quilters, First Baptist
Church Community Room (log building next to
the church) located at 417 S. 6th St.
Contact Delores Jobe at 719-371-1451.

2nd Thursday of the Month
6 p.m. Custer County Republican Central
Committee meeting. Court House Basement.
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. Loc. TBA
6 p.m. Liberty Rocks 5:30 order, 6 p.m. Presentation
Location for June: 4Kings Bar & Grill

Friday
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.

Saturday
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
1 p.m. VFW meeting at Cliff Lanes Conference
Room, Post Commander Burt Daniels 719-783-3050

4TH ANNUAL

CCKC
FAMILY FUN
DAY!



Memorial Park
305 Hermit Rd
Westcliffe

June 10, 2023 10 AM to 1 PM

Outdoor Safety • Music • Bounce House
Facepainting • FREE FOOD!
Caricaturist • Balloon Artist • Raffles •
Fire Safety • Books • Crafts

719-783-2074 WWW.CUSTERCOUNTYKIDS.ORG

Classifieds

Announcements

FREE BOOKS
At the Sentinel's Lending
Library:
History, biography, war,
crime, etc.
Good quality.

For Sale

USED STRUCTURAL
LUMBER:
Over 2000 board feet
excellent 2X6s, 2X8s,
4X4s, etc.
Stored off the ground and
covered \$1,000. OBO
719-783-9551

Tractor and Hay
Equipment
2012 Kubota
37 hp, 4wd Tractor
w/1340 hrs.
With Bailer. Excellent
condition.
\$20,000.
Call Dave
719-942-4181 Hillside

Garages

Pole Barns and Metal
Buildings
Framing and Roofing
Complete Garage Build

and your Concrete Needs
35 Years Experience
Call Mason 719-783-2975

Garage Sale

Garage Sale: Friday
June 16th 9 a.m. to 3
p.m. Custer County School

Help Wanted

Parking lot.
Housewares, dishes,
furniture, beds, dressers,
desk, table & chairs, Lots
more. EVERYTHING
MUST GO.

Custer County School
District is now hiring for
the following positions:
Certified Positions include
Assistant Principal/Athletic
Director, Agricultural
Teacher/FFA Advisor,
Band/Choir Teacher,
Middle/High School Math
Teacher, Special Education
Teacher, and Substitute
Teachers. Support
positions include Childcare
Assistant and Full-time
Custodian. Any Certified
Teacher/Substitute
application without a CDE
license is incomplete and

will not be considered.
Online applications only.
Please visit us on the web
at: custercountyschools.
org/employment for more
information and to apply.

Sangre de Cristo Sentinel
JOIN YOUR LOCAL
NEWS SOURCE
Stop by the Sentinel
Mon. 10-2. Wedn. 9-4,
Fri. 9-12
601 Main St., Westcliffe
We are looking for
Local people to Report on
LOCAL News
No experience necessary.
(719) 783-3360

4Kings is looking to hire
experienced staff.
Please stop in for an
application.
404 E Main St.
Silver Cliff.

Real Estate

Lori Kastendieck
Independent Broker
Real Estate
WestcliffeBroker.com
719-269-0653
Serving buyers & sellers
Since 1982

Services

WILDFIRE
MITIGATION
Home and Property
Protection
Skid Steer Work/Home
Improvement and Repair
Serving Custer County and
Surrounding Areas
Swota Enterprises
719-783-4477

No Job Too Small
Remodels, Decks, Interi-
or/Exterior Paint
Log Home Staining and
Log repair, Construction.
Local References, Insured.
Tony (719) 783-2883

Happy Birthday GG!
May misfortune follow
you the rest of your life,



but never catch up!
-Old Irish Blessing

To Place an ad, please call 719-783-3360 or email sdc.sentinel@gmail.com.
The deadline for getting your information into the Classifieds is Monday at 4 p.m. for that week's edition.

FREE
SINK
with
purchase



Countertop purchase of 45 square feet
minimum required. Valid only on
Stainless Steel sinks. \$195 value.
Coupon must be presented at
time of sale. New proposals only.
Only one coupon per customer.
Not to be combined with any
other offers.



solgranite.com
Serving Pueblo
Since 2007

Pueblo's Only Granite & Quartz Countertop Fabricators!

Shop Local. Shop Direct.
WE ARE OPEN
M-F 8-5, SAT 10-3

719-544-3085
4804 Dillon Drive, Pueblo
(Behind Texas Roadhouse)

Let each of you look not only to his own interests, but also to the interests of others.
Philippians 2:4 ESV

Obituary

Phyllis Jean Lehrman

Phyllis Jean Lehrman, 91, was born to Howard and Lucia Havens in Newton, Kansas. Phyllis was the oldest of 13 children. She attended and graduated from Newton schools. Phyllis married Otto Lehrman on May 29, 1949. In their 74 years of marriage, she and Otto set an example for their children, grandchildren, and great-grandchildren of what it meant to love one another deeply and in all things.

Phyllis was a homemaker and worked in the kitchen for the Newton school system while her four boys were in school. She was active in the Eagles Ladies Auxiliary while living in Newton. However, her lifelong career was caring for her husband and four sons and later her grandchildren and great-grandchildren.

In 1984, she and Otto retired to their home in Tanglewood Acres near Westcliffe, Colorado, where they have lived independently for the last 40 years.

Phyllis and Otto loved to travel from early on in their marriage and they enjoyed many years together traveling in their RV. Their children and grandchildren were often fortunate enough to travel with them, seeing the country and creating many memories. She loved the ocean most of all and would sit to watch the waves roll in while collecting rocks on the beach. Her love of sunsets is one shared with several of her grandchildren.

Phyllis was famous for her cooking and few things tasted better than a bowl of her chicken and homemade noodles or a coveted cream puff at a

chapel potluck. Cooking was one of the ways she showed her love and compassion for others. There are many wonderful memories shared with friends and family around her table. Nothing made you feel quite as loved as a batch of her waffles on a Sunday morning or a special birthday cake made with love just for you.

Phyllis's passion for the mountains came by way of flowers which was instilled in her by her grandfather. She often named wildflowers as she drove along the highway and would pull off and have her grandchildren stand with them for photos through the years. She would have loved to have a large flower garden, but the rocky soil, deer, and chippies won out and she settled for hanging baskets and planters on her deck.

Perhaps the biggest lesson she taught any of us was how to love well. She was a caretaker and always concerned with others and what they needed. She could make everyone feel welcome and cared for. She taught each of us what it means to see the good in all people and how to care for those around us. Her warmth and kindness were extended to strangers and friends alike...many of whom thought of her as their mother figure. We are so grateful for her legacy of love and our prayer is that we can carry on the lessons she taught us to future generations. She was the most beautiful person any of us have ever known.

She was greeted in eternity by her Lord on June 3, 2023. We are sure holding her hand were her son Dean, her siblings Clyde, Marilyn (Tiny),



Vernon (Bubber), Janice, Shirley, Brenda, her parents Howard and Lucia, her grandparents, and many other close friends who preceded her.

She is deeply missed by her family, especially by her husband, Otto. She is also remembered by her daughter-in-law Vicki, and her sons Robin (Susan), Gary (Marsha), and Kevin (Irene). Grandchildren: Jeremy Lehrman, Sara Lehrman, Jody Schmidt (Craig), Jamie Giles (Ryan) Julie Lehrman, Justin Lehrman (Tara), Maggie Lehrman, Erin Rosfeld (Kerry), Luke Lehrman (Jenna) and 23 Great Grandchildren. Her presence will be missed by many other friends whom she considered family. A private family service will be held in both Colorado and Kansas at a future date.

In lieu of flowers, contributions can be sent in her memory to Tanglewood Acres at 4624 NW 161st Edmond, OK 73013 or Sangre De Cristo Hospice at Sangre de Cristo Community Care 1920 Valley Drive Pueblo, CO 81008



Ronnie Miller
Owner

Eagle Edge Construction LLC
Honesty is Everything

 719-239-0300

 760 Rosita Rd
Westcliffe, CO 81252



Dutch
Pantry & Deli

NEW SUMMER HOURS!
MONDAY & SATURDAY 10 AM-4 PM
TUESDAY - FRIDAY 9 AM-5 PM
CLOSED SUNDAYS
LOCATED NEXT TO YODER'S HOME FURNISHINGS
57965 HWY 69, WESTCLIFFE

Meetings in Custer County

Tuesday, June 13, 2023 9 AM
CC Tourism Board
Kirkpatrick Bank Conference Room

Thursday, June 29, 2023, 9 AM
BOCC Meeting - End of Month Meeting -
205 S 6th St, Westcliffe

Custer Senior Center Menu

Monday, June 12
#20 California Veggie Bake
Spinach Salad w/Egg and Lite Italian
Pear & Citrus Cup
Oatmeal Raisin Cookie
WW Bread w/Butter

Tuesday, June 13
#109 Turkey Pot Pie
Peas & Carrots
Salad w/Lite Ranch
WW Roll w/Butter
Orange, Oatmeal Cookie

Thursday, June 15
#83 Spaghetti and Meat Sauce
Salad w/Lite Italian
Green Beans
Orange
WW Bread w/Butter

Please call (719) 783-9508 before 9:30 a.m. for reservations or grab-n-go meals.
A \$3 suggested donation per meal is appreciated, but not required.
Served Mondays, Tuesdays, & Thursdays. All menus subject to change.



Christian Science
9:30 a.m. Worship
8 Bassick Place, Westcliffe

Church of Christ
9:30 a.m. Bible Study
10:30 a.m. Worship
818 Ohio Street, Silver Cliff
719/783-4601

Church of Jesus Christ of Latter Day Saints
240 Ridgeline Dr, Westcliffe
Pres: 719/545-1196

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
0157 County Rd. 27A
Cotopaxi 719/942-3526

Community United Methodist Church
8 a.m. & 10 a.m. Worship
202 S. 6th Street, Westcliffe
719/783-2511

Cotopaxi Community Church
9:45 a.m. Sunday School
11 a.m. Worship
6 p.m. Wedn. Bible Study
PastorSteveHolcomb@gmail.com
20326 Hwy. 50, Cotopaxi

Summer Schedule Changing?
Send Church updates to
sdc.sentinel@gmail.com
(719) 783-3360

The Cowboy Church at Crossroads
9 a.m. Worship Service
4th Ave (Park Place)
and Illinois Street, Penrose
Pastor 719/784-9126

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
417 S. 6th Street, Westcliffe
719/783-2498

High Country Mennonite Church
9:30 a.m. Worship
10:45 a.m. Sunday School
103 N. Adams St. Westcliffe
719/783-9045

Huerfano Community Bible Church
10:30 a.m. Sunday Worship
7 p.m.: Thursday Bible Study
603 Leon Street, Walsenburg
(719) 251-9053

Hope Lutheran Church
2 p.m. Worship
3:15 p.m. Bible Study
3rd & Powell Streets, Westcliffe
Pastor Dan Kletke 719/783-2323
Lange Hall 719/783-2561

Living Stone Calvary Chapel
Saturday 5:30-6:30 p.m.
Sunday Outdoors 9:30-11 a.m.
830 Bridge St., Canon City, CO
Pastor Sean Meagher 719/276-0863

Our Lady of the Assumption Roman Catholic Church
Diocese of Pueblo
11 a.m. Sunday Mass
10 a.m. Tuesday Mass (summer)
10 a.m. Wednesday Mass
109 S. 5th Street, Westcliffe
719/783-3507

Our Lady of Mt. Zion Catholic Church
11 a.m. Mass,
2nd & 3rd Sunday of month
210 S. 2nd St, Westcliffe
719/783-2491

Praise Community Church
Sunday School 9:30 a.m.
Praise & Worship 10:45 a.m.
215 N Pikes Peak Ave., Florence
719/784-1184

St. Luke's Episcopal Church
10:30 a.m. Worship & Eucharist
11:30 a.m. Fellowship
8:30 a.m. Prayer Service, Thursdays
3rd & Rosita Streets, Westcliffe
719/783-2477

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
Diocese of Pueblo
Saturday Mass 4 p.m.
Highway 69, Gardner
Bldg. Mickey. 719/746-2037

Sangre de Cristo Cowboy Church
Pastor: Mike Shields
3 p.m. Sunday School Bible Study
4 p.m. Worship
Last Sunday of Month: Potluck
6 p.m. Tuesday Bible Study
sangredecrislocowboychurch.com
also on Facebook
60260 Hwy. 69 N, Westcliffe
719/232-5372

Sangre de Cristo Fellowship
9 a.m. Meet & Greet
9:30 a.m. Service
120 Jerry Court, Westcliffe
719/783-0903

Sangre de Cristo Seminary Chapel
10 a.m. Worship
6160 County Rd. 130, Westcliffe
719/371-1822

Valley Bible Fellowship
10 a.m. Worship
116 Hermit Lane, Silver Cliff
719/581-7572

Wetmore Baptist Church
9:45 a.m. Sunday School
10:45 a.m. Worship
6 p.m. Worship
Junction of Hwy 96 & 67, Wetmore
719/784-1230

Wetmore Community Church
9 a.m. Sunday School
10 a.m. Worship
699 County Rd. 395, Wetmore
719/784-0596

Community Services

Altitude Community Fitness
(719) 783-0750

Custer County Community Sharing Center Inc.
120 N. 3rd St. Fri. (719) 783-2994
OPEN First 3 Fridays of the month 12 – 3 p.m.
TEFAP Surplus 2nd Monday of the month 1 - 3 p.m.
An Equal Opportunity Provider

Family Crisis Services
Domestic Violence and Sexual Assault Center for
Fremont and Custer Counties
(719) 275-2429
FamilyCrisisOnline.org

Front Range Clinic
Medications for Addiction Treatment (MAT)
1-866-MAT-STAT
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
1-719-275-2351

VETERANS SERVICE Office (VSO)
Open MONDAYS
8AM to 5PM
For assistance by phone:
Call Eric Moncibias at 303-349-6714
or email eric.moncibias@dmva.state.co.us
To request VA Benefits Letter
Call 800-698-2411
You must have a valid email address for this request.

