

Some Information for Undecided Voters

by Jenna McCarthy,
via ZeroHedge.com

As unfathomable as it may be for folks on the farthest sides of the aisle to believe, there are American citizens who *right this minute* cannot decide who to vote for in November. Some days their most pressing political need is for abortion to be regulated at the federal level, and other days they remember they need to put gas in their cars and food on their tables. They like open borders *and* free speech. They want equal, unfettered

access to guns and gender affirming care. It’s just impossible to choose. Could go either way, really.

In one corner, you’ve got a joyful, cackle-happy, mixed race, assigned-female-at-birth **can you hear the highest, thickest, most impervious glass ceiling of them all shattering?** DEI-hire former prosecutor whose “tough on crime” approach disproportionately impacted minority communities and who will, in fact, tax Americans—to use the technical, politico-scientific term for it—up the w*z**. Across the ring you’ve got a boastful

business tycoon with a bit of a tremendous superiority complex (Let me tell you folks, he’s positive he’s the best. Unbelievable, really. Just ask him. No one else comes close.) who wants to deport millions of illegal immigrants who are burdening our systems, raping and murdering our citizens (not all of them obviously, but isn’t one one-too-many?), and may or may not be eating our pets.

Anyone have a quarter I can toss?

She was ranked more-progressive-than-Bernie-Sanders before the

media decided to rewrite history and cast her as *just a smidge left of center hahahahaha*. She promises to pursue green energy investments, expand affordable healthcare, ensure federal protections for reproductive health services, and reduce “voter suppression” (by making voting less racist, i.e. requiring an ID to do it). He is a famously mean tweeter who swears he’ll resuscitate the economy, rebuild our military, finish the border wall,

UNDECIDED see page 24

Ratings Released For Custer Schools

by George Gramlich

The Colorado Department of Education recently released its latest school performance ratings for every school in Colorado. The ratings are primarily based on scores from standardized tests.

For individual schools, the rating grades are: (best to worst): Performance Plan, Improvement Plan, Priority Improvement Plan, and Turnaround Plan. For whole districts, the ratings are: (best to worst): Distinction Plan, Performance Plan, Improvement Plan, Priority Improvement Plan and Turnaround Plan.

As you can see, our High School moved up a notch to Performance Plan while our Middle School made a huge, three step jump up from Turnaround Plan to Performance Plan. Very impressive. However, our Elementary School dropped down a significant step going from Improvement Plan to Priority Improvement Plan (only one step before the worst category).

The District as a whole continued to do well maintaining the Performance Plan rating.

Overall a good job. Let’s get those elementary scores up and shoot for the highest level District rating of Distinction Plan for next year.

Table with 4 columns and 2025 rows. Showing 4 results for search term "Custer".

District	School	2024 Preliminary Rating	2023 Rating
Custer County School District C-1	All Schools	Performance Plan	Performance Plan
Custer County School District C-1	Custer County Elementary School	Priority Improvement Plan	Improvement Plan
Custer County School District C-1	Custer County High School	Performance Plan	Improvement Plan
Custer County School District C-1	Custer Middle School	Performance Plan	Turnaround Plan

Table: Thomas Wilburn Source: Colorado Department of Education

BOCC: New Airport Fence, Finance Report, More Word Salad

by George Gramlich,
News and Commentary

The September 27, 2024 Custer County Board of County Commissioners (BOCC) regular meeting was held in their royally appointed quarters across the courthouse. All three Commissioners were present: Bill Canda, Lucas Epp and Kevin “Turncoat” Day. County Attorney Dan Slater was also present.

In Commissioner Items, Canda said a private donor will be paying for an animal control fence to be built around the SilverWest Airport. The cost is approximately \$450,000.

In New Business, the Finance Report was first up. Lisa Hemann, from Redlands Accounting gave the report. (Redlands is the accounting firm the BOCC hired to help fix the audit issues, conversion

problems and a myriad of other things in the Finance Department.) Lisa said she was spending the last few weeks working on payroll reports, an insurance problem, and reviewing the cash account. She is also working with the Treasury Office on CIC accounting system problems. Lisa noted that the CIC system has a lot of “glitches”. Lisa is still working on the massive credit card problem and has to go back to July of 2021 to make sure she catches all the issues.

The Commissioners then passed the impoundment agreement with the Humane Society of Fremont County. They then ratified an agreement with the Music Meadows Ranch regarding property usage.

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Galatians 6:7 KJV



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

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

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Residents Fear Small Town Won't 'Come Back From This' After Biden/Harris Imported Thousands of Immigrants

by S.A. McCarthy,
The Washington Stand

The small Ohio municipality of Springfield has made national headlines over the past weeks, thanks to tens of thousands of Haitian immigrants being surreptitiously dumped into the city by the Biden-Harris administration over the past three years. But Springfield isn't the only "heartland U.S.A." town suffering after being inundated with immigrants. This week, the America 2100 non-profit organization launched its own on-the-ground investigation in Charleroi, Pennsylvania, to expose how the rural town's 2,000% increase in Haitian immigrants has impacted American residents.

Last week, America 2100 shared reports from locals and residents chronicling a steep increase in traffic accidents and a rise in violent crime, including Haitians attempting carjackings and mugging Americans outside liquor stores. The non-profit group noted, "It isn't just Springfield. It's happening everywhere. In Charleroi, Pennsylvania — a low-income town of just 4,000 — the immigrant population has increased by 2,000% over the past two years. And it's almost all Haitians."

In an interview with America 2100, Charleroi councilman Larry Celaschi said, "I wish I could come face to face for 60 seconds ... with whoever was behind all this and bringing the immigrants into Charleroi..." He asked, "Where the h*** is the money that should be coming to Charleroi, okay? Why was it all dumped on us, and we're not being funded with anything. Okay, and again, we can't even make ends meet with our budget, and so now how — where are we gonna get this extra revenue to pay for them?" Celaschi concluded, "And so now we've got to do all these things to accommodate the immigrants. That's bull****."

On Monday, America 2100 visited Charleroi, saying, "The media won't tell their story — so we will." One resident who was "born and raised" in Charleroi told America 2100 Senior Adviser Nate Hochman that the 2,000 Haitian immigrants have clogged up the small town's sewage system. "You can smell the raw sewage," he said. "These 120-year-old pipes can't handle all the sewage that's getting pumped into them ... from all the people that came in."

Another resident also complained about the "absolutely disgusting" lack of hygiene among the immigrants and how it has impacted the

town. "I feel bad for a lot of these people," said Andrew, who does housing repairs. "And then some of these houses you go into ... they live like they still live in a clay building in Port-au-Prince and they just want to keep it how it was," he continued. Andrew explained that the houses the Haitian immigrants live in are "disgusting," recounting that he once spent three days simply scrubbing a kitchen after Haitians vacated a house, before moving on to cleaning the rest of the house. He noted the massive increase in immigrants over the past two years, saying, "The agencies, they just keep bringing these people in and bringing people in and bringing people in."

"This is one of the most immediately obvious aspects of the immigration crisis in Charleroi," Hochman noted. "The big businesses are buying up homes in town and packing them with as many as 15-20 Haitians per property. It's essentially converting the entire town into a gigantic workers' barracks."

Local parents reported that schools are being overwhelmed and forced to divert funds to hire multiple interpreters. "They're having a huge problem, I think, with trying to teach," one mom said. "There were 45 Haitians that started kindergarten this year," she added. Another parent explained, "A kindergarten

class is probably no more than 60 at most, at most." Hochman asked, "So like the majority of the kindergarten is Haitian now? In what? Two years?" The parents nodded and replied, "Yeah." One of the parents noted, "One of the things ... about the not speaking English ... middle school grades where parents are having a problem because their kids can't advance because the teachers are having to compensate for the kids who can't speak English."

