

# Hedberg Gets a Restraining Order Against the CC Sheriff's Office Forbids SO from Seizing the Tribune's Computers What's Up With That?

by George Gramlich,  
News and Commentary

We have said it before, and we are saying it again, “General Hospital/As The World Turns” has got nothing on Custer County’s continuing political drama. Almost every week we have a new chapter. Some good and some bad. This one is bad.

This week’s episode involves the Editor of the *Wet Mountain Tribune*, Jordan “Red Bug” Hedberg and his effort to prevent the Custer County Sheriff’s Office (CCSO) from, possibly, in the future, obtaining a search warrant to seize the Hedberg’s or the

*Tribune’s* computers, electronic devices and various documents via a valid criminal search warrant.

On September 3, 2024, Hedberg obtained a Temporary Restraining Order (TRO) from the 11th Judicial District Court (from Judge Lynette Wenner) ordering Sheriff Smith and the CCSO “To refrain from using any and all means to seize any of Plaintiff’s records and communication devices , including but not limited to paper records, mail and notes, electronic records and emails, texts, telephones, computers, and otherwise, whatsoever.”

Why would Hedberg get a TRO preventing the CCSO from

possibly getting a valid search warrant? In Hedberg’s affidavit supporting the TRO, he alleges that his and the *Tribune’s* records, etc. are protected under the Colorado Press Shield Law as well as the federal Privacy Protection Act. The affidavit states that,

“Defendants are actively threatening Plaintiffs’ business by indicating that Plaintiff’s records and communication devices including the names of their **journalistic sources**. Thus, Plaintiffs’ will suffer irreparable harm absent entry of an order prohibiting Defendants from seizing Plaintiffs’ records and communication devices or other

misconduct in violation of Defendants’ legal rights and constitutional protections to conduct the business of **publishing a newspaper.**” (*The bold words are emphasis added by this writer.*)

Note the bolded words in the above quote. We’ll get to that in a minute.

A court hearing to determine if the TRO should be permanent must be held within 15 days of the TRO issuance. We have been informed it will be in the Custer County courthouse on September 17 or 18.

**RESTRAINING  
see page 8**

## Candidate Jeff Lindsey For 11th Judicial District DA

by George Gramlich

We are blessed to have an extremely qualified career prosecutor running for the office of District Attorney in Colorado’s 11th Judicial District this November, Jeff Lindsey. Not only has Jeff had extensive prosecutorial experience in various venues, he is a local, having graduated from Florence High School and currently residing in Cañon City.

Jeff has had experience as a prosecutor in every county in the 11th Judicial District (Fremont, Custer, Chaffee and Park).

The best description of Jeff Lindsey’s experience comes from this resume:

“His journey as a career prosecutor began by working in Chaffee and Park District Attorney’s Offices from 1997-2000, while living in Salida and commuting to Fairplay weekly. He next worked in the Pueblo County District Attorney’s Office from 2000-2004. From 2004-2021, Lindsey was a prosecutor for the Fourth Judicial District in El Paso and Teller Counties. During his time in the Fourth, Lindsey worked as a Special Victim’s Unit prosecutor, Senior Deputy District Attorney, and Chief Trial Deputy District Attorney. During his time as Chief Trial Deputy, he was responsible for the homicide prosecution team from 2011-2017 and County Court from 2017-2021. During his time as County Court Chief, he was able to recruit and mentor new attorneys. In 2017, Lindsey was recognized as the statewide Faculty of the Year for the Colorado District Attorney’s Council. In 2021, Jeff worked at the



District Attorney’s Office in the 11th Judicial District, and then accepted a new opportunity to work in the 10th Judicial District in Pueblo where he presently serves as Chief Trial Deputy and third in command for DA Jeff Chostner’s office.

Lindsey has prosecuted every type of crime, supervised scores of attorneys, and provided justice to hundreds of victims. During his career, Lindsey has obtained over a half dozen life sentences on homicide cases and has been on numerous critical incident crime scenes. He currently maintains an active caseload and is responsible for several ongoing first-degree murder prosecutions.”

Jeff is married with three grown children and attends St. Benedict Parish Church in Florence. Jeff is more than happy to talk to the citizens in the 11th Judicial District: call or text at 719-271-0146 or email him at ElectLindsey DA11th@gmail.com.

## Custer County Elections Will be Safe and Accurate this November

by Kelley Camper

In light of an ongoing investigation into a data breach in some county offices, I thought it was important that you hear directly from me, your elected County Clerk and Recorder, about why the elections we hold in November will be secure and the results will be accurate.

I recognize the work of Sheriff Smith and don’t want to do anything that might interfere with an active investigation, so I will only outline the security measures that are always in place in our Elections Division and not address specifically, the current situation he is investigating.

First and foremost, our voting equipment is not and never has been connected to the internet. That means there is no way the equipment can be “hacked” by anyone outside. To make any changes at all to our equipment, you must have physical access to the individual pieces of equipment.

Next, only two individuals have physical access to our sealed and locked up voting equipment between elections, and that is myself and my elections manager. Nobody is ever alone with the equipment and the room where the equipment is stored is under continuous camera surveillance.

I’m confident that our voting equipment was not compromised. However, with an abundance of caution, a Trusted Build was performed on our voting equipment last week. This Trusted Build further ensures that our voting system software and

firmware have been unaltered as we prepare for this election. Voters can feel confident that their vote will be counted exactly as they cast it for the November General Election.

In October, we will conduct a public test of the voting equipment, which again, would allow us to catch anything that might be wrong.

As you return your ballots in November, they will be handled under strict security by bipartisan teams of election judges who will make sure your vote is accurately recorded. Following the election, a second team of volunteer citizens will check our results and will certify the vote. Every ballot, envelope, and any material related to the election will be saved for 25 months and is always open to public inspection.

I outline these security procedures, which we follow to the letter, because I want you to hear directly from me why you can trust the election results from our county. We have worked hard to ensure that our processes protect the voting equipment and the sanctity of your ballot at every step of the way. We would never do anything to compromise your trust in your right to make your voice heard.

I know these are difficult times and it is easy to be confused about what you are seeing and hearing. If you have any questions at all about the work we do to carry out your elections, I urge you to reach out to me to get your questions answered. We are your source for accurate information!

**DA Stanley  
Disbarred!**  
page 15

**Car Show  
Photo Feature**  
pages 12-13

**SAG’s ‘Love of  
Animals’ Art**  
page 3

**Sports Update**  
page 10

**Aurora  
Venesualan  
Terror**  
page 14 & 15

**Tax Break  
Passed**  
page 17

**Real Tim  
Walz**  
page 19

**Machine Gun  
Shoot**  
page 21

**Shoot Small  
Groups?**  
page 20

**PATRIOT  
ALERT!**  
**When the  
Music Stops**  
page 18



Whoever digs a pit  
will fall into it,  
and a stone will come  
back on him who starts  
it rolling.  
Proverbs 2:27 ESV

SANGRE DE CRISTO  
SENTINEL

Copyright©2024

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 as The Ten Commandments, The Declaration of Independence, The U.S. Constitution and The Bill of Rights.

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

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

The Sangre de Cristo Sentinel (USPS 11280) is an independent newspaper, published weekly by The Mountain Publishing Company, Inc. P.O. Box 179, Westcliffe, CO 81252.

POSTMASTER: Please send address changes to The Mountain Publishing Company, Inc. P.O. Box 179, Westcliffe, CO 81252. Periodicals postage paid at Westcliffe, CO and additional mailing offices.

Key Personnel

George Gramlich - President & Managing Editor  
George.Gramlich.sdc@gmail.com

Fred Hernandez - Vice President  
FredHer8@proton.me

L. Vass - Secretary and Asst Editor / Graphics Layout  
sdc.sentinel@gmail.com

Katherine Brenchley - Advertising Coordinator  
SentinelAds1791@gmail.com

Office Support

Accounting Services  
Bookkeeper.sdc@gmail.com  
Yvonne Phillips  
sdc.sentinel@gmail.com

Mailing & Delivery

Galen Studebaker

Sentinel Founders

Mike Hess  
George Gramlich  
Mary Seifert  
Rob Canterbury

Sentinel Honor Roll

Dan Bubis  
Jackie Bubis  
Carol Clemenson  
Scott Clemenson  
Barbara Napolitan

Contributors

Audrey Slater  
Mtn. Photo in Logo  
by Peggi Collins

Business Hours:

Mon: 10 a.m. - 2 p.m.  
Tues: 9 a.m. - 4 p.m.  
Wedn: 9 a.m. - 4 p.m.  
Fri: 9 a.m. - 12 p.m.  
Closed Thursdays & Weekends

Subscription Rates:

\$49 yearly for 81252 zip code  
\$59 yearly elsewhere  
\$29 yearly for Digital Edition

How to contact us:

719-783-3360  
P.O. Box 179  
601 Main Street  
Westcliffe, CO 81252



www.SDCSentinel.com

Please send your letters to sdc.sentinel@gmail.com

www.facebook.com/  
SangreDeCristoSentinel

Letters to the Editor



Election Handcounts

Dear Editor,

While few details of a persistent security breach of Custer County's IT systems have been made public, the controversial Dominion Voting System was reportedly compromised.

Regardless of assurances by the Secretary of State that our Dominion system will be made perfectly secure by November, this breach points to one of several reasons to conduct hand counts: REDUNDANCY!

Readers of this newspaper know that Custer has received considerable attention from both pro and con sides of the centralized-election-systems debate, especially for such a small county.

Half a dozen or so nationally recognized cyber and system-architecture experts participated in two local events. Nearly 70 attended a showing of the documentary, "Let My People Go", on April 20th. On May 1st, Commissioner Canda led a BOCC workshop with a star-studded line up of skeptics of the entire election ecosystem. Another 75 citizens, not counting law enforcement officers,

attended although the left-side of the crowd departed soon after the meeting started.

Colorado Deputy-Secretary-of-State, Christopher P. Beall, the Colorado County Clerks Association (CCCA) Executive Director, Matt Crane, and CCCA Vice President, Carly Koppes, made time for a nothing-to-see-here presentation on June 17th. While the format and substance left little to no room for second level questions or clarifications... much less outright challenges, key takeaways for the purpose of this letter were:

1. Colorado votes on paper ballots, except for some overseas military ballots.
2. Dominion Voting Systems are very secure, although no system is absolutely secure; and
3. Counties are free to conduct hand counts, as long as conducted AFTER certification of the Dominion-tabulated vote.

The presenters were dismissive of hand counts because of high (5-25%) error rates and cost. Ms. Koppes extrapolated a 2-question race in Arizona to conclude that a 40- question race would take 20 times more time,

or about 45 minutes per ballot. Mr. Beall's interpretation of the error rate was equally unsound, assuming that all such errors were all made on the same, and closest ballot item.

An ad hoc group of citizens will soon be presenting to Clerk Camper and the BOCC a plan to hand count the General Election. The cost will be under \$15,000, even if volunteers are actually paid. Twenty volunteers have already signed up, leaving room for another 20 volunteers.

Forty volunteers counting about 4,000 ballots is a manageable 100 ballots per volunteer. Volunteers of all affiliation, race, creed, or preferred pronouns are invited to help.

Our group anticipates continued cooperation and advising by Ms. Camper, as has been the case in all previous dialogs about voter rolls and voter systems/procedures.

Conducting a hand count meets a few system design principles: redundancy, back-up and transparency. It also sends a message that Custer County can still count, accurately and efficiently.

Custer Counts

Shout Out For  
Tony's  
Steakhouse  
Sunday Brunch

A bunch of us peasants from the Sentinel went to Tony's Steakhouse's first Sunday Brunch last Sunday. All we can say is "Wow!".

As we were walking in, a couple who identified themselves as "tourists" were leaving. They said to us in passing, "That was the best brunch we ever had. We are coming back to visit just for the brunch!". That got our interest up.

Well, they were right. Tony's has seven complete brunch menu items plus several optional sides. The prices are extremely reasonable especially for the extremely high quality of the food.

Between all of us, we ordered five different options, and each one was simply perfect. I mean delicious and very well presented. One of Tony's five certified chefs hand makes each plate and everyone was gourmet level. And we have been around. Tony's Steakhouse Sunday Brunch was indeed the best Sunday Brunch any of us had ever had.

They serve 11 to 1, Sundays.

The price is more than reasonable, and the food is flat out gourmet grade.

Gourmet food in Silver Cliff, folks! Don't miss it.

Editor/GG

SERIOUS GET 'ER DONE GUYS

HARALD FRANK SKID STEER SERVICES

Owner/Operator 719-371-1570

Driveways - Site Pads - Backfills - Entryways

My work speaks for itself...



LEE HOSTETLER  
719-371-6193

MATT TROYER  
719-221-8940

WESTCLIFFE  
CONCRETE

FLATWORK & STAMPED CONCRETE  
INSULATED CONCRETE FORMS (ICF'S)

WESTCLIFFECONCRETE@GMAIL.COM

Save the Date & Tune in

The First Tuesday of the Month  
4-6 p.m. Christian Music on KLZR 91.7 FM

REGULAR FEATURES

|                    |      |     |
|--------------------|------|-----|
| Business Directory | page | 6-7 |
| Classifieds        | page | 9   |
| Crossword Puzzle   | page | 17  |
| Events             | page | 8-9 |

Business Directory QR  
(Scan to download)



website https://SangreDeCristoSentinel.com

1200 Engelman Road  
Westcliffe, CO

Offered at \$629,000

3 bed, 3 bath,  
2,040 Sq. Ft.  
35.1 Acres

Offered by:  
Bob Senderhauf  
Owner/Broker



MLS

Custer County Realty, Inc.

902 Main St. - Westcliffe, CO

(719) 783-9221



1210 Engelman Road  
Westcliffe, CO

Offered at \$1,500,000

Stunning Panoramic Views  
35.12 Acres  
4 Bdr / 3 Bath, Elevator  
5,203 Square Feet

Offered by:  
Bob Senderhauf Owner/Broker



MLS

Custer County Realty, Inc.

902 Main St. - Westcliffe, CO

(719) 783-9221



# “For the Love of Animals” Art Show Celebrates Local and Regional Artists While Supporting Animal Welfare

Press Release

The “For the Love of Animals” Art Show, a collaborative effort between the Sangres Art Guild (SAG) and Wet Mountain Animal Welfare, showcased 78 original artworks by 34 local and regional artists, celebrating art, community, and compassion for our furry friends. The show ran from Thursday, August 1st, to Saturday, August 31st, at the 3rd Street Gallery in Westcliffe, Colorado.

Wet Mountain Animal Welfare would like to thank the community, the artists, esteemed judge Andy Mast, Skippy Diggler for providing the music, SAG, and the volunteers who made this possible.

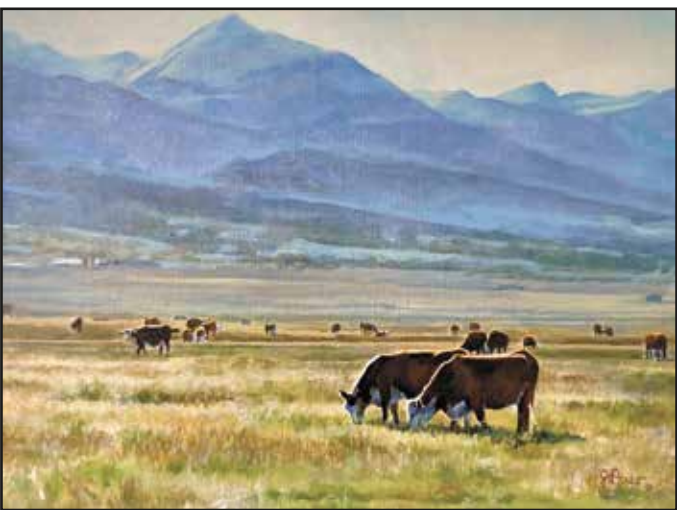
Pencil Artist Andy Mast thoughtfully selected the **winning pieces**, which included “Fat and Happy” by Jeanene V. Parker, “All is Good” by Alicia Waugh, and “Daydreaming” by Don Vawter. Honorable Mentions included “Wanna Come Hang Out?” by Lauren Dwyer and “I am the Eagle” by Kevin Koch.

The **People’s Choice** winners mirrored the judge’s selections with “All is Good” by Alicia Waugh and “Daydreaming” by Don Vawter.

In a heartwarming display of generosity, 50% of gallery commissions from the sale of artworks in the show were directed to support the important work of Wet Mountain Animal Welfare. Moreover, several artists magnanimously donated a portion or all of their sales to this noble cause. We look forward to doing this again next year!



People’s Choice: Top “Day Dreaming” by Don Vawter and Bottom Right, “All is Good” by Alicia Waugh.



Clockwise from Top Left: “Day Dreaming” by Don Vawter, “Fat and Happy”, by Jeanene Parker “All is Good” by Alicia Waugh, “I am the Eagle” by Kevin Koch and “Wanna Come Hang Out?” by Lauren Dwyer

Photos via Wet Mountain Animal Welfare





## Lincoln Day Sponsors

THE AUGUST 24TH CUSTER COUNTY REPUBLICAN LINCOLN DAY EVENT WAS MADE POSSIBLE BY THE SUPPORT OF OUR SPONSORS. THANK YOU FOR PAYING IT FORWARD.

### Centennial

ANTLER'S LIQUOR

BRAD BALTZLY

ANN BARTHROP

IGNACIO BECERRA

JACK CANTERBURY

JEAN CANTERBURY

CUSTER COUNTY REALTY - BOB SENDERHAUF

NANCY DRUMMOND

LUCAS EPP

LEA GRUNDY

HOMESMART PREFERRED REALTY - DAN HIGHT

HUNGER BUSTER

GARY JOSEPH

KAREN JOSEPH

NIKITA PHILLIPS

LINDA POLLACK

STEVE RORICK

SANGRE DE CRISTO SENTINEL

SAPIAH WOODWORKS, LLC, - LISA KIDWELL

BRIAN THOMAS

CAROL THOMAS

JACK THOMPSON

CAROL THOMPSON

ANN WILLSON



### Corporate

BALTZLY CONSTRUCTION SERVICES

CUSTER COUNTY SUPPLY CO.

DARKSKIES VACATIONS

GUNFIGHTER DESIGN

OAK DISPOSAL

PEAKS INTEGRITY

ALINA ROMINGER

SAPIAH WOODWORKS, LLC

VALLEY FEED - RANCH SUPPLY & SADDLERY

WESTERN APPRAISALS, LLC

WET MOUNTAIN STORAGE

YODER'S HOME FURNISHINGS

This ad paid for by the CCRCC





NEW MENU! NEW PRICES!

2 TONY'S 1 LOCATION

630 MAIN ST. SILVER CLIFF

FULL MENU IS BACK!