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 Mt. Rotary Van Service
Call M-F 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. (719) 783-2343

Do nothing from selfish ambition or conceit, but in humility count others more significant than yourselves. Philippians 2:3 ESV

Shopping Local Helps Local Economy & Creates Local Jobs

POWER OUTAGE? NO PROBLEM!

GP POWER SYSTEMS

Serving your needs, BIG & small since 1992

Contact Glenn at
719-371-8625

We Sell & Service
Locally and to
Surrounding Counties

Also, Repair & Service on Small Engines & ATV's

Made & Assembled in America!

KOHLER
Generators



The Cliffes Auto Services

215 E. Main St
Silver Cliff, CO 81252

(719) 285-3181
(719) 783-3281

cliffesautosvcs@gmail.com



Warranty Certified & Factory Trained
Specializing in Metal Restoration,
EPDM, Rubber, Foam & Ply

719-792-9414
800-364-2979

David Mullett

Residential & Commercial



Business Directory



Scan the QR to Download

Automotive & Tires

The Cliffes Auto Service
Automotive Repair and Service
215 E Main St, Silver Cliff • 719-783-3281
CliffesAutoSvc@gmail.com

Banks & Financial Services

Kirkpatrick Bank
8 Bassick Place, Westcliffe, CO
719.783.2030
www.kirkpatrickbank.com

Peaks Integrity Wealth Management, LLC / Raymond James
Investments, Financial and Insurance Services
719-581-PEAK (7325) / www.peaks-integrity.com

PENNICA FINANCIAL GROUP LLC
Comprehensive Financial Advisors and Planners
Your Trusted Advisor—Here to serve • 719-572-0447
www.pennicafinancial.com

United Business Bank
102 S Adams Blvd, Westcliffe
719-783-9211
www.unitedbusinessbank.com

Beef LOCAL

Local Grass Fed Beef
InAWhisperRanch.com
719-783-0982
Free Delivery

Sangres Best Grass Finished Beef
sangresbest.com 719.783.2222 x2
'simple to know us and simple to get your beef'
100% Satisfaction Guarantee

Builders/ Construction

Construction Solutions of Colorado, LLC
Steel Buildings -- Licensed & Insured
(719)371-1395
Chris Nordyke constsolutions@icloud.com

CUSTOM Home Builders Westcliffe Construction, LLC
From the Ground Up!
719-371-5231

Eagle Edge Construction, LLC
Ronnie Miller
719-239-0300
Honesty is Everything

Hershberger Construction
719-216-9545
Matt@HershbergerConstruction.net

No Job Too Small
Remodels, Decks, Additions, Log Repair, Staining/ Painting
Tony 719-783-2883 INSURED
For your small Construction Needs

Buyer Pays Cash

We pay cash!
For used trucks, trailers, cars, vans,
RVs, buses, & containers.
Call Henry at 303-880-8272

Cleaning Services

Sangre View Cleaning Services
House Cleaning weekly/bi-weekly
Supplies provided
719-502-5635

Valley Cleaning Services LLC
719-640-5967
Offering services for Commercial, Residential,
Construction & Short Term Rentals

Construction Services

Beach Redi-Mix & Concrete Pumping
Precast septic tanks &
decorative blocks
719-783-3558 | info@SBCompanies.com

Concrete Flat Work
Driveways, Sidewalks, Foundations
30 years experience
Mason 719-783-2975

Daryl CUSTOM Home Builders WKM Construction, LLC
From the Ground Up!
719-371-5231

Dave's Roofing Systems
719-792-9414 / 800-364-2979
David Mullett
Warranty Certified & Factory Trained

Harald Frank Skid Steer Services and H & L Trucking
HaraldFrank7@gmail.com 719-371-1570
Driveways Build/Repair - Gravel & Road Base Hauling

Henry's Remodeling & Home Projects
Over 20 years experience
303-880-8272

KLM Seamless Gutters
Marlin Miller
Quality and Experience
719-371-7021

Sangre View Masonry
Over 25 years experience in ICF walls,
slabs on grade, foundations, brick, stone, & more
719-459-4075 | sangreviewmasonry.com

Sapiah Woodworks, LLC.
Lisa Kidwell, Owner/Contractor
Custom & Fine Carpentry, Restoration, Consulting
720.309.4262 sapiahwoodworks@gmail.com

Seifert Enterprises
Excavation, Septic Systems, Culverts,
Driveways, Rock Sales & Delivery
719-783-2757 info@SBCompanies.com

SWOTA ENTERPRISES
Wildfire Mitigation and Excavation
719-783-4477
rswota@gmail.com

Countertops

SOL Granite & Natural Stone
4804 Dillon Dr. Pueblo - 719-544-3085
solgranite.com
Inventory, Custom Design, Fabrication & Installation

Dentist

Jared Smith, DMD
618 Main St, Cañon City
719-275-0661
www.jaredsmithdmd.com

Florist

Salty Pine Floral & Boutique
411 Main St, Westcliffe
719-783-9393
www.westcliffeflowershop.com

Funeral Homes

Holt Family Funeral Home
806 Macon Ave, Cañon City
719-275-4113
www.holtfamilyfuneralhomes.com

Furniture & Home Goods

Yoder's Home Outfitting
57965 Hwy 69, Westcliffe
Home & Patio Furniture, Footwear, Outdoor Wear
Mon-Sat 9am-5pm

Generator Sales / Service

GP Power Systems
719-371-8625
gppowersystems1@gmail.com

Grocery & Health Foods

Sunflower Natural Foods
Organic Dairy, Produce, Supplements
Many local suppliers!
405 Main St., Westcliffe | Mon-Sat 10am-5pm

Lowe's Market
50 Main St, Westcliffe
719-783-0550
www.lowesmarket.com

Guns, Gun Clubs, Knives and Ammo

Advanced Weapons
2149 Fremont Drive, Cañon City
719-784-0572
www.advancedweapons.net

Custer County Supply Co
206 Main St. Westcliffe | 719-659-8743
Open Tues-Sat: 10am-5pm
Guns, e-bikes, dog supplies, clothing, & much more!

Shopping Local Helps Local Economy & Creates Local Jobs

Gun Clubs, Knives and Ammo

Gunfighter Design
Hard use tools for serious people
Veteran Designed & Crafted
www.gunfighterdesign.com

Royal Gorge Gun Club & Lincoln Park Pawn
1345 Elm Ave, Cañon City 719-276-3030
Lincolnparkpawn@hotmail.com
1 foot to over 1 mile, 75 different powders

Sangre Shooting Sports Club
P.O. Box 1554, Westcliffe, CO
http://sangreshooting.com

Heating & Air Conditioning

Michael Thiem's Heating & AC, LLC
Westcliffe
719-429-9989
mhthiem@gmail.com

Piñon Plumbing, LLC
All Service Heating · Residential & Commercial
Boilers, Furnaces & Propane Heaters
Licensed & Insured · Jeff Ray 719-371-9900

White Bros Custom Plumbing & Heating, Inc.
www.whitebrosplumbing.com
P.O. Box 957, Westcliffe ~ 719-217-7202
Locally Owned & Family Operated

Home Health/Home Services

Southern Comfort
RN Private Homecare
Call/text 912-223-8053
Hotswampthing@yahoo.com

Insurance

State Farm Dennis Podzemny
1004 S 9th St, Cañon City
719-275-1548
https://www.canoncityinsurance.com

Internet

Aristata Communications
formerly Colorado Central Telecom
Internet, Voice Services 719.937.7700 opt 1;
www.AristataCommunications.com

SECOM
27850 Harris Road, La Junta
800-657-7149
www.secom.net

Landscaping

Falls to Ponder LLC
Retaining Walls, Patios, Waterfalls & More
719-275-5040
FallsToPonder.com

Mitigation/ Pest Control

Gabe's Rodent Removal
719-717-0976
GabesRodentRemoval@gmail.com
Protect your home or vacant dwelling

Premier Pest Control
719-371-7404 ~ ppc16@privategarden.org
inspections, estimates, professional pest management
residential, commercial, licensed and insured

Mitigation/ Tree Removal

Swota Enterprises
Wildfire Mitigation and Excavation
719-783-4477
rswota@gmail.com

Wise Tree Service
719-429-2866 Local, Insured, Experienced
Complete tree service-difficult removals, trimming/
shaping, stump grinding and fire mitigation

Pharmacy

Palace Drug Silver Cliff
Get your prescriptions filled while you wait!
94 E Main St., Silver Cliff
Palacedrugco.com | 719-371-9402

Plumbing and Heating

Pinon Plumbing, LLC
All Service Plumber · Residential & Commercial
Boilers, Water Heaters & Gas · Custer and Fremont Co.
Licensed & Insured / 27 Yrs. Exp · Jeff Ray 719-371-9900

River Valley Plumbing and Heating
250 Moore Dr, Florence
719-285-4229
http://rivervalleyplumbingandheating.com

White Bros Custom Plumbing & Heating, Inc.
www.whitebrosplumbing.com
P.O. Box 957, Westcliffe ~ 719-217-7202
Locally Owned & Family Operated

Propane

Norup Gas
28 Range View Loop, Westcliffe
719-783-9338

San Isabel Services Propane
90 N. Laser Dr, Pueblo West
719-547-1214
https://www.sispropane.com

Real Estate Services

Bighorn Realty
Jack & Jean Canterbury
719-429-5411 ranchrealtor@outlook.com

Brenda Bosse HomeSmart Preferred Real Estate
3 Bassick Place, Westcliffe, CO 81252
719-371-3270, brenda@brendabosse.com
Selling locally for 24 years.

Custer County Realty
902 Main St, Westcliffe
719-783-9221
www.custerrealty.com

Dan Hight HomeSmart Preferred Real Estate
Dan Hight, Realtor
720-436-1335
Dannyhight77@gmail.com

Lori Kastendieck
Independent Broker
719-269-0653
WestcliffeBroker.com

Mountain Land Properties, LLC
Sarah & Brock Flynn
719-783-0563 | mountainlandproperties.com
Serving Westcliffe since 2001

UC- WAPITI RANCH REALTY & AUCTION LLC
Wade Pettis & Jackie Shepherd-Pettis (719) 783-9052
Jackie@WapitiRanchRealty.com
www.WapitiRanchRealty.com

Restaurants & Dining

4Kings Bar & Grill
404 East Main Street • Silver Cliff
(719) 783-3331
Follow us on Facebook • 4Kings Bar & Grill

Dutch Pantry & Deli
Located next to Yoder's Home Outfitting
Mon & Sat 10-4 | Tues - Fri 9-5
57965 Hwy 69, Westcliffe

Stage Stop Gourmet Sundaes & Espresso
101 N Main St, Westcliffe
Follow Us: Facebook.com/inthesangres

Solar / Renewable Energy

Solar Solutions Ltd
Off Grid and Grid Tie
10 Hermit Lane. Silver Cliff 719-783-9666
email: pbailey@solarsolutions.com

Storage

Outta Space Storage LLC
86o Airport Rd | Silver West Airport
www.outtaspacestoragecolorado.com
303-906-1900

Wet Mountain Storage
302 Main St, Westcliffe (office)
719-783-9321
www.westcliffecoloradoselfstorage.com

Tractor/Trailer Sales

True Value Hardware and Trailers
635 Shoop Dr, Penrose
719-784-0123
https://www.truevaluetrailers.com

Vacation / Accommodations

Music Meadows Guest Ranch
musicmeadows.com 719.783.2222 x1
'way beyond an ordinary trail ride'
Experience * Encounter * Expand

Veterinary

High Peaks Animal Hospital
1200 Broadway St, Silver Cliff
719-783-3770
www.highpeaksanimal.com

Well Drilling and Pump Services

Finney Drilling
Cañon City
719-275-9525
larryfinneydrilling@gmail.com

Window Coverings

Shadey Deals Too, Inc
Hunter Douglas Dealer
Locally Owned; 35 years in Business
970-376-6888 Jay & Klm Townshed

Not Listed?
Give us a call for Reasonable Rates
719-783-3360

Thank You For Supporting Our Advertisers

Custer County Middle School: 8th



Members of the Eighth

Robert Bachman

Wesley Bennett

Sarah Cline

Jasmine Ferris

Sabastian Grayson

Matthew Grossardt

Trinity Haddad

Keely Huffman

Creed Ingram

Layna Jones

Lili Kozlowski

Shelby Langford



Grade Graduation: May 23, 2023



th Grade Class 2023

- Benjamin Lewandowski
- Corbyn Martin
- Wade Pierce
- Carolina Phelps
- Reaghan Shank
- Ricky Shank
- Mason Simmons
- Chloe Simpson
- Joren Taylor
- Kal-wl Tunnell
- Calliope Weber
- Mary Weber



Sheriff's Report...

SO Report for 6/9/23

5/14/23:

Traffic Summons: Cameron Ellis was summonsed for failure to provide proof of car insurance.
Matthew Miller was issued a summons for failure to provide proof of car insurance.

Arrest: Janet Chester was Arrested for Attempted Second Degree Burglary and Obstructing Government Operations.

Crash: A Deputy investigated a car crash on H96 MP11 it is suspected to have been caused by a medical condition.

Bad Dawg: A dog owned by Danielle Taylor bit an employee at Elevations Meat Market.

Horse Shot: Deputies investigated the fatal shooting of a horse on CR 341.

5/16/23:
Traffic Summons: Alyssa Williams was issued a speeding ticket.

5/17/23:
Crash: A Deputy investigated a cold car

crash that occurred in a construction zone on H96.

Traffic Summons: Isaac Selden was issued a speeding ticket.

Standby: Deputies performed a civil standby for child custody at Lea Lane.

Arrest: Tonya Ellis was Arrested for Harassment.

Possible Sex Assault: A Deputy took a report on a child sex assault that may have occurred ten years ago.

5/21/23:
Traffic Summons: Samuel Collier was issued a summons for failed to provide car insurance.

Trespassing: A Deputy took a cold report of trespassing by a former tenant, not a crime, civil dispute.

Found: A Deputy located a party who had been reported missing while hiking on CR 375.

5/22/23:
Traffic Summons: James McDonald was issued a speeding ticket.

Cameron Ellis received a speeding ticket.