Parents also observed that crimes against American students have increased. "There's been some assaults with some kids on the bus," a Charleroi mom said. She recounted, "One student attacked another American child on the bus. ... And I guess he was like 20." The girl who was attacked, the mom said, was about 14 years old. She continued, "He told the girl to move and she said, 'No,' and he grabbed her — and like really grabbed her — and like wouldn't let her go. Like they just get on the bus and like go to school, you know, with like the elementary kids, just to get a ride to school." The mom added, "The school does nothing about it. People complain all the time about things and they do nothing."

WON'T COME BACK
see page 24

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—John F. Kennedy

Tarantula Watching in Comanche Nat'l Grassland Tarantula Fest in La Junta This Weekend

Press Release

LA JUNTA, Colo.,

It is tarantula mating season on the Comanche National Grassland, the country's fourth largest grassland with over 440,000 acres of short-grass prairie and canyon lands. This special place is home for Colorado brown tarantulas. Visitors from near and far will visit the grassland to catch a glimpse of these fuzzy arachnids during the city of La Junta's third annual Tarantula Fest on September 27-28, 2024.

During the festival, increased traffic is expected on Forest Service and county roads. Visitors should park in designated areas and be mindful of people and tarantulas that may be crossing the road. Make sure to check the local

weather forecast and plan ahead. Hunting season is in full swing so take precautions to stay safe.

The tarantula can attain a body length of up to two inches and a leg span of up to five inches. Males can travel as many as twenty miles in search of a mature female, and that is what is occurring during the tarantula migration.

Females are larger than the males and reach maturity between 8-10 years. It is not uncommon for females to live over 20 years. However, males rarely live one year past maturity and usually die during or shortly after migration because they are killed by vehicles while crossing the roads or they become the victim of predators like tarantula hawk wasps, coyotes or even female tarantulas.

"The Comanche National Grassland welcomes you to come view the tarantulas and enjoy the grassland," said Chandra Ochoa, a customer service representative with the grassland. "Please leave no trace. Take photos from afar and give tarantulas space to be themselves in their natural habitat."

Despite their large size, tarantulas pose little hazard to humans. However, please do not harass the spiders by



Tarantula on the Comanche National Grassland. USDA Forest Service photo

handling them or disturbing their nesting hole. Simply enjoy observing and photographing the tarantulas as they make their annual trek in search of a female.

To learn more about the Comanche National Grassland, visit https://www.fs.usda.gov/detail/psicc/about-forest/contact/?cid=fsm9_032695

For more information on the Tarantula Fest, go to <https://visitlajunta.net/la-junta-tarantula-fest/>.

Post #170 Annual POW/MIA Recognition Day Ceremony



American Legion Post 170 held their annual POW/MIA Recognition Day ceremony at the 'Bluffs last Friday, September 20. The ceremony honors our service members who were held captured and returned and those who remain missing. *Sentinel photo*

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Brittany Pettersen Votes Against Requiring Proof of Citizenship to Vote

by ColoradoPeakPolitics.com

Colorado Democrats on Wednesday voted against a measure requiring proof of U.S. citizenship to vote in federal elections that was part of a six-month government funding bill.

U.S. Rep. Brittany Pettersen called it a “radical agenda,” while U.S. Rep. Joe Neguse called it a political game, which could be said about every single vote taken in Congress.

The continuing resolution (CR) to fund government failed on a 202-220 vote with only three Democrats in support and 14 Republicans in opposition.

Passing so-called continuing resolutions and threatening government shutdowns is how Congress has funded government operations since 1996 instead of passing appropriation bills for each agency.

Which brings us to why 14 Re-publicans voted no on this CR, including U.S. Reps. Doug Lamborn and Lauren Boebert.

Several Republicans including those in the Freedom Caucus have vowed to no longer vote in support of these stop-gap funding measures.

From a fiscally conservative viewpoint, it is an admirable stance. It’s just not a realistic one.

The only Colorado Republican to vote in favor of the bill was temporary Congressman Greg Lopez, who’s filling in the term vacated by former Congressman Ken Buck who most assuredly would have voted no.

Congress has until Oct. 1 to pass a government spending bill, so it’s not like they’re shutting it down tomorrow.

Republicans are serious about the voter identification measure attached to the bill, the Safeguard American Voter Eligibility, or SAVE Act.

Yet this measure was also a tactic to get Democrats in competitive reelection campaigns like Yadira Caraveo in the 8th District on the record taking a position on voter ID before the critical November election.

She voted against the measure, but declined to explain her position to her voters.

But there was Colorado Secretary of State Jena Griswold weighing in for attention, calling it a conspiracy theory that noncitizens would dare vote in a U.S. election.

After all, the voter registration forms mailed to noncitizens for them to fill out and return tells them not to fill it out and return if they are not U.S. citizens.

Capiche?

The honor system should be enough, Democrats like Griswold insist.

Just like we use the honor system to sell alcohol and marijuana without ID, hand out credit cards, allow folks to travel on airplanes without ID, or check out books from the local library.

But seriously, identification is required in this country to apply for a job, rent a house, collect welfare, or even adopt a pet.

Jena Griswold@JenaGriswold
Follow

Speaker Johnson’s irresponsible attempt to make government funding dependent on election conspiracies failed today. Johnson’s and Trump’s efforts to cast doubt on our elections is not just reckless, it’s dangerous.

6:54 PM · Sep 18, 2024

And yet, Griswold’s office has never conducted an audit to determine whether noncitizens have cast ballots in previous elections.

If migrants must show ID to apply for asylum in the U.S., why is it so wrong they be asked to produce the same ID before casting a ballot for president, as well as everyone else who votes?

Please see: <https://coloradopeakpolitics.com/2024/09/19/colorado-democrats-vote-against-requiring-proof-of-citizenship-to-vote/>

At the Library Cowboy Music & Poetry

Western troubadour and cowboy poet J.J. Steele and his fellow troubadour, Mark Compere, will provide an evening of cowboy music and poetry at the West Custer County Library on Saturday, October 12th from 5 to 6 p.m. The event is free all are welcome! Please visit www.westcusterlibrary.org events page for more information.

Tech Café Pilot Program

The next Tech Café will be held Thursday, October 10th from 10 to 11 a.m. in the Community Room at the West Custer County Library. The Tech Café is a free opportunity to get expert, one-on-one help. Bring your devices, phones, tablets, and laptops.

Veteran and IT consultant Geoff Schram will answer your questions and help with devices. Come hangout, and enjoy free coffee and Wi-Fi!

The café is held once a month on the second Thursday of the month. No appointment is needed. For more information, please visit www.westcusterlibrary.org.

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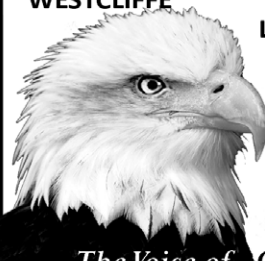
Tuesday, October 1st at 1 p.m. –Job Seekers – Colorado Workforce Center representatives will hold a job seekers event. For more information on this free library event visit www.westcusterlibrary.org.

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Lincolnparkpawn@hotmail.com
1 foot to over 1 mile, 75 different powders

Sangre Shooting Sports Club

P.O. Box 1554, Westcliffe
http://sangreshooting.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 30 #81 Sloppy Joe on a Bun Scalloped Potatoes Broccoli & Carrots Apple	Tuesday, October 1 #26 Chicken Fajita Savory Black Beans w/Cilantro Tortilla Whole Wheat Cheddar Cheese Mexicali Corn Orange	Thursday, October 3 #82 Smothered Chicken Cornbread Stuffing Peas & Carrots, Cauliflower & Broccoli, WW Brd Applesauce Waldorf Salad
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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.

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wetmountainmanualtherapy.com 719.639.8447

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tonysmountainpizza.com
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630 Main St., Silver Cliff
Open Thurs-Sat 11-9, Sun 12-8

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Solar Solutions Ltd
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email: pbailey@solarsolutions.com

Storage

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

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

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

THANK YOU FOR SUPPORTING OUR ADVERTISERS!