Barb Beckner

Financial Advisor



Ron Beckner

Financial Advisor





## RAYMOND JAMES

Peaks Integrity Wealth Management, LLC

595 Hermit Rd Westcliffe, CO 81252

719-581-(PEAK) 7325

www.peaks-integrity.com

Your Full-Service Investment Office in Custer County and Surrounding Areas

Securities offered through Raymond James Financial Services, Inc., Member FINRA/SIPC. Investment advisory services are offered through Raymond James Financial Services Advisors, Inc. Peaks Integrity Wealth Management LLC is not a registered broker/dealer and is independent of Raymond James Financial Services.

# At the Library

## Supporting the Immune System

Amy Good-McQuaide will teach “How to Support the Immune System” on Tuesday, September 24th at 4:30 p.m. at the West Custer County Library. As the cold weather approaches and we spend more time indoors it’s important to understand how to better support our immune

systems. In this workshop participants will learn how to support the immune system daily with tonic herbs. She’ll also discuss what to do when you do experience symptoms from illness and how to support the body in recovery. She’ll discuss lifestyle, nutrition, and of course herbs!

To sign up please visit [www.westcusterlibrary.org](http://www.westcusterlibrary.org) events page or call (719) 783-9138 to register.

Amy earned her certification with Herbalism Roots in 2017. She has had over 1000 hours of herbalism, botany, and aromatherapy training.

## Conversations on Dementia Caregiving

Wayne Ewing invites you to join him at the West Custer County Library on Wednesday evening, September 25th at 5 p.m. for good conversation and his wife’s delightful cookies as he engages the community on dementia caregiving

concerns highlighted in his new book “In the Land of Forgetfulness.” The book is a compilation of meditations on dementia care including reflections and stories from years past. One reviewer wrote “this is a wonderful reframing

of dementia caregiving from one of fear and isolation to the possibility for deeper love and more soulful living.” For more information please visit [www.westcusterlibrary.org](http://www.westcusterlibrary.org) events page or call (719) 783-9138.

## Lessons & Carols Christmas Concert

### Children’s Choir and Adult Choir Planned

Yay! It is time to get ready for this year’s “Lessons and Carols” Christmas concert! The Wet Mountain Valley Community Chorale invites children ages 5-11 and anyone over the age of 12 that loves to sing to join in the fun. We will be meeting for our first rehearsal of the season on Sunday, September 15th at First Baptist Church of Westcliffe.

Rehearsals will be held Sunday evenings with the Children’s Choir meeting from

5:30 - 6:15 p.m. and the Adult Choir meeting from 6:30-8 p.m. We are planning to make childcare available for those who need it. This year’s Christmas concert performances will be held at the First Baptist Church on Sunday, December 8th with two performances being planned.... one at 2 p.m. and one at 4 p.m. Please join us! For questions, please contact Amy Perschbacher via email: [amyp1957@gmail.com](mailto:amyp1957@gmail.com).



# Bookends

## September 2024 Library News

by West Custer County Library

It’s been in the news a lot lately: a nationwide decline in mental and emotional health. It impacts all kinds of people, in communities large and small, including ours. West Custer County Library is committed to offering a variety of resources to support the well-being of our whole community.

One unique resource anyone can check out is a fully-equipped **Telehealth** kit. Not just for medical appointments, this kit comes with a laptop, a mobile hotspot and everything you need to meet online with a virtual support group, an online therapist, or any private appointment. It can be used in either the Library’s privacy booth or at home. Ask our staff if you have questions or need help using the kit.

Tuesday mornings throughout September, the Library is hosting a **Grief Education Series** led by the Upper Arkansas Area Agency on Aging. Covering a wide range of topics from the tasks of mourning to responding to a neighbor’s grief, these gatherings happen 10 to 11 a.m. in the Community Room. No registration is required. All are welcome.

The Surgeon General recently issued an advisory about the unprecedented stress American parents are experiencing. The Library offers several programs to support parents and caregivers. Moms with infants as well as expecting moms are welcome at a semi-monthly **Mother Baby Cafe** the first and third Thursday of September from 9 to 11 a.m. Meet outdoors at Hermit Park.

Also, for preschool aged kids 0-5 and their parents, Wednesday morning offerings include **Growing Together** music sessions in the Community Room from 9:30 to 10 a.m. followed immediately by **Storytime** or **Play Group** (on alternating weeks) until 11 a.m. Gather with other parents while the little ones practice socialization through play. No registration is required for any of these parent-child events.

What about non-parents and young people who are feeling stressed out and just want to cultivate a little more peace in their daily lives? Adults, try “**Journaling for Well-being**” from 10 a.m. to noon on Thursday, September 19th (Registration IS required). And teens get to explore ways their sense of smell affects mood in the Friday, September 27th event “Signature Scents.” This two-hour class starts at 10 a.m., and teens will go home with their own personally crafted body spray.

September is also **National Suicide Prevention Month**. This is a hard subject to think and talk about, but it is important. More than 13 million American adults seriously thought about suicide last year, and it is the second-leading cause of death in young adults. The main display in the Library this month will feature artworks from community members that shine a light on suicide prevention. We’re also featuring books and other resources on mental health, grief, and suicide prevention for check out. If you or someone you know is facing immediate danger, please call the Suicide & Crisis Lifeline any time by dialing 988. You matter to our community, and you belong here.



**NEWLY BUILT HOME ON 5 ACRES**  
**BRAND NEW**



3 bed/2 bath home with 2-car attached garage on 5 acres with panoramic mountain views. Cove heating, wood burning stove, covered porches, open floor plan, T&G vaulted ceilings, granite countertops, kitchen island. Stucco exterior with metal roof for no stress maintenance. \$519,000



**Brenda Bosse**  
Realtor®  
25 years listing and selling in the valley!



**(719) 371-3270**  
**9 Bassick Place, Westcliffe**  
**[brenda@brendabosse.com](mailto:brenda@brendabosse.com)**  
**[www.brendabosse.com](http://www.brendabosse.com)**



**True Value**®

**Store Hours:**  
**Monday - Friday 8 am - 6 pm | Saturday 8 am - 2 pm**  
**635 Shoop Dr., Penrose, CO 81242**  
**719-784-0123**  
**[www.truevaluetrailer.com](http://www.truevaluetrailer.com)**



**Please send your submissions to us at [sdc.sentinel@gmail.com](mailto: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 necessarily reflect the opinions held or endorsed by the Sentinel.*

### The Race Is On!

Letter to the Editor;

This commissioner’s race is heating up to be one of the most important local elections in recent history, as two of the seats for county commissioners are up for grabs.

Why is this race so important? It’s a battle between conservatives and liberals and if you believe the liberals (Democrats), are doing a great job running this state and nation, you’re part of the problem!

Since Biden took office in 2021, the U.S. economy has taken a death spiral to the point that we have become a third-world nation.

Below is a comparison chart showing the economy under the leadership of both the Republican and Democratic parties over the past eight years.

Under A) Trump and Republican Management vs B) Biden and Democrat/liberal Management

|                 | A       | B       |
|-----------------|---------|---------|
| Inflation Rate  | 1.90%   | 17%     |
| Gas Prices      | \$2.17  | \$3.96  |
| Average Rent    | \$1,096 | \$2,395 |
| Food Costs      | +3.50%  | +25%    |
| Hourly Earnings | +7.10%  | -3.5%   |

Due to the unforgivable, criminal mismanagement in Washington and right here in Colorado with Governor Polis at the helm, they have all but destroyed this once great nation and state!

It’s time that “We the People” starting at home, take back our country!

The local liberals are following in their leader’s footsteps and are attempting to bring down Custer County. As is the case in Washington and our own state, they refuse to listen to the voters!

While our voices might not be loud enough to be heard in our nation’s capital or even at the state level, here in Custer County we can stop this deadly downslide by our votes! Pay close attention to the candidates and their accomplishments! Just because you’ve known John Doe for a long time doesn’t qualify him as a good commissioner! Scrutinize them to the utmost degree! Look at their past with the most powerful magnifying glass available! Your vote could stop the wrong man from winning the election! Or if you vote unintelligently, that same vote could put him in office!

Custer County has its own “Deep State,” or because the word “deep”

congers up the idea of “deep thinkers”. Neither of which of the independent candidates, in my opinion, has the brains to shovel my driveway, we’ll refer to this as the “Shallow State”

This shallow state includes, but is not limited to, two of the candidates running for county commissioner, Kevin Day and Jordan Hedberg, who both abandoned the Republican Party and are now Unaffiliated.

Tuesday, November 5th, we will decide which of the five candidates running for office will either destroy Custer County or continue to build her in the way that “we the people” wish to see her flourish!

**Qualifications of the Candidates**

Beginning with Lucas Epp, let’s examine the qualifications of the five men running for county commissioner.

Lucas Epp, commissioner for District 3, has proven himself capable in several ways. Although he has only been in the commissioner’s seat for a short time, after having defeated Tom Flower in the recall, he has already saved Custer County better than \$100,000 annually, by teaming up with Bill Canda to vote out the very unnecessary and

unwanted county manager’s position. Currently, he is working in an effort to split the financial and human resources departments making each more effective and cost efficient for our county.

Given a second term, I know Lucas won’t let us down!

His opponent, Jordan Hedberg, has also had an effect on Custer County.

After acquiring the once largest newspaper in the county, *The Wet Mountain Tribune*, he has all but turned it into a laughable tabloid. If he doesn’t have the skills to maintain an already successful paper, what qualifies him to be our county commissioner? Keep in mind a large part of a commissioner’s duty is to manage the county budget!

Then there is the fact that he sued his own county because the board of commissioners didn’t want to use his paper for legal notices. The commissioners had the option to use either the *Sentinel* or *Tribune*. Then he named Bill Canda and Custer County in a frivolous lawsuit which was settled to avoid high court/lawyer fees.

He negotiated a final price for the county in the lawsuit of \$50,000 with the understanding that the

county use his newspaper for the public reports for the next 4 years.

In an article which appeared in another publication Hedberg was quoted as saying,

“I was always convinced I’d stay here forever,” he said. “But now I’m not so sure.”

Maybe we can make that decision a bit easier for you, Jordan. Why don’t you move to California, Illinois, Washington or some other liberal state where your brand of politics is working so very well? We like Westcliffe the way it is, not to mention the fact that we don’t need disgruntled citizens suing us just because they don’t get their way! Put on your big boy pants and remove the log from your eye before you remove the splinter from ours. (Matthew 7:3-5)

Next candidate to toss his hat into the ring is Paul Vogel song, running against Kevin Day in District 2. Paul’s qualifications are quite impressive!

Paul served our country, for 24 years, in the Navy, where he was stationed on the aircraft carrier, Coral Sea. While on board, he was

THE RACE  
see page 24

### Are you ready for Winter??



#### Solar Panels

Canadian Solar 390 watt Monocrystalline (NEW) \$179 each  
Bulk price 1 pallet of 30 panels -\$159 each  
Canadian Solar 400 Watt Monocrystalline (New) \$179 each  
Orders of 6 panels or more \$169 each

#### Inverters

EG 4 6000XP split phase inverter 25 amp, 240 volt, 6000 Watt \$1499 each  
Gro Watt 3000 Inverter (new used) 48 volt. \$450 each

#### Lithium Batteries

EG4 48 volt. 100 AH Rack Battery. \$1499.  
EG4 24 Volt 200 AH Rack Battery. \$1499.  
EG4 48 Volt 280 AH All weather, Self Heated Wall Mount \$3,999.  
EG4 12 Volt 100 AH \$499.

#### Accessories

EG4 Rack Battery Cabinets (holds 6) with wheels \$599.  
EG4 48 Volt Charge Controller \$250.  
End Clamps, Mid Clamps, roof mount rails , Rack systems.

Call for more info on our Installation & Packages.  
Sales tax is additional on all product. Delivery Fee is additional on all items.

Contact: John “CJ” Goebel, Silver Cliff, CO 719-458-9852  
email: [custersolar@proton.me](mailto:custersolar@proton.me)  
Licensed & Insured



### Senior Discounts up to 20%

Email: [Sleuth1@sleuth1.com](mailto:Sleuth1@sleuth1.com)  
Main St. in Westcliffe next to the laundromat & Anne’s Grooming

### Laptops Refurbished, Monitors & other devices!

Why drive 125 miles to get ripped off at the geeks and other expensive sales and repair stores?!

## ELECTRON WIZARD

### Only Minutes Away!!

# 719-431-9442

### Computer Repairs / Sales / Cell Phones!

## WILDFIRE MITIGATION

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



## SWOTA ENTERPRISES

SERVING CUSTER COUNTY & SURROUNDING AREAS

RAY SWOTA

719-783-4477  
[RSWOTA@GMAIL.COM](mailto:RSWOTA@GMAIL.COM)

The issue today is the same as it has been throughout all history, whether man shall be allowed to govern himself or be ruled by a small elite.

Thomas Jefferson

BUSINESS DIRECTORY



Business Directory

Automotive Services

The Cliffes Auto Service

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

Baltzly Towing

719-458-9929  
BaltzlyTowing@gmail.com

Banks & Financial Services

Collector & Investor Coins -  
Buying Selling & Trading

719- 269-7507 • 123 S 5th St, Canon City, CO  
www.canoncitycoins.com

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

Bicycle Rentals/Repair

RAM Outdoor Adventures

E-bike and Bicycle Repair & E-bike Rentals  
113 Mill St., Silver Cliff | 719-371-3201  
Tues-Sat 9 am-4 pm

Building SUPPLY

Central Building Supply  
Hardware, Lumber & OSB

705 Ohio Street, Silver Cliff  
719-783-2385

Builders/ Construction

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

Eagle Peak View

All phases of Construction & Plumbing  
Mike Mitzner  
719-494-4026 | mike@eaglepeakview.com

Hershberger Construction

719-216-9545  
Matt@HershbergerConstruction.net

Kauffman’s Construction

Porches & Decks - Roofing & Siding  
Custom Pole Barns & Garages • Free Estimates  
Owen 719-371-7863

No Job Too Small

Remodels, Decks, Additions, Log Repair, Staining/ Painting  
Tony 719-783-2883 INSURED  
For your small Construction Needs

Old Country Construction

719-458-4184  
New Homes, Additions, Polebarns, Garages  
Ceritified Passive House Tradesperson

Cleaning Services

Valley Cleaning Services LLC

719-285-5503  
Offering services for Commercial, Residential,  
Construction & Short Term Rentals

Computer/Cell Phone Repair

Electron Wizard

sleuth1@sleuth1.com 719-431-9442  
615 Main St, Westcliffe  
Computer Repairs, Sales, Cell Phones, and More!

Construction Services

Beach Redi-Mix & Concrete Pumping

Precast septic tanks &  
decorative blocks  
719-783-3558 | info@SBCompanies.com

Colorado Forestry & Earthworks, LLC  
Gravel: Landscape Rock, Topsoil & More  
Excavation: Septic Installs, Driveways, Foundations  
719-429-1676 | coforearth.com

Frontier Kitchens & Interiors

Full Service Interior Design Store  
318 Main Street  
(719)-783-9225

Harald Frank Skid Steer Services  
and H & L Trucking

HaraldFrank7@gmail.com 719-371-1570  
Driveways Build/Repair - Gravel & Road Base Hauling

KLM Seamless Gutters

Marlin Miller  
Quality and Experience  
719-371-7021

Miller’s Roof Coatings LLC

Commercial Roof Restoration, Spray Foam Insulation  
(Average is No Option)  
lmiller.millersroofcoatings@gmail.com • 719-239-4739

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

Solar Solutions Ltd

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

STONE & STEEL, LLC

Bulldozer / Loader / Dump Truck  
Skid Steer Services / Excavation & more!  
Call for estimate: 717-507-5883

Valley View Windows & Doors

Call Marty Byler at 719-220-4151  
or Email Will@valleyviewwindows.net  
Free Estimates, Replacements, New construction

Daryl CUSTOM Home Builders

WKM Construction, LLC  
New Homes, Renovations  
719-371-5231

Westcliffe Concrete

Flatwork & Stamped Concrete, ICFs  
Lee Hostetler: 719-371-6193  
Matt Troyer: 719-221-8940

Not Listed? Call us for great rates!

SDC Sentinel - 719-783-3360

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

Firewood

Westcliffe Firewood

Ryan Stover  
719-371-6074  
westcliffefirewood@gmail.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

Grocery & Health Foods

Lowe’s Market

50 Main St, Westcliffe  
719-783-0550  
www.lowesmarket.com

DUTCH PANTRY & DELI

404 E. Main St., Silver Cliff  
719-298-6689  
Mon-Thur: 9-5, Fri: 6:30-5, Sat: 10-4

Guns , Ammo, Knives

Custer County Supply Co

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

Salida Cutlery & Smoke Shop

132 W Hwy 50 Salida  
719-539-2884 Monday-Friday 9-6  
Where you’ll find sharp gifts & smokin’ deals!

Gun Clubs

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  
http://sangreshooting.com

Shopping Local Helps Local Economy & Creates Local Jobs

Heating & Air Conditioning

Piñon Plumbing, LLC

All Service Heating · Residential & Commercial  
Boilers, Furnaces & Propane Heaters  
Licensed & Insured · Jeff Ray 719-783-0379

White Bros Custom Plumbing & Heating, Inc.

www.whitebrosplumbing.com  
P.O. Box 957, Westcliffe ~ 719-217-7202  
*Locally Owned & Family Operated*

Insurance

State Farm Dennis Podzemny

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

Landscaping

FALLS to PONDER

Waterfalls • Retaining Walls • Fencing  
Log Entrances • Wildfire Mitigation  
719-275-5040

Lodging

Darksbies Vacations

Enter WMV-LOCAL for 10% off vacation home rentals.  
Visit Darksbies.vacations or call  
719-783-0648

Massage/ Therapy

Wet Mountain Manual Therapy

CranioSacral Therapy, Visceral Manipulation, MLD  
114 N 2nd Street, Westcliffe  
wetmountainmanualtherapy.com 719.639.8447

Mitigation/ Pest Control

Premier Pest Control LLC

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

Piñon Plumbing, LLC

All Service Heating · Residential & Commercial  
Boilers, Furnaces & Propane Heaters  
Licensed & Insured · Jeff Ray 719-783-0379

River Valley Plumbing and Heating

250 Moore Dr, Florence  
719-784-3876  
www.rivervalleyplumbingandheat.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

Real Estate Services

Bighorn Realty

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

Brenda Bosse HomeSmart Preferred Real Estate

9 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

Hayden Outdoors

214 Main St Westcliffe  
719-371-4344  
https://haydenoutdoors.com

Lori Kastendieck

Independent Broker  
719-269-0653  
WestcliffeBroker.com

Restaurants & Dining

ALPINE LODGE

RESTAURANT, LOUNGE, CABINS, CATERING, SPECIAL EVENTS  
719-783-2660 • 6848 COUNTY ROAD 140, WESTCLIFFE  
facebook.com/TheHistoricAlpineLodge

Stage Stop Gourmet Sundaes & Espresso

3rd and Main Street, Westcliffe  
Follow Us: Facebook.com/inthesangres

Tony's Mountain Pizza

719-783-9300  
tonysmountainpizza.com  
630 Main Street, Silver Cliff

Tony's Steak & Tavern

719-783-9300  
630 Main St., Silver Cliff  
Open Thurs-Sat 11-9, Sun 12-8

Restaurants & Dining Cont'd

Zita's Mountain Bistro

109 N 3rd St, Westcliffe  
*Uniquely Different! New menu items weekly!*  
Opens at Noon Thursday- Sunday

Septic Installation

Seifert Enterprises

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

Solar / Renewable Energy

Solar Solutions Ltd

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

Storage

Colorado Forestry & Earthworks, LLC

has Commercial Shop Bays for rent!  
822 Cliff St. in Silver Cliff  
Contact 719-285-9992 for more info.