5/23/23:

Traffic Summons: Christopher Nichols received a summons for failure to provide insurance.

Tucker Leachman received a ticket for expired license plates.

Damage: A report was taken for damage to county property (Sheriff vehicle 10).

Runaways: A report was taken for two runaway teenage females from Westcliffe.

5/24/23:
Bad Dawg: Philip Haleside was investigated for ownership of a dangerous dog, following a dog bite incident.

5/25/23:
Possible Domestic: A Deputy investigated a possible domestic violence case on CR 323, no charges filed.

Theft: A Deputy investigated the theft of \$2,040 in property from a residence on Pipeweed Path.

5/26/23:
Accident: A Deputy investigated a traffic crash

involving one vehicle and two elk on South Hwy 69.

Traffic Summons: Lawrence Muro was cited for expired registration plates.

Mo' Bad Dawgs: Richard Vasquez was investigated for unlawful ownership of a dangerous dog, following a dog bite incident.

5/27/23:
Arrest: Bobby Reed of Silver Cliff was Arrested on a failure to comply Warrant.

Traffic Summons: Christopher Rash received a summons for driving while driver's license suspended.

Dangerous Dawg: Deputies are investigating a case of unlawful ownership of a dangerous dog on Custer Lane following a dog attacking a neighbors dog.

5/28/23:

Suicide/Domestic: Deputies responded to a suicide in progress on CR 255. The person was also charged with Domestic Violence Assault.

Crash: Deputies responded

a one vehicle motorcycle crash on H96 near MP 18. The rider received serious bodily injury and was transported by ambulance.

5/29/23:

Accident: Deputies responded to an off-highway vehicle crash on CR 255. Deputies rendered medical assistance until EMS arrived. Two patients transported by ambulance.

Abandoned: A Deputy towed an abandoned vehicle on CR 140.

Welfare Check: Deputies checked the welfare of four children at a residence who were listed in an Amber alert out of Texas.

Suicide Attempt: Deputies responded to a suicide attempt. Patient was transported by ambulance with a posse guard and escort.

5/30/23:

Traffic Summons: Cory Ellis was issued a speeding ticket.

6/1/23:

Traffic Summons: Josiah Talbert was issued a summons for; no license plate, no proof of



insurance, driving when driver's license under restraint. The vehicle was impounded.

6/2/23:

Bad Person: Deputies took a complaint about a unknown vehicle that drove across wet cement at the EMS barn causing an estimated \$30,000 in damages.

Mischief: Deputies investigated a case of criminal mischief involving a juvenile.

6/3/23:

Arrest: Tonya Ellis was Arrested on a Warrant.

Arrest: Sarah Smith of Lea Lane was Arrested on a Warrant. Brass knuckles were confiscated during the Arrest.

Lake DeWeese Incident: Deputies investigated 2nd Degree Assault, Domestic Violence, Alcohol involved at Lake DeWeese. An Arrest Warrant has been obtained for Thomas Douglas who fled the scene.

How to Help Get "Sound of Freedom" In More Theaters

In "Sound of Freedom", Jim Caviezel, who you may remember from his lead role in "The Passion of the Christ", portrays Tim Ballard, who was called to start Operation Underground Railroad (O.U.R.). It is based on the incredible true story and shines a light on the darkest of places.

From O.U.R.'s website:

"Tim Ballard spent more than a decade working as a Special Agent for the

Department of Homeland Security, where he was assigned to the International Crimes Against Children Task Force and deployed as an undercover operative to the U.S. Child Sex Tourism Jump Team."

Two years ago, they completed the filming of Sound of Freedom, but have been fighting to get it released. You may be surprised to hear that many of those in 'positions of power' don't want this evil exposed. But the public

outcry, just like it was for "The Passion", seems to have hit its mark. The release date is set for July 4, 2023, via Angel Studios - the same studio who produced "The Chosen".

The goal is to pre-sell two million tickets, in honor of the two million children who are trafficked around the world every year. You can watch the official trailer, buy your ticket, or pay it forward to help buy those two million seats, at: Angel.com/Freedom



Custer County Sheriff's Office needs your help again!

In 2019, Custer County raised funds to purchase life saving body armor for our deputies.

The Sheriff's Office recently requested two new vests, and Shield 616 has funds to cover only one.

We need your help to cover the additional vest, and toward future purchases to keep our deputies safe.



To make a donation, visit shield616.org and click **DONATE**.

Please specify you'd like your donation to go to Custer County Sheriff's Office.

Or make checks payable to "SHIELD616". Checks can be sent to 13395 Voyager Parkway Suite 130 #516, Colorado Springs, Colorado, 80921.

SHIELD616 is a 501c3 tax-exempt charity (Federal Tax ID #47-4347589)



SAPIAH WOODWORKS

Lisa Kidwell
Owner/Contractor

- ♦ Deck Restoration ♦ New Deck Construction
- ♦ Log Home Restoration ♦ Custom & Fine Carpentry
- ♦ Interior/Exterior Painting ♦ Hardwood Floor Installation
- ♦ Hardwood Floor Restoration ♦ Custom Barn Doors
- ♦ Project Management ♦ Consulting

Fully Insured ♦ Complimentary On-Site Consultation

720.309.4262 sapiahwoodworks@gmail.com

Court Issues Findings and Order

Note: on May 31, 2023 the 11th District Judge, honorable Lynette M. Wenner issued the following ruling. Because the courts do not print the findings, we are publishing it as a courtesy to our readership..

DISTRICT COURT, CUSTER COUNTY, COLORADO, Eleventh Judicial District
205 S. 6th St.
Westcliffe, CO 81252
Telephone: (719) 783-2274
Fax: (719) 783-2995

Petitioner: Marjorie Ann Barthrop, in her capacity as committee member for the Petition to Recall Tom Flower, Custer County Commissioner,
v.

Respondent: Kelley S. Camper, in her official capacity as the Clerk and Recorder for Custer County, Colorado

DATE May 31, 2023
Case Number: 2022CV6

FINDINGS AND ORDER ON PETITION FOR RELIEF UNDER C.R.S. § 1-1-113

I. Introduction and Stipulated Facts.

This case is before the court on Petitioner’s Verified Amended Petition for Relief under C.R.S. § 1-1-113. THE COURT FINDS:

The primary dispute here is whether a recall election for a Custer County commissioner should be held. It depends upon whether the county clerk erred in subsequently allowing the withdrawal of signatures which dropped the total to below the required minimum. And that turns on whether a purported protest letter met the requirements of § 1-12-108(8)(a)(c), C.R.S., specifically whether it was “under oath”, so that the time for filing signature withdrawal requests was properly extended.

The parties stipulated at a hearing on March 21, 2023 that the merits of this action would be decided upon the basis of the record, stipulated exhibits, uncontested offers of proof, and oral and written argument.

The court understands the facts to be: The recall committee submitted signed petitions to recall a commissioner. Respondent county clerk notified the recall committee that the recall petition appeared to be sufficient per § 1-12-108(8)(a)(c), C.R.S. Then a document purporting to be a protest per § 1-12-108(9)(a)(I), C.R.S., was timely submitted to the county clerk. See Jordan Hedberg letter, Exhibit A to Verified Amended Petition, filed October 12, 2022. The county clerk concluded a hearing on the protest¹ was required per § 1-12-108(9)(a)(II), C.R.S. A hearing was held and the hearing officer apparently determined the protest was invalid, though there is nothing in the record from the hearing.² Meantime, the county clerk received enough requests for withdrawal of signatures from persons who had signed the original recall petition to drop below the required total. Following the hearing, and after deducting the withdrawn

signatures, the county clerk notified the recall committee that the recall petition was insufficient for insufficient signatures.

II. Legal Standard.

[T]he power of the people to use the recall procedures must be liberally construed and ... conversely, limitations thereon must be interpreted strictly. See *DiManna v. Election Commission*, 187 Colo. 270, 530 P.2d 955 (1975). Nevertheless, “to liberally construe the statutes governing the exercise of the power to recall is not to ignore entirely the requirements of those statutes.”

R.E.C.A.L.L. v. Sauer, 721 P.2d 154, 155 (Colo.App.1986).

(1) When any controversy arises between any official charged with any duty or function under this code and any candidate, or any officers or representatives of a political party, or any persons who have made nominations or when any eligible elector files a verified petition in a district court of competent jurisdiction alleging that a person charged with a duty under this code has committed or is about to commit a breach or neglect of duty or other wrongful act, after notice to the official which includes an opportunity to be heard, upon a finding of good cause, the district court shall issue an order requiring substantial compliance with the provisions of this code. The order shall require the person charged to forthwith perform the duty or to desist from the wrongful act or to forthwith show cause

¹ Other purported protests were filed but the parties stipulated that they were not qualifying protests and they will not be addressed.

² The only reference in the record is at ¶ 14 of Petitioner’s Response to Motion to Dismiss, filed Nov. 17 (“Respondent scheduled a protest hearing to hear the protests. In the end, each of the protests were rejected by the hearing officer.”).

why the order should not be obeyed. The burden of proof is on the petitioner.

§ 1-1-113, C.R.S. Neglect of duty and wrongful acts--procedures for adjudication of controversies--review by supreme court.

III. Discussion and Legal Conclusions.

First, the court concludes that § 1-12-108(9), C.R.S., grants the county clerk the duty and authority to make an initial determination as to whether a submission to her of a document purporting to be a protest is either facially void – i.e., not “a protest in writing under oath” as provided in § 1-12-108(9)(a)(I), C.R.S. – or requires a hearing per § 1-12-108(9)(a)(II), C.R.S. *R.E.C.A.L.L. v. Sauer*, 721 P.2d 154, 155 (Colo.App.1986). However, the county clerk erred in finding the Hedberg letter sufficient to require a hearing.³ The letter is facially invalid as failing to be “under oath”.

The phrase “under oath” is undefined in the election code. The parties agree that there is no Colorado case applying a definition. The court has found none. It seems to the court that guidance should be taken from the statutory scheme Colorado has adopted regarding sworn statements, i.e., the Revised Uniform Law on Notarial Acts, § 24-21-501, et seq, C.R.S. It defines “Verification on oath or affirmation” to “mean() a declaration, made by an individual on oath or affirmation before a notarial officer, that a statement in a record is true.” § 24-21-502(16),

C.R.S. “(1) A notarial act must be evidenced by a certificate. ... (3) A certificate of a notarial act is sufficient if it ... (a) Is in a short form set forth in section 24-21-516.” § 24-21-515(1) and (3)(a), C.R.S.⁴ § 24-21-516, C.R.S., Short form certificates, provides (with bold added for emphasis):

³ The court is not, by these conclusions, making any judgment that the county clerk did not act in good faith. The election laws are complex and not easily administered. And whether the protest met the requirements of the statute is a close question, turning on the preponderance of evidence, the lowest standard in the law.

⁴ § 24-21-515, C.R.S., sets out other requirements and forms which may be sufficient but none were addressed by the parties so the court confines its analysis of the uniform act to the form which the Hedberg letter most closely conforms.

(1) The following short form certificates of notarial acts are sufficient for the purposes indicated, if completed with the information required by section 24-21-515 (1) and (2):

...

(c) For a verification on oath or affirmation:

State of

County of

Signed and **sworn to (or affirmed)** before me on (date) by

(name(s) of individuals making statement)

Signature of notarial officer

Stamp

...

The Hedberg letter’s notarial stamp does not contain the words “and sworn to (or affirmed)”. It does not meet the requirements of the Revised Uniform Law on Notarial Acts and is patently not “sufficient” as a “verification on oath or affirmation.” §§ 24-21-502(16), 515 (1) and (3)(a), and 516(1)(c), C.R.S. The protest letter of Mr. Hedberg did not meet the requirements of § 1-12-108(9)(a)(I), C.R.S. The document does not show that anyone administered an oath to Mr. Hedberg or that he swore to the statement in the letter as required by the statute. Because there is nothing in the record from the protest hearing, there is nothing to show that the protest was “under oath”. The protest, as a document that is facially insufficient, and which was not found at the protest hearing to be “under oath”, is void ab initio.

Second, the court concludes that if a protest is facially invalid or the hearing officer determines the protest fails to conform to the requirements of the statutes, that any requests to withdraw signatures submitted during the period provided in § 1-12-108(9)(d)(IV), C.R.S., are void. The county clerk erroneously determined a facially sufficient protest had been received.

And, apparently here ⁵ the hearing officer determined the Hedberg letter did not qualify as a valid protest.

In spite of the findings of the hearing officer, the county clerk issued her October 4 Statement of Insufficiency.⁶ She erred in tallying the number of valid petition signatures by deducting the requests to withdraw signatures that were received subsequent to the protest letter of Mr. Hedberg. The protest, as

discussed above, was facially insufficient to trigger a hearing. Nor does the county clerk provide authority to the court for the proposition that a protest determined to be invalid nevertheless extends the deadline for requests to withdraw signatures. The county clerk provides no authority for the proposition that an invalid protest extends the deadline for filing requests to withdraw signatures under either circumstance. Although the statute does not address what happens in the event a protest is determined to be void ab initio,⁷ in other contexts that

status requires vacation of subsequent events. See e.g., *Union High School Dist. No. 2 v. Paul*, 95 P.2d 5, 7, 105 Colo. 93, 95–96 (Colo. 1939) (teacher’s contract which violates licensing statute is void ab initio”). Further, this conclusion is consistent with how the court must apply the law. As respondent says: “the right of recall is a fundamental right of the people. Statutes governing the exercise of the power to recall are to be liberally construed in favor of the “ability to exercise it.” *Hazelwood v. Saul*, 619 P.2d 499 (Colo. 1980); *Dodge v. County Clerk and Recorder of the County of Fremont*, 678 P.2d 1271 (Colo. App. 1989).”⁸

The deadline extension for filing requests to withdraw signatures provided in § 1-12-108(9)(d)(IV), C.R.S. is effective only in the event that a valid protest is filed. Once it is determined that no valid protest has been filed, the county clerk must determine if the recall petition is sufficient as of the original deadline. Put another way, an invalid protest does not

⁵ It is puzzling to the court why the parties did not include the hearing officer’s findings. The court infers the hearing officer found the protest failed. Whether it was because it was not “under oath” or for another reason, it does not matter for purposes of this order because the court must find that there is no protest “under oath” in the record.