Recurring Events

Mondays

10 a.m. Pickle Ball Silver Cliff Memorial Park
More info: 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

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

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 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
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

AMERICA IS NOT YET COMMUNIST
But Is It A Republic We Can Keep

by Fred Hernandez, Commentary

The current month of September will be 237 years since one of the best known founders of our republic, Benjamin Franklin, walked out of the building where they had just concluded a meeting of the 1787 Constitutional Convention in Philadelphia. Outside, a curious crowd had gathered on the street. One lady, Elizabeth Willing Powel, raised her voice above the hubbub with a question: “Well Doctor, what have we got, a republic or a monarchy?” The eighty-one-year-old drafter and signer of the Declaration of Independence replied, “A Republic, Madam,” following up after a brief pause with, “If you can keep it.” For that meeting earlier in the day, Franklin had prepared a speech to convince some of the reluctant members of the convention to sign on to the draft of the constitution. Here is the relevant part of that speech which, prophetically, speaks of the poor condition of our American society today:

“In these sentiments, Sir, I agree to this Constitution, with all its faults, if they are such; because I think a General Government necessary for us, and there is no form of government, but what may be a blessing to the people if well administered; and believe further, that this is likely to be well administered for a course of years, and can only end in despotism, as other forms have done before it, when the people shall become so corrupted as to need despotic government.”

Despotism. A heavy word to let loose during conversation in a free country. Let’s define it. Despotism: a form of government characterized by tyranny, oppression and limited freedoms for the subjects. The despot exercises total control over all aspects of public and private life. Sounds familiar?

In these united and disunited states we find hard evidence on a daily basis that we are all under oppression and control, in one form or another, by the powers in office. Consider if you will the following transgressions of the law taking place as we speak:

When did we ever have a blatant and total disregard for the rule of law based on the constitution that allows, even demands, an open border that permits millions of illegals to storm into the country. The government even sued a border state in order to force them to actually break the law of the land! The Federal Government asking a state to break the laws of the country! As if that were not bad enough the government aids and abets the law breakers by giving them free transportation into the heartland and providing housing, food, medical care and in one truly despotic state the down payment for homes. All this largesse from taxpayer funds. Funds that the tax paying citizens themselves are unable to access. The very ones who provided the money in the first place do not benefit from it but must now helplessly stand aside and watch as the despots squander hard-earned funds, by hard working citizens, on illegal non-citizens.

When did we as Americans see many, if not all, government agencies compromised into illegal and corrupt behavior. Weaponized to do the bidding of the entrenched power they persecute anyone who opposes their rule. When and where have we seen in a decent, law-abiding country the pervasive persecution, fancifully identified as “lawfare”, of a political opponent the likes of which goes on right before the eyes of the entire nation in total and wanton disregard and disrespect of the people of the country who elected them in the first place. The persecution is not limited in any way as it moves in on anyone who might be an ally of the main target. Many of them have been sent to prison on fabricated, illegal charges, spurious accusations and have had to serve sentences unjustly imposed by corrupt judges.

When have we witnessed that an attempt to assassinate a political opponent goes awry and there seems to be such a general lack of concern, almost an aura of disdain, that the attempt failed as the so-called “investigation” goes on and on in circles with no meaningful results. Inconceivably, a

second attempt takes place in as many months. Still no apparent sense of urgency. The attempts to assassinate a past president and the official nominee of the opposing party in an election year is almost unheard of in a democratic republic. In the meantime, his opponents continue to incite unrest with volatile, misleading, untrue language aimed at the victim of the attempted assassinations?

Where but in a tyrannical government would you see gross negligence, total incompetence that starts off with a vibrant, successful economy and somehow manages to drive it into the ground in record time. And, as that administration is grossly mismanaging the economy it is systematically covered up by a compromised and corrupt media; it is glossed over and often even presented favorably.

In addition to opening the borders to millions of illegal aliens, where has one seen the government actually flying in plane loads of illegal aliens and depositing them directly in smaller towns in huge numbers that stagger the residents ability to retain their tranquil and rural lifestyle. Overpowering the system. Where has one seen the arrogance, the pure hubris of those in power who double down on their errors, who challenge the rule of law in total disregard for any semblance of decency.

The transgressions of those in power are almost countless. Those who know, know it and those who don’t won’t even bother to find out. As the good book says, “A fool does not delight in understanding, but only in airing his opinions.” —Proverbs 18:2

And so, if the question of Mrs. Powel were to be asked today it should be: “ Doctor, do we have a republic or a tyranny?” And the answer would be that we still have a republic but rapidly slipping away day by day. Let us pray God bless America by awakening those who do not yet see the writing on the wall. Let us make sure we vote to take our country back from the clutches of tyranny. Let us together pray to God to remain a republic and let us keep it.

Come and Worship

Christian Science 9:30 a.m. Worship <i>8 Basic Place, Westcliffe</i> Church of Christ 9:30 a.m. Bible Study 10:30 a.m. Worship <i>818 Ohio Street, Silver Cliff</i> 719/783-4601 Church of Jesus Christ of Latter Day Saints <i>240 Ridgeline Dr, Westcliffe</i> Pres: 719/214-4589 Cody Park Community Church 9:30 a.m. Sunday School 10:30 a.m. Worship Tues. 8:30 a.m., Prayer Mtg. Wedn. 7 p.m. Bible Study <i>0157 County Rd. 27A</i> Cotopaxi 719/942-3526 Community United Methodist Church 8 a.m. & 10 a.m. Worship <i>202 S. 6th Street, Westcliffe</i> 719/783-2511 Cotopaxi Community Church 9:45 a.m. Sunday School 11 a.m. Worship 6 p.m. Wedn. Bible Study PastorSteveHolcomb@gmail.com 20326 Hwy. 50, Cotopaxi	First Baptist Church of Westcliffe 9:30 a.m. Sunday School 10:30 a.m. Fellowship 10:45 a.m. Worship 6 p.m. Worship <i>417 S. 6th Street, Westcliffe</i> 719/783-2498 High Country Mennonite Church 9:30 a.m. Worship 10:45 a.m. Sunday School <i>103 N. Adams St, Westcliffe</i> 719/783-9045 Huerfano Community Bible Church 10:30 a.m. Sunday Worship 7 p.m.: Thursday Bible Study <i>603 Leon Street, Walsenburg</i> (719) 251-9053 Hope Lutheran Church 2 p.m. Worship 3:15 p.m. Bible Study <i>3rd & Powell Streets, Westcliffe</i> Pastor Dan Kletke 719/783-2323 Lange Hall 719/783-2561 Living Stone Calvary Chapel Saturday evenings: 5:30 pm Sunday Mornings: 9:30 am in the Amphitheater <i>830 Bridge St., Canon City, CO</i> Pastor Sean Meagher 719/276-0863	Our Lady of the Assumption Roman Catholic Church <i>Diocese of Pueblo</i> 11 a.m. Sunday Mass 10 a.m. (2nd Tuesday of month) Mass 10 a.m. Wednesday Mass 5:30 p.m. Thursday Mass <i>109 S. 5th Street, Westcliffe</i> 719/783-3507 Our Lady of Mt. Zion Catholic Church 11 a.m. Mass, 2nd & 3rd Sunday of month <i>210 S. 2nd St, Westcliffe</i> 719/783-2491 Praise Community Church Sunday School 9:30 a.m. Praise & Worship 10:45 a.m. <i>215 N Pikes Peak Ave., Florence</i> 719/784-1184 St. Luke's Episcopal Church 10:30 a.m. Worship & Eucharist 11:30 a.m. Fellowship 8:30 a.m. Prayer Service, Thursdays <i>3rd & Rosita Streets, Westcliffe</i> 719/783-2477 St. Patrick's Anglican Church 11 a.m. Worship 403 S. 2nd S., Westcliffe 925/339-0175 or 719/783-2500 Sacred Heart Catholic Church <i>Diocese of Pueblo</i> Saturday Mass 4 p.m. Highway 69, Gardner Bldg. Mickey, 719/746-2037	Sangre de Cristo Cowboy Church <i>Pastor: Mike Shields</i> 10 a.m. Sunday School Bible Study 11 a.m. Worship Last Sunday of Month: Potluck at Noon sangredecristocowboychurch.com also on Facebook <i>60260 HWY 69, Westcliffe</i> 719/232-5372 Sangre de Cristo Fellowship 9 a.m. Meet & Greet 9:30 a.m. Service <i>120 Jerry Drive, Westcliffe</i> 719/783-0903 Sangre de Cristo Seminary Chapel 10 a.m. Worship <i>6160 County Rd. 130, Westcliffe</i> 719/ 371-1822 Valley Bible Fellowship 10 a.m. Worship <i>116 Hermit Lane, Silver Cliff</i> 719/581-7572 Wetmore Baptist Church 9:45 a.m. Sunday School 10:45 a.m. Worship 6 p.m. Worship <i>Junction of Hwy 96 & 67, Wetmore</i> 719/371-1230 Wetmore Community Church 9 a.m. Sunday School 10 a.m. Worship <i>699 County Rd. 395, Wetmore</i> 719/784-0596
Send Church updates to sdcsentinel@gmail.com (719) 783-3360			

And the Word became flesh and dwelt among us,
and we have seen His glory, glory of the only Son
from the Father, full of grace and truth. John 1:14 ESV



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Help Wanted

Custer County is accepting employment applications for the following positions.