Wet Mountain Storage

300 Main St, Westcliffe (office)  
719-783-9321  
www.westcliffecoloradoselfstorage.com

Thrift Stores

THRIFTY CLIFFE

402 Main St. Westcliffe (805) 680-5712  
contact@thriftycliffe.com  
Open: Tuesday - Saturday 10 a.m. – 5 p.m.

Tractor/Trailer Sales

True Value Hardware and Trailers

635 Shoop Dr, Penrose  
719-784-0123  
https://www.truevaluetrailers.com

Vacation / Accommodations

Darksbies Vacations

Enter WMV-LOCAL for 10% off vacation home rentals  
Visit Darksbies.vacations or call  
719-783-0648

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



The American Legion Monthly Meeting is the 1st Tuesday of every month at 6:30 p.m. at the bowling alley.

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

**American Legion and VFW Monthly Meetings**

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



### Custer Senior Center Menu

Monday, September 16

Lemon Baked Fish w/Tarter  
Sauce, Rice Pilaf  
Creamy Coleslaw  
Green Beans w/Mushrooms  
Apple, WW Bread w/Butter

Tuesday, September 17

Chili con Carne  
Steamed Broccoli  
Cornbread  
Trail Mix w/Nuts & Raisins  
Apple

Thursday, September 19

Pasta Primavera  
Spinach Salad w/Egg & Lite Italian Dressing  
Apple/Pear Salad w/Almonds  
Plum, Garlic Bread

Served Mondays, Tuesdays & Thursdays at noon. 612 Main St. , Silver Cliff Townhall (lower level)

The following major food allergens are used as ingredients: Milk, Egg, Fish, Tree Nuts, Peanuts, Wheat, Soy and Sesame.

Please call (719) 783-9508 before 9:30 a.m. for reservations

A \$3 suggested donation per meal is appreciated, but not required. All menus subject to change.

Recurring Events

**Mondays**  
**10 a.m. Pickle Ball** Silver Cliff Memorial Park  
More info: [lizbrannen@gmail.com](mailto:lizbrannen@gmail.com)  
**6 -7:30 p.m. Men’s Bible Meeting** Start Sept. 9.  
(The Bible and X) w Scott Munger. at First Baptist Church.  
**6 p.m. Alcoholics Anonymous** (CLSD) 12 Step study, at St. Luke’s, 3rd & Rosita in Westcliffe. Martha at 719-371-1853.

**1st Monday of the Month**  
**5 p.m. Post 170 Auxiliary** monthly meeting (year-round) at Cliffe Lanes  
**2nd and 4th Monday**  
**6 – 7 p.m. Narcotics Anonymous**  
Community United Methodist Church Fellowship Hall. Children Welcome. [colobamanana@yahoo.com](mailto:colobamanana@yahoo.com)

**Tuesdays**  
**12 noon – 1 p.m. Alcoholics Anonymous** (CLDS) “As Bill Sees It” St. Luke’s, 3rd & Rosita in W/C. Call Martha at 719-371-1853.

**1st Tuesday of the Month**  
**9 a.m. - 3 p.m. Old Schoolhouse Quilters Comfort Quilters @Valley Bible**  
**6:30 p.m. American Legion Post 170** monthly meeting at Cliff Lanes meeting room.  
**4-6 p.m. Christian Music on KLZR 91.7 FM**  
**2nd Tuesday of the Month**  
**9 a.m. Old Schoolhouse Quilters Guild Meeting @Valley Bible**  
**3rd Tuesday of the Month**  
**Liberty Rocks TUESDAY** Meet/greet & order 5:30 p.m. Presentation 6 p.m. Location Tony’s Pizza All welcome.

**Wednesdays**  
**8 -9 a.m. Veterans Coffee Social**, Veterans and Caregivers welcome. West Custer County Library Community Rm., 209 Main St. Westcliffe  
**9:30 – 11 a.m. Line Dancers** meet at United Methodist Church, 204 S 6th St. Call Debbie Underwood at (432) 553-7483.  
**9:45-11:30 a.m. The Posse Ladies Bible Study** “Names of God” at Sangre de Cristo Fellowship, 120 Jerry Dr. Westcliffe. September 18- December 4  
Questions? Holly 703-338-4100

**10 -11 a.m. ENDED FOR SUMMER**  
**Westcliffe Band of Brothers & Sisters Bible Study**  
Valley Bible Fellowship, 116 Hermit Lane, Silver Cliff

**10 a.m. Pickle Ball** Silver Cliff Memorial Park  
More info: [lizbrannen@gmail.com](mailto:lizbrannen@gmail.com)  
**6 p.m. Alcoholics Anonymous** (CLSD) Big Book Study at St. Luke’s, 3rd & Rosita, in Westcliffe. Martha at 719-371-1853.  
**6 p.m. Prayer Group Meeting.** First Baptist Church of Westcliffe. Call 719-783-2498.

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

**2nd Thursday of the Month**  
**6 p.m. Custer County Republican Central Committee** meeting. Ranchers Roost. The public is welcome See [www.CusterGOP.com](http://www.CusterGOP.com) or Facebook page at <https://m.facebook.com/custergop>

**3rd Thursday of the Month**  
**2 p.m. Round Mt Water District Meeting.**  
**Liberty Rocks NOW 3rd TUESDAY**

**Fridays**  
**10 a.m. Pickle Ball** Silver Cliff Memorial Park  
More info: [lizbrannen@gmail.com](mailto:lizbrannen@gmail.com)  
**1 - 4 p.m.- Mah Jongg** at the Senior Center  
**6 p.m. Alcoholics Anonymous** Open Discussion, St. Luke’s, 3rd & Rosita. Call Martha 719-371- 1853

**2nd Friday of the Month**  
**8 am- Westcliffe Band of Brothers & Sisters Men’s Prayer Breakfast**, at the Senior Center followed by **Monthly Meeting at 9:30** - all are welcome

**Saturdays**  
**10 a.m. Wet Mountain Al-Anon Family Group** meets at St. Luke’s Episcopal Church. Call Dee (719) 404-1851 or Jean (719) 371-1229.

**3rd Saturday of Month**  
**8 a.m. Valley Bible Fellowship Men’s Breakfast** Open to all Men of the Community, 116 Hermit Lane, Silver Cliff Questions, **Mike @ 719-650-0362**  
**1 p.m. VFW meeting** at Cliff Lanes Conference Room, Post Commander Burt Daniels 719-783-3050

**THE BIBLE AND X**  
A meeting for men, young and old, to learn and explore how the Bible interacts with issues of our day.  
X = Science, Aliens, Sex, War, Justice, Gender, Race, Government, Evolution, Religions, Abortion, Socialism, Media, Suicide, Culture, Drugs, Medicine, Politics, Environment, Apocalypse, etc.  
Dr. Scott Munger (BA, MA, PhD), atheist turned Christian, served in six countries as a missionary, author, and teacher.  
**Monday evenings, 6:00-7:30, Sept. 9 - May 19**  
First Baptist Church, Westcliffe

RESTRAINING from page 1

So what did Hedberg use to justify this fairly extreme measure to prevent local LEO from seizing his computers, etc.? In the affidavit, Hedberg states that he received an email “from Defendant Lloyd Smith (see, Exhibit A), the Sheriff of Custer County, in response to questions I had asked regarding the Sheriff hiring a man, Mark Cook....” Hedberg then states in the affidavit, “At the end of the email, Sheriff Smith stated, “I do have a quick question for you: Is Jordan Benson a formal member of your campaign or would you consider him a long term political advisor for you?” This unexpected question I consider a threat against myself and my newspaper.” Right after this statement Hedberg states that the CCSO “executed a search warrant on the Custer County I.T. employee Jordan Benson, seizing all of Mr. Benson’s phones, computers and electronic equipment in his car and in his home.”

Let’s back up a minute. The *Sentinel* reported last week that a Custer County employee had a search warrant served against him and that it concerned cyber spying on various Custer County computers, including some in the Sheriff’s Office. We did not name the employee. Hedberg named him in the affidavit.

So what is the relationship between Hedberg and Benson and why is Hedberg getting a TRO?

Benson has been an IT employee at Custer County for several years. He has repeatedly stated to many people of his political ambitions, including wanting to be a Custer County Commissioner someday. Although not being active virtually at all in the Custer County Republican Party, Benson sought and was elected Custer County Republican Central Committee (CCRCC) Chair last year. (He was elected by the old RINO faction of the party to prevent the MAGA section from getting the Chair position.) Right off the bat his reign was a disaster with canceled meetings and a total lack of communication. After just a few months, Benson abruptly resigned via an email with no explanation whatsoever.

Benson and Hedberg are known to

be friendly. Benson was one of the main sponsors of Hedberg’s bizarre attempt to become Chair of the CCRCC, again to prevent the MAGA folks from getting it. (It was a close call, but the MAGA people prevailed with Jack Canterbury getting the slot. Note that Hedberg was registered as Unaffiliated for a long time and just last year suddenly changed his registration to Republican for some unknown reason. After he did that, he tried to grab the CCRCC Chair spot despite not being involved with the CCRCC in any significant way. After he lost, he changed his affiliation back to Unaffiliated. So, obviously, not a lot of loyalty there.)

Benson is obviously a suspect regarding the hacking into the County’s computers (including the Sheriff’s Office). It is possible that incriminating evidence regarding the alleged hacking is on Benson’s computers. This could include communications with other people, including emails, that could contain stolen County information. If this is true, then it is possible that these communications, especially emails, would include the address of the recipient. This would give law enforcement valid reason to obtain a search warrant to search the computers/electronic devices of the alleged recipients.

So one would definitely question the reason and timing of Hedberg’s obtaining a TRO right after the search warrants were executed on Benson’s equipment. Hedberg using Sheriff Smith’s simple question about his relationship with Benson is, in many people’s opinions, a pretty flimsy excuse for a TRO to prevent a POSSIBLE future search warrant. (A lawyer we consulted with said granting a Press/Confidential Sources TRO, no matter how poor the reason is, is fairly common. It is only temporary. Whether this somewhat shaky reasons for getting a TRO holds up will be decided in next week’s court hearing.)

One would not be out of line saying if Hedberg had nothing to hide, why obtain a TRO?

Let’s take a look at the legal provisions protecting the media (both state and federal as noted above). And also note the wording in Hedberg’s affidavit, “journalistic sources” and

“publishing a newspaper”.

The legal protections afforded in these laws are for the production of news articles. Hedberg’s own words are “journalistic sources” and “publishing a newspaper”. These protections do NOT apply to the use of stolen, confidential information for personal or political gain. For oneself or for the people who one would support in the political world.

Hedberg is not only a publisher, he is heavily involved in the political process in the county, including: Running for Chair of the CCRCC, supporting the disgraced ex-commissioner Tom Flower in the recall against Flower, supporting the lefty Deb Adams in her campaign for county commissioner (via posting her campaign poster in the *Tribune’s* Main Street window), constantly commenting via Zoom during Board of County Commissioner (BOCC) meetings, threatening to sue the BOCC if they proceeded with having a seminar on voting integrity, and finally, (currently) RUNNING FOR COUNTY COMMISSIONER! Hedberg wants to be a politician in Custer County.

So, do the legal protections for “journalistic sources” for a newspaper cover the use of stolen information for personal political gain or for the political purposes of other people? The answer is NO. The protections are for the production of news in the media arena and not for the personal use of stolen data.

We are NOT saying that Hedberg did anything wrong. He has the right to ask for TRO. For any reasons he thinks is justifiable. But the timing of the TRO request after the Benson search warrant execution raises questions. One in particular: if Hedberg has done nothing wrong, why get a TRO? Maybe he has a fear of being persecuted by law enforcement. Maybe that fear is justified. But maybe there are other reasons.

This drama, even after the court hearing on the TRO next week, is going to take some time to be resolved as the CBI is the investigative agency and they are back logged with work.

But don’t forget Occam’s Razor problem solving principle, the popular saying for it is, “The simplest explanation is usually the best one.”

**Sermon Series on The Culture Wars**  
**Pastor Josh Osteen of the First Baptist Church of Westcliffe gave the first of five sermons on The Culture Wars last Sunday, September 8th. There will be four more. The sermon rocked the congregation. This Bible based sermon series outlines the issues and the answers.**  
**Don’t miss it.**  
**Sundays, 10:45 a.m. First Baptist Church, 417 S 6th. All are welcome.**

The steadfast love of the LORD never ceases;[fn]  
Hs mercies never come to an end;  
they are new every morning; great is Your faithfulness.  
Lamentations 3: 22-23 ESV

**CONCRETE 45 YEAR PROTECTANT**  
**MILLER'S**  
**Roof Coatings LLC**  
Average is No Option  
**Spray Foam Insulation**  
**Levi Miller**  
1812 6th Trl. Cotopaxi, CO 81223  
**719-239-4739**  
**lmiller.millersroofcoatings@gmail.com**  
**COMMERCIAL ROOF RESTORATION**

ACHES?

PAIN?

FATIGUE?

Call or Schedule Online Today



WET MOUNTAIN  
MANUAL THERAPY  
Advanced CranioSacral,  
Visceral Manipulation,  
Lymphatic Drainage  
  
114 N 2nd Street  
Westcliffe, Colorado  
  
719.639.8447 wetmountainmanualtherapy.com



Revi PredatorE-bike and Outdoor Gear RentalsRevi Oasis

Offering E-bike and Bicycle Repair and E-bike Rentals!

Come see us at 113 Mill St. in Silver Cliff!

9 am - 4 pm Tues - Sat

  
ramoutdoor.us 719-371-3201 hello@ramoutdoor.us

Events

September 13, 14 @11a.m. to 6 p.m. Galla--Saturday 3-6 p.m. Awards Ceremony-- Saturday 4 p.m. Sangres Art Guild ~ Alla Prima Westcliffe Artists' Sale and Show at Lange Hall. Gallery-- 3rd Street Gallery 59000 N. Hwy 69, Westcliffe

Friday,September 20 at 10 a.m. Ceremony honoring POW/MIA's Meet at the flag pole at the Bowling Alley

Saturday, September 14 @ 12 - 5:30 p.m. \$30 KLZR High Peaks Music Festival Summit Park, Adams Blvd & Main St., Westcliffe

Thursday, September 19, Valley Strong Dinner Dinner begins at 5:30 pm. Main Street Westcliffe

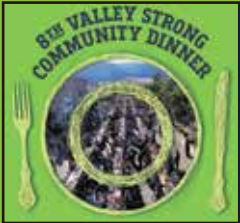
You may arrive beginning at 4 p.m. to decorate and spend time hanging out with your neighbors. valleystrong.us.

Saturday and Sunday, September 21 @ 10 a.m. 6 p.m. September 22 @ 11 a.m. - 3 p.m. Blues, Brews & BBQs 2024 Westcliffe Outpost Amphitheater & Park 116 W. 2nd Street, Westcliffe, CO

September 25-29 Sangre de Cristo Trail Festival Music Meadows Ranch ,6076 County Road 119, Westcliffe https://humanpotentialrunning.com/sangre-de-cristo/

Vally Strong Dinner

September 19th Next Thursday!



Classifieds

Announcements

FREE BOOKS

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

For Sale

753 Bobcat Skid Steer with bucket, Forks, cab, new seat and new battery. Maintenance records available. \$16,000. Call 719-783-0970 \*\*\*

Three Black Angus cows with calves. Calves are Black Angus/ Highlander mix. One year-old heifer Black / Highlander mix. Call 719-371-4748 \*\*\*

1986 Ford -Fire Truck, water extinguishers, helmets, other fire items - must go! 719-285-5929 \*\*\*

FIREWOOD Pine Saw Logs, will load. Located 7 miles south of Westcliffe \$80 per Cord Call 303-250-5055 Merlin

Electric Wheelchair 719-285-5929 text \*\*\*

Garage Sale

Community Garage Sale Cuerno Verde Pines Hwy 69 South, east on Airport Road Saturday, September 21st 8 AM – 1 PM

Start shopping at “Outta Space Storage” on Airport Road and pick up your map to participating homes in Cuerno Verde Pines.

Help Wanted

Custer County School District is now hiring for the following positions: Full-time Special Education Paraprofessional, Bus Driver, and Substitute Teachers. Coaching positions include MS C Team Volleyball Coach, HS Assistant Track Coach, MS Head Football Coach, MS Assistant Football Coach, MS Head Track Coach, MS Assistant Track Coach, Assistant MS Girls Basketball Coach, Assistant MS Boys Basketball Coach. Bus Driver, and Substitute Teacher/Staff.

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: TalentEd or South Central BOCES - Westcliffe openings for more information and to apply. \*\*\*

Sangre de Cristo Sentinel We Need Local people to Report on LOCAL News Stop by Mon. 10-2. Tues -Wedn. 9-4, Fri. 9-12 601 Main St., Westcliffe

Real Estate

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

Services

Mowing and Bush-hogging Call Sonny 719-371-2866

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, Interior/Exterior Paint Log Home Staining and Log repair, Construction. Local References, Insured. Tony (719) 783-2883

Happy Birthday Gunnar!

Get Noticed with Color

Community Services

Altitude Community Fitness (719) 783-0750

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

Custer County Community Sharing Food Pantry 120 N. 3rd St. Fri. (719) 783-2994 OPEN First 3 Fridays of the month 12 – 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 Regional 719-276-5488 Local Office 719-275-2351

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

West Custer County Library 209 Main Street Westcliffe, CO 81252 (719) 783-9138 Tue. – Fri.: 10 a.m. – 5:30 p.m.. Saturday: 10 a.m. – 2 p.m.

Wet Mountain Rotary Van Service Limited Dispatch 719-783-2343

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.