⁶ Exhibit C 1-7, filed October 12, 2022.

⁷ “Null from the beginning ...” Black’s Law Dictionary (11th ed. 2019).

⁸ Legal Argument of the Custer County Clerk, ¶ 2.

extend the deadline for filing requests to withdraw signatures. The lack of an oath voided the requests for withdrawal of signatures received while the protest was pending, which means the deadline for filing requests to withdraw signatures lapsed.

In sum, good cause has been shown by petitioner for a court order requiring substantial compliance by respondent with the election code.

IV. Order.

THEREFORE, IT IS ORDERED:

Respondent County Clerk shall forthwith make a determination that the recall petition is sufficient and conduct a recall election consistent with the requirements of Title 1, Article 12,

C.R.S. or show cause why this order should not be obeyed.

Entered this 31st day of May, 2023.

BY THE COURT:

/s/ Lynette M. Wenner

DISTRICT COURT JUDGE

###



Hersherberger
CONSTRUCTION

- Metal Roofing
- Siding
- Windows
- Decks
- Buildings

719-216-9545

OVER 20 YEARS OF QUALITY AMISH WORKMANSHIP

KLM Seamless Gutters

Marlin Miller

Westcliffe, Colorado

Quality and experience

719 371 7021



SANGRE VIEW
MASONRY, LLC

Andy Miller, Owner

(719) 459-4075

Sangreviewmasonry.com



The Strange Story on How Colorado Is Set to Get ‘In God We Trust’ License Plates

by Andrew Kenney,
Colorado Public Radio

Sen. Mark Baisley stood in a hallway just off the state House chamber, peering in keenly as statehouse representatives took up final voting on a particularly contentious measure on one of the last days of the legislative session.

“I tried to talk my way (in), but they said I can stand over here in the corner,” he laughed. When final votes are underway, outsiders aren’t allowed to walk around the chamber — even if they’re state senators like Baisley.

Baisley had come to watch the fate of Senate Bill 25, one of a handful of measures he sponsored this year. The Republican senator had a remarkably successful session in the Democratic-controlled capitol, sponsoring nine other bills that passed the legislature.

But SB23-025 was perhaps the biggest question mark on his agenda this year. The measure, which would allow the state to sell license plates emblazoned with the slogan “In God We Trust,” had been snarled in the political process.

“I’m not certain,” he whispered. “I’m gonna say I’m 75 percent sure it will pass.”

These so-called “license plate bills” are a running joke in the legislature, since lawmakers must individually approve each new design — a task some find trivial.

The state offers 50 “special group” license plates, with themes ranging from “Italian

American Heritage” to supporting pollinators, foster families, Pueblo chiles and the troops — all individually authorized by the state’s lawmakers. (That’s in addition to dozens more for alumni of various institutions, military veterans and others.)

But the In God We Trust plate had taken on a life of its own. It became both a topic of philosophical debate — would issuing such plates be an unconstitutional endorsement of religion or a matter of free speech? — as well as a political bargaining chip in the heated negotiations over much bigger stuff in the House.

Baisley, who calls himself a constitutional conservative, had first introduced the bill last year — but Democrats allowed it to languish in a committee for months, causing it to run out of time. This year, Baisley tried a new strategy: He recruited a Democratic ally, Rep. Shannon Bird, a member of the influential Joint Budget Committee.

“She said she would not buy one for her car but she totally defends the First Amendment right of others to do so,” Baisley said.

By the end of April, the bill had passed the Senate and crossed over into the House — where Baisley heard surprising news. Originally, he had recruited Rep. Matthew Soper as his Republican cosponsor in that chamber. Soper is perceived as one of the more moderate members of the delegation.

But Baisley soon learned that

House Republican leaders wanted Soper to let another GOP colleague take his place on the bill — Rep. Scott Bottoms.

Bottoms is a pastor and one of the furthest right members of the caucus. He is disliked by many Democrats because of his long speeches on topics like abortion, including one where he called Democrats ‘fascists.’

Baisley worried that having Bottoms on the bill would hurt its chances. But House Republican leadership told him it would be a good move: “They said, ‘Well, we’re trying to give Rep. Bottoms a win because he’s been battling hard, and his [other] bills have all been killed.’”

Indeed, the four measures Bottoms originally sponsored this year — including ones to ban abortion and reduce the income tax rate — had all been defeated.

Rep. Mike Lynch, the minority leader, confirmed that part of the idea was to get the first-term lawmaker a victory on a conservative cause. “He hadn’t had [passed] a bill,” Lynch said.

Bottoms said he had been glad to accept the offer. “Of course, I immediately jumped on it,” he said. “I think God started our country, and we ratified it by acknowledging that our rights don’t come from humans — they come from God.”

But the pastor worried, he said, that there would be a catch. “Was there any qualifiers on this?” Bottoms asked after he was offered a spot as prime sponsor. And, indeed, there was

something of a string attached — Democrats had requested that Bottoms consider giving fewer lengthy speeches on the House floor, according to both Lynch and Bottoms.

Democratic Majority Leader Monica Duran declined to get into the specifics, but she said: “At the end of the day, there’s negotiations going on on the floor at all times, right?” she said. And sometimes, she said, those negotiations include a suggestion that someone stop filibustering.

Bottoms said that he refused to go along with the suggestion. “I would rather you take me off of [the bill] than use it as some kind of bully leverage against me,” he said. But, nonetheless, his name stayed on it, and the measure marched forward.

Some Democrats voted against the bill, though they gave little comment on why. A single Republican, Rep. Stephanie Luck, was opposed. (Luck is Christian, but worries that allowing this kind of expression in license plates could open the door for other groups to advance messages she doesn’t support.)

But, ultimately, it squeezed through.

“I’m one happy boy. This is a huge moment,” Baisley said as he watched the final vote. “I know that we have some retired Air Force colonels that are watching this live right now, and they’re jumping up and down. This is, I think, a real emotional time for a lot of veterans, (for) a lot of patriots.”

Rep. Bird, the Democratic sponsor, declined to comment on the politicking behind the bill — for example, as her cosponsor Baisley suggested, had she used her clout to help it clear an earlier hangup at a Senate committee?

“I will just say that many of us believe in free speech, freedom of expression and to display our national motto should be a no-brainer for us here in Colorado,” Bird said.

Baisley has never had a vanity plate himself, unless you count the special plates issued for state lawmakers. But he plans to get this one, even if it means paying the government \$50 for the privilege — kind of funny, he admits, for a constitutional conservative.

“It sure is,” he said. “It’s more institutionalized than a bumper sticker, but it’s a way to express something of yourself.”

The bill awaits the governor’s signature. If it’s signed, the plates will go on sale in 2024, alongside other new designs — including one with a stegosaurus on it. By the way: The phrase “In God We Trust,” has been the official national motto since 1956, when it replaced *e pluribus unum*, which means “from many, one.” There’s no license plate for that one.

(For more news, please see [cpr.org](https://www.cpr.org/2023/05/27/colorado-in-god-we-trust-license-plates-sente-bill-25/).)

Please see: <https://www.cpr.org/2023/05/27/colorado-in-god-we-trust-license-plates-sente-bill-25/>

At your fingertips
Digital Edition available

only \$29 per year

To view a free edition or sign up, See
<http://SangreDeCristoSentinel.com/register>

Off Grid

Grid-Tie

Solar Solutions Ltd.
"Renewable Energy Systems"
QUALITY - SERVICE - DEPENDABILITY

Custom Design and Installation
Photovoltaics, Wind, Hybrid & Grid-Tie systems
Maintenance Program Available

Serving Custer County For 30 Years
www.solarsolutions.com

NABCEP CERTIFIED
PV Installation Professional

Pat Bailey - Owner
10 Hermit Lane,
PO Box 554
Silver Cliff, CO 81252
email: pbailey@solarsolutions.com

Ph: 719/783-9666
Fax: 719/783-2167

Getting on a plane . . .

. . . I told the ticket lady, “Send one of my bags to New York, send one to LA, and send one to Miami.”

She told me, “We can’t do that!” I told her, “Well you did it last week!” —Henny Youngman



Colorado State News

Colorado Rent Increases Highest in Nation During Last Three Years

By Joe Mueller,
The Center Square

Coloradans renting in large metropolitan areas paid the highest increase in rent prices in the nation since 2020, according to research.

Colorado renters paid 54% more in rent compared to 2020, according to MovingFeedback, an online company assisting with local and long-distance moves. Data on the major metropolitan statistical areas of all states from Zillow was analyzed to provide the ranking.

During the first three months of 2020, the average rent in Colorado's major metropolitan statistical areas was \$2,439.56,

according to the report. During the first three months of 2023, the average rent in the areas was \$3,757.93. The \$1,318.37 increase was 4.5 times higher than the state with the lowest increase, West Virginia.

"Rent demand is strong in the U.S. with rising homeownership costs," according to a statement from MovingFeedback. "It is estimated that there is a shortage of 7.3 million affordable rental homes for those with low incomes. This paired with rising inflation means that rent prices have continued to soar."

A report by Rent.com found the average rent in Denver to be \$2,724, up 3.19% from last year

but down 2.62% compared to April. Denver didn't make the list of Rent.com's top-10 areas with the greatest rent increase in a year-over-year comparison. Providence, R.I., Raleigh, N.C., Indianapolis, Ind., and Charlotte, N.C., all had double-digit average percentage increases in rent compared to last year.

The national median rent was \$1,967 in April, down 4.19% from a peak of \$2,053 in August 2022, according to Rent.com. It also found rents increased 16.33% since April 2021, an annual rate of 8.17% or \$276.

Research by the Common Sense Institute found the affordability of purchasing a home in the

Denver metropolitan area is near record lows. During the last 11 years, the cost of purchase price plus mortgage interest for an average-priced home increased 112%, with most of the rise happening during the last three years.

The research group also found household incomes haven't kept pace with rising housing costs. The average hourly wage increased 38%, from \$26.04 to \$59, between January 2013 and February 2023. When considering the rapid increase in the cost of housing, the number of hours of work to pay for the median mortgage payment increased from 46 to 98 hours, a 113% increase.

Florida had a 46.7% increase in

rent prices the last three years, according to the MovingFeedback research. Renters in Florida's major metropolitan statistical areas saw the average rent increase from \$1,448.43 in 2020 to \$2,126.06, a \$677.63 increase.

"This data reveals huge disparities in pricing across the U.S. with cities in Colorado and Florida seeing rent increase by around 50%, compared to states like West Virginia and Iowa, which have seen average increases below 15% over the past three years," according to the MovingFeedback statement.

Please see: https://www.thecentersquare.com/colorado/article_57b89220-fff3-11ed-936c-33f9edd31a1c.html?a

All Hail King Polis: Colorado Tops Undeveloped Nations in Drug Overdose Rates

by ColoadoPeakPolitics.com

When Gov. Polis and the Democrat-controlled legislature (*Now with more progressives!) hailed themselves at an end-of-session press conference as being awesome and the saviors of all mankind, they totally left out the part where drug deaths have skyrocketed and they didn't do anything about it.

As it turns out, drug overdose rates in our state are higher than in any developed country, Fox 31 reports.

Colorado's drug overdose rate in 2021 was higher than that of any developed country in 2019, the last year for which there is worldwide data, following an uptick in drug deaths beginning in 2020.

According to U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention data, Colorado's drug overdose rate was 31.4 per 100,000 in 2021 – three times Canada's rate from two years prior, but still in the middle of U.S. rankings.

It's an astonishing report that lists the U.S. as the highest overdose rate in the world with 22.62 deaths per 100,000, followed by Canada.

If only there was some kind of policy or law to stop drug smugglers from crossing our borders with impunity?

And to maybe make it a crime to like, kill people by selling them deadly drugs.

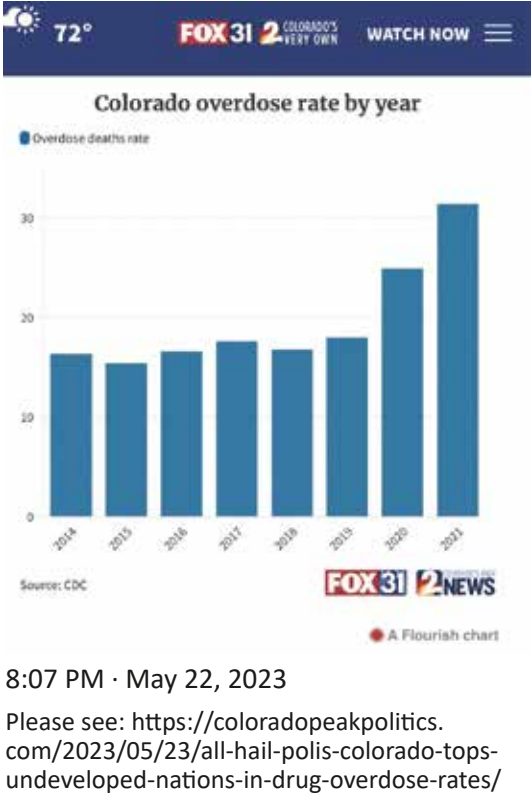
But Polis and the Democrat-controlled legislature* were too busy plotting how to steal our TABOR refunds and jack up our property taxes to worry about Coloradans overdosing on deadly drugs that are coming from our wide-open southern border.

Mr T 2 @GovtsTheProblem

You can literally see where Jared Polis(D) became Governor of Colorado in 2019 and started breaking things.

Why did Colorado Democrats make it easier for people to possess dangerous illegal drugs in Colorado?

#copolitics #coleg



SAN ISABEL SERVICES PROPANE

Servicing Cañon City, Colorado City, Cuchara, La Veta, Pueblo West, Rye, Trinidad, Walsenburg, Westcliffe, Wetmore, and surrounding communities.

We offer:

- Metered Service
- Courteous and reliable service
- Discounts for prompt payment
- Budget Billing
- 24-hour emergency service

Phone: 719-547-1214

Email: meterreadings@sispropane.com

Address: 90 N. Laser Drive Pueblo West, CO 81007

Like us on Facebook!