- Director of Human Services (DHS): After a long and dedicated service to Custer County Laura Lockhart is retiring in January 2025.
- Information Technology – Technical Support Specialist.

Employment application and job description are available on Custer County website <https://www.custercounty-co.gov/> employment. Custer County is an equal opportunity employer.

Employment application and resume may be submitted to: Custer County Human Resources P.O. Box 150 Westcliffe, CO 81252 Email: HR@custercounty-co.gov

Planning & Zoning – SIPA Grant Assistant

Custer County is accepting employment applications for two part-time grant assistants.

Applicants should be self-motivated and able to work with little supervision after an initial training period. Accuracy and the ability to interact with the public are essential. This position will organize zoning parcel files, validate that paper documentation match online entries. Scan documents to file server, provide updates as needed on progress, participate in SIPA update meetings.

Custer County is an equal opportunity employer. This is a part-time non-exempt position, \$17/hr

Employment application and job description are available on our website <https://www.custercounty-co.gov/employment>

Applications may be submitted to:
Custer County Human Resources
P.O. Box 150
Westcliffe, CO 81252

Email: HR@custercounty-co.gov

Custer County School District is now hiring for the following positions:
Full-time Custodian and Substitute Teachers.

Coaching positions include MS Boys Head Basketball Coach, MS Girls Head Basketball Coach, MS C-Team Volleyball Coach, MS Head Track Coach, MS Assistant Track Coach, MS Assistant Football Coach, MS Head Baseball Coach, HS Assistant Football Coach, HS Head Baseball Coach, HS Assistant Baseball Coach, and HS Assistant Track Coach (Throwing). **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.

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Events

Friday, September 27, 9 a.m. - 1 p.m. North of Main on Hwy 69. LAST WESTCLIFFE FARMER's MARKET for the season. Parking behind Jess Price Park.

Friday, September 27, 4 to 6:30 p.m. FUNDRAISER for James Cunningham Silver Cliff Inn *See page 15 for details*

Saturday, September 28th 9 a.m. to ? \$ FUND \$ Raiser for Silver Cliff Park
4k & 3k runs, Tons of stuff for kids, Food Vendors

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

October 2-4 Feast of Trumpets – Rosh Hashanah (new year)

Sunday, October 6, 2 - 3:30 p.m. National Life Chain Meet on sidewalk at Custer County School West parking lot.

Thursday, October 10, Open 5:30 p.m. Dinner 6 p.m. Custer County Conservation District Annual Meeting/Dinner *See page 11 for details*

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.

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Submit yourselves therefore to God. Resist the devil,
and he will flee from you. James 4:7 KJV

Tony's Pizza Players of the Week



Football MPV:
Wyatt Grundy
17 Carries 145 Yards
Football Photo by Lea Grundy

XC MVP:
Levi Carichner
Levi is a great leader and awesome athlete who always has a smile on his face. Levi PR'd at the recent Coronado Classic, with a 5k ti me of 20:02.
Photo by Heather Ramer



VB JV MVP:
Addie Banning (Top)
BV Varsity MVP:
Cadence Weeks



After two weeks off, both Volleyball teams swept South Park, and these two players stepped up and executed their offensive well.
Photos by Jenn Russ Photography

KIDS September 27, 2024 Sergeant Bill

I am having a lot of fun with these stories of war animals. I hope you all are enjoying this series also. So, this week we will talk about Sgt Bill. Dogs and horses have served in the military since forever, but every so often a different species of animal rises to the occasion with training, loyalty and bravery.



On August 23, 1914, a train load of soldiers on their way to fight the war stopped in a small town, Broadview in Saskatchewan. There they saw a billy goat pulling a small cart and his owner, Daisy Curwain. They asked Daisy if they could have her goat as their good luck mascot. At first, Daisy was reluctant to part with her proud pet. But the men promised Bill would be well-cared for. Now, they were not allowed to take mascots to the front lines but the soldiers became attached to Billy. So, they put him in a big crate and smuggled him into France. Sgt Bill, as the soldiers called him, had suffered shrapnel wounds, shell shock and trench foot. He went missing once and was arrested once for eating military equipment. But he was credited with saving at least three lives when he head-butted men into a trench to avoid an exploding shell. He also helped guard prisoners as only a goat could.

Sgt. Bill was court-martialed three times and sentenced to two periods of fourteen days, he was well on his way to becoming the most often disciplined member of the Canadian Corps. This goat is now a Saskatchewan war hero – and even has the medals to prove it. For his valor and over four and a half years’ service, Sergeant Bill was awarded the 1914/1915 Star, the British War Medal, and the Victory Medal. After Sergeant Bill accompanied his men to Cologne, he marched in the grand Victory Europe parade wearing an embroidered blue plush coat emblazoned with sergeant’s stripes.

After his death Bill was stuffed, mounted and displayed in the Saskatchewan Legislative Building. His body eventually returned to Broadview, where he still holds a place of honor in the Broadview Museum.

by Audrey Slater. Sources: <https://www.veterans.gc.ca/en/remembrance/classroom/tales-of-animals-in-war/2013/goat>, <https://www.mentalfloss.com/article/67256/8-war-heroes-were-real-animals>, <https://regina.ctvnews.ca/no-kid-ding-saskatchewan-goat-remembered-as-first-world-war-hero-1.3552611>, <https://cefrg.ca/blog/sergeant-bill/>
Photo: Sgt Bill returned to his former owner, Daisy Curwain.
<https://cefrg.ca/blog/sergeant-bill>

Sangre de Cristo Sentinel • Westcliffe, Colorado

CORNER



Goodness of God

I love You, Lord — Oh Your mercy never fails me
All my days — I’ve been held in Your hands
From the moment that I wake up — Until I lay my head
Oh I will sing — of the goodness — of God

Booster Club Bobcat Corner



Come out and support your Custer County Bobcats!

All games and dates are subject to change without notice.

- Friday, Sept 27:** Bye Week for HS Football
Saturday, Sept. 28:
4:15 pm HS Volleyball @ HOME vs Calhan
Tuesday, October 1:
5 pm HS Volleyball @ Buena Vista (away)
Friday, October 4:
7 pm HS Football @ HOME vs Walsenburg
Saturday, October 5:
Cross Country: Salida XC Classic @ Vandaveer Ranch:
10 am HS Girls; 10:45 am HS Boys
Friday, October 11:
1 pm HS Volleyball @ HOME vs Center
7 pm HS Football @ Fowler (away)

\$\$ Don't forget to grab your TONY'S PIZZA & COMMUNITY DISCOUNT CARDS to support your Bobcat athletes! Only \$20 each, and BIG savings on both! Stop into Tony's, find your favorite volleyball player or contact Lea Grundy at 720-234-7751

Come support the Bobcats Concession Stand at every Home game!