Farmers Markets

TUESDAY 8 a.m. to 1 p.m. CAÑON CITY Farmers Market 211 South 3rd St. Cañon City

WEDNESDAY 4 p.m to 6 p.m. COALDALE Schoolhouse Mtn. Market 287 Hayden Creek Rd, Coaldale

THURSDAY 8 a.m. to 1 p.m. Florence Farmers Market Pioneer Park E 3rd & E 4th, Florence

FRIDAY 9a.m. to 1 p.m. Westcliffe Farmers Market (North of Jess Price Park) 59000 N Hwy 69, Westcliffe

Westcliffe Farmers Market

Vendor of the Week



Gabba Gabba Naturals is a micro company that produces artisan soaps and skin care products using honey and beeswax. Natural product, no colorings and minimal packaging. Based in Cotopaxi area.

It did not take long for what started as an offshoot of our beekeeping in New England to become a passion. Soon realizing it was time to pursue this passion full time, retiring as a nurse/healthcare educator and migrating from the sea level to the mountains of Colorado, was the next ( logical!!) step.

GabbaGabbaNaturals.com

# Local Mountain News & Notices

## KIDSSeptember 13, 2024

### Gerenuk

Here is another rare animal that I bet you have never heard of. It's a Gerenuk or also called a giraffe gazelle. If you have never been to Africa, you have probably never seen one. So here we go on another adventure.



The Gerenuk is a long-necked, medium-sized antelope found in parts of east Africa. In 1879 Victor Brooke was the first to describe this animal. It has a long slender neck and limbs. Their head is small for their size, but their eyes and ears are large. It grows to about 2 feet 7 inches – 3 feet 5 inches tall and weighs in at about 40 and 115 pounds. Two colorations are visible on its smooth coat, the reddish brown back or the “saddle”, and the lighter flanks, fawn to buff. The lyre-shaped horns, curve backward and then slightly forward, appear only on the males and can measure up at 10 – 17 ½ inches.

Gerenuks look so similar to giraffe that they were given the name garanuug, which means “giraffe-necked” in Somai. Their diets consist of plant matter from trees, bushes and other plants. They can reach higher than other gazelles because the structure of their spine allows them to stand upright on their hind legs to reach food as high as about 6 feet in the air. They must forage through spiny bushes to find the leaves that make up the bulk of their diet. This makes their large eyes vulnerable to scratches or other wounds from sharp thorns. They have a natural defense against these thorns in their long eyelashes which protect their delicate eyes from injury.

These animals appear to need very little water. They are able to get all the moisture they need from the plants that they consume. Scientists have observed them for weeks without ever seeing them drink water.

They are prey for lions, cheetahs, hyenas and other African carnivores. They are able to run up to 40 mph to escape these predators. In nature they can live to the ripe old age of eight years. However, in captivity they can live up to the age of 13.

They are very vocal animals. They have a buzzing sound when alarmed, a whistle when annoyed, a loud bleat when in extreme danger, and a soft bleat when females communicate with their young.

That’s the skinny on these skinny, beautiful animals from the antelope family.

by Audrey Slater. Sources: <https://factanimal.com/gerenuk/>, <https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Gerenuk>, <https://www.awf.org/wildlife-conservation/gerenuk>.

Pic Source: <https://factanimal.com/gerenuk/>.

Sangre de Cristo Sentinel • Westcliffe, Colorado

# Corner

Therefore, if anyone is in Christ, he is a new creation.  
The old has passed away; behold, the new has come.

II Corinthians 5:17 ESV



#### Custer County School District C-1 MENU for the WEEK of September 16 thru September 19

|                  | Breakfast                                            | Lunch                                                                        |
|------------------|------------------------------------------------------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| <u>Monday</u>    | Cereal<br>Yogurt<br>Fruit<br>Milk                    | Hamburger Deluxe<br>Oven Fries<br>Coleslaw<br>Fruit, Choice of milk          |
| <u>Tuesday</u>   | Breakfast Pizza<br>Yogurt<br>Fruit<br>Choice of Milk | Enchiladas<br>Fideo<br>Beans<br>Fruit, Choice of Milk                        |
| <u>Wednesday</u> | Yogurt<br>Fruit<br>Choice of Milk                    | Pizza<br>Fresh Salad<br>Fruit, Choice of Milk                                |
| <u>Thursday</u>  | Biscuits and Gravy<br>Fruit<br>Choice                | Orange Chicken<br>Rice<br>Oriental Veg.<br>Egg Roll<br>Fruit, Choice of Milk |

ELEMENTARY - MAIN DISH, GRAIN PRODUCT, VEGETABLE, FRUIT AND MILK. MIDDLE & HIGH - MAIN DISH (OR SALAD BAR), GRAIN PRODUCT, VEGETABLE, FRUIT AND MILK  
This institution is an equal opportunity provider.

## Sports Update

via Aundrea McCormick,  
Athletic Director & HS  
Principal  
Custer County Schools

of 18:25.06, Levi Carichner had a time of 20:29.92, and Jacob Weeks had a time of 20:33.20. Piper Cunningham’s time was 28:05.67.

MS Volleyball traveled to Pikes Peak Christian on Thursday, played Cripple Creek-Victor on Friday, and traveled to ECA on Saturday.

HS Volleyball lost two heart-breaking games this past weekend, in game five against Del Norte Friday, we lost 16-18 and on Saturday we traveled to the Springs to face off against Evangelical Christian Academy where we lost in game five, 14-16.

MS Football went to Rye and played against Craver MS out of Pueblo on Thursday.

HS football was upset at home by Plateau Valley 42-6.

XCountry went to Alamosa. Mason Stover had a time



## Bobcats Scoreboard!

Friday, Sept. 6:

HS Volleyball @ HOME vs Del Norte: loss 3-2  
HS Football@ HOME vs Plateau Valley: loss 42-6

Saturday, Sept. 7:

HS Volleyball @ ECA (away): loss 3-2

## Booster Club Bobcat Corner



*Come out and support your  
Custer County Bobcats!*

*All games and dates are subject to change without notice.*

Friday, Sept. 13:

6 pm HS Football @ Holly (away)

Saturday, Sept 14:

Cross Country: Western Mountaineer Cowboy @ Gunnison  
Community School: 11:15 am HS Boys, 11:45 HS Girls

Thursday, Sept 19:

5 pm HS Volleyball @ HOME vs Crested Butte

Friday, Sept 20:

7 pm HS Football @ Sargent (away)

Saturday, Sept. 21:

Cross Country: Coronado Cougar Classic @ N. Monument  
Valley Park, Colo Springs: 9 am HS Boys, 9:30 HS Girls  
1 pm HS Volleyball @ South Park (away)

Tuesday, Sept. 24:

4:30 pm HS Volleyball @ Trinidad (away)

Thursday, Sept. 26:

2 pm HS Volleyball @ HOME vs Cotopaxi

Friday, Sept 27: Bye Week for HS Football

Saturday, Sept. 28:

4:15 pm HS Volleyball @ HOME vs Calhan

*Come support the Bobcats Concession Stand at every Home game!*

# Local Mountain News & Notices

## Sangres Art Guild Alla Prima Westcliffe Plein Air Show & Sale September 13 & 14

by Sentinel Staff

The Alla Prima Westcliffe Plein Air competition is this weekend at Lange Hall located at 312 S. 3rd Street in Westcliffe.

Open Friday and Saturday, 11 a.m. to 6 p.m. The Galla Reception is Saturday, September 14, 3-6 p.m., with the Awards Ceremony at 4 p.m.

Come admire the local art talent and find that perfect one-of-a-kind original art, for your collection!



Above: Last Year's Grand Prize Winner by Joshua Been.  
Photo courtesy of SAG.

There's something for everyone! To see a sampling of the incredible local talent, see page 3 of this issue!

The event itself is free and open to the public.

## Never Forget Our POW's and MIA's

Press Release

The third Friday during the month of September is National POW/MIA Recognition Day. The purpose is to honor those military members that have been determined Prisoners of War and/or Missing in Action. The American Legion Post 170 Westcliffe place flags on Main Street and has a ceremony at the end of Main Street.

This year's ceremony will be held **Friday, September 20th at 10 a.m.** Those attending will gather at the end of Main Street in Westcliffe by the flag pole at Cliff Lanes.

"We promised to NEVER FORGET THEM to show our dedication and love."

All in the public are encouraged and welcome to attend. Members of the American Legion Post 170

Honor Guard will conduct this ceremony.

Recent records released by the Defense POW/MIA Accounting Agency (DPAA) dating back to World War II show the following facts and figures. At present, more than 81,500 Americans remain missing from WWII, the Korean War, the Vietnam War, the Cold War, and the Gulf Wars/ other conflicts.

NEVER FORGET

## Mural Commissioned For Broll LP Tank



Tess Kane, a local artist, is painting beautiful wild horses on Tim Broll's LP Gas LLC newish 30,000 gallon propane at the edge of town on Highway 69. Tess will be doing an elk on the other side. Tess's art work is simply amazing.

Photo by George Gramlich

Lynn

Write In  
Candidate

Attebery

The "Write" Choice.

COMMISSIONER

DISTRICT 2

Paid for by Lynn Attebery

Auto Insurance • Home Insurance • Life Insurance  
Business Insurance • Health Insurance

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

*Seifert Enterprises*

- ♦ Excavation
- ♦ Septic Systems
- ♦ Road Construction & Maintenance
- ♦ Erosion Control
- ♦ Culvert Installation
- ♦ Delivery of Rock, Roadbase & Top Soil

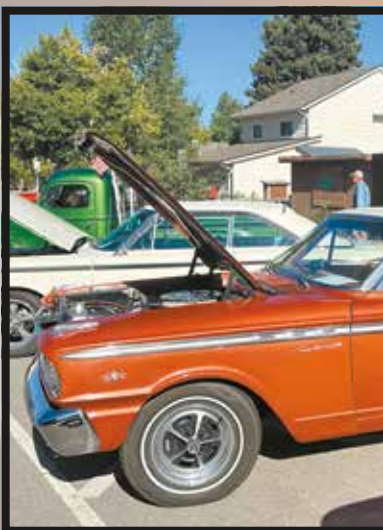
SEIFERT ENTERPRISES, LLC

198 Range View Loop, Westcliffe, CO 81252

719.783.2757

seifertenterprises-co.com

# Valley Street



# ing Car Show





# Aurora Police Say Venezuelan Criminal Gang Impacting Community

by Shirleen Guerra,  
The Center Square

(The Center Square) – The city of Aurora is facing the Venezuelan gang Tren de Aragua that is now operating in the city as the police department confirms the gang’s presence that it says is impacting the migrant community.

“We urge all community members, including members of our migrant communities, to please report crimes committed against them to their local law enforcement agencies and not remain silent victims,” said the Aurora Police Department in the news release posted on X.

On August 28th, a person posted a video on X that claimed an armed group of gang members had taken over an apartment complex. The video showed people armed with firearms walking up the stairs of an apartment complex and knock-

ing on the door. It had 4.4 million views as of August 29th.

The Drug Enforcement Administration (DEA) is also working with the city, according to the news release, stating that the police department has been collecting evidence but will not make any statements regarding incidents and will not be providing details about the police departments plan or operations. The news release stated that the police department believes the reports of the gang are isolated while urging residents and members of the migrant community not to remain silent victims but also to come forward and report the crime.

The city and Aurora Police Department are updating residents on establishing a special task force alongside other local, state, and federal departments to address further the concerns

regarding the Venezuelan gang Tren de Aragua (TdA).

The U.S. Department of the Treasury’s Office of Foreign Assets Control (OFAC) said in July that the Tren de Aragua, a Venezuela-based transnational criminal organization, was starting to expand across the United States. The gang’s activities includes human smuggling and trafficking, gender-based violence, money laundering, and illicit drug trafficking.

“Today’s designation of Tren de Aragua as a significant Transnational Criminal Organization underscores the escalating threat it poses to American communities,” said Under Secretary for Terrorism and Financial Intelligence Brian Nelson in a July 11 news release. “As part of the Biden-Harris Administration’s efforts to target Transnational Criminal Organizations, we will

deploy all tools and authorities against organizations like Tren de Aragua that prey on vulnerable populations to generate revenue, engage in a range of criminal activities across borders, and abuse the U.S. financial system.”

While Denver is no longer able to take on more migrants coming to stay permanently, more migrants have made it to Aurora, a city that passed a resolution in February 2024 stating that it would not be providing aid or resources to migrants entering the city from other municipalities.

“The City Council affirms remaining a Non-Sanctuary City and asserts the City does not currently have the financial capacity to fund new services related to this crisis and demands that other municipalities and entities do not systematically transport migrants or people experiencing homelessness to the

City for temporary housing without the City first being given an opportunity to coordinate such assistance with those other municipalities.” Stated the resolution. “We call on the federal government to perform its constitutional duty and secure our nation’s borders. We want to express our appreciation with the State and local governments and other organizations who are dealing with this crisis.”

The city of Aurora and the Aurora Police Department did not respond to emails seeking comment at the time of publication.

**(Editor/GG: Hey, local Happy Valley libs. These bad illegal immigrants will be here soon. Thanks for inviting them...)**

Please see: [https://www.thecentersquare.com/colorado/article\\_d45e550a-6625-11ef-ace3-4bd1229a4cff.html?a](https://www.thecentersquare.com/colorado/article_d45e550a-6625-11ef-ace3-4bd1229a4cff.html?a)

Let us test and examine our ways, and return to the LORD! Lamentations 3:40 ESV



**Jeff Ray**  
Owner-Master Plumber  
Your Local Plumbing & Heating Service Company  
**719-783-0379**  
[pinonplumbing@gmail.com](mailto: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**

**JARED M. SMITH, DMD**  
Advanced Dental Technology

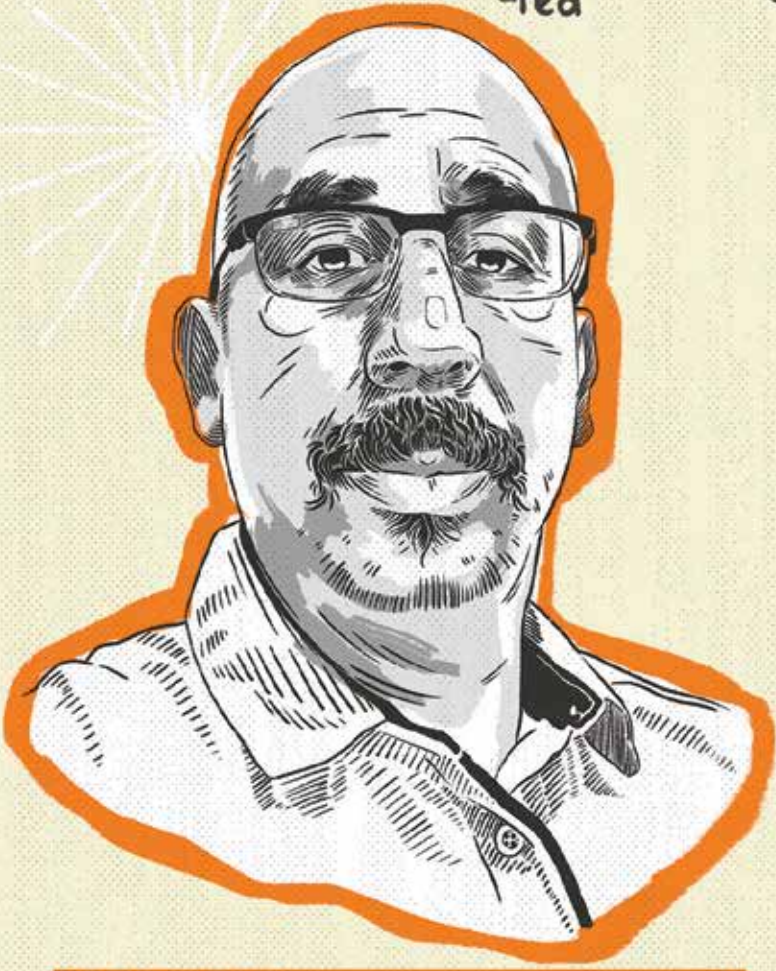
- Same Day Porcelain Crowns Bridges, Inlays, Onlays, Veneers
- Dentures, Partials
- Root Canals
- In-Chair Bleaching Available
- Laser Soft Tissue Treatment
- Digital X-Rays & 3D X-Rays



*Creating Beautiful Smiles in Colorado*

618 Main Street, Cañon City, CO  
719-275-0661 [jaredsmithdmd.com](http://jaredsmithdmd.com)

“I am you, father, grandfather...recovering”  
-Ted



**We all know someone with an addiction.**

**EndstigmastartRecovery.org**



This project is led by the Region 15 Opioid Abatement Council, covering Chaffee, Custer, Fremont, and Park counties.



Colorado State News



Illegal Alien Gangs Taking Over Parts of Colorado

by John Farnum, ammoland.com

Ethnic, Illegal Alien Gangs taking over:

Background:

*“In Aurora, Colorado, concerns over the presence of Venezuelan gangs have prompted city officials and law enforcement to take action to reassure the community. Interim Police Chief Heather Morris and other officers have been engaging with residents at an apartment complex that has become a focal point of these concerns. Residents like Cindy Romero have expressed frustration, citing instances where police response to visible criminal activities was lacking. Aurora Mayor Mike Coffman has announced plans to seek an emergency court order to clear the troubled apartment buildings, highlighting that these properties, owned by an out-of-state landlord, have a history of crime predating the current gang issues. While authorities acknowledge the existence of gang members, they believe the situation is being exaggerated and are focused on ensuring community safety.”*

In response to a ridiculous op-ed piece in the *Denver Post*, which argues that the Venezuelan gang who is currently terrorizing Aurora, CO, is “not a problem,” since it would be “ethnic profiling” to identify them as being a problem, an attorney friend wrote this in response:

“It is not the vast majority of Venezuelan immigrants, papered or not, who are causing concern. It is, however, the small minority of Venezuelan immigrants who ARE gang members, and who ARE cause for GREAT concern!

*Do I fear every Venezuelan immigrant?*

*Of course not!*

*This is not a racial, nor an ethnic, issue. This is however an all-too-real ‘gang issue.’ This gang, which appears to be raising havoc in Aurora, is a cause for great concern.*

*Defending Venezuelan immigrants, as a group, is a mere diversion from the real problem. You should be addressing the real problem and not diverting attention from it by shifting to a fake ‘ethnic issue,’ nor in a fake ‘anti-Venezuelan issue.’*

*No intelligent person is concluding that ‘all Venezuelan immigrants, papered or not, are dangerous gang-members.’ Intelligent people ARE saying, ‘A Venezuelan gang IS a cause of great concern.’*

*We would be fools to ignore the fact that this gang of domestic terrorists is Venezuelan, by ethnicity or heritage, because saying that would be ‘politically incorrect.’*

That is government propaganda and sheer nonsense, just as it is sheer nonsense to accuse worries of those who are legitimately concerned about dangers posed by this very real Venezuelan gang as being ‘unfounded,’ because the gang is Venezuelan in origin.

**Reporting facts is not measured by political correctness, except in this op-ed piece. Facts are facts, even when they are politically inconvenient! ‘Revisionist news’ is not news.**

It is nonsense, with no place- even as an opinion piece.”