William A Good
Manager

Outta Space Storage LLC

860 Airport Road
Silver West Airport
Westcliffe, CO 81252

Learn more and reserve at our website:
www.outtaspacestoragecolorado.com
or call 303-906-1900

FINNEY DRILLING & EXCAVATING INC.

"We take the time to do the job right"

Larry & Cathy Finney, Owners • Fourth Generation Driller

Water Wells • Septic Systems • Foundation Excavating

Well & Septic Permit Applications • Free On-Site Planning & Estimates

Friendly Service • Licensed #1358 • Bonded • Insured • Competitive Pricing

719-275-9525 • larryfinneydrilling@gmail.com • Cañon City

PREMIER PEST CONTROL

WESTCLIFFE, CO

NICK FISHER, QUALIFIED SUPERVISOR

719-371-7404 PPC16@PRIVATEGARDEN.ORG

Call to schedule: inspections, estimates, professional pest management, residential, commercial, licensed and insured

The Liberty Tree

Religion, The Constitution & Culture

State, National, & World

“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 Covid Crime

Dr. James Lyons-Weiler, an American scientist discredited by big pharma and the government, is adding his voice to what many of us reporting on COVID have been considering. Lyons-Weiler writes on his substack, “Hospital protocolists sticking to the strict hand-me-down highly profitable “COVID protocol” may have doomed a majority of admitted COVID-19 patients to death due to a perfect storm of institutional failure.” He cites a National Institutes of Health study that found “unresolved respiratory infections—not necessarily those involved in SARS-CoV-2—were present in people who failed to “respond” to mechanical ventilation.” The government-big pharma-media conglomerate COVID handling may be the crime of the century.

Lyons-Weiler states: “The study leads to the stunning potential that perhaps 58% of “COVID” cases were respiratory issues other than COVID (43% bacterial pneumonia, 16% non-pathogen causes of respiratory failure). Treated as “COVID”, these patients were doomed to a fate of non-treatment due to mis- or under-diagnosis. It is unclear what percentage of deaths attributed to COVID-19 could have been prevented via a standard therapy for bacterial pneumonia, but it is potentially very high. [Dr. Anthony] Fauci’s prescription—sending patients home to do nothing... drove the COVID-19 death rate up far higher than it had to be.” Indeed, the death rate between vaccinated and unvaccinated was likely negligible.

Researchers in Denmark and The Netherlands concluded that “The two major RCTs [Randomized Clinical Trials] of mRNA vaccines, produced by Pfizer and Moderna, included 74,193 adults (>16 or >18 years of age) (37,110 vaccinated; 37,083 placebo), among whom there were 61 deaths (31 vaccine recipients, 30 placebo recipients). These vaccines were not associated with lower overall mortality.” The Johnson and Johnson vaccine, which was not an mRNA shot, was found to lower mortality, but at a higher risk of myocarditis and pericarditis. But all four COVID shots increased the risk of heart inflammation and blood clots. The Centers for Disease Control announced May 10th without comment that the Johnson and Johnson shot was no longer available in the U.S. Sadly, all signs point to total mismanagement and failure to save lives.

Naturopath Doctor Colleen Huber, in an analysis for the *Epoch Times*, wrote: “Mortality for 2020 (the year of COVID-19 virulence) was less than for 2021 (the year of the COVID-19 vaccine), which was 3,464,000. The 2020 mortality number remained at about one percent of the total U.S. population.” One percent of those who were suspected of having COVID died. The majority could have died because hospitals were incentivized by the CDC for up to \$100,000 per patient to vaccinate, test, diagnose, admit, use add-on treatments such as remdesivir and ventilators (both having mortality rates over 50%), and report COVID 19-related deaths. John 11:35, the shortest verse in the Bible, says “Jesus wept” over the death of his friend Lazarus. Likewise, we all should weep over this COVID crime of the century and never allow it to occur again.

Sources:

<https://popularrationalism.substack.com/p/missed-bacterial-pneumonia-cases?>

[https://www.cell.com/iscience/fulltext/S2589-0042\(23\)00810-6](https://www.cell.com/iscience/fulltext/S2589-0042(23)00810-6)

<https://www.cdc.gov/vaccines/covid-19/info-by-product/janssen/index.html>

Bill Wilson

Dailyjot.com Printed with permissions

Our Corrupt Government: The Rollins Decision Follows a Troubling Pattern at the DOJ

by Jonathan Turley,
JonathanTurley.Org

The Department of Justice’s special counsel, Jack Smith, is continuing his work toward possible criminal charges against former President Donald Trump. While I continue to doubt the viability of the criminal charges based on Trump’s speech before the Jan. 6, 2021 riot on Capitol Hill, I have repeatedly said that the Mar-a-Lago matter could present a serious threat for Trump.

However, a recent (and little-reported) decision by the DOJ may complicate the final decision in the case with new concerns over a double standard in charging decisions.

Last week, the Justice Department announced that it would not charge Rachael Rollins, the U.S. Attorney for the District of Massachusetts, despite a referral from the DOJ’s Office of the Inspector General (OIG), which found evidence that she lied to investigators and may have improperly sought to influence an election. Rollins resigned from office on Friday.

The OIG released detailed findings against Rollins for allegedly seeking to influence a Suffolk County, Mass., district attorney election last year. She also was accused by the OIG of lying under oath during an investigation into the matter. The report states that “on December 16, 2022, pursuant to the Inspector General Act, 5 U.S.C. § 404(d), the OIG referred the false statements allegation to the Department for a prosecutive decision. On January 6, 2023, the Department informed the OIG that it declined prosecution.”

According to the OIG, Rollins sought to help Boston City Councilman Ricardo Arroyo in the Democratic primary for Suffolk’s district attorney by providing derogatory information to the *Boston Globe* and *Boston Herald* regarding his opponent, then-interim D.A. Kevin Hayden. The OIG said the information included “non-public, sensitive” DOJ material that Rollins acquired as a result of her federal position. The material suggested that Hayden was being investigated for public corruption.

The OIG further found that Rollins leaked more material after Arroyo lost to Hayden.

The OIG accused Rollins of violating a host of Standards of Ethical Conduct for Employees of

the Executive Branch, including Section 2635.702 (the use “of public office for private gain”) and Section 2635.703 (the use “of nonpublic information”).

The most serious charge was that Rollins “falsely testified under oath ... when she denied” providing the non-public information to the *Herald* reporter.

The investigation also found an array of other violations, including disregarding ethical warnings on political activities and soliciting expensive sports tickets.

What is most striking about the OIG report is that Rollins took some of these steps after barely being confirmed by the U.S. Senate because questions were raised over her judgment and partisanship. Rollins was confirmed in 2021 after Vice President Kamala Harris cast a tie-breaking vote due to all 50 Republican senators opposing her nomination. Every Democratic senator voted for her despite the concerns, including a video from January 2021 in which she threatened the arrest of reporters.

The DOJ’s declination of charges follows a similar pattern that suggests a higher threshold standard applied by prosecutors in charging one of their own.

Conversely, this is the same department that pursued figures like Trump’s national security adviser Michael Flynn for false or misleading comments made to agents about a meeting with Russian diplomats. The media heralded that case, and legal experts clamored for prosecution.

Now, the Justice Department is considering charges against Trump for false statements given to investigators on classified material at Mar-a-Lago. (He also faces other possible legal action, of course, including potential state charges in Georgia for election law violations.)

With Rollins, after an investigation found that she lied to investigators, the DOJ refused to file any charges at all. It is unclear what the DOJ felt was lacking in those findings or the underlying evidence. However, as shown by prior declinations — in cases like the contempt referral against former Attorney General Eric Holder, or the determination that former FBI Director James Comey removed FBI material and, through a friend, leaked it to the media — the Justice Department often seems to find insurmountable

problems when asked to charge a fellow prosecutor or investigator.

The Rollins case could be raised by the Trump team with other declined criminal cases as evidence of selective prosecution, if Trump is indicted. Although some in the media will cry “what-aboutism,” charging decisions are made in the context of other cases to ensure consistency and to avoid selective prosecution. While state and city prosecutors like Alvin Bragg and Letitia James may run for office on promises of selectively targeting Trump, federal prosecutors usually aspire to a higher standard.

The DOJ already has a full plate of previously declined prosecutions outside of the DOJ, from the Holder and Comey cases to the perjury allegations leveled against Obama national intelligence director James Clapper and more. It also will face a reckoning over the classified documents found in President Biden’s various offices and residences; those documents were clearly divided and moved repeatedly, and Biden’s lawyers — like Trump’s — completed searches only to have more documents discovered in these locations.

If the past is any indication, most of the media would not delve too deeply into such contradictions if Trump is charged. And selective prosecution complaints are notoriously difficult to litigate. Even if the Justice Department did not secure a favorable judge for such a case, most judges are leery of adjudicating claims of motivation and bias.

Attorney General Merrick Garland has long maintained he is above politics and treats the DOJ’s targets equally without regard to political pressure. For some of us who supported his confirmation, he seemingly has shrunk in stature in office — but he has not disappeared. He will have to make the final decision in conjunction with any recommendation by special counsel Smith. Episodes like the Rollins case will only complicate that decision.

Jonathan Turley, an attorney, constitutional law scholar and legal analyst, is the Shapiro Chair for Public Interest Law at The George Washington University Law School.

Please see: <https://jonathanturley.org/2023/05/25/a-league-of-their-own-the-rollins-decision-follows-a-troubling-pattern-at-the-doj/#more-205431>

Do all things without grumbling or disputing, that you may be blameless and innocent, children of God without blemish in the midst

Kafka Comes to College

by Mark Tapson,
FrontPageMag.com

On Friday, April 14 2023, Ohio Northern University law professor Scott Gerber and his students were shocked and alarmed to see campus security officers, backed up by armed local police, unceremoniously enter the classroom, remove Gerber, and escort him to the Dean’s office. There the professor with 22 years experience, a history of excellent evaluations, and courses filled to capacity was immediately barred from teaching, banished from the ONU campus, and told that if he didn’t sign a separation agreement and release of claims by April 21st, the university would commence dismissal proceedings against him. On what grounds? Insufficient “collegiality.”

The real reason, as Gerber went on to explain in a *Wall Street Journal* opinion piece published a few weeks later, titled “*DEI Brings Kafka to My Law School*,” was insufficient compliance with the school’s Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion (DEI) initiatives, to which he had objected publicly and in newspaper op-eds and television interviews.

The mission of DEI, of course, is the implementation of social justice revenge. It has metastasized throughout every institution of society: government agencies, the military, corporations, the legal and medical fields, law enforcement, the entertainment industry [and] literally every Human Resources department anywhere. But perhaps nowhere is it more deeply entrenched than in the field of higher education,

where Critical Theory – the subversive ideology behind DEI – originated and was developed.

It is hardly news anymore that university administrations and faculties skew far left politically and are dominated by a totalitarian degree of wokeness. Lockstep conformity to political correctness is expected or persecution for your lack of “collegiality” will ensue: at best, being ostracized by one’s peers, and at worst, being exiled from a career you trained for, excelled in, and loved. “And more than anything else, I love teaching,” Gerber wrote.

As he details in his *WSJ* piece, in the week prior to being essentially frog-marched out of his classroom in the middle of a lecture – an outrageously unnecessary measure clearly intended to send an intimidating message to any other professor who might step out of line – he had published an op-ed at *The Hill* defending Supreme Court Justice Clarence Thomas’s “right to have friends – even rich ones,” referring to the Left’s recent attempt to manufacture a corruption scandal involving the black conservative Justice whom the Left considers a race traitor.

The week before that, Gerber gave a TV interview in which he “criticized DEI programs that discriminate against white men in the name of ‘racial and social justice’ and for being indifferent to the type of diversity higher education should value most: viewpoint diversity.” In the week before that, he published op-eds in a national newspaper and in Ohio reiterating his argument.

During a meeting earlier this semester of the University Council, a faculty governance body of which Gerber was vice chairman, he had requested that the school’s DEI program address this issue of viewpoint diversity. The administration replied bluntly that diversity of viewpoints “is not part of our diversity, belonging and inclusion plan.”

And there you have it: diversity of viewpoints, which is the only diversity that should matter, is precisely the kind that is anathema under the racist DEI agenda, which values diversity of skin color and gender identity but uniformity of viewpoints above all else.

ONU has launched an investigation into Gerber but refused to supply him or his lawyers with any specifics. Denied even the basic right to know his purported transgression, he racked his brain “to think of rules I might have broken.” In his *Wall Street Journal* article, Gerber likened himself to Josef K, the protagonist of Franz Kafka’s novel “*The Trial*”, a young bank cashier who is arrested one day by emissaries of an unnamed agency, trapped in a surreal judicial nightmare, and ultimately executed without ever even being told the nature of his crime.

“Perhaps decency is a sacrifice ONU is willing to make to grease the wheels of the DEI agenda. It looks like the law is, too,” Gerber lamented. The school is unambiguously guilty of violating his rights. The American Association of University

Professors even notified ONU on two separate occasions that “an absence of collegiality ought never, by itself, constitute a basis for non-reappointment, denial of tenure, or dismissal for cause.” Dr. Melissa J. Baumann, President of Ohio Northern University, doubled down on the school’s passive-aggressive silence by informing AAUP that “ONU will not be providing a response.”

A GoFundMe page in his support has been created, and Gerber has secured legal assistance from FIRE, the Foundation for Individual Rights and Expression. Harvard Law school professor Randall Kennedy composed a letter signed by more than fifty other professors expecting “a proper resolution of this distressing situation.” On May 18th, Peter Wood, President of the National Association of Scholars, sent a fiery letter in defense of Gerber to President Baumann. In it he wrote,

I am appalled by the treatment ONU’s senior administrators have meted out to Professor Gerber. His account published in The Wall Street Journal and the statement issued by FIRE are powerful indictments of the unfairness, callousness, and abuse of process that ONU has exhibited – I would say “in this case,” but in fact there is no case. As far as we on the outside can tell, there was only administrative whim.