RSVP Now for the Annual Meeting of the Custer County Conservation District

Press Release

On October 10, 2024 the Custer County Conservation District will hold its annual meeting. Location for this year's event is Ranchers Roost with doors opening at 5:30 p.m. A wonderful brisket dinner beginning at 6 p.m. will start the evening with several informative speakers to round to follow.

For the Districts landowners with trees, Summit Logging will discuss: "Implementing a Healthy Forest with an eye towards carbon sequestration."

The other topic of the evening will be "Smart Nitrogen" and other fertilizer highlights, presented by Arkansas Valley Co-Op. For those landowners with a pond, Josh will update the group on the "Pilot Pond Project" which was introduced at last year's annual meeting.

The 5th grade poster contest will be returning this year. As in past years, those attending the annual meeting are entitled to vote for the top three posters created by fifth-graders from several of Custer County's schools.

Reservations are required and can only be made on the District's website: custercountyconservationdistrict.org.

The District will again share the cost for dinner. The landowners' cost is \$20 per person with the District covering the balance of the meal as well as tax, tip and room rent. The last day to reserve a seat is October 4, 2024.

Custer County Conservation District covers almost all of the County with the exception of the two municipalities.

Bobcats Scoreboard!

Friday, Sept 20:
HS Football @ Sargent (away): Loss 6-64

Saturday, Sept. 21:
HS Volleyball @ South Park (away):
JV: 2-0 (25-17, 25-17) Varsity: 3-0 (25-20, 25-14, 25-22) 🐾
Cross Country: Coronado Cougar Classic:
Mason Stover-18:12 (PR), Levi Carichner-20:02 (PR) 🐾
Jacob Weeks-21:00

Tuesday, Sept. 24:
HS Volleyball @ Trinidad (away) 🐾
JV: 2-1 (25-21, 16-25, 20-18); Varsity: 3-0 (25-17, 25-12, 25-13)



Little Bobcats Football!

The Custer County Bobcats Football team invites your little one to join Little Bobcats! Sign ups are for young boys ages 3 years to the 6th grade.

Little Bobcats is a great way for your child to become more involved in community sports and activities! All boys from 3 years of age to 6th grade are welcome to join! Each young Bobcat will be

assigned a "Big Bobcat" from the Football team. After sign ups, we will have a Big/Little Bobcat event where your Little Bobcat gets the chance to meet their assigned Big Bobcat. Each Little Bobcat will have the chance to run the field every home game (October. 4th and 18th, and November 1st), bond with their Big Bobcat, give/ receive goodies from their

Big Bobcat for game days/ holidays, and receive a Little Bobcat t-shirt!

The cost is \$25 dollars per child to join. Checks can be made out to the Custer County Booster Club.

If you would like to sign up your child or have any questions feel free to email me at: jade.stallones23@outlook.com or text me at (979) 221-4968.



Custer County School District C-1

MENU for the week Sept. 23 thru Sept.26 2024

	Breakfast	Lunch
Monday	Cereal yogurt Oatmeal Fruit, Milk	Hamburger Mac Corn Fruit, Milk
Tuesday	Breakfast Pizza Milk	White Chili Cornbread Fruit, Milk
Wednesday	Eggs Hash Browns Sausage Fruit Milk	Baked Ziti Oven Roasted Zucchini Garlic Roll Fruit, Milk
Thursday	Biscuit and Gravy Applesauce Milk	Chicken Alfredo Steamed Broccoli Fruit, Milk

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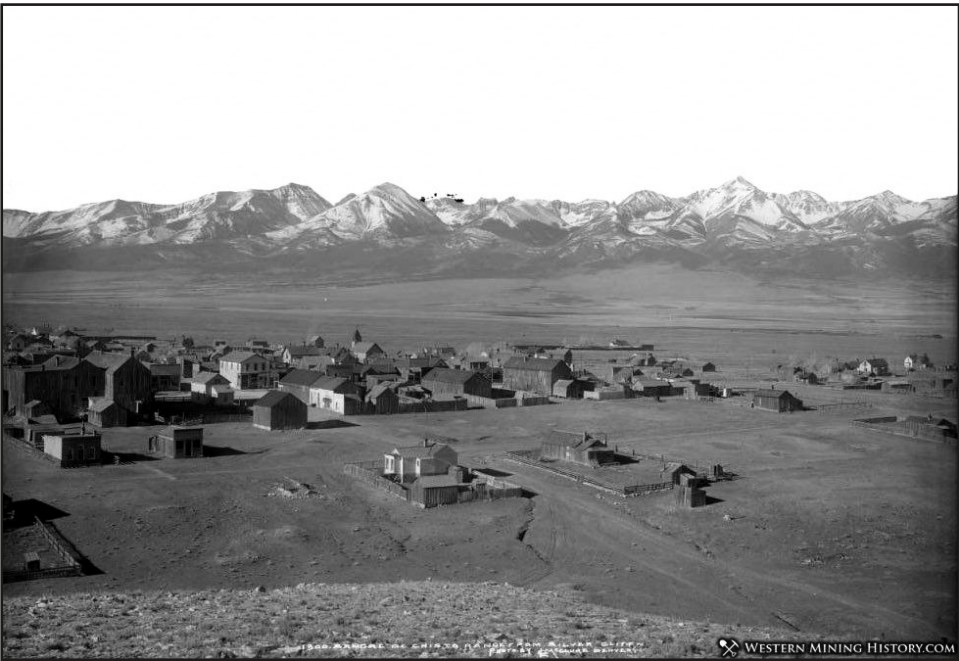
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Western Mining Hi

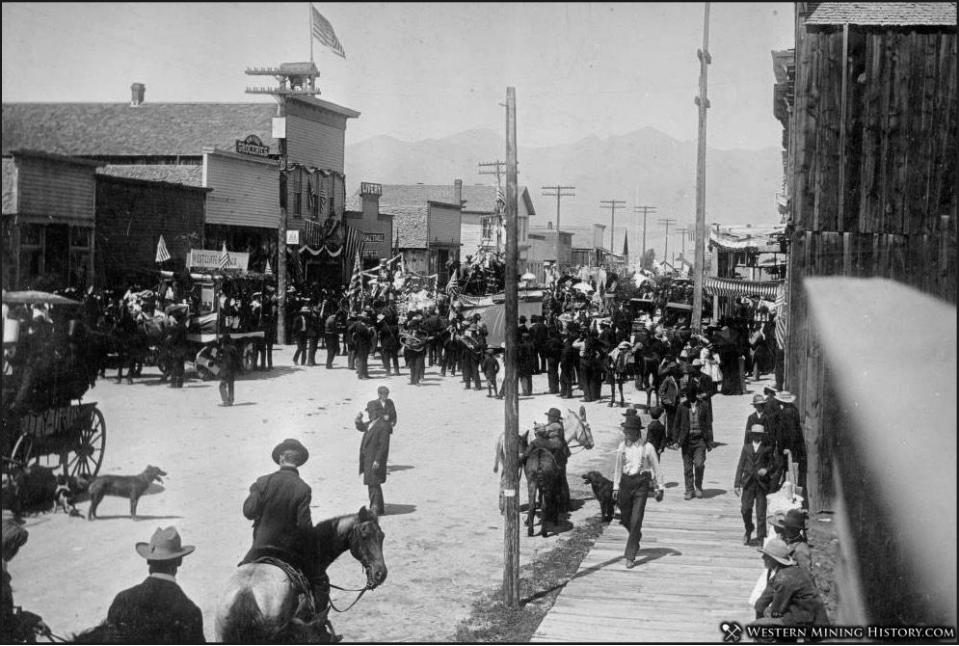
Status: Active Town
Elevation: 7,985 Feet
State: Colorado
County: Custer County

Date Settled: late 1870s
Current Population: 600
Peak Population: Over 5,000
Commodity: Silver, Gold

Silver Cliff was settled in the late 1870s after discovery of the Geyser mine. The town was incorporated in 1879 and by 1880 was Colorado’s third largest city with over 5,000 residents (behind Denver and Leadville).