Here in the Denver area, ethnic Venezuelan gangs (nearly all illegally in this country to begin with) are currently engaging in violent take-overs of entire neighborhoods and apartment buildings, all with scant interference from police.

*This would have been unthinkable a decade ago!*

Now, it is dangerously real.

To no one’s surprise, the mayor of Denver, the mayor of Aurora, CO, and our state’s governor (all liberals) have gone into “full-spin mode” as they sheepishly render cowardly “word-salad” responses (reminiscent of KDH) to hard questions about this desperate reality.

**Some facts not in dispute:**

**1) Many police departments (all over the US) are currently on a “slow-roll” for calls involving violence.**

In many cases, this is an administrative decision, based on universal staff shortages, and political agenda.

Yet, nervous citizens translate this trend as “abandonment!”

**2) The Aurora, CO PD has identified ethnic-gang-infested apartment complexes assufficiently dangerous, that no fewer than three**

**[Law enforcement officers] LEO’s are to simultaneously respond to calls from there.**

So, while Aurora’s mayor says, in effect, “Nothing to see here,” his PD’s tactics clearly indicate otherwise!

**3) Without fail, liberal politicians create “exemptions” to gun laws, exemptions that benefit only them!**

In addition, they invariably requisition large cadres of LEOs (who would otherwise be out protecting citizens) to devote themselves to protecting only them.

It’s fairly obvious that, to them, only their personal safety is important.

I am curious about the way leftists ever push their signature “cradle-to-grave, and we’ll take care of your every need” big-government agenda on citizens.

Yet, when the critically desperate need actually rears its ugly head, citizens are instantly abandoned and then cynically told by these same well-protected leftists, “You’re on your own!”

Thus, when LEOs insist they need patrol rifles and service pistols with “high-capacity” magazines in order for them to confront increasingly violent and well-armed criminal gangs adequately, then increasingly unprotected private citizens need free access to this same protective kit, and for the same reasons, would you not agree?

**What we see here are heavily armed, illegal-alien ethnic gangs, who are here only because of JRB Administration open borders, operating without compunction nor fear, all while liberal politicians do nothing!**

It’s all a reminder as to just how serious things have become, right here in the USA!

And our leftist political elite, themselves all well-protected, seem to be enjoying it!

*(Editor/GG: What are the odds that Westcliffe’s “work force housing” ghetto will become little Caracas? Nah, can’t happen here with all these rich white people living here....Like John Dillinger said when asked why he robbed banks, “because that is where the money is.”)*

Please see: <https://www.ammoland.com/2024/09/illegal-alien-gangs-taking-over-parts-of-colorado/>

DA Linda Stanley Disbarred

by George Gramlich

In an 83-page opinion, the Colorado Supreme Court, via their Hearing Board, disbarred the 11th Judicial District’s District Attorney Linda Stanley for multiple reasons. Stanley has a period of time, probably around 35 days, to remain as an attorney before the disbarment takes effect. She has the option of appealing this decision during this time period.

The allegations against Stanley were numerous but perhaps the worst was her handling of the protection against Barry Morphew of Chaffee County where he was accused of murdering his wife. The Court cited numerous mistakes in her handling of the case, the result of which was that all charges against Morphew were dismissed.

The Court also cited cases of Stanley making “unjustifiable extrajudicial statements” to the media in two cases. She was also alleged to have started an investigation into the judge presiding over the Morphew case which was improper.

An interim replacement District Attorney will be named by Gov. Polis to finish out her term which ends in January.

*(Editor/GG: If the replacement goes as normal here in liberal Colorado, Polis will name another left winger to the temporary spot to give that person some credentials for eventually moving into the Colorado judiciary. All is not lost however, as the only person on the ballot in November is the well qualified conservative Republican attorney, Jeff Lindsey. See his Sentinel interview in this edition.)*

Porches & Decks - Roofing & Siding  
Custom Pole Barns & Garages



**Kauffman's Construction**

Call Owen 719-371-7863

Free Estimates - No Job to Big or Small

Get ready for  
Hunting Season!  
New Hunting  
Knives and New  
Meerscham  
Pipes!





**SALIDA  
GUTLERY  
SMOKE SHOP**

132 W. Hwy 50 - Salida, CO - 719.539.2884

**Cañon City Coins**

Collector & Investor Coins - Buying, Selling & Trading



(719) 269-7507

Jason

123 S. 5th St., Cañon City, CO 81212

[www.canoncitycoins.com](http://www.canoncitycoins.com)

**Hershberger**

**CONSTRUCTION**



719-216-9545

OVER 20 YEARS OF QUALITY AMISH WORKMANSHIP

- Metal Roofing
- Siding
- Windows
- Decks
- Buildings

**SANGRE DE CRISTO  
SENTINEL**

**WHERE TO PURCHASE THE PAPER**

SILVER CLIFF

WESTCLIFFE



Conoco Country Store  
Dutch Pantry & Deli

Antlers' Liquor Store

Lowes Market (Box outside)

Sunflower Natural Foods

SDC Sentinel Office  
Inside or Box outside

USPS (Box outside)

The Voice of Conservative Colorado!

# Local Mountain News & Notices

## CCSO Co-Responders' Corner The Silencing Of The Lambs

by Jaclyn & Tom Manzione

September is National Suicide Prevention Month. This month, we are choosing to focus on the increasing societal trend of apathy about adolescent suicide. Social apathy is a widespread phenomenon in contemporary societies, referring to a lack of interest, concern, or empathy regarding social issues and the well-being of others. It appears in various forms, from indifference to important global challenges to disengagement from community and societal affairs.

There are connections between community structure, culture, and adolescent vulnerability to suicide. Studies indicate that when examining why young people die by suicide, it's important to consider the role of social influences, in addition to psychological and emotional factors. Young people often experience strong emotional pain due to actual, perceived, and anticipated failures. Both parents and young people are hesitant to seek mental health care when facing problems because they fear judgment or stigma from others.

As indifference grows towards adolescent suicide, the voices of children are being ignored. They are often silenced, and their voices fade into the background. To truly hear children's voices, involving them in expressing their views, opinions, and experiences is important. Empowering, involving, and including children means

ensuring they can actively participate in decisions that affect them.

Social apathy occurs when society loses its focus on developing a strong moral sense of caring for others. Children often become collateral damage in such cases. In Custer County, we are fortunate to have the Department of Human Services, a valuable ally to the CCSO, which does an excellent job of safeguarding our children, the elderly, and families.

In terms of suicide prevention, strategies must take a broad approach to be effective. Addressing the social causes of suicide, such as sources of distress and reluctance to seek help, is just as crucial as identifying young people who are dealing with mental health issues.

Silenced children become ripe for trafficking. In this community, our children have a voice. We have a message for anyone who thinks they can come into our county and prey upon our children: Fearless men and women, who have sworn to protect (parens patriae) and serve, stand ready, day and night, to bring the full force of the law to bear upon those who wish to do our children harm. WE ARE LISTENING!

Co-responders are available to assist at CCSO 719-783-2270 Option 1.

Resource: Call or text 988 or chat at 988lifeline.org.

## Fremont County Community Concert Association 24-25 Concert Season

Press Release

The Fremont County Community Concert Association is excited to announce its 2024 – 2025 musical season. The Association has been bringing a variety of world-class music to the area for over 75 years. This season features nationally and internationally known artists for your entertainment and enjoyment.

The season kicks off on Tuesday, September 24th with **Jared Freiberg & the Vagabonds**, featuring an incredibly talented group that will prepare you to enter a time capsule to the golden era of American music featuring an electric lineup of your favorite Rock & Roll, Blues, Country and Jazz hits from the 1950's.

The season continues Tuesday, October 22nd, with **Letters from Home**, a USO style show honoring artists like Frank Sinatra, the Andrews Sisters, Vera Lynn, the Nicholas Brothers, Creedence Clearwater Revival and many others. High energy singing and tap dancing. No two performances are the same, but each show will be funny, historical and inspirational.

**After Midnight** – Time to Swing, our next offering on Sunday, January 26th, features award winning clarinetist, Roger Campbell, bringing us an encore performance of Colorado's Premier Swing Band. This extraordinary group of musicians has performed hundreds of concerts around the

country for jazz festivals, clubs, summer concerts and more.

Saturday, March 29th, **Sail On** plays the music of "America's Band", The Beach Boys. The group will perform all the Beach Boys' classic hits, plus some treasures from the group's brilliant extended catalog. Sail On performs over 100 shows every year enjoying the unique challenge and privilege of bringing one of pop music's greatest legacies to audiences everywhere.

The season concludes Sunday, April 13th, with Colorado based **"Spinphony"**, instrumental crossover string group. Breaking down barriers between classical, rock and pop music, they mix and "mash" catchy melodies into unique arrangements such as "Bach in Black" and "Don't Stop Beethoven".

Enjoy this exciting season by becoming a member of the Fremont County Community Concert Association for the amazing price of \$70. Tickets are not exclusive to the purchaser, but may be lent to family or friends if the member is unable to attend any concert. Four of the concerts will be held in the Cañon City High School Auditorium. The Sail On concert will be at the Steeple Event Center.

For more information and to access a printable membership form and program flyer, visit [www.fremontcountymusic.org](http://www.fremontcountymusic.org) or our Facebook page.

### Liberty Rocks - 2024

Tuesday, September 17th

(Tuesday instead of Thursday since Valley Strong Dinner will be this Thursday)

**Tony's Steak & Tavern**  
Tony's Mountain Pizza's Full Menu will be offered

— All are welcome —  
Meet & Greet and Dinner begins at 5:30 pm  
Presentation begins at 6pm  
Come eat, discuss, engage, and learn

★ ★ ★ ★ ★  
**Guest Speaker from Independence Institute**  
★ ★ ★ ★ ★

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



## 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](http://LOWESMARKET.COM)  
or on Facebook at [FACEBOOK.com/LowesSupermarkets](https://www.facebook.com/LowesSupermarkets)

50 Main Street  
719/783-0550

### Coffee and Friday Morning's Paper

Plus Back Issues



**SANGRE DE CRISTO  
SENTINEL**™  
The Voice of Conservative Colorado!



**E-Edition**  
\$29 a year. That's it.  
[SangreDeCristoSentinel.com](http://SangreDeCristoSentinel.com)



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](http://www.solarsolutions.com)



**Pat Bailey - Owner**  
10 Hermit Lane,  
PO Box 554  
Silver Cliff, CO 81252

**Ph: 719/783-9666  
Fax: 719/783-2167**  
email: [pbailey@solarsolutions.com](mailto:pbailey@solarsolutions.com)



# Legislature Sends Tax Break to Governor As Ballot Proponents Prepare to Withdraw Initiatives 50 and 108

by Ed Sealofer,  
*The Sum & Substance*

The *Sum & Substance* is a news site of the Colorado Chamber of Commerce. To read more, please visit [tssc Colorado.com](http://tssc Colorado.com).

Colorado legislators on Thursday finished the task of sending a “small but very meaningful” expansion of a previously approved tax break to Gov. Jared Polis, adjourning a special session whose result will avert a high-dollar ballot battle on the subject.

Members of the Colorado Senate approved House Bill 1001 by an overwhelming 30-4 vote, one day after the House backed it by a 45-18 margin only after several Democrats criticized the four-day session as a “fecal sandwich” forced upon them by “oligarchs.” Polis lauded the effort as “an important step for Colorado to end the property tax wars” and said he will sign the bill as soon as proponents of two further-reaching property-tax-cut initiatives officially pull their measures off the November ballot.

It was that deal — passage of \$248 million more in tax cuts in exchange for the removal of Initiatives 50 and 108 from the ballot by *Advance Colorado* and *Colorado Concern* — that both drove the special session and unnerved more than a few legislators. Some elected officials felt leaders of the conservative and business groups were weaponiz-

ing their initiatives, which would have cut taxes by \$2.4 billion and established a 4% annual cap on statewide property-tax revenue growth, to extract more gains.

### What the new tax break does

HB 1001 built on passage at the end of the regular legislative session of Senate Bill 233 — a \$1.3 billion break that lowered assessment rates for residential and commercial properties and set a 5.5% annual growth cap for property-tax revenues going to local governments.

The new bill lowers residential assessment rates further — from 7.15% to 6.25% for property taxes going to local governments and 7.05% for those going to schools — and expands the new 25% assessment rate for nonresidential properties to include vacant land and state-assessed utilities. It also establishes annual property-tax revenue growth caps of 5.25% for local governments and 6% for schools, though it exempts new construction and revenues reserved for bond repayment and offers flexibility for local governments and schools to grow more after economically slow years.

Sen. Chris Hansen, D-Denver, called Thursday’s vote the culmination of years of work that began with the repeal of the Gallagher Amendment, an antiquated property-tax formula that shouldered nonresidential properties with assessment rates

four times those of homes and dried up school- and special-district funding in residential-heavy communities. The deal that included passage of HB 1001 put education on a sustainable path, he said.

Sen. Barbara Kirkmeyer, the Brighton Republican who co-sponsored HB 1001 with Hansen, said the new bill is a “small but very meaningful extension of 233” that represents not a capitulation to special interests but an attempt to do more for property owners. The combined provisions of the two measures will help overburdened homeowners, small businesses and senior citizens and will protect local governments from even larger cuts, she said.

### “Huge win” mollifies proponents of ballot initiatives

And proponents of the ballot measures confirmed that they will commence the process to remove *Initiatives 50 and 108* from the November ballot, calling the additional breaks in the new bill mark a “huge win” for Colorado residents. They began developing the ballot initiatives following 40% average home valuation hikes in 2022 that led to 30% average increase in property-tax bills last year, and they feel the state now has created long-term relief, they said in a statement.

“For two years, we have said the solution taxpayers need is to cut taxes significantly and then put

a cap in place so Colorado can avoid this crisis in the future,” said *Advance Colorado* President Michael Fields, who also agreed not to bring other property-tax initiatives for the next six years. “This bill gets that job done.”

While Senate debate did not include the same dramatic rhetoric that the House debate featured, the trio of Democrats opposing the bill — Senators Lisa Cutter of Morrison, Nick Hinrichsen of Pueblo and Sonya Jaquez Lewis of Longmont — still criticized the process.

Hinrichsen called the deal an affront to local control and said on Wednesday night that it was “tantamount to giving a second veto to outside organizations that don’t have any legal obligation to act with transparency to the people of Colorado. Jaquez Lewis on Thursday criticized legislators for allowing tax breaks in SB 233 and HB 1001 — including deductions of 10% of a home’s value, up to \$70,000 — to go to owners of second or third homes; a bill to bar that practice died in a House committee Monday.

### Opposition from both sides to tax bill

“The biggest cuts are going to those who have the biggest houses,” Jaquez Lewis said. And that’s why I feel we could have done more.”

Meanwhile, the lone Senate Republican to oppose HB 1001,

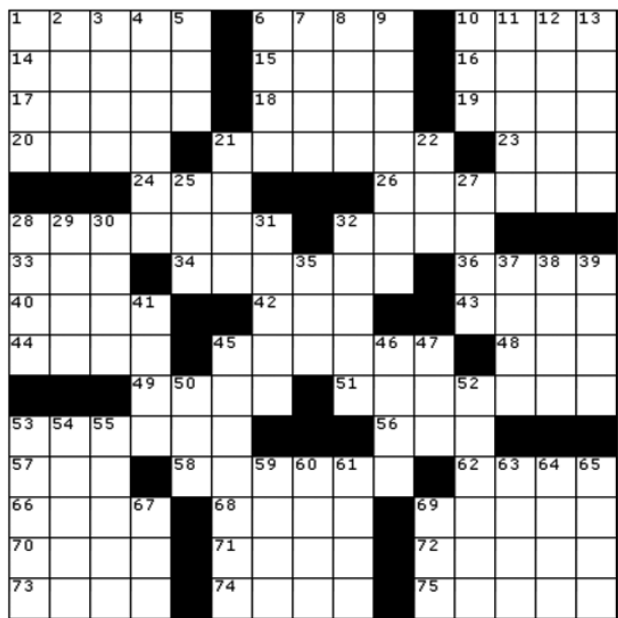
Mark Baisley of Woodland Park, said the bill doesn’t address the underlying issue that caused the property-tax-bill spikes. Baisley has pushed for local governments to build budgets around their needs and then assess property taxes — a change he feels would avoid hikes in tax bills during times of increased property valuation — but hasn’t gained any traction with his idea.

The tax savings for nonresidential property owners and for homeowners will vary depending on how much their land and buildings are worth and what their local mill levy is. Bill sponsors have pegged average homeowner savings over the course of a two-year assessment cycle will be \$500 from SB 233 and another \$80 from HB 1001.

The average savings for commercial, agricultural and industrial property owners will vary more widely, but the assessment rates for those properties will fall from 29% to 25% over a multi-year period. And Polis noted that the savings that state-assessed utilities such as Xcel and Black Hills Energy will receive must be passed along to customers, resulting in savings of about \$100 over the next five years combined for average residents.

Please see: <https://tssc Colorado.com/legislature-sends-tax-break-to-governor-as-ballot-proponents-prepare-to-withdraw-initiatives-50-and-108/>

## CROSSWORD PUZZLE



Copyright © by Cliff Leitch, The Christian Bible Reference Site  
[www.ChristianBibleReference.org](http://www.ChristianBibleReference.org). Used by permission.