[...] *What could possibly justify interrupting a professor’s class in order to take him under escort to the dean? In the real world we call*

this bullying. Then to demand his capitulation on the spot without naming charges or following the university’s written procedures? In the real world we call this contempt and intimidation.

He goes on to urge Baumann to “apologize publicly to Professor Gerber and explain to your board that you made a grave mistake,” though Wood acknowledges that this is “unlikely to happen,” given the unapologetic nature of authoritarian regimes.

Gerber’s story echoes that of many other professors around the country (and elsewhere in the Western world) who have run afoul of the Campus Diversity Gestapo and been summarily cast out of “decent” society as what George Orwell called an “unperson.” This unconscionable bullying, as Peter Wood labeled it, must never be allowed to stand – for the sake of academic freedom, for the sake of viewpoint diversity, and for the sake of a civilization that values freedom of thought, due process, and human rights.

Ohio Northern University must reinstate Gerber immediately and make public restitution, including the apology Wood demanded. And every other institution of higher learning around the country must be put on notice that the racist, totalitarian Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion scam must end.

Please see: <https://www.frontpagemag.com/kafka-comes-to-college/>

21 Men Chose a Savage Death Rather Than Renounce Their Christian Faith. Why?

by Mamela Fiallo Flor,
mercatornet.com

On February 12, 2015 occurred one of the most dramatic of the many atrocities committed by the Islamic State at the height of its power.

Kneeling in orange jump suits on the shores of the Mediterranean near the Libyan city of Sirte were 21 men – 20 Egyptian Copts and one Ghanian. Behind each of them was an ISIS militant with a knife. They were all beheaded. All this was captured on a video which ISIS posted on social media.

The terrorists gave the men a chance: renounce Christianity and embrace Islam. Or die. They chose to die. Captured on the video were the last words of some of the men, “Ya Rabb Yeshua!” (“O Lord Jesus!”).

The Ghanian, Matthew Ayariga, was not a Copt. Some accounts say that he was already a Christian, others [say] that he was not but said, “Their God is my God”, knowing that he would

be killed.

ISIS created many Christian martyrs, but the vile pageantry and the stark choice given to these men have made their deaths a powerful symbol of fidelity to Christ.

Now Pope Francis, the head of the Catholic Church, and Pope Tawadros II. the head of the Coptic Church, have made another historic gesture. Despite 1600 years of separation over a doctrinal issue, they have united in honoring these men as martyrs.

Tawadros II officially canonized the 21 shortly after their deaths. And earlier this month Francis took the unusual step of enrolling them in the Catholic Church’s official list of saints, the Martyrology. From now on these Coptic martyrs will be formally remembered in the prayer of the Catholic Church.

This raised some eyebrows, because the Copts and Catholics have had ancient doctrinal differences over the nature of Christ. But the two churches

have been in close ecumenical dialogue since Pope Paul VI and Coptic Pope Shenouda III signed a “Joint Christological Declaration” in 1973. In recent years, after close study of the issue by both sides, they have concluded that their differences may be largely a matter of terminology and not of substance.

More importantly for Francis, though, was a theme dear to his heart: “ecumenism of blood”. As he said the day after the horror of the murders was revealed:

Today I read about the execution of those 21 or 22 Coptic Christians. Their only words were: “Jesus, help me!”. They were killed simply for the fact that they were Christians... The blood of our Christian brothers and sisters is a testimony which cries out to be heard. It makes no difference whether they be Catholics, Orthodox, Copts or Protestants. They are Christians! Their blood is one and the same. Their blood confesses Christ. As we recall these brothers who died only because they confessed

Christ, I ask that we encourage each another to go forward with this ecumenism which is giving us strength, the ecumenism of blood. The martyrs belong to all Christians.

The word “pontiff” means bridge-builder. The current Pontiff has certainly built bridges by enrolling the Sirte martyrs in the list of Catholic saints – and not just with the Coptic Church.

One of the strongest criticisms of Pope Francis, whether justified or not, is lack of attention to the persecution of Christians in the Middle East and Africa by Islamic fundamentalists.

As Vatican expert John L. Allen Jr. points out, it satisfies both progressives and conservatives. Although Islamophobia is a touchy subject for most progressives, bringing “outsiders” into the church is one of their priorities. So they have welcomed the incorporation of Coptic saints. Likewise, conservatives constantly highlight anti-Christian persecution. They, too, are happy.

In a strange way, the monstrous cruelty of these deaths is a sign of hope. In the year 197 AD the Christian apologist Tertullian declared triumphantly: “The blood [of the martyrs] is the seed of Christians.” And he went on to say: “Don’t you see that [Christians], thrown to the beasts so that they deny the Lord, do not allow themselves to be defeated? Don’t you see that the more they are punished, the more others appear?”

If Christians are still ready to die for their faith in the 21st century, the Church, despite its weaknesses, is in no danger of dying out.

The incredible faith and courage of these men – just ordinary workers, not people of privilege and rank – should be a wake-up call to Millennials. Is there anything, is there anyone, for whom they are prepared to give their lives?

Please see: <https://mercatornet.com/21-men-chose-a-savage-death-rather-than-renounce-their-christian-faith-why/84361/>

of a crooked and twisted generation, among whom you shine as lights in the world, holding fast to the Word of life, so that in the day of Christ I may be proud that I did not run in vain or labor in vain. Phillippians 2:14-16

The Second Amendment Corner

Liberty's Line in the Sand

1776

2023

MOLON
LABE

"Blessed be the LORD my Rock, Who trains my hands for war, And my fingers for battle—"

A Psalm of David, Psalm 144:1

'In Common Use' Can Ultimately Be Used to Make the Second Amendment a Moot Point

by David Codrea, ammoland.com

U.S.A. — “The Second Amendment Allows a Ban on the AR-15,” Harvard University Professor of Law Noah Feldman declares in a *Bloomberg/Washington Post* “opinion” piece.

That it's an "opinion" is the one truthful admission in this otherwise absurd act of academic gaslighting. Harvard, Bloomberg, and *WaPo* are all for eviscerating the right of the people to keep and bear arms and routinely spread whatever lies they can get away with (despite the disingenuous caveat that "This column does not necessarily reflect the opinion of the editorial board or Bloomberg LP and its owners.")

“Under current law, the Second Amendment extends only to weapons that are not ‘unusual’ and are ‘in common use’ by law-abiding citizens,” Feldman asserts. “Whether that includes AR-15s is a question the Supreme Court has not yet resolved, although the justices have recently been asked to weigh in. A key question today — though not when the Bill of Rights was ratified — is whether a weapon is ordinarily used for self-defense.”

“To give you a sense of how different things were with respect to gun issues 84 years ago, the court held unanimously that the Second Amendment didn’t protect [short barreled shotguns],” Feldman misstates, citing the case of *U.S. v. Miller*. That’s actually not what they said at all. In the opinion for that case, Justice McReynolds noted:

“In the absence of any evidence tending to show that possession or use of a ‘shotgun having a barrel of less than eighteen inches in length’ at this time has some reasonable relationship to the preservation or efficiency of a well regulated militia, we cannot say that the Second Amendment guarantees the right to keep and bear such an instrument. Certainly it is not within judicial notice that this weapon is any part of the ordinary military equipment or that its use could contribute to the common defense.”

They didn't have evidence because the case wasn't argued in front of them. Had it been, the military utility of such weapons could have been decisively established, starting with the flintlock blunderbuss:

"This short shotgun-type firearm utilized about a half-pint of shot. During the Revolutionary War, American warships used Blunderbusses for repelling unwanted borders. Gunsmiths made these specifically for defense at close quarters."

Using the *Bruen* standard of text, history, and tradition as understood by the men who ratified the Second Amendment, plenty of subsequent “legal” rulings should fall. So would Feldman’s proposed AR ban, as his

own words about citizen militias indicate, if he would only heed them.

“Those militias, in turn, were made up of ordinary citizens,” he instructs. “And the ordinary citizens in the state militia were expected to provide their own weapons.”

What weapons were they expected to bring from home, and how did they compare to what enemy soldiers were issued?

“From this, it followed, for McReynolds, that the Second Amendment protected only weapons that had ‘some reasonable relationship to the preservation or efficiency of a well-regulated militia.’ That did not include the short-barreled shotgun, he added. Such a weapon was not ‘any part of the ordinary military equipment’ nor would its use ‘contribute to the common defense.’”

In fact, citizens reporting for militia duty were expected to bring weaponry suitable for battle, and in many cases, these men “outgunned the police,” especially when considering the standard issue for British troops was the Brown Bess musket, while patriots who owned them came equipped with more accurate and longer-range Kentucky/Pennsylvania rifles. Recall that the Founders considered the militia “necessary to the security of a free State,” and to expect their equipment would be inferior to that of attackers they were defending against would have been suicidally absurd.

The militia deployed with the intent to match and best a professional military threat. Its function was — and still is — to field citizen soldiers, and these citizens bore arms that were suitable for that purpose, “ordinary military equipment” intended to be taken into “common defense” battles.

Still, apparently believing he is making his case, Feldman continues offering pre-Bruen examples of infringements, in this case citing Antonin Scalia’s wholly uncalled-for concession that “Like most rights, the Second Amendment right is not unlimited. Miller’s holding that the sorts of weapons protected are those ‘in common use at the time’ finds support in the historical tradition of prohibiting the carrying of dangerous and unusual weapons.”

He used that to imply banning weapons such as “M-16 rifles and the like” would not be an infringement. Otherwise, he asserted, “it would mean that the National Firearms Act’s restrictions on machineguns ... might be unconstitutional, machineguns being useful in warfare in 1939.”

Yes, it would be.

But naturally, Feldman (and all the other prohibitionists) rely on that to exploit, beginning with a lie.

“The virtue of the Supreme Court’s

1939 test is that it was at least true to the original meaning of the Second Amendment,” he claims. “Its practical disadvantage, of course, is that if updated to the present, the rule would protect military-style weapons — not only semiautomatic rifles but machineguns, RPG launchers, predator drones, and the like.”

Notice how he escalates “dangerous and unusual” to lump conventional small arms in with “the like,” which could conceivably escalate up to weaponized anthrax and suitcase nukes. The 1939 non-test (because it wasn’t a test with no arguments and evidence) is hardly “true” to Founding Era intent, as the Framers never qualified the Second Amendment by declaring “the right of the people to keep and bear non-dangerous and usual arms in common use at the time shall not be infringed.”

“Scalia discounted the introductory clause that explains the purpose of amendment as ensuring a well-regulated militia,” Feldman elaborated. “He shifted the meaning of the right to bear arms to personal self-defense.”

Inexplicably and unjustifiable, he did, and we ignore the first 13 words of the Second Amendment at our peril. Feldman takes full advantage of that, writing “Today, the Second Amendment applies to all weapons that ordinary people carry on an ordinary basis for self-defense ... Logically, it should also exclude AR-15s, which are not commonly carried for self-defense.”

Logically it shouldn't. But unfortunately for gun owners, too many influencers ostensibly on "our side" won't explore the militia aspect, and that dereliction makes the Second Amendment more vulnerable to infringements.

“Here’s hoping that, when the Supreme Court ultimately addresses the issue, the justices can recognize that AR-15s do not belong in the same category as handguns,” Feldman concludes. “They are weapons of war — for, in fact, a well-regulated militia — not for ordinary people to carry for ordinary use.”

Going back to the Founding Era for understanding, text, and tradition, we can see what Continental Congress delegate Tench Coxe had to say about that:

“Their swords, and every other terrible implement of the soldier, are the birthright of an American... [T]he unlimited power of the sword is not in the hands of either the federal or state governments, but, where I trust in God it will ever remain, in the hands of the people.”

The tradition is that citizens have

IN COMMON USE
see page 22

ADVANCED WEAPONS



**Concealed Carry Classes • Special Orders
Guns & Ammo • Gunsmithing • Transfers
Buy • Sell • Trade
Custom Builds**

**2149 Fremont Drive, Cañon City
www.advancedweapons.net 719-784-0572**

WET MOUNTAIN STORAGE
115 C.R. #241, WESTCLIFFE, CO
FOR ALL YOUR STORAGE NEEDS

Fully Fenced, Automatic Gate & Video Surveillance

5x10 10x10 10x15 10x20
8x20 Conex 10x30 8x40 Conex
RV Storage

Office at 300 Main Street • Westcliffe
custompropertyservices@yahoo.com
719-783-9321

- 

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 Library Community Room.
- 

The Veterans of Foreign Wars Monthly Meeting is the 3rd Saturday of every month at 1 p.m. at the bowling alley.

The people who lied about Russia collusion, the Steele Dossier, and Hunter Biden's laptop are worried you will spread disinformation

M	A	J	O	R	P	A	L	E		P	A	L	E	E	B	S		
A	T	A	L	E	E	N	O	L		E	R	A	L		E	R	A	L
I	L	I	A	C		A	I	D	A		H				L	A	N	E
S	I	L	V	E	R	S	M	I	T	H					S	T	E	
					D	I	E	A		E	A	T	S	U	P			
O	U	T	S	E	T		T	I	D	B	I	T						
F	R	I	T		E	V	E	R		I	T	A	L	O				
F	I	N	E	S	S	E		E	N	T	I	C	E	D				
A	S	S	E	T		I	T	S	A		A	K	T	I				
					O	R	A	C	L	E	D	A	N	S	O	N		
D	E	L	A	N	O		N	E	E	D								
O	L	D			G	O	L	D	B	R	I	C	K	E	R			
R	U	I	N		P	Y	R	O		E	L	I	S	E				
I	D	E	A		E	R	I	N		U	I	N	T	A				
S	E	R	B		R	E	L	Y		S	P	E	E	D				

Vermont Bans the Well Regulated Militia

by Dan Wos, [ammoland.com](#)

USA — -(AmmoLand.com)- Vermont Governor Phil Scott recently signed legislation banning “paramilitary” or Militia activity.

The law prohibits a person from teaching, training, or demonstrating to anyone else the use, application, or making of a firearm, explosive, or incendiary device capable of causing injury or death that will be used in or in furtherance of a civil disorder. It also bans a person from assembling with others for such training, instruction or practice. Violators could face up to five years in prison, a \$50,000 fine, or both.