Silver Cliff, Colorado ca. 1910



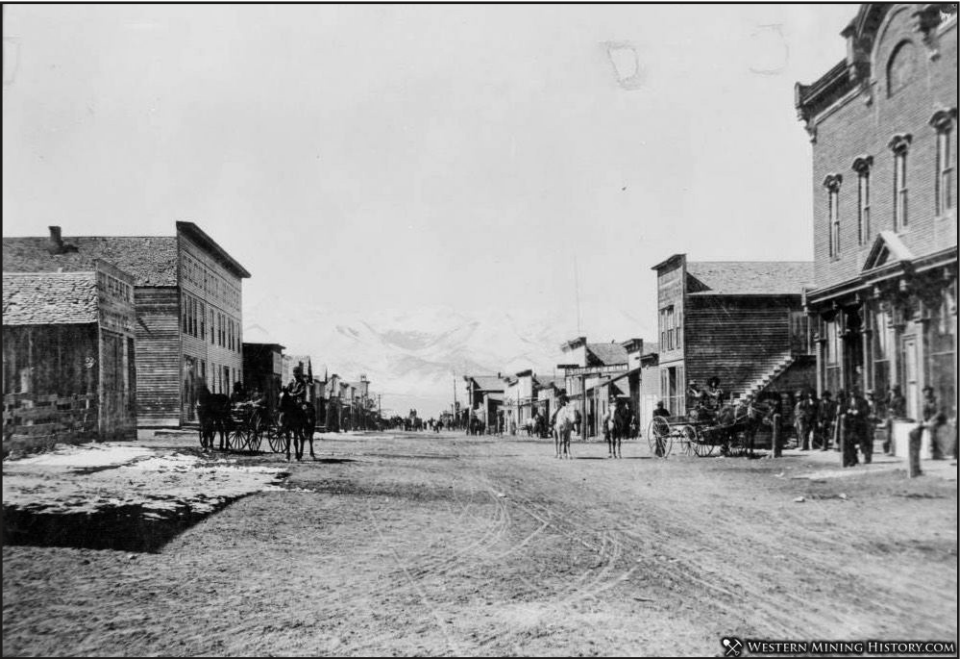
Parade in Silver Cliff, Colorado ca. 1890



Foot Race in Silver Cliff, ca. 1890

Silver Cliff managed to take the county seat from the town of Rosita in 1886 after a four year struggle. In 1882 it was reported “There is great excitement in Custer county, Colorado, over an attempt to remove the county seat from Rosita to Silver Cliff, and bloodshed is feared.”

In the 1890s, the Geyser mine was the deepest mine in Colorado. A newspaper describes the mine in 1897 “The deepest mine is Colorado is the Geyser, at Silver Cliff, in Custer county, in which the three compartment shaft is timbered to the depth of 2425 feet perpendicular.”



Main Street in Silver Cliff, Colorado 1894



Interior view of Louie Wolfes Saloon, Silver Cliff, ca. 1900



Interior view of Powell House dining room, Silver Cliff 1881



Odd Fellows pose at Silver Cliff 1890

History: Silver Cliff

Another article published in 1902 suggests that the Geyser shaft was driven to great depths to find the source of the Silver Cliff district ores, when they were near the surface all along.

“For twenty years people have been trying to find the source of the ore at Silver Cliff and at last it has been turned up, only half a mile from the town. The strike made a few days ago by Haskell and Jackson, two veteran assayers, seems to be the most Important in Southern Colorado for many years. They are now literally quarrying out the ore and shipping it by the carload.”

“Immense sums have been spent in vain efforts to find the ore which was known to be there, the search Including the Geyser prospect shaft, which is 2600 feet deep.



Silver Cliff, Colorado Fire Department ca. 1890



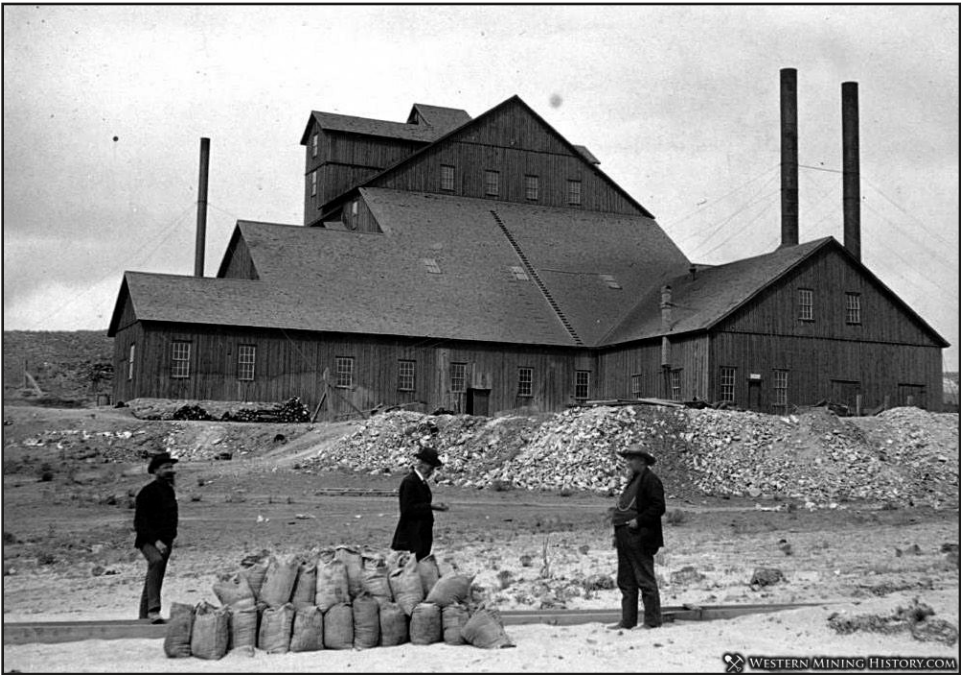
Racine Boy mine near Silver Cliff, Colorado ca. 1880s

Note that this photo was identified as the Geyser mine by the Denver Public Library. However, a current resident of Silver Cliff has stated that this is actually the Racine Boy mine.



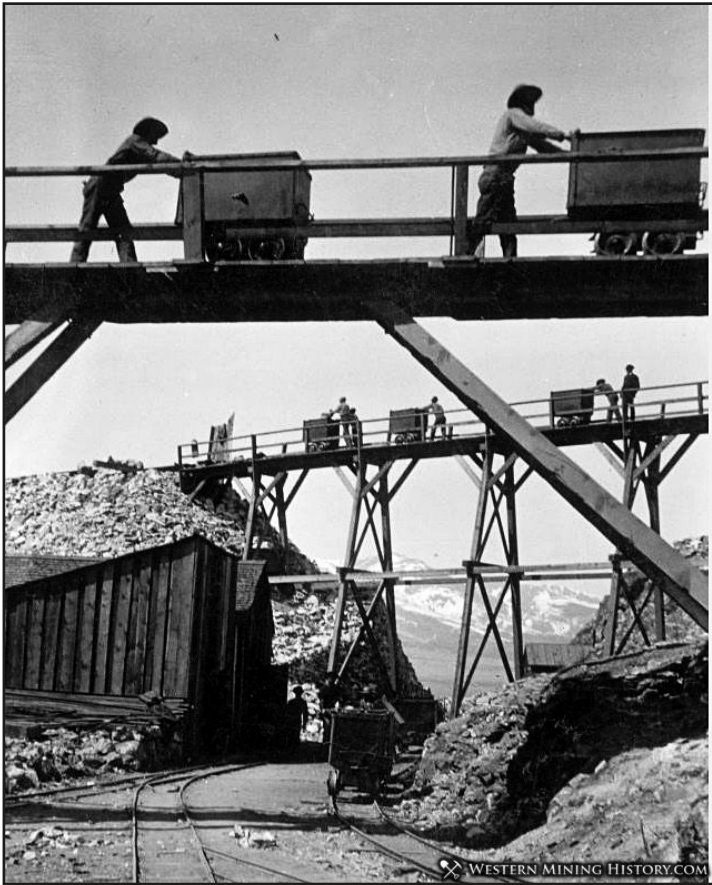
Racine Boy mine near Silver Cliff, Colorado ca. 1880s

Note that this photo was identified as the Geyser mine by the Denver Public Library. However, a current resident of Silver Cliff has stated that this is actually the Racine Boy mine.