### ACROSS

- 1 Reputations
- 6 Any
- 10 Male parent
- 14 Thoughts
- 15 Demonic
- 16 Continent
- 17 Father of King David
- 18 Word written on the wall (Daniel)
- 19 Other
- 20 Institution (abbr.)
- 21 Sister of Moses
- 23 Terminate
- 24 East northeast
- 26 Enter by the gate
- 28 Biblical disease
- 32 This is my given for you
- 33 Frost
- 34 Smearer
- 36 Branch of learning
- 40 Heart
- 42 Calorie

- 43 Peachy
- 44 Son of Seth
- 45 Space station
- 48 Lanka
- 49 Plead
- 51 Skateboard with handle
- 53 Jurist
- 56 Trinitrotoluene
- 57 Alien’s spaceship
- 58 Persian king; the Mede
- 62 Gordie, most hockey games
- 66 Brush’s partner
- 68 Fewer
- 69 Reddish brown
- 70 Laugh
- 71 Women’s magazine
- 72 Cheese brand
- 73 Gas burner
- 74 Ogled
- 75 Islands

### DOWN

- 1 Pacific island nation
- 2 A cozy room (2 wds.)
- 3 Dining hall
- 4 Holiday for Jesus’ resurrection
- 5 Compass point
- 6 Very large truck
- 7 Above
- 8 Short
- 9 Roosevelt
- 10 Touch affectionately
- 11 Tribe of Israel
- 12 Large instrument
- 13 Root beer brand (3 wds.)
- 21 Plateau
- 22 Sore
- 25 Cain fled to this land
- 27 Baseball’s Nolan
- 28 Plague of Egypt
- 29 Economics abbr.
- 30 Brand of coffee alternative
- 31 Gross
- 32 Ringing instruments

- 35 Small gulf
- 37 Relax
- 38 Biblical weed
- 39 Move while sleeping
- 41 Catch sight of (KJV)
- 45 Bread brand (2 wds.)
- 46 Book after Gospels
- 47 voyage
- 50 Scarlet
- 52 Do unto
- 53 Filthy
- 54 Walking (KJV)
- 55 Man’s counterpart
- 59 Depend
- 60 Island
- 61 Secondhand
- 63 Opaque gem
- 64 Spouse
- 65 Grub
- 67 Women’s undergarment
- 69 Slide on snow

Puzzle Key on page 19

Ryan Stover  
719-371-6074  
[westcliffefirewood@gmail.com](mailto:westcliffefirewood@gmail.com)

VALLEY VIEW WINDOWS & DOORS

FREE ESTIMATES  
WINDOWS  
DOORS  
REPLACEMENTS  
NEW CONSTRUCTION  
SALES  
DELIVERY

MARTY BYLER  
CELL:  
719-220-4151  
EMAIL: [WILL@VALLEYVIEWWINDOWS.NET](mailto:WILL@VALLEYVIEWWINDOWS.NET)

719-371-7404  
[PPC16@PRIVATEGARDEN.ORG](mailto: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.*

### Ballot Integrity

#### Key Issue In Upcoming Election

Three areas will control whether your vote counts in the upcoming presidential election: Whether voter identification is required to vote; if voter rolls are up to date; and if ballots can be authenticated. In non-voter ID states and those allowing ballot drop boxes, the prohibition of updating voter rolls is comes into play. Unqualified voters—such as illegal aliens and dead people—can pose as someone and cast their votes without authentication. States leaning or voting for Democratic Party presidential candidates have these methods written into law. However, Ohio, Virginia, Alabama and Texas are taking initiative to purge voter rolls, but they only represent 79 of the 270 electoral votes needed to be president.

Texas Governor Greg Abbott, a Republican, announced August 26th that the state has “removed over one million people from the state’s voter rolls, including people who moved out-of-state, are deceased, and are noncitizens.” The list consisted of dead people, noncitizens, felons and other unqualified registrants and thousands had voting histories. Virginia Governor Glenn Youngkin, also a Republican, announced August 7th that the state had removed nearly 80,000 dead voters and 6,303 noncitizens from the voter rolls. Alabama’s Republican Secretary of State has removed over 3,500 noncitizens from the voter rolls. In May, Ohio’s Republican Secretary of State Frank LaRose directed county board of elections officials to remove noncitizens from the voter rolls. So far 137 have been removed. Efforts in each of these states are ongoing.

Currently, there are 15 states that do not require voter identification to cast a vote for president. They are: ME, VT, MA, NY, PA, MD, NJ, IL, MN, NM, NV, CA, OR, WA, HA. These states comprise 207 of the 270 electoral votes needed to secure the presidency and they traditionally vote for Democratic Party presidential candidates. In addition, there are 27 states and the District of Columbia that allow ballot drop boxes. Most of those states vote or lean Democratic. States won by Democrats in the last three of four or all four of the last four presidential elections are MI, WS, CO, VA, NH. They represent another 51 electoral votes. Twelve states specifically prohibit ballot drop boxes. Interesting, those states vote or lean Republican.

Mail-in and voter roll issues in Georgia, Arizona and Washington, DC during the last election, enabled Democrats to gain another 30 electoral votes, bringing the built-in electoral vote advantage to 288 of the 270 needed to elect a president. It is no coincidence that states leaning or voting for Democratic Party presidential candidates have written into law no voter ID, no purging of the voter rolls, and ballot drop boxes. This is how they game the system to give Democratic candidates an advantage. Voter ID, up to date voter rolls, and ballot security are paramount. They are all compromised in Democratic Party-controlled states, making it nearly impossible for a Republican to win the presidency. Christ said in Matthew 24:4, “Take heed that no man deceive you.” At least some states are trying to do what is right—all under Republican leadership.

Sources:

<https://gov.texas.gov/news/post/governor-abbott-announces-over-1-million-ineligible-voters-removed-from-voter-rolls>

<https://www.governor.virginia.gov/media/governorvirginiagov/governor-of-virginia/pdf/eo/EO-35-Comprehensive-Election-Security-Ensuring-Legal-Voters-and-Accurate-Counting—vF—8.7.24.pdf>

<https://www.sos.alabama.gov/index.php/newsroom/secretary-state-wes-allen-implements-process-remove-noncitizens-registered-vote-alabama>

<https://www.sos.alabama.gov/index.php/newsroom/secretary-state-wes-allen-implements-process-remove-noncitizens-registered-vote-alabama>

[https://ballotpedia.org/Voter\\_identification\\_laws\\_by\\_state](https://ballotpedia.org/Voter_identification_laws_by_state)

<https://www.ncsl.org/elections-and-campaigns/table-9-ballot-drop-box-laws>

Bill Wilson

Dailyjot.com Printed with permission.

## When the Music Stops: How America’s Cities Will Explode in Violence

by Matt Bracken,  
via [SteelCutter.Substack.com](#)

Part One of Two

(I wrote this back in 2012. It was originally published at the old Western Rifle Shooters Association website, and since then it’s been reposted dozens of times on other websites. It’s also included in *“The Bracken Collection: Essays and Short Fiction 2010 to 2019”* which is available at Amazon, or you can get it directly from me. Details on my own website at [EnemiesForeignAndDomestic.com](#).)

In response to recent articles in mainstream military journals discussing the use of the U.S. Army to quell insurrections on American soil, I offer an alternate vision of the future. Instead of a small town in the South as the flash point, picture instead a score of U.S. cities in the thrall of riots greater than those experienced in Los Angeles in 1965 (Watts), multiple cities in 1968 (MLK assassination), and Los Angeles again in 1992 (Rodney King). New Yorkers can imagine the 1977 blackout looting or the 1991 Crown Heights disturbance. In fact, the proximate spark of the next round of major riots in America could be any from a long list cribbed from our history.

We have seen them all before, and we shall see them all again as history rhymes along regardless of the century or the generation of humankind nominally in control of events. But the next time we are visited by widespread, large-scale urban riots, a dangerous new escalation may be triggered by a fresh vulnerability: It’s estimated that the average American home has less than two weeks of food on hand. In poor minority areas, it may be much less. What if a cascading economic crisis, even a temporary one, leads to millions of EBT (electronic benefit transfer) cards flashing nothing but ERROR? This could also be the result of deliberate sabotage by hackers, or other technical system failures. Alternatively, the government might pump endless digits into the cards in a hopeless attempt to outpace future hyperinflation. The government can order the supermarkets to honor the cards, and it can even set price controls, but history’s verdict is clear: If suppliers are paid only with worthless scrip or blinking digits, the food will stop.

#### STEP ONE: FLASH MOB LOOTING

In my scenario, the initial riots begin spontaneously across affected urban areas, as SNAP and other government welfare recipients learn that their EBT cards no longer function. This sudden revelation

will cause widespread anger, which will quickly lead to the flash-mob looting of local supermarkets and other businesses. The media will initially portray these “food riots” as at least partly justifiable. Sadly, millions of Americans have been made largely, or even entirely, dependent on government wealth transfer payments to put food on their tables.

A new social contract has been created, where bread and circuses buy a measure of peace in our minority-populated urban zones. In the era of ubiquitous big-screen cable television, the internet and smart phones, the circus part of the equation is never in doubt as long as the electricity flows. But the bread is highly problematic. Food must be delivered the old-fashioned way: physically. Any disruption in the normal functioning of the EBT system will lead to food riots with a speed that is astonishing. This will inevitably happen when our unsustainable, debt-fueled binge party finally stops, and the music is over. Now that the delivery of free or heavily subsidized food is perceived by tens of millions of Americans to be a basic human right, the cutoff of “their” food money will cause an immediate explosion of rage. When the hunger begins to bite, supermarkets, shops and restaurants will be looted, and initially the media will not condemn the looting. Unfortunately, this initial violence will only be the start of a dangerous escalation.

The ransacked supermarkets, convenience stores, ATMs and gas stations will not be restocked during this period due to the precarious security situation. A single truck loaded with food or gasoline would be perceived to be a Fort Knox on wheels and subject to immediate attack unless heavily protected by powerfully armed security forces, but such forces will not be available during this chaotic period. Under those conditions, resupply to the urban areas cannot and will not take place. The downward spiral of social and economic dysfunction will therefore both accelerate and spread from city to city. These delays, in turn, will lead to more riots with the constant underlying demand that hungry people be fed, one way or another.

Catch-22, anyone? When these demands do not bring the desired outcome, the participants will ratchet up the violence, hoping to force action by the feckless state and national governments.

The “food riots” will be a grass-roots movement of the moment born out of hunger and desperation. It will not be dependent upon leaders or an underlying organization, although they could certainly add to the sauce. Existing cell phone technology provides all the organi-

zation a flash mob needs. Most of the mobs will consist of minority urban youths, termed MUYs in the rest of this essay. Which minority doesn’t matter; each urban locale will come with its own unique multi-ethnic dynamic.

Some locales will divide upon religious or political lines, but they will not be the dominant factors contributing to conflict. In the American context, the divisions will primarily have an ethnic or racial context, largely because that makes it easy to sort out the sides at a safe distance. No need to check religious or political affiliation at a hundred yards when The Other is of a different color.

We Americans are all about doing things the easy way, so, sadly, visible racial and ethnic features will form the predominant lines of division.

Would that it were not so, but reality is reality, even when it’s stinks.

Especially then.

#### NEXT STEP: FLASH MOB RIOTS

In order to highlight their grievances and escalate their demands for an immediate resumption of government benefits, the MUY flash mobs will next move their activities to the borders of their ethnic enclaves. They will concentrate on major intersections and highway interchanges where non-MUY suburban commuters must make daily passage to and from what forms of employment still exist. People making a living will still be using those roads to get to where they earn their daily bread.

The results of these clashes will frequently resemble the intersection of Florence and Normandie during the Rodney King riots in 1992, where Reginald Denny was pulled out of his truck’s cab and beaten nearly to death with a cinder block. If you don’t remember it, watch it on Youtube. Then imagine that scene with the mob-making accelerant of texting and other social media technology added to stoke the fires. Instead of a few dozen thugs terrorizing the ambushed intersections, in minutes there will be hundreds.

Rioters will throw debris such as shopping carts and trash cans into the intersection, causing the more timid drivers to pause. The mobs will swarm the lines of trapped cars once they have stopped. Traffic will be forced into gridlock for blocks in all directions. Drivers and passengers of the wrong ethnic persuasions will be pulled

WHEN THE MUSIC  
see page 22

# The Real Tim Walz Part 3

by Discover the Networks via FrontPageMag.com

(Editor/GG: Part 3. And it gets worse....)

## Governor of Minnesota

In 2018, Walz was elected as Minnesota’s 41st governor, defeating Republican Jeff Johnson by a margin of 53.8 percent to 42.4 percent.

Walz was later re-elected as governor in 2022, and in 2023 he became chair of the Democratic Governors Association.

## Continuing Ties to Communist China

It is likely that Walz has spent more time in Communist China than any other major elected official in America. Indeed, during his 12-year tenure in the U.S. House of Representatives, he went back to China a number of times to meet with influential political figures there.

Between 2013 and 2018, Walz served first as the Vice Ranking Member, and then as the Ranking Member, of the Congressional-Executive Commission on China. As *FrontPage Magazine* columnist Daniel Greenfield notes, Walz during those years “occasionally maintained credibility by expressing concern about human rights” while “remain[ing] comfortably enmeshed with promoting China’s agenda.”

When greeting a Chinese delegation to the United States in 2014, Walz said: “When we work together and when we collaborate together, there’s nothing we can’t solve.”

In 2015, Walz visited China and praised its infrastructure as well as the progress the nation was making on addressing the alleged crisis of climate change.

In 2015 as well, Walz was part of a congressional delegation led by Nancy Pelosi that traveled to China, Tibet, and Hong Kong. A November 14, 2015 press release issued by Pelosi’s office included such passages as the following:

- “We engaged in candid talks with the Secretary of the Tibetan Autonomous Region (TAR), Chen Quanguo; Vice Party Secretary of TAR, Baima Chilin; and Party Secretary of Lhasa, Qi Zhala regarding the importance of respecting Tibet’s autonomy, its ecology, and the human rights and religious freedom of its diverse people.”

- “In Beijing, the delegation met with the Premier of the People’s Republic of China, Li Keqiang; National People’s Congress Chairman, Zhang Dejiang; and National People’s Congress Vice Chairman, Zhang Ping.”
- “The delegation and Chinese officials discussed the importance of building upon President Obama and President Xi’s agreements on climate change, protection of cyber space and countering the proliferation of nuclear weapons.”
- “The delegation reiterated the imperative of respect for religious freedom and expression in Tibet; autonomy and democracy in Hong Kong; and respect for human and women’s rights across China. The delegation also expressed specific concerns related to the recent arrest and detention of human rights lawyers and activists.”
- “At Peking University, the delegation participated in a climate change forum with students who shared their determination to address the climate crisis.”

Joining Pelosi and Walz in the 2015 delegation to Asia were U.S. House members Jim McGovern, Betty McCollum, Joyce Beatty, Alan Lowenthal and Ted Lieu.

In 2016, Walz stated: “I’ve lived in China, and as I’ve said, I’ve been there about 30 times. I don’t fall into the category that China necessarily needs to be an adversarial relationship. I totally disagree.”

In a letter he wrote as governor of Minnesota, Walz boasted that his state “has promoted Minnesota’s connections with China and hosted numerous senior Chinese leaders for decades.”

In September 2019, Walz, having just returned from a trip to Asia, voiced his displeasure over President Trump’s ongoing trade war with China, where: (a) Trump had initially set tariffs and other trade barriers on China in an effort to force the latter to end its longstanding unfair trade practices, and (b) the Chinese government then took retaliatory measures. Asserting that Minnesota’s farmers desperately needed the Trump administration to forge a trade deal with China, Walz said: “There’s just no substitute for 1.6 billion consumers who are hungry to get our China trade negotiations normalized. There is not enough market in the rest of the world to absorb our capacity.”

- Soon thereafter, the U.S.-China Peoples Friendship Association (USCPFA) invited Walz to speak at its October 2019 national convention in Minneapolis alongside a number of highly influential Communist figures. When promoting the event, the Association described Walz as “one of a select few members of the Legislative Branch with extensive, on-the-ground experience in the Middle Kingdom.”
- Though the USCPFA was now portraying itself as an alliance of ordinary citizens seeking to improve relations between the United States and China, its roots were as a Communist front organization. As *Revolution* magazine once put it: “Communists, members of the Revolutionary Union (and later the Revolutionary Communist Party) were instrumental in the formation of the earliest local Friendship Associations in 1971 and played a significant role in the creation of the national association and in the building of locals across the country.”
  - Similarly, in his 2023 publication, *Red Destinies*, historian Colin B. Burke wrote that the USCPFA, “like the Party’s front organizations of the 1930s and 1940s,” “was advertised as a liberal, non-political organization supporting peace and cultural understanding. But in 1971, the founders had other missions: Advance the interests of Communist China and world communism.”

When Walz made his appearance at the USCPFA convention in 2019, his fellow speaker was Li Xiaolin, president of the Chinese People’s Association for Friendship with Foreign Countries (CPAFFC), which, as Daniel Greenfield notes, “leads a billion-dollar Chinese influence operation flagged by the U.S. State Department for ‘directly and malignly influencing’ American politicians.”

## Ties to the Islamic Extremist Asad Zaman

While serving as governor of Minnesota between 2019 and 2024, Walz hosted Imam Asad Zaman, executive director of the Muslim American Society (MAS) of Minnesota, on at least five separate occasions. Moreover, the Walz admin. gave \$100,000 worth of grants to MAS’s national orga-

- nization, which was founded in 1992 as the U.S. chapter of the Muslim Brotherhood, the latter of which has been described by Islam expert Robert Spencer as “the parent organization of Hamas and al Qaeda.” Some additional facts about Zaman:
- On his Facebook account, Zaman in 2014 shared a link to a blog post that characterized Jews as the perpetrators of “the real terrorism in Palestine.”
  - In 2015, Zaman posted an online link to “*The Greatest Story Never Told*,” a video depicting Adolf Hitler as a misunderstood hero whom historians had unfairly maligned.
  - In 2016, Zaman reposted a Hamas press release mourning the death of Motiur Rahman Nizami, a Bangladeshi political leader affiliated with Jamaat e-Islami, a terrorist entity aligning itself with extremist elements in al Qaeda, the Taliban, and other violent factions. Nizami himself was convicted of rape, murder, and leading an armed group that perpetrated torture and extrajudicial killings in Bangladesh’s 1971 war for independence.
  - Just hours after Hamas terrorists had murdered some 1,200 Israelis in a series of coordinated terror attacks on October 7, 2023, Zaman posted a message on Facebook stating that he “stands in solidarity with Palestinians against Israeli [retaliatory] attacks.” He also shared a picture of a Palestinian flag, in response to a post stating that “Palestine has the right to defend itself.”

Please see: Please see: <https://www.frontpagemag.com/the-real-tim-walz/>



# FYI...

for your information...

The Sangre de Cristo Sentinel is published every Friday.

Office Hours are Monday 10 a.m. - 2 p.m. Tuesday & Wednesday 9 a.m. - 4 p.m. and Fridays 9 a.m. - noon.

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 [sdc.sentinel@gmail.com](mailto:sdc.sentinel@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

\$49 Yearly for 81252 zip code · \$59 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/>



1776

The Second Amendment Corner

Liberty's Line in the Sand

2024

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

# Why You Shouldn't Shoot Small Groups: Defensive Pistol Training

by Tom McHale, ammoland.com

I may or may not have a touch of OCD in my genetic makeup.

Hypothetically speaking, if I arrange my boxes of ammo on the shelf by lot order, would that qualify? How about if I have to reset things when the "wrong" one of the two same-circuit light switches in my office is "up" when the light should be "off?" Don't get me started with the focus-robbing chaos that ensues when my two aviation instrument drink coasters are in the wrong place on my desk...

There's also an OCD range habit I have to actively resist: Shooting tiny groups.