The problem with this new law’s definition is that it is based on future intent. Who will be determining intent?

Will Vermont residents be subjected to what members of law enforcement think they might do with their training in the future? This law seems to be based on hypothetical actions that haven’t happened yet. How can anyone

determine if something “will be used in or in furtherance of a civil disorder?” Remember, this law doesn’t criminalize militia activity, but rather the training that may or may not be used during militia activity. Besides that, who will determine the definition of “civil disorder?”

It would seem, State Governments may be feeling the pressure they are getting in response to the unconstitutional gun laws they are attempting to implement across the country. Several failed attempts at semi-auto bans, magazine capacity restrictions, and other laws have been shot down since the *Bruen* case created the “historical tradition” precedent.

Some may say it has been quite embarrassing for the gun grabbers and continues to reveal their unconstitutional behavior.

When we examine the results of gun-free zones, red flag laws, semi-auto rifle bans, normal capacity magazine restrictions, bump stock bans, pistol brace restrictions, and the forfeiture of social media accounts to acquire

a carry permit, we see that these laws and restrictions do nothing to curb the activity of criminals. Who most often perpetuate violence due to the fact that the laws themselves work to make good people unarmed and helpless. We also recognize that the only people caught up in this spiderweb of restrictions are lawful American citizens, typically those who appreciate and want to preserve the freedom Americans fought and died for in the Revolutionary War.

The Second Amendment to the Constitution of the United States was adopted in 1791 as part of the Bill of Rights for the clear purpose of providing a check on congressional power under Article I Section 8 to organize, arm, and discipline the federal militia.

What part of, “A well regulated Militia, being necessary to the security of a free State” does Phil Scott not like?

Our Founding Fathers not only made provisions to allow for Militia, but they also clearly stated that it was “necessary.”

Could this attempt at banning Militia training reveal the fact that the Government is not really looking out for the safety of Citizens but rather doing everything it can to prevent people from exercising the 2nd Amendment in the way it was originally intended?

In the *Federalist* paper-46, James Madison wrote that a militia of ordinary citizens would resist government tyranny. Madison also discussed what he thought to be an unlikely, but possible scenario, in which a tyrannical standing army emerged that was entirely at the devotion of the federal government. Madison assured that opposing that standing army would be “*a militia amounting to nearly half a million of Citizens with arms in their hands officered by men chosen from among themselves, fighting for their common liberties...*”

Anti-2nd Amendment activist Gabby Gifford from the “Gun Violence Prevention Group” revealed the quiet part out loud when she said;

“This is a commonsense policy that will help reduce the

spread of dangerous, illegal, and anti-government firearms intimidation.”

It’s becoming crystal clear why government works so hard to implement gun restrictions on lawful American Citizens. The irony is if the government worked on behalf of the American Citizens rather than positioning them as the enemy, there would be no fear of lawful Americans rising up against tyranny.

The gun grabbers seem to have made their position clear. Many despise the fact that they can’t rule over the very people they represent. The Tyrants seem to be having a hard time holding back their true feelings when they create laws criminalizing the very text in the 2nd Amendment.

The Second Amendment is not a privilege. It’s your right.

(Editor/GG: Molon Labe libs.)

Please see: <https://www.ammoland.com/2023/05/vermont-bans-the-well-regulated-militia-necessary-to-the-security-of-a-free-state/#axzz82w9h53uV>

Loading and Carrying a Firearm on Private Property Is NOT Use of Deadly Force

by Dean Weingarten, [ammoland.com](#)

U.S.A. — On May 24, 2023, a three-judge panel of the District Court of Appeal of the State of Florida, Fourth District, which includes Broward County, found the circuit court judge, Michael I. Rothschild, to have egregiously misread Florida law. The three-judge panel, consisting of judges Artua, Ciklin and Conner, unanimously found loading and openly carrying a firearm in a person’s own yard is not use of deadly force and is protected conduct under both Florida law and the Second Amendment of the U.S. Constitution.

Richard Burns engaged in a verbal confrontation with a five-man tree-cutting crew in his front yard. A crew member made sexually suggestive gestures toward his fiancée. Another crew member threatened his dogs with a chainsaw. Burns demanded the crew leave. When they refused, he retrieved a handgun from the home. He was in his front yard when he chambered a round. He held the handgun at his side while again demanding the tree-cutting crew leave his front yard. The State of Florida charged Burns with aggravated assault. Burns asked the circuit court to apply immunity from prosecution, citing Florida Stand Your Ground Law. The circuit court refused. Burns then appealed the decision to the District Court of Appeal of the State of Florida, Fourth District. The appeals court found for Richard Burns. Selected quotes from the opinion are shown below.

That a person’s home is his or her “castle” is one of the most basic tenets of our jurisprudence. However, for Richard Burns ..., charged with aggravated assault with a deadly weapon for openly

carrying and loading his firearm in the yard of his own home, the “castle” our law entitled him to protect was relegated to a defenseless dungeon. We conclude that the trial court erred in denying his motion for immunity from prosecution pursuant to Florida’s Stand Your Ground law. We therefore grant his petition for writ of prohibition because he is legally entitled to immunity from prosecution on the aggravated assault charge.

Richard Burns did not point his handgun at anyone.

[T]he trial court denied Burns’ motion on grounds that his “menacing” act of chambering a round in the firearm, coupled with the display of the weapon without pointing it at anyone, constituted an unjustified threatened use of deadly force. The trial court determined that, because Burns was not in reasonable fear of imminent death or great bodily harm at the time of the incident, his actions were not justified under the circumstances. We disagree.

The mere display of a firearm is not the use of deadly force.

The display of a firearm constitutes non-deadly force as a matter of law. See, e.g., Cunningham v. State (Fla. Ct. App. 2015) (recognizing that “the mere display of a gun is not deadly force as a matter of law”); see also Howard v. State (Fla. Ct. App. 1997) (“[E]ven the display of a deadly weapon, without more, is not ‘deadly force.’”).

The trial court completely misread the appeal court precedent in the Little case.

Moreover, the trial court’s reliance on our decision in Little, in support of its conclusion that Burns’ actions amounted to a

threatened use of deadly force, was entirely misplaced.

The Second Amendment bars unjustified federal or state intrusion on the right to keep and bear arms.

The Second Amendment to the United States Constitution guarantees “an individual right to keep and bear arms.” Central to this right, as the Supreme Court explained in Heller, is “the right of law-abiding, responsible citizens to use arms in defense of hearth and home.” The federal constitutional right guaranteed by the Second Amendment stands as a barrier between the individual and any unjustified federal or state intrusion upon that right.

Florida law against open carry does not apply to a person’s home or place of business.

Florida grants to all persons who have not been legally disqualified from owning, possessing, and using firearms not only an individual state constitutional right “to keep and bear arms in defense of themselves,” but also the statutory right “to own, possess, and lawfully use” weapons, including firearms, at a person’s “home or place of business” without the restrictions against the open carrying of weapons or firearms imposed...

Even outside a person’s home property or place of business, open carry is partially protected.

In other words, Florida provides a statutory right to openly carry a weapon or firearm while on one’s home property or place of business. Even when one is not at his or her home property or place of business, it is not unlawful in Florida to “briefly and openly display” a lawfully carried firearm “to the ordinary sight of another person,” so

long as the firearm is not being “intentionally displayed in an angry or threatening manner” when the display of the firearm is “not in necessary self-defense.” These statutes recognize that a firearm is not just a collector’s item that is stored out-of-sight indefinitely. For a firearm to be useful for self-defense, it must be readily available and loaded, neither of which can be effectively and safely done if the firearm cannot be taken out of concealment or storage and openly displayed while being loaded and held.

Richard Burns had the right to display his firearm in anticipation of possible use, even if he were not on his home property.

As section 790.25(3)(n) permits, Burns had the right to openly carry the firearm he displayed and loaded because he was on his home property. Even if Burns had not been on his home property, it would not have been unlawful, as authorized by section 790.053(1), for him to “briefly and openly display” his firearm in anticipation of possibly needing to use it for his and his fiancé’s protection during his confrontation with the tree-cutting crew.

Once Richard Burns told the tree-cutting crew to leave, and they refused, they became trespassers. The trespass and the threat to his dogs both justified his actions.

In addition, after Burns asked the tree-cutting crew to leave his property, and they refused to immediately do so, they became trespassers, justifying his legal right to use non-deadly force, including his constitutional and statutory right to openly carry or display his loaded firearm, to assist him in not only terminating the trespass, but also

in preventing the reasonably perceived tortuous and criminal interference with his dogs, which are his personal property.

Conclusion: The trial court ordered to dismiss the charges against Burns.

Openly carrying or displaying a firearm, and loading it by advancing a bullet in its chamber for it to be ready for use if needed, does not constitute the unjustified or threatened use of deadly force as a matter of law. Moreover, Burns had a lawful right to openly carry his firearm on his home property. Thus, Burns is entitled to immunity from prosecution for his non-deadly use of his firearm during the incident with the tree-cutting crew. See § 776.032(1), Fla. Stat. (2020) (granting “immun[ity] from criminal prosecution” for any use or threatened use of force “permitted in s. 776.012, s. 776.013, or s. 776.031” (emphasis added)). We therefore grant Burns’ petition for writ of prohibition and direct the trial court to grant his motion to dismiss, thereby discharging him from further criminal prosecution on the aggravated assault charge.

The case may be appealed by the State of Florida. This opinion is straightforward. In some jurisdictions, the mere display of a firearm has been, at times, viewed as an aggravated assault. This opinion is a step promoting the commonsense concept of the practical need for defensive display of firearms in situations where deadly force is not immediately required.

Please see: <https://www.ammoland.com/2023/05/florida-loading-and-carrying-a-firearm-on-private-property-is-not-use-of-deadly-force/>

CROSSWORD PUZZLE

ACROSS

1

Chief

6

Wan

10

Flows' partner

14

Start of a Dickens title

15

Chemical compound

16

Re an historic period

17

Sacro's joiner

18

Rival of Amneris

19

Highway division

20

Revere, for one

23

Sault ____ Marie

24

"... I would fain ____ dry death": Shak.

25

Gobbles

27

Beginning

31

Morsel

33

Porcelain material

34

Eternally

36

Inventor Balbo

39

Bridge ploy

41

Lured

43

Black-ink item

44

"____ long way to ..."

46

Grecian peninsula

47

Delphi soothsayer

49

Ted, of Cheers

51

Part of FDR

53

Exigency

55

Senescent

56

Loafer

62

Rack's partner

64

Mania starter

65

Beethoven's *Fur* ____

66

Brainstorm

67

Actress Moran

68

Utah range

69

Belgrade native

70

Depend

71

Rapidity

DOWN

1

But, in Bordeaux

2

King of the Huns

3

Incarceration place

4

Norwegian king

5

Dwindle

6

Porridge of uncertain temperature

7

Liven

8

Napoleonic victory site

9

On cloud nine

10

Moray

11

Nitty-gritty

12

African tribe

13

Doze

21

Ceremonies

22

Custom

26

"Il Divino"

27

Like water ____ duck's back

28

Trinity author

29

Combatant figurine

30

____ middle course

32

Piques

35

Salome prop

37

Mother of Apollo

38

One-eyed Norse god

40

Funny Arnold

42

Consumer activist

45

Winder

48

Barrel expert

50

Toulouse ta-tas

51

Hollywood's Day

52

Circumvent

54

Dark wood

57

Harp's ancestor

58

Kind of joint

59

Cattle, to Cowper

60

Villa d' ____

61

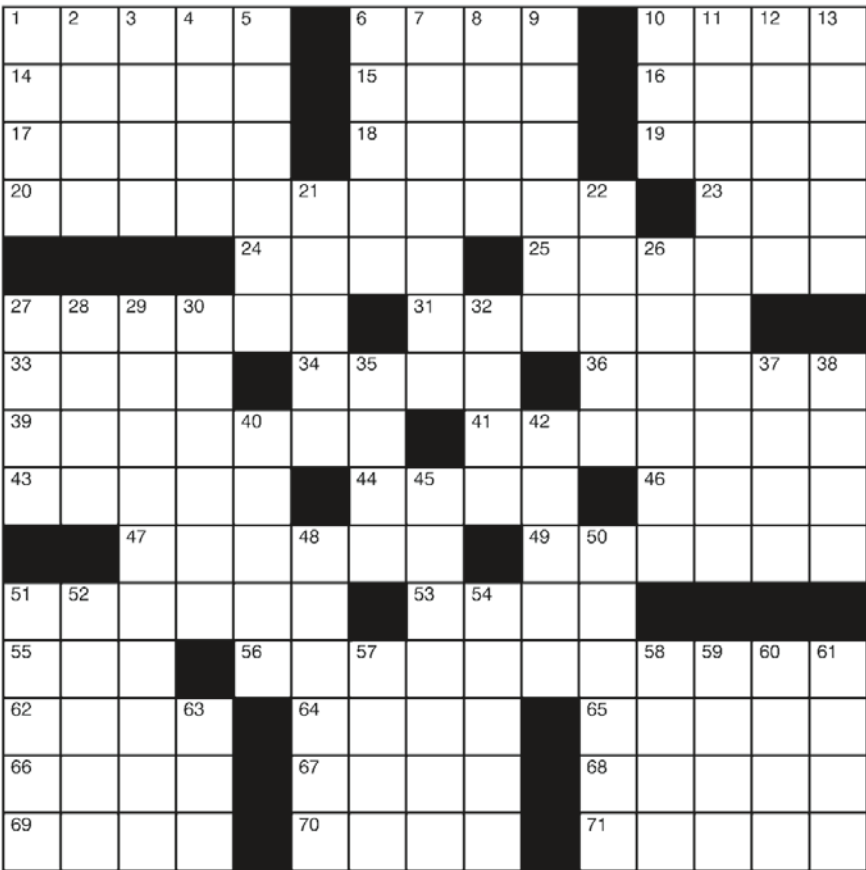
Peruse

63

Arrest

Puzzle Key on page 23

A Charles Preston Puzzle



“ High Standards ”

IN COMMON USE
from page 20

militia-capable firearms. Although “well regulated” is deliberately misrepresented to mean “gun control” is permissible, the militia system envisioned by the Framers is one where the “regulation” is through coordinated training and deployment, not in dictating what citizens are allowed to possess. That this has been intentionally ignored by those whose goal is a monopoly of violence undermines not only Founding intent, but guarantees the citizenry will be left out of all future technological developments. And that’s made inevitable by the “in common use test.”