Racine Boy or Bay Mine and Mill in Silver Cliff

The ore has been found just below the surface on Government land. It runs \$44 per ton and picked specimens yield seventy-five ounces gold and much silver. There is great excitement in all that region and, everything has been staked for miles. It is anticipated that Silver Cliff, once the second, town in the State, will boom again.”



Racine Boy mine near Silver Cliff, Colorado ca. 1880s

In 1885 an accident at the Bull-Domingo mine killed ten men. The accident was described as “an explosion of giant powder, which stopped the machinery that supplied the miners with pure air, and left them to die of suffocation. The explosion was due to the carelessness of the Superintendent, who narrowly escaped lynching at the hands of the enraged friends of the deceased men.”

Newspapers reported on interesting events in and around this frontier mining city. A November 1894 edition of the San Francisco Call recounts an unusual killing in Silver Cliff.

“Charles Davis, a barber, shot and mortally wounded Conrad Heineman, a young man who was running through the street, dressed only in his underclothes last night. Davis, who has been arrested, says be thought Heineman was a ghost.”

Another article from 1902 details the final days of an unfortunate prospector.

“Joseph Harlton, an old prospector, missing for the past three weeks, has been found dead within 300 yards of his cabin. The body, frozen stiff and gnawed and eaten by the coyotes and magpies beyond recognition, was Identified by his clothing. Harlton was an ex Confederate soldier, and it is said he was at one time Mayor of Atlanta. It is supposed that he perished In a storm in an attempt to seek shelter and food.”

Reprinted with permission. Visit <https://westernmininghistory.com/towns/colorado/silver-cliff/> for more great articles.



Don't Reward Judicial Misconduct in November

by Dennis Macs, Complete Colorado Page Two

In October, Colorado voters will be receiving their blue book, the guide to the 2024 statewide ballot issues. Included in the book will be a report on the justices and judges standing for retention. The reports are generated by commissions designed to provide information to the electorate about the judicial officer standing for retention. But voters will find that much is missing.

Judicial officers are evaluated on the following criteria: Integrity, legal knowledge, communication skills, judicial temperament, administrative performance, and service to the legal profession and the public designed to educate and improve the legal system

What will be missing from the report is any semblance of impartiality, displaying the commissions' desire to protect the secrets judges keep as opposed to providing balanced and accurate reporting from which voters can make an informed decision. For example, Colorado voters will not receive any information on the 120 judges who failed to comply with the financial disclosure laws or the numerous scandals engaged in by the Colorado Supreme Court,

and specifically by ex-Chief Justice Brian Boatright concerning the \$2.5 million pay for silence scandal that rocked the judicial system at its core and its murky aftermath.

Supreme Court justices Brian Boatright, Monica Marquez and Maria Berkenkotter are asking the voters to permit them to continue to deceive the public for the next ten years. The unequivocal response should be NO for the reasons discussed below. Because the Supreme Court insists on protecting its own and is unwilling to fully and transparently address judicial misconduct it is necessary for the voters to assume that responsibility by removing these three justices.

The case against retention

The performance commission gave the three justices glowing recommendations with nary a hint of wrongdoing during their tenure. Because the state commission was derelict in providing a balanced report upon which the electorate could make an informed decision, certain behavior, particularly by Boatright must be addressed.

A bombshell report by David Migoya of the *Denver Gazette* in

early 2021 disclosed the Colorado Supreme Court engaged, as early as 2019, in a "pay for silence" scandal that initially had then Chief Justice Ben Coats offering a \$2.5 million contract to a high-ranking administrator in the State Court Administrator Office to keep her silent about various judicial officer complaints that were swept under the rug. The administrator at the time was also facing dismissal over alleged financial irregularities. The contract was withdrawn once the story broke.

The reporting originated from a memo alleging judicial misconduct that was known by the justices two years before it became public in December 2022, although the Supreme Court previously told the public they first saw it on or about February 2021.

A subsequent investigation led to disciplinary action taken against Chief Justice Coats for his failure to properly administer the department and poor judgment. The first and only time a justice has been disciplined in the history of the Colorado Supreme Court.

So why is it suggested Boatright, Marquez and Berkenkotter should not be returned to the Supreme Court? Because they were aware of the scandal and failed in their

responsibility to report judicial misconduct to the Colorado Commission on Judicial Discipline (CJD) as required. Subsequent reporting provided additional evidence of cover-ups by them in the aftermath of the Masias pay for silence debacle. Recall that the initial criterion in evaluating a judge is integrity, which includes avoiding impropriety or the appearance of impropriety. Failing to address and acknowledge judicial misconduct particularly when it concerns allegations of sexual harassment, emotional harassment and intemperance is unacceptable under any circumstances but rises to the highest level when condoned by the leaders of the institution.

The report compliments Chief Justice Boatright on his contributions to the judicial system but failed to provide any information on the unprecedented turmoil which occurred during his time as Chief Justice.

In Boatright's State of the Judiciary speech on February 18, 2021, addressing the scandal, he said, "Where there is wrongdoing, we will address it. Where there was an abuse of power, we will stop it. Where our policies are deficient, we will change them.

We want to know the truth. We recognize the branch faces a crisis of confidence in the leadership."

Here's what occurred subsequent to Boatright's promises.

A failure of leadership

Contrary to the requirement that judicial misconduct be reported to the CJD, Boatright promised to have misconduct reported directly to him. Yet, further investigation revealed that there were several other instances of judicial misconduct involving sexual harassment, employee harassment, harassing whistleblowers and alcohol concerns that were known by the leadership but were not acted upon until made public through newspaper reporting.

Not included in the narrative was that a bi-partisan committee of the Colorado legislature (Legislative Interim Committee on Judicial Discipline) was convened to further investigate the troubling reports which were exposing the extent of the scandal. It was the investigation that propelled Boatright to make changes. The committee recommended changes to the judicial discipline

JUDGES
see page 17

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Colorado State News



Colorado Press Association Rewards Secretive Government

by Jon Caldara, Complete Colorado Page Two

What’s worse: people in political power shielding their activity from public oversight or the media celebrating them for doing so?

Fortunately, in Colorado we don’t have to choose. We get both!

The Colorado Press Association (CPA) has bestowed its “Defender of Free Press” award to the very same legislators who earlier this year passed a law to keep the press, and citizens, out of their meetings. Yes, these grand defenders of the Fourth Estate voted to exempt themselves from the Colorado Open Meetings Law so we can’t see what they’re doing — definitely award-worthy.

It’s like the Anti-Defamation League giving their big award to the KKK, or People for the Ethical Treatment of Animals having the Cattlemen’s Association cater their annual dinner.

For those of us who believe that, on balance, the Colorado press corps is a sycophantic fan club for the progressives currently running the state, this is the icing on the cake.

“Defenders of the Free Press” recipients Senate President Steve Fenberg and Speaker of the House

Julie McCluskie were the prime sponsors of Senate Bill 157 exempting themselves and the rest of the legislature from the law requiring open meetings .

There are well more than 5,000 governments and special districts in Colorado, all of whom are required to operate under this law. Now, there is only one government out of those 5,000 that doesn’t have to adhere to it: the Colorado state legislature.

And legislators didn’t wait long to start excusing themselves from open meetings. In advance of the recent special session on property taxes, a small group of lawmakers did all the negotiating largely in the dark. The legislature was just called in to rubber stamp it.

Legislating behind closed doors is now legal. Anyone who isn’t appalled by this doesn’t want transparency in government.

Imagine if the legislature had to go to a vote of the people to approve Senate Bill 157. The “yes” campaign would have to come up with snappy slogans. Maybe, “Lawmaking, like lovemaking, is better in the dark.” Or maybe just a simple, “Nothing to see here, move along.”

There is no doubt the public would reject the idea if brought to them. Our direct representa-

tives are fully aware of that and yet they passed it anyway.