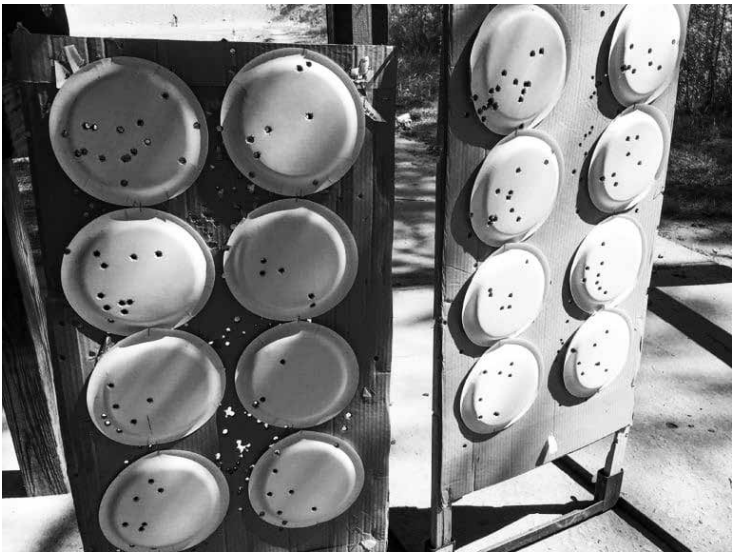
Yes, you heard that right. "But wait," you ask, "isn't the goal of master-level pistol shooting being able to shoot tiny groups at 300 yards on demand?" Well, yes. Sometimes.

If you're a trick shot YouTube star like 22 Plinkster, then yes, you want to be able to shoot tiny groups.

If you compete in NRA Bullseye competition or have plans to attend the Civilian Marksmanship Program National Matches, then yes, small groups are your friend.

Maybe you require a steady diet of Squirrel Wellington and need to make precise shots. OK, that's another good reason to practice shooting tiny and precise groups.

Perhaps you're using itty-bitty groups as a measurement of a fundamentals practice session. If you are spending a range visit working on your smooth trigger



If you use a gun for concealed carry or home defense, tiny groups are not always your friend.

Photo credit: Tom McHale

press technique, then group size is a great indicator of your success or failure.

Last but not least is bragging rights. Admit it, we all want range neighbors to look into our lane and see us nailing dimes at 20 yards with ease.

Here's the gotcha. If you use a gun for concealed carry or home defense, tiny groups are not your friend.

Several years ago, I enrolled in an advanced concealed carry class with my wife and some family friends. Most of the curriculum involved range work with an emphasis on drawing and getting shots on target quickly, drawing while getting off the X, shooting while moving, creating distance from the threat, and putting shots on target until the threat was neutralized.

Without consciously knowing what I was doing, I was putting my shots on the "bad guy" silhouette targets in a nifty and impressive little cluster on the target. If I'm to be completely honest with myself, I suspect there was some of the last reason in play. You know, shooting tiny groups to impress other nearby shooters and in this case, the training staff.

Anyway, my results drew the attention of the primary instructor. As he approached me, wearing a wide grin, I mentally rehearsed what type of sincerely humble response I would give to the praise and recognition sure to come my way.

Instead of calling me out and telling the rest of the class what a tactical ninja I was, he proceeded to run me through some command drills.

"Shoot twice and re-holster!"

"Drop that mag! It's jammed! Now fire three times at each target!"

"Switch hands and keep shooting!"

"You have a malfunction, clear it now! No, now!!!"

"You're dead!"

"Stop shooting, a bystander just popped up behind your target!"

"Two to the torso! That didn't work, one to the head!"

You get the idea. He issued a flood of commands in such a fast and furious manner that within seconds I was fumbling all over the place to the point of ejecting live rounds, missing shots, dropping perfectly good magazines, and generally bringing shame to all descendants of the late Colonel Jeff Cooper and his orchestra.

My instructor wasn't being a jerk, he was making a point, and a valuable one at that. I wasn't at that class to work on my NRA Precision Pistol scores, I was there to learn how to use a pistol defensively. They are very, very different things.

One of the skills you need to master in defensive shooting is getting shots on target—fast—under exceptionally adverse conditions. Standing at the shooting line, taking shots at a stationary target in such a leisurely way as to print tiny groups isn't likely to help you learn those skills. In a defensive situation, you're not likely to bring your sights on target once, then take multiple shots at the

same bullseye while both you and the target are planted firmly into fixed locations.

Once that instructor made his not-so-subtle point, he offered up some alternative ways for me to shoot. To break some "tiny group" habits, he had me fire multiple shots with each impacting a different point on the silhouette target. For example, the first shot might be in the pelvic area, the second center mass, and the third high center mass. The "groups" looked like hell, but the target was well perforated and if it had been a determined assailant, the variety of shot placement had much better odds of stopping his attack quickly and decisively.

Anyway, the experience got me thinking. While it's still fun to go to the range and try to nail tiny targets (I still do that on occasion) I spend far more time working on more realistic defensive shooting skills, even though the results don't look nearly as impressive on target.

So how have I changed my practice routines and casual range time? Here are some things that help me. While mileage varies for all of us, maybe some of these methods will help you too.

### Lose the Pride

Yeah, I know it's hard, but try not to think about how your targets look in comparison to your range neighbor's. Accept that your groups will be larger and that they won't be impressed with your skill. Know that you're the one who's actually working

SMALL GROUPS  
see page 23

## Introducing the Bushmaster BA50 Bolt Action Long Range Rifle

by F. Riehl, Editor in Chief, ammoland.com

The Bushmaster BA50 Bolt Action Rifle is now one of the world's finest long-range shooting weapons. It is a highly modular rifle with fire controls familiar to all AR platform users.

### Bushmaster BA50 Bolt Action Rifle

New improvements to the bolt design bring effortless bolt operation, with improved extraction and cartridge feeding. The BA50 includes a Magpul PRS Gen3 Adjustable Stock, a 29" free-floating barrel topped with a Picatinny rail, and a Bushmaster BA50® 3-Port Brake. Maintenance, take-down, and assembly of the BA50® is intuitive and straightforward.

- Caliber: .50 BMG
- Barrel Length: 29"



- Barrel Material: 4150 CMV
- Barrel Finish: Phosphate Chrome Lined
- Barrel Thread Pitch: 1"-14 TPI
- Twist Rate: 1:15
- Weight w/o Magazine (lbs): 29.5 lb
- Overall Length: 26.8 in
- Lower Receiver Material: Aircraft Grade Aluminum
- Model Marking: BA50
- Upper Receiver Material: 7076 Aluminum Alloy
- Bolt Material: 9310 Steel
- Handguard: 14" 1913 Free Float Billet
- Handguard Stock: Magpul PRS GEN3 Precision-Adjustable
- Stock Grip: ERGO Tactical Super Ambi Grip
- Trigger: BFI Target Trigger
- Muzzle Device: Bushmaster BA50 3-Port Brake

- Magazine: BFI Aluminum
- Magazine Capacity: 10 Round
- Proudly Made In: U.S.A.
- Case: Bushmaster BA50 Fitted Hard Case
- Bipod: GG&G LCB-3 Heavy Duty Tactical Bipod

Re-engineered to be even more reliable, more durable, and even longer lasting than the original. The Bushmaster BA50 provides an enjoyable shooting experience that is ideal for the .50 Caliber shooter at an affordable price point.

(Editor/GG: Preppers: If you don't have a 50BMG in your stash, you ain't prepped. A 50 redefines neighborhood defense. Great for P Dawgs too....)

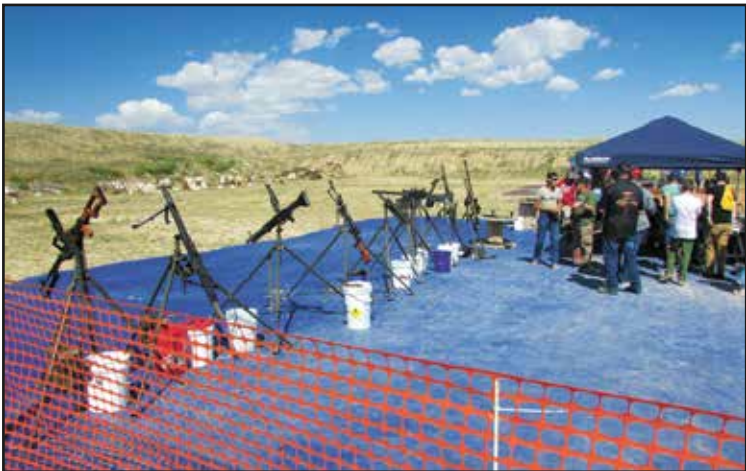
Please see: <https://www.ammoland.com/2024/09/bushmaster-ba50-bolt-action-long-range-rifle/>

# Our Abenaki Indian Princess, Yvonne Phillips, Goes to Dragonman’s Machine Gun Shoot

## The Palefaces Run for Their Lives

by George Gramlich,  
A Gun Story

Dragonman’s annual Machine Gun Shoot was last Saturday and Sunday (September 7-8). It is more fun than a redneck peasant can have. (The event is at Dragonman’s insane gun range and weapons shop east of Colorado Springs.) Over a hundred machine guns to shoot: from Uzi’s and M16’s, to belt fed monsters like the M60 or the big Ma Deuce. The last time Princess and I went to this event, they even had a 20mm Swedish anti-tank cannon! (It costs \$135 per round but it was being fired all day). Dragonman used to put cars out there to blow up but not this year.



the white devil invaders. Using her well trained fire discipline, Princess was able to shred much wood and targets down range taking no prisoners. An Apache would have been proud.

developed early in the Vietnam War by General Electric for our helicopters. The original minigun was created by Richard Jordan Gatling in the 1860’s and the Union used it during the Civil War. It was a rotating six-barrel hand crank design which delivered an unprecedented high firing capacity at the time. GE used that basic design, put an electric motor on it replacing the hand crank and made it shoot standard 7.62x57 (.308) military round. The U.S. purchased more than 10,000 of these during the Vietnam War. It’s 6,000 rounds per minute rate of fire was insanely devastating. It is still in use today by our military.



Since the end times are coming, Princess, the *Sentinel’s* receptionist and security team, and I decided to make one last trip to get into the proper warrior mindset for the coming abyss. As usual, our Abenaki Indian Princess, Yvonne Phillips, showed those white boys how to light up the battlefield with the various fire sticks. It was a sight to see.

Princess opened her own Little Big Horn battle by first jumping on the infamous German WWII machine gun, the MG 42 (*Maschinengewehr 42*). The MG 42 uses the standard WWII Mauser 7.92x57 round and has an extremely high cycle rate of 1,200 rounds per minute. The distinctive sound of the MG 42 with its high firing rate led to many nicknames for it in WWII. The Germans called it *Hitlersage* (Hitler’s Saw) and *Schelle Spritze* (Fast Sprayer). The Soviets called it the “Linoleum Ripper” and the Americans called it “Hitler’s Buzzsaw” or Hitler’s Zipper”. It was a much-feared light machine gun.

Well, Princess loaded up with a belt of 100 rounds of 7.92x57 on the tripod mounted MG 42, yelled an old Abenaki war whoop, and let loose against

Working her way down the battlefield line, Yvonne then poured death on the paleface targets with long bursts from an M16 and then a Hebrew Uzi submachine gun. She was getting them cornered now....

With the remaining white devil targets cowering behind some wooden barricades in their last corner hideout, Princess went down to the end of the line to her secret weapon: a General Electric/Dillion Machine MINI GUN! The modern minigun was

Fast forward to September 7, 2024, at Dragonman’s Machine Gun Shoot as the wild Abenaki slowly sits in the seat behind the loaded GE Minigun and



scans the battlefield for the last remaining paleface targets. Visions of Little Big Horn are dancing in her head. Rhythmic drums can be heard as her

fellow Abenaki warriors chant the Minigun song. (See Youtube for a full rendition.)

Finally she spots them. Somehow she misses the white flag flying above their heads. (It was a little small...). If you have ever heard the sound of a Minigun going off it is not like any other automatic weapon. It doesn’t even sound like gun fire. It is an insanely loud whooshing vacuum cleaner sound that is beyond spooky. It only takes ONE SECOND to fire 100 rounds! It is the sound of death calling.

She rotates the weapon left and up a bit. There is a deathly quiet on Dragonman’s battlefield. All of a sudden, the Sound of Death is heard. Only for a few seconds. Whoooooooooooooooooosh.... then silence. War Whoops are heard all over the line and the drums sing! Our Princes has vanquished the target beasts. Another Abenaki victory against the white devil targets!

There is again peace and contentment back on the Missisquoi ‘Rez in Custer County. Happy Valley is happy again (at least on the ‘Rez.). Another good trip to Dragonman’s Machine Gun Shoot.

God Bless our Founders and the Second Amendment. They knew the gun would be needed some day.



God hath willed that I have no King, and that I be master of my lands in common.”  
Lolon Saguarrab, 1727

# Court Rules in Favor of Christian Teacher Forced to Use Trans Pronouns

by Sarah Halliday,  
*The Washington Stand*

A federal court ruled last week that an Ohio school district violated the First Amendment rights of a Christian teacher, which experts are hailing as a victory for free speech and religious liberty. Hired as a full-time English teacher at the end of the 2021 academic school year, Vivian Geraghty had resigned from her position in 2022 after being told to use a student’s “preferred pronouns.” The argument she gave in her lawsuit was that the use of pronouns that didn’t reflect the child’s biological sex “would force her to embrace the concept of gender identity against her religious belief that God created two unchanging sexes, male and female.”

According to district court Judge Pamela Barker, the Jackson School District “compelled Geraghty to use the students’ preferred names and pronouns.” In doing so, they forced the teacher “to utter what was not in her mind about a question of political and religious significance.” Sarah Parshall Perry,

senior legal fellow in the Edwin Meese III Center for Legal and Judicial Studies at The Heritage Foundation, posted on X that the court’s decision is “good news for freedom of belief.”

“Schools cannot force teachers, administrators, or students to use ‘preferred pronouns’ when doing so would violate their beliefs — religious or otherwise,” she added. “Gender identity makes a rotten foundation for case law. More victories like this one are certain to come.” Thomas Jipping, also at The Heritage Foundation, further noted that this is “further evidence that ... these gender policies are NOT related to curriculum or administration where schools receive deference. These are ideological policies schools are choosing to impose on kids and families.”

Arielle Del Turco, director of Family Research Council’s Center for Religious Liberty, shared with *The Washington Stand*, “It’s good to see the court affirm this teacher’s First Amendment rights in this case.” Ultimately, “Teachers should not face compelled speech

in favor of one ideological perspective which violates their deeply held religious beliefs. This is what the school did by trying to force a Christian teacher to use preferred gender pro-nouns that did not correspond with students’ biological sex.”

Schools are meant for learning, Del Turco contended, so they “should stay out of the business of forcing ideological conformity.” Thankfully, she added, “Religious freedom has consistently won in the courts.” But “it is discouraging to see school districts keep putting that to the test. We need a restoration of respect for religious freedom and freedom of speech in the culture, not just the courts.”

David Closson, director of FRC’s Center for Biblical Worldview, gave a biblical analysis to the situation Geraghty found herself in. “The pernicious lie of LGBTQ ideology is causing irreparable harm amongst so many young people today,” he said. “I commend Geraghty for her bold stance against an ideology that is destructive and responsible for

sowing harm and confusion amongst children in classrooms.”

Since the case is not the first of its kind, and it likely won’t be the last, Closson emphasized the importance of dissecting the case from a biblical worldview to better prepare for when it comes up again. The fact is, he observed, “God created male and female and the idea that someone can change their gender is not only nonsensical from a scientific perspective but has no grounding in the Bible or Christian theology.” And while “it is never easy to take a stand for truth, the consequences of not taking this stand could potentially cost many lives of the next generation.” As such, he contended, Christians need to be fervently praying.

With the start of a new school year, “Christians everywhere should be in prayer for teachers and especially believers who are serving in the classroom” — particularly believers who teach in public or non-Christian schools. For them, Closson pointed out, “the pressure to conform to gender ideology is stronger now than

it ever has been.” And so, “We need to be praying for teachers to have the courage of their convictions.” Not simply so that “their own civil rights are protected by school administration officials, but also so that they may “be light and salt in the environment that the Lord has them in.”

In addition to praying for teachers, Closson emphasized the need to pray for the students. “It’s important to remember that between kindergarten and 12th grade, a student will spend 16,000 hours in a formal classroom environment.” This means believers need to pray “for the Christian students facing thousands of hours of instruction that often undermines a biblical worldview,” he urged.

Pray, Closson concluded, “that they will be able to separate truth from lies and take a stand for God’s Word when everything around them is going to be encouraging them to embrace unbiblical ideologies and worldviews.”

Please see: <https://washington-stand.com/news/court-rules-in-favor-of-christian-teacher-forced-to-use-trans-pronouns>

## WHEN THE MUSIC from page 18

from their vehicles to be beaten, robbed, and in some cases raped and/or killed. It will be hyper-violent and overtly racial mob behavior, on a massive and undeniable basis.

Some of those trapped in their cars will try to drive out of the area, inevitably knocking down MUY pedestrians and being trapped by even more outraged MUYs. The commuters will be dragged out of their cars and kicked or beaten to death. Other suburban commuters will try to shoot their way out of the lines of stopped cars, and they will meet the same grim fate once they run out of bullets and room to escape.

The mob will be armed with everything from knives, clubs and pistols to AK-47s. A bloodbath will result. These unlucky drivers and their passengers will suffer horribly, and some of their deaths will be captured on traffic web cameras. Later, these terrible scenes will be released or leaked by sympathetic government insiders and shown by the alternative media, which continue to expand as the traditional media become increasingly irrelevant.

Implausible, you insist?

This grim tableau is my analysis of age-old human behavior patterns, adding flash mobs and 2012 levels of racial anger to the old recipe. Early-teenage MUYs today are frequently playing “The Knockout Game” on full bellies, just for kicks, and proudly uploading the videos. They and their older peers can be expected to do far worse when hunger and the fear of starvation enter their physical, mental, and emotional equations. The blame for their hunger will be turned outward against the greater society, and

will be vented at first hand against any non-MUY who falls into their grasp while they are in the thrall of mob hysteria. These episodes of mass psychology we will refer to as “flash mob riots”, “wilding”, or some other new name.

### THE OFFICIAL POLICE RESPONSE TO FLASH MOB RIOTS

To gear up for even a single “Florence and Normandie on steroids” flash mob street riot, city police departments will require an hour or longer to stage their SWAT teams and riot squads in position to react. Ordinary patrol cars in small numbers will not venture anywhere near such roiling masses of hysterical rioters, not even to perform rescues. Those citizens trapped in their cars cannot expect timely assistance from local or state authorities.

Even in the first days of widespread riots, when the police forces are well rested, it might take several hours to mount a response sufficient to quell the disturbance and restore order to even one major street intersection riot. In the meantime, scores of innocent commuters will have been attacked, with many of them injured or killed and left at the scene. It will be a law enforcement nightmare to quell the disturbance, mop up lingering rioters, restore security, and bring medical attention to the living and get medical examiners to the dead. And each jurisdiction will face potentially dozens of such scenes, thanks to the ability for MUYs to cross-communicate at will using their wireless devices.