Because what was in common use in the past is not what is in common use today, nor what will be in common use tomorrow. At least by the military and by law enforcement.

A persistent lie told by the prohibitionists is the Founders only had muskets and would be so horrified by AR-15s that they’d have never written the Second Amendment. That, of course, is a load. It

relegates the role of prominent scholars, inventors, and innovators educated under the influence of the Enlightenment to that of unimaginative and non-observant dullards. They knew about multiple barrel cannon, volley guns, pepperbox revolvers, multiple shot Girardoni air rifles, crank-operated Puckle guns, breech-loading Ferguson rifles... “dangerous and unusual” all, and none of them “in common use at the time” when first developed.

The Founders were at the vanguard of the technology of their day, and of pushing it to see what else could be discovered and achieved. They knew that times were changing, as theirs were the revolutionary, educated minds bringing the changes about. And when new developments did happen, they embraced them, as opposed to suppressing and outlawing them while “swarms of officers” issued arbitrary rule changes to ban them.

That’s what “history, text, and tradition” will tell anyone who wants to look honestly.

By relegating what’s “in common use at the

time” to what’s commercially “popular,” as opposed to what modern infantry soldiers are armed with, the advantage will forever be with invaders and enforcers. Ditto the “for lawful purposes” qualifier, as outlawing firearm types makes sure they can’t be legally owned. We see that all the time with the restrictions on “civilian” possession of machineguns (which government knows we have a right to own), and it won’t end there. (As an aside, if we relegate “in common use” to what’s popular and neither “dangerous” nor “unusual”, so-called “smart guns” would fall into that category and could be banned!)

Think about technological developments in small arms since the founding of the Republic. How would Washington’s troops have fared against Grant’s, Grant’s against Pershing’s, and Pershing’s against Patton’s...? That’s the past. What about the future?

If “the people” of the Second Amendment can be denied arms based on them not being “in common use” for sport and for limited “self-defense” situations, what chance would they have resisting tyranny

equipped with weaponry that today would be considered the stuff of science fiction? Who knows what those imposing their demands will have at their disposal, along with the power to withhold from citizens 50 years from now, or 100, or beyond?

Since no innovation begins “in common use,” a government with the power to do so can ban all new weapon developments from those they would rule, retaining them exclusively for itself. It’s what I warned about when I wrote “Things to Come” back in 2002 for *Guns and Ammo* (not online and it’s copyrighted, so I can’t link to the entire essay):

It’s been said that a battle isn’t won until a man with a rifle occupies the ground. We must keep in mind that someone probably once said the same thing about spears.

(Editor/GG: This dance will happen with Colorado’s gun laws.)

Please see: <https://www.ammoland.com/2023/05/in-common-use-can-ultimately-be-used-to-make-the-second-amendment-a-moot-point/#axzz83ly9YhFR>

JARED M. SMITH, DMD

Advanced Dental Technology

• Same Day Porcelain Crowns, Bridges, Inlays, Onlays, Veneers

• Dentures, Partials

• Dental Implants

• Root Canals

• In-Chair Bleaching Available

• Laser Soft Tissue Treatment

• Digital X-Rays & 3D X-Rays

Creating Beautiful Smiles in Colorado

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

Market

Your Neighborhood Grocery Store

• Full Service Grocery Store

• Ice

• Blue Rhino Propane

• Firewood

• Hunting / Fishing License

Open 7:00 a.m. • 8:00 p.m. 7 Days a Week

Visit us online at LOWESMARKET.COM or on Facebook at FACEBOOK.com/LowesSupermarkets

50 Main Street 719/783-0550

A drunk was in front of a judge. The judge says “You’ve been brought here for drinking.” The drunk says “Okay, let’s get started. —Henny Youngman

Medical Mutilation of Minors Is Not a Good Idea

by Kevin Lundbert, Opinion

[Colorado] SB-188- Protections For Accessing Reproductive Health Care (signed by Polis in April) may have created a big problem for medical malpractice insurers in Colorado, which will translate into a bigger problem for the medical industry that relies on malpractice insurance, and an even bigger problem for citizens of Colorado who rely on their medical care. The bill requires the insurance companies to cover all legal (in Colorado) medical procedures, including sex-change mutilation of minors.

Why could that be a problem? Read [the article below] about a major insurer in Australia dropping the coverage (which Colorado law, thanks to SB-188, now requires). This is because they recognize the huge risk of future lawsuits from people who may regret the surgery later in life.

This reminds me of a crisis Colorado had many years ago because the cost of malpractice insurance was driving obstetrical doctors out of the state.

by Laurel Duggan
Daily Caller News Foundation
THE DAILY CALLER
NEWS FOUNDATION

MDA National, a major medical indemnity insurance provider in

Australia, will no longer cover private practitioners for claims related to the administration of cross-sex medical interventions to minors due to concerns about future lawsuits, according to *The Sydney Morning Herald*.

The closure of the Tavistock Gender Identity Development Service (GIDS) in the U.K. inspired the decision from MDA National, according to *SMH*; the National Health Service shut down GIDS after an independent review found the clinic was unsafe for children and that doctors were rushing them through cross-sex medical procedures with inadequate mental health treatment. MDA National is not confident that it can accurately estimate and price out the risk of future regret for children undergoing cross-sex medical treatments, who could sue medical providers over gender treatments they eventually regret.

We're not taking a moral stance or an ethical stance – this is very much an insurance decision,” Dr. Michael Gannon, MDA National’s president, said, according to *SMH*. “We don’t think we can accurately and fairly price the risk of regret.”

Youths with gender dysphoria should be assessed by a multidisciplinary team at a hospital rather than a

private general practitioner, Gannon told *SMH*.

“This is the same hospital system that is very, very comfortable placing greater demands on general practitioners,” he said. “It’s simply not fair to ask individual GPs in the suburbs or the bush to be making these complex decisions on their own.”

Detransitioners — individuals who regret undergoing gender transitions — have become a focal point in the debate over childhood medical transitions. Many detransitioners adopted transgender identities suddenly in adolescence following lengthy mental health struggles, and they often report being rushed into irreversible hormones and surgical procedures they eventually regret. Several detransitioners have initiated high profile lawsuits against medical practitioners.

MDA National did not respond to the *Daily Caller News Foundation’s* request for comment.

Content created by *The Daily Caller News Foundation* is available without charge to any eligible news publisher that can provide a large audience. For licensing opportunities of our original content, please contact licensing@daily-callernewsfoundation.org.



Construction Solutions
of Colorado, LLC



AGI SENTINEL

- Sentinel Steel Buildings
- Storage Units
- Barndominiums
- Garages/Shops
- New Homes
- Remodels



Chris Nordyke
constolutions@icloud.com
719-371-1395
Licensed & Insured





Send a Gift of News
The Voice of Conservative Colorado

Six Month Gift Subscription for
Only \$15 for Westcliffe (81252 Zip Code) &
Only \$20 for outside the 81252 Zip Code!

**SANGRE DE CRISTO
SENTINEL**

Indicate that you're purchasing a gift subscription
in order to receive the discount.
See Coupon on page 23 for subscription form or call 719.783.3360.

Gift only • \$20 for 26 Issues • Gift only

FYI...
for your information...

The Sangre de Cristo Sentinel is published every Friday.
Our office hours are Monday-Wednesday 9 a.m. - 4 p.m.
Friday 9 a.m. - 12 p.m. Closed Saturday and Sunday.
Deadline for classified ad copy is Monday by 4 p.m.
Deadline for display ad copy is noon on Friday the week before the ad is to appear in the paper.
Deadline for all other submissions is noon on Monday, and can be emailed to sdcsentinel@gmail.com
Please send us information on clubs and organizations, news stories and pictures, and upcoming events.
Please limit Letters to the Editor to 500 words or less. Please include your name, address and phone number.
Garage/Yard sales are printed free. However verbiage is limited to date, time and address.
Birth, Engagement, Wedding Announcements and Obituaries are also printed FREE OF CHARGE with a 350 word maximum and one photo included.

Sangre de Cristo Sentinel • 601 Main Street • Westcliffe Colorado 81252 • 719/783-3360



Thank
You
for
Your
Support!

**Subscribe to the
Sangre de Cristo Sentinel**

"The Voice of Conservative Colorado!"

Help us spread the word! Subscribe today!



Name: _____

Mailing Address: _____

City & State: _____ Zip Code: _____

Phone Number: _____

Payment: \$ _____ Type: (circle one): Cash Check _____ Credit Card

\$34 yearly for 81252 zip code • \$44 yearly for out of 81252 zip code.

Please mail or bring your payment to:
Sangre de Cristo Sentinel
601 Main Street, Westcliffe, Colorado 81252
719/783-3360

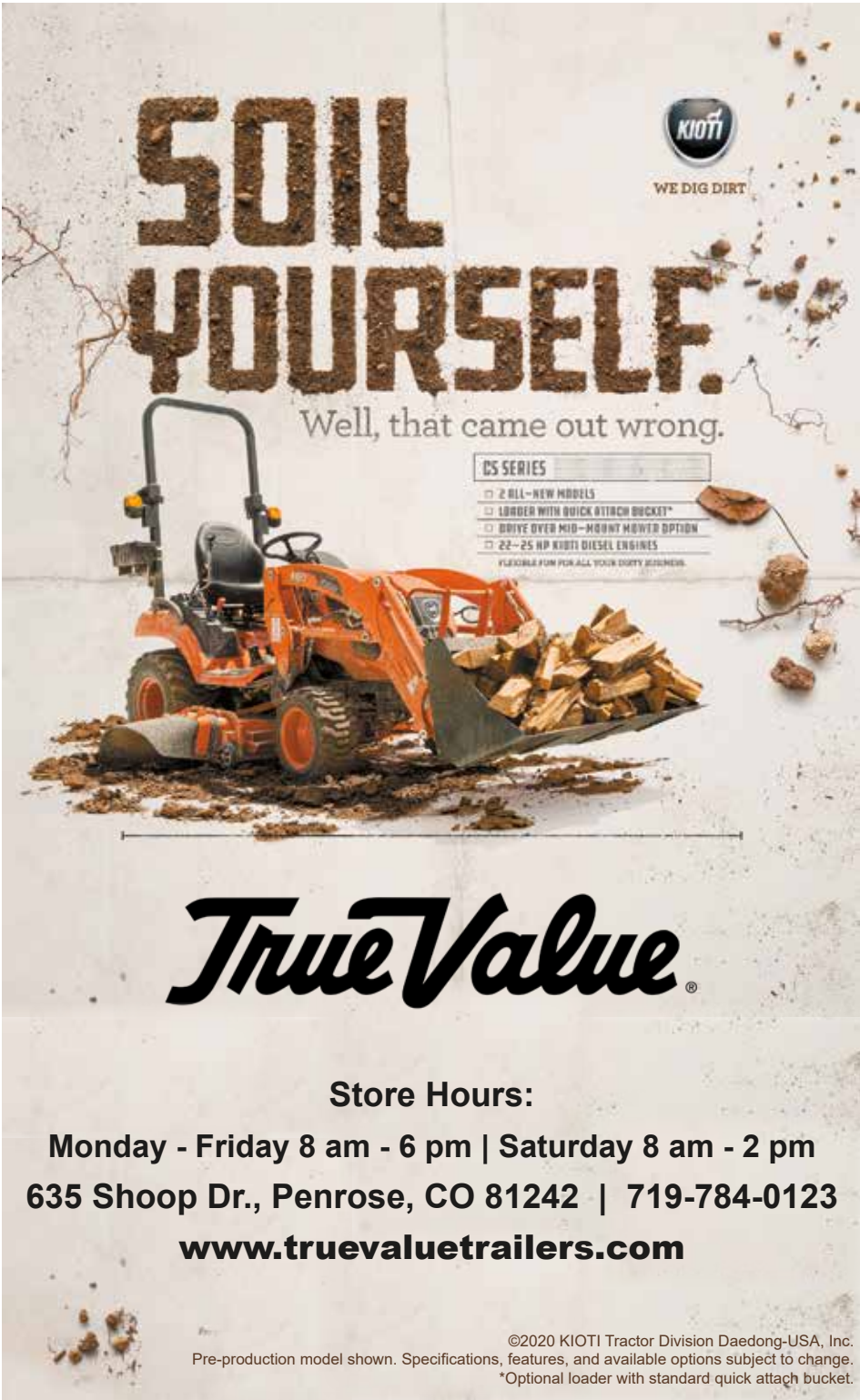
Get the Digital Edition for only \$29 a year!
Online @ <http://SangreDeCristoSentinel.com/register/>

A black and white photograph of a large, arched sign for Norup Gas Inc. The sign features a mountain range silhouette with a gas drop icon in the center. Text on the sign includes the company name, address, phone number, and services offered.

Norup Gas Inc.
28 Rangeview Loop
(Rangeview Industrial Park)

Located
one mile north of Westcliffe
on Highway 69.

Office hours:
Monday through Friday
8 a.m. until 5 p.m.
719-783-9338

A True Value advertisement featuring a Kioti tractor loader. The headline reads 'SOIL YOURSELF.' with a sub-headline 'Well, that came out wrong.' The tractor is shown dumping a load of wood chips. A list of features for the DS Series is provided, including 2 RLL-New Models, loader with quick attach bucket, drive over mid-mount mower option, and 22-25 HP Kioti Diesel Engines. The True Value logo is prominently displayed.

Store Hours:
Monday - Friday 8 am - 6 pm | Saturday 8 am - 2 pm
635 Shoop Dr., Penrose, CO 81242 | 719-784-0123
www.truevaluetrailers.com

©2020 Kioti Tractor Division Daedong-USA, Inc.
Pre-production model shown. Specifications, features, and available options subject to change.
*Optional loader with standard quick attach bucket.

RECALL from page 1

REDACTED -See hard copy