The far more difficult challenge for the police is that by the time they are suited in riot gear, armed and geared up to sweep the intersection, it will probably be empty of rioters. The police, with their major riot squad

reaction times measured in hours, will be fighting flash mobs that materialize, cause mayhem, and evaporate in only fractions of hours. This rapid cycle time is a clear lesson taken from massive riots by immigrant French Muslim MUYs in their own religious enclaves and bordering areas.

The American flash mob riot will exist almost entirely inside the law enforcement OODA (observe, orient, decide, act) loop. In other words, the rioters will have a much quicker reaction time than the police. Until fairly recently, superior police communications meant that they could use their radio networks as a force multiplier. With their networking advantage and cohesive reactions both within a department and among cooperating local agencies, police could act as shepherds guiding or dispersing a wayward stampeding flock.

Today, the mob has the greater advantage, immediately spreading word of every police preparation by text and Tweet, even in advance of the police movement. Attempts by the authorities to stop the flash mobs by blocking and jamming wireless transmissions will have limited success.

It is at this point that the situation spirals out of control.

The enraged mobs in urban America will soon recognize that their spontaneous street riots cannot be stopped by the police, and then they will grow truly fearsome. For the police, it will be a losing game of Whack-a-Mole, with riots breaking out and dispersing at a speed they cannot hope to match. The violence will spread to previously unaffected cities as an awareness of law enforcement impotence is spread by television and social media. After a few days, the police forces will be exhausted and

demoralized. As the violence intensifies and spreads, and in the absence of any viable security arrangements, supermarkets and other stores will not be restocked, leaving the MUYs even more desperate and angry than before. The increasing desperation born of worsening hunger will refuel the escalating spiral of violence.

Nor will violent conflict be only between the inhabitants of the urban areas and the suburbs. The international record of conflict in tri-ethnic cities is grim, making the old bi-racial dichotomy formerly seen in America seem stable by comparison. In tri-ethnic cities the perceived balance of power is constantly shifting, with each side in turn feeling outnumbered and outmuscled. Temporary truces, betrayals and new alliances follow in rapid succession, removing any lingering sense of social cohesion.

The former Yugoslavia, with its Catholic, Orthodox and Muslim divisions, comes starkly to mind. The Lebanese Civil War between the Christians, Sunnis, Shiites and Druze raged across Beirut (at one time known as “The Paris of the Middle East”) for fifteen brutal years. Once a city turns on itself and becomes a runaway engine of self-destruction, it can be difficult to impossible to switch off the process and return to normal pre-conflict life. It’s not inconceivable that the United States could produce a dozen Sarajevo or Beirut, primarily across racial instead of religious divides.

Vehicle traffic by non-minority suburban commuters through adjoining minority areas will virtually halt, wrecking what is left of the local economy. Businesses will not open because employees will not be able to travel to work safely. Businesses in minority areas, needless to say, will be looted. “Gentrified”

enclaves of affluent suburbanites within or near the urban zones will suffer repeated attacks, until their inhabitants flee.

Radically disaffected minorities will hold critical infrastructure corridors through their areas hostage against the greater society. Highways, railroad tracks, pipe and power lines will all be under constant threat, or may be cut in planned or unplanned acts of raging against “the system.” As long as security in the urban areas cannot be restored, these corridors will be under threat. Even airports will not be immune. Many of them have been absorbed into urban areas, and aircraft will come under sporadic fire while taking off and landing.

In the absence of fresh targets of value blundering into their areas, and still out of food, MUYs will begin to forage beyond their desolated home neighborhoods and into suburban borderlands. “Safe” supermarkets and other stores will be robbed in brazen commando-like gang attacks. Carjackings and home invasions will proliferate madly. As I have discussed in my essay “The Civil War Two Cube,” so-called “transitional” and mixed-ethnic areas will suffer the worst violence. These neighborhoods will become utterly chaotic killing zones, with little or no help coming from the overstretched police, who will be trying to rest up for their next shift on riot squad duty, if they have not already deserted their posts to take care of their own families.

### THE SUBURBAN ARMED VIGILANTE RESPONSE

(I’ll post Part 2 soon.)

Please see: <https://steelcutter.substack.com/p/when-the-music-stops-how-americas-enemiesforeignanddomestic.com>

# Who Is Kamala Harris?

## A Disturbing and Haunting Record Part 7

Part 7

by Discover the Networks via FrontPageMag.com

*(Editor/GG: Excerpts from an outstanding article. A bunch more to come. For the whole magilla, see the whole article at the link at the bottom. So, here's the real Kamala Harris:)*

Supreme Court

During an October 2018 public forum, Democrat Rep. Alexandria Ocasio-Cortez said that if Democrats could gain control of Congress and the White House, they should “pack the Supreme Court of the United States of America.” “Packing” the Court would entail increasing the number of Justices — from 9 to perhaps 13 or 15 — with all the additions being activists who could be counted upon to rule in favor of Democrat agenda items. The issue gained additional traction in October 2020, when Trump nominated Amy Coney Barrett for a seat on the Supreme Court.

During the 2020 presidential campaign, Joe Biden repeatedly refused to give his opinion on Court-packing: “You’ll know my opinion on Court-packing when the election is over,” he told reporters in October 2020.

During an interview on MSNBC, Senator Kamala Harris stated that she supported Biden’s position “1,000 percent” in refusing to say whether he supported expanding the Supreme Court. Said Harris: “Joe’s been very clear that he is going to pay attention to the fact

— and I’m with him on this 1,000 percent — pay attention to the fact that right now ... people are voting. They’re voting.... People will be voting up until Election Day, and they have a right, in an election, to elect their next president, who then will make the decision about who will be the nominee.”

But in 2019, Harris had said the following about the possibility of packing the Court: “We are on the verge of a crisis of confidence in the Supreme Court. We have to take this challenge head on, and everything is on the table to do that.”

Harris Believes Actor Jussie Smollett’s False Tale of Having Been Assaulted by White Trump Supporters

On January 29, 2019, Harris reacted with instant, horrified outrage when media outlets nationwide reported that Empire television actor Jussie Smollett, an openly gay African American, was claiming that he had just been victimized by a hate crime perpetrated by two white men who had assaulted him, poured bleach on him, draped a rope around his neck, and shouted “This is MAGA country,” along with a variety of anti-black and anti-gay slurs. Upon hearing this story, Harris tweeted: “@JussieSmollett is one of the kindest, most gentle human beings I know. I’m praying for his quick recovery. This was an attempted modern-day lynching. No one should have to fear for their life because of their sexuality or color of their skin. We must confront this hate.”

On February 14, 2019, Harris and fellow Senators Cory Booker and Tim Scott (a black Republican) asked for unanimous consent on the Senate floor to pass the Justice for Victims of Lynching Act, legislation that would criminalize lynching for the first time in U.S. history. The motion was passed.

Less than three weeks after Smollett had first reported the alleged attack against him, it was clear that the actor’s tale was a fabrication, and that he himself had orchestrated the entire incident in order to gain publicity and to discredit President Trump and his supporters. When a reporter asked Harris to comment on the matter on February 18, she replied: “Okay, so I will say this about that case. I think the facts are still unfolding and I’m very concerned about obviously, the initial, um, allegation that he made about what might have happened. And it’s something we should all take seriously whenever anyone, um, alleges that kind of behavior, but there should be an investigation. And I think that once the investigation has concluded then we can all comment, but I’m not going to comment until I know the outcome of the investigation.”

On February 21st, Smollett was charged with a felony for having filed a false police report. That day, Harris tweeted: “Like most of you, I’ve seen the reports about Jussie Smollett, and I’m sad, frustrated and disappointed. When anyone makes false claims to police, it not only diverts resources away from serious investigations, but it makes it

more difficult for other victims of crime to come forward. At the same time, hate crimes are on the rise in America.... Part of the tragedy of this situation is that it distracts from that truth, and has been seized by some who would like to dismiss and downplay the very real problems that we must address. We should not allow that. I will always condemn racism and homophobia. We must always confront hate directly, and we must always seek justice. That is what I will keep fighting for.”

Harris Jokes About Marijuana Legalization & Lies About the Circumstances Surrounding Her Own Use of the Drug

In a February 11, 2019 interview on *The Breakfast Club*, a New York City-based radio program, Harris was asked to comment on rumors that she opposed the legalization of marijuana. “That’s not true, she replied, laughing. “Look, I joke about it, I have joked about it. Half my family is from Jamaica, are you kidding me?” Harris, who acknowledged having smoked marijuana in college, was also asked whether she would smoke it again if the federal government were to legalize the drug’s recreational use. She laughed and replied: “Listen, I think it gives a lot of people joy. And we need more joy.” Harris was also asked, “What [music] was you listening to when you was high? What was on? What song was on? Snoop [Dogg]?” The senator quickly responded, “Oh yeah, definitely Snoop. Uh, Tupac for sure.” Fox News subsequently reported that Harris was either not accurately

identifying: (a) what music she had been listening to, or (b) what year she had smoked marijuana:

“Harris graduated from Howard University in 1986 and was finished with law school by 1989. She was admitted to the State Bar of California in 1990. Snoop Dogg’s debut album ‘Doggystyle’ was released in 1993. Snoop made music prior to his first album ... [in 1992, but that was] ... years after Harris finished school. As for Tupac, his first album ‘2Pacalypse Now’ was released in 1991. The rap legend also recorded music as part of the group Digital Underground, but it was also released in the early 1990s after Harris finished school.”

In the aftermath of Harris’ interview, her father, Stanford University economics professor Donald Harris, said in a statement to *Jamaica Global Online*: “My dear departed grandmothers ... as well as my deceased parents, must be turning in their grave right now to see their family’s name, reputation and proud Jamaican identity being connected, in any way, jokingly or not with the fraudulent stereotype of a pot-smoking joy seeker and in the pursuit of identity politics. Speaking for myself and my immediate Jamaican family, we wish to categorically dissociate ourselves from this travesty.”

Please see: <https://www.frontpagemag.com/who-is-kamala-harris/>  
And: <https://www.discoverthenetworks.org/individuals/kamala-harris/>

SMALL GROUPS  
from page 20

on valuable techniques and be quietly confident in that. If you want to improve your defensive skills, work on getting shots on target from the draw or low ready position if your range doesn’t allow draws. If your shots are landing in small clusters, your either really, really good or you’re shooting too slow. That brings us to the next point.

Shoot Faster

With the caveat of safety first, meaning never shoot faster than your ability to be safe and control each and every shot, push yourself a bit. Action pistol competitors do this all the time. If you can get every shot into a paper plate sized target at 10 yards, increase your speed until you start to get some misses. When you start to get all those in a target circle, increase your speed again.

Be sure to work on two different elements of speed. First, push the time you take to get your sights on target and release an aimed shot. Second, work on the “split” or time between aimed shots. Both are skills that only improve with practice.

Use Paper Plates for Targets

Forget the quarter-sized bullseye in your targets. Instead, focus



I also like these Birchwood Casey Dirty Bird targets with six-inch circles. I didn’t push myself enough on these – not enough misses!

on getting shots inside of a reasonably sized circle. I like to use six-inch Birchwood Casey Dirty Bird Targets or even paper plates. I don’t go for groups; I go for all shots in the circle—somewhere. One benefit to the paper plate approach is that there is no distinct aiming point—the target area is a bit ambiguous. That’s OK. Self-defense targets are ambiguous too.

For these reasons, steel targets are great too. With no aiming point, they operate on a pass/fail basis.

Perform “Full Cycle” Shots

I start most of my individual shots from the holster or low ready position depending on the range rules. Sometimes I raise the gun to



Yes, this is the world’s nastiest range, but the targets will be useful and allow lots of transition practice.

target and fire a single shot. Other times I raise the gun to target and fire multiple shots. What I don’t do is get on target, then shoot a full magazine without ever taking the sights off target. I want to get the maximum number of repetitions of bringing my sights into view and releasing an aimed shot the instant they line up with my intended target. Much of the time duration between holster and hole in the target, for me at least, is getting the proper sight picture, so I practice that element—a lot.

There’s a counter-intuitive detail to this method. Practice the raise sights and fire routine slowly at first, focusing on consistent and

perfect technique. Don’t allow your sights to go above the target so you have to bring them back down. If you do the Karate Kid method of slow repetitions, you’ll be surprised at how fast you can draw and place an accurate shot later.

Shift Targets with Every Shot, Then Randomize

I also like to move my shots around on one or more targets. If your range conditions allow, set up two or three targets and alternate between them randomly. That gets you extra sight transition practice. If you shoot at an indoor range and have only one target, shoot at different zones on that single paper. Force yourself to go high right, then low left for example. Again, your “groups” will look like hell, but you’ll be building valuable transition skills.

The most important takeaway, at least for me, of this change in practice approach is that my real-life goal isn’t to shoot small groups leisurely. I doubt many hyped-up attackers would be impressed by that. My goal is to be able to use my handgun more effectively, and that requires a difference in thinking as to what defines success.

Please see: <https://www.ammo-land.com/2024/09/why-you-shouldnt-shoot-small-groups-defensive-pistol-training/>



**Central Building Supply Inc. HARDWARE STORE AND New LUMBER YARD**

**BUILDING DESIGN SERVICE AVAILABLE NOW!**

- BARN DOMINIANS
- COMPLETE POLE BARN KITS
- COMPLETE BUILDING & HOUSE PACKAGES
- TRUSSES BUILT TO YOUR SPECS
- WINDOWS & DOORS

**BRING YOUR PLANS FOR FREE TAKE OFF & ESTIMATE!**

**29 & 26 GA STEEL**  
40 YEAR WARRANTY!  
OVER 20 DIFFERENT COLORS

**BRANDS YOU DEPEND ON.**

Roseburg Milwaukee  
DEWALT LP SmartSide  
DIABLO  
Trex woodgrain doors  
Paslode Bennett

**Central Building Supply Inc.**  
**MONDAY - FRIDAY 7AM-4:30PM**  
**719.783.2385 | 705 OHIO ST, SILVER CLIFF, CO**



**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



**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**



Contractor License  
#ICNON153778

**Old Country CONSTRUCTION LLC**  
Westcliffe, Colorado

**New Homes Additions Polebarns Garages**

**719.458.4184**



719.458.9929  
BaltzlyTowing@gmail.com

**BALTZLY Towing LLC**

## THE RACE from page 5

purchasing agent for the carrier's five stores. After having been re-assigned from the Coral Sea, and having proven his capabilities of managing money there, he was given charge of procurement of many Navy ships where he was responsible for a the entire budget, allocated for items offered in the on-ship stores.

Currently, Paul is working at Road and Bridge, where he drives a water truck.

He realizes the importance of the R&B Department and with his extensive Naval experience in managing a very large budget, two of Paul's main goals as commissioner will be to see that R&B along with our Sheriff's department will receive the utmost attention when it comes to their budgets!

Paul also has considerable experience in human resources!

All things considered, Paul is by far the most intelligent choice for District 2.

Lynn Attebery is also running for commissioner, as a write-in in District 2 against Paul Vogel song and Kevin Day.

Lynn has two terms experience as commissioner; however, NEVER has a write-in won the election! Many people appreciate his experience and many of us like

Lynn Attebery, but with a very slim chance of winning, we are concerned that he will only take votes from Paul Vogel song and hand the election over to Kevin Day. This of course would be a catastrophic loss for Custer County!

The final candidate running for office is Kevin Day, who magically turned himself into Unaffiliated after winning his first term as Republican.

Day has had four years to prove himself worthy of a second term as county commissioner. He's proven himself alright, proven time and again that he has a heart for Custer County, well, at least our money! He was heard to say, I have to win this election as I need 4 more years' income to retire! I guess in his mind, that is reason enough to run again.

So what are Kevin Days accomplishments?

Recall that Day tried unsuccessfully to fund a \$15,000 playground for Wetmore. (This does not include the annual cost of insurance for the playground.) Fortunately he was outvoted by Commissioners Bill Canda and Lucas Epp and the exorbitant price was reduced to \$9,000. In the end, Day copped a big grant from the UAACOG grant machine to cover it. Somehow, he thinks that this money is not our tax money. Typical career bureaucrat who

thinks our tax money is his play money.

Not that the children of Wetmore don't deserve a place to play, they do, but there are very few children of age that would benefit from it.

When I was young we didn't rely on expensive playgrounds to entertain us. We played baseball, football, hide 'n seek, tag and other games that didn't demand costly equipment.

Day also worked for Road and Bridge for many years. While there, it was said that he was lazy, didn't understand his job and didn't get along well with others.

One would think that after having worked for a company and drawn a paycheck from them for many years, (receiving the tax payers money) he would understand the importance of that company, in this case Road and Bridge, but once again, Custer County is paying for Day's wrong decisions.

Instead of funneling monies from the general fund to repair our poorly maintained roads or allocating it to strengthen the Sheriff's Office, he left our roads in bad repair and our Sheriff's Office short of badly needed funds!

So just where did the money go?

At a BOCC meeting in Wetmore, Kevin Day and his then partner in crime, Tom Flower, were addressed by me and MANY other

residents demanding they NOT create the position of county manager! After we the people had spoken, Day and Flower slipped into a back room to make their decision. After a few minutes, they emerged and took their seats behind the commissioner's desk.

With a smirk on his face, Day smugly announced, "We have a new County Manager!"

May I also point out that Flower realizing the people didn't want this new, unnecessary position was ready to back off and cast his vote against, the CM's position; it was Day that forced it through!

Thank you, Day for listening to the voters and your fellow commissioners!

Fortunately, due to the fast thinking of Bill Canda and newly elected commissioner, Lucas Epp, the CM position was terminated. The dissolution of this unneeded position saved us taxpayers approximately \$120,000 a year. But Day still had another bus to throw the county under. Due to a golden parachute in the CM's contract, after having been in office for four days, Braden Wilson received a \$45,000 check!

This ridiculous sum would have been enough to hire two more road grader operators to help maintain our roads or hire a badly needed deputy to keep our town, our children, safe! Way to go Day!

Day has proven time and again he doesn't respect the opinions of the voters or even his own colleagues. When it comes to Custer County, Kevin Day is basically Jesse James without a gun! He is a dictator, a monarch that needs to be dethroned!

Day is also, in my opinion, a very disloyal person, as he knew he couldn't win the Republican nomination to run again due to his disastrous term, he abandoned the party that elected him, and registered as Unaffiliated. What does that tell you about your loyalty to the voters who elected him? It's not about being a good, elected official and supporting the people who got him elected, it is only about Day's personal ambition for the salary, the health benefits, and the retirement package. Day doesn't care about the people who supported him, it's Day first, the people last.

If you're tired of mismanagement in Custer County by the shallow state, we have but two intelligent choices for county commissioners, Lucas Epp, District 3 and Paul Vogel song running in District 2.

That's my opinion and I'm stickin' to it!

May God continue to bless Custer County and the U.S.A.!

Jim Wilde  
Rural Custer County