Governor Polis, in another profile in courage, washed his hands of the issue and signed the bill into law literally during Sunshine Week, the week to demand more transparency in government. He gets “best supporting actor” award for that.

Several years ago, I put a citizen’s initiative, Prop 104, on the Colorado ballot. It passed with more than 70% in favor. It required a school district’s negotiations with the teachers’ union be open to the public. Again, 70% approval. Unheard of.

Here’s the interesting part: Before that a bill to do the same as my initiative was introduced every few years in the Colorado legislature and never made it out of its first committee.

It’s very similar to how the legislature calls tax increases “fee increases” so they can pass them without a public vote as required by the Taxpayer’s Bill of Rights (TABOR). They are fully aware the people would reject it, so they do it anyway. The word you are looking for is “arrogance.”

The question remains how in the world did the CPA honor the people that kicked them out of open meetings? The year before, they gave the Defenders

of a Free Press award to two Democrat legislators brave (or crazy) enough to sue their own colleagues to open the illegal, closed-door meetings their party leadership was having to negotiate votes secretly.

How can the CPA celebrate sunshine one year and darkness the next?

The Gazette’s own veteran politics reporter, Marianne Goodland, took the lead in shining light on how the CPA was busy turning off lights. She spearheaded an open letter demanding that, before the CPA board of directors gives out more kissy-face awards to people who make their jobs harder, they ask a few beat reporters first.

Goodland’s letter was also crafted and signed by Shawn Boyd of Channel 4, Kyle Clark of 9News, Brandon Richard of Denver7, Megan Schrader of the Denver Post, Larry Ryckman of the Colorado Sun and Quentin Young of Colorado Newsline.

I hate it when reporters do something I should compliment. So, let’s just say I kinda implied these guys did the right thing.

Jon Caldara is president of the Independence Institute, a free market think tank in Denver.

#

(Editor/GG: We joined the CPA when we first started 12 years ago. We knew they were mainstream media left-wing nutcases, but as the new guys on the block and competing against a sorry looking local rag that has been here a 100 years, we thought it would give us some credentials. We started to get their newsletter and-- oh boy!

Left wing wack jobs! About a year after we joined, their then new President did his “introduction” tour around the state and dropped by the Sentinel (believe me, he didn’t want to...) We were like the only substantial new newspaper in the state for a long time, so he had to. Had 24 pages every week of outstanding copy. One top of the line paper. The paper looked great. What do we get from the big honcho? Ho hum. He paged through it, said good and blew out the door. (We should have done a page-by-page comparison with him against the Trib and forced him to comment but that would have been cruel.)

So, after three years we quit the CPA. And took a long shower. Note the Tribune has been a CPA member forever. They fit right in.)

Please see: <https://pagetwo.completecolorado.com/2024/09/11/caldara-colorado-press-association-rewards-secretive-government/>

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“I am an American; free born and free bred, where I acknowledge no man as my superior, except for his own worth, or as my inferior, except for his own demerit.”
—Theodore Roosevelt

JUDGES
from page 14

system which will be on the 2024 ballot.

Additionally, Boatright commissioned two “independent” investigations to look into judicial misconduct and workplace concerns at a cost of \$350,000, paid for by the taxpayers. Upon inspection the reports could hardly be defined as “independent.” Several key witnesses were unable to provide critical testimony because financial settlements they entered with the judicial department required them to sign non-disclosure agreements prohibiting them from commenting.

Boatright was also instrumental in blocking two investigations. First, he withheld relevant files from the Denver District Attorney who was investigating potentially criminal behavior. The delay prohibited the DA from a full investigation in a timely manner, resulting in the termination of the investigation because the relevant statutes of limitation had expired. Second, he ignored requests from the judicial commission for information which was needed to get to the truth of the matter. Mind you, the two “independent” investigators had virtually unfettered access to information needed from the Supreme Court. The behavior violated the requirement that judicial officers have a duty to fulfill their administrative responsibilities by being attentive to, and exercising control, over judicial proceedings. It should have been obvious that the numerous allegations could potentially lead to criminal, civil, and/or disciplinary litigation.

Boatright also chose to comment on the veracity and character of certain individuals who chose to provide damaging information to the public surrounding the scandal. Additionally, Boatright professed the absence of wrong-doing by certain judicial

employees including then Chief Justice Coats before a complete investigation had been conducted. Integrity includes an examination of the judicial officer’s ability to be fair and impartial. It appears Boatright’s evaluation should have at least minimally commented on that point.

In the interest of transparency, I filed a complaint with the CJD against Boatright alleging, among other violations, that he violated Canon Rule 2.10(A) which provides a judge “shall not make any public statement that might reasonably be expected to affect the outcome or impair the fairness of a matter pending or impending in any court, or make any nonpublic statement that might interfere with a fair trial or proceeding.”

The CJD responded to my complaint, which they had initially ruled worthy of investigation. A letter to me dated June 11, 2024, reads as follows “Your allegation that Chief Justice Boatright violated Canon Rule 2.10(A) (regarding alleged inappropriate public comments) has also been dismissed, but with an expression of concern, per Colo. RJD 35(a). In short, the Commission has determined that the allegations in the complaint did not warrant discipline.”

There was no further explanation of the meaning of “with an expression of concern.” Like the discipline commission, the Judicial Performance Commission skirted its responsibility to fully report on matters that were widely known concerning Boatright’s involvement in the scandal and ignored even a hint of addressing the misconduct in a thorough and professional manner.

Retaliation

Boatright and Jessica Yates, Executive Director of the Office of Attorney Regulation Counsel (OARC), an arm of the Supreme

Court, actively engaged in retaliatory actions against those who were most critical and vocal of the Supreme Court’s obstruction of the investigation into the scandal.

Judge David Prince was Vice-Chair and a vocal critic of the Boatright court’s obstruction of the judicial commission in the search for the truth concerning the scandal and other instances

of judicial misconduct which were also ignored by Boatright. Prince served on the CJD at the pleasure of Chief Justice Boatright. Boatright refused to re-appoint Prince to the CJD on June 30, 2023. A clear act of retaliation and one unbecoming a justice who is charged with being fair and impartial.

Christopher Gregory, the previous Executive Director of the CJD was relieved of his duties in early March 2023. His ouster occurred within days of informing legislators that the CJD was investigating more than 70 judges for allegedly violating laws requiring them to file financial disclosure statements with the Secretary of State.

Senator Pete Lee, Chair of the Legislative Interim Committee on Judicial Discipline resigned as Chair because of unfounded allegations of voting fraud. Criminal charges were filed against Lee. The felony charges were dismissed shortly after Lee left the committee on the basis that the charges were filed as a result of false information provided to the prosecutor by OARC.

Jessica Yates, Executive Director of OARC, an arm of the Supreme Court, and whose office was

responsible for providing the misleading information on Senator Lee, also penned a letter to the lawyers on the CJD and Judge Prince criticizing certain statements made to the interim committee. David Kaplan, attorney for the CJD, denied the allegations and characterized Yates’ statement as a threat to the CJD having a chilling effect on anyone asked to testify before the

legislature. To date it is unknown if the people from OARC who leaked the false information were ever disciplined for the egregious action taken against a person with a history of public service to the State.

The OARC through Yates, a faithful ally to the Supreme Court, obstructed the CJD investigation by threatening to withhold funds, resources, personnel and even evicting the commission from its quarters. The legislature subsequently removed the OARC from any management over the CJD in direct response to its interference in the investigation.

A rubber stamp

Further evidence that the commissions essentially rubber stamp their approval of judges is the fact that many judges up for retention did not comply with the law requiring them to file financial disclosures every January. Not a single commission commented on the failures of judges to file the disclosure statements, which is important for litigants to determine if a judge has a conflict of interest. In fact, one of the judges who has repeatedly failed to file the disclosure is a member of the CJD who would be responsible

for investigating such a violation. While a judge might or should not necessarily be rejected only on the basis of non-filing, the commission should provide the information to the voters to allow them to make their own decision rather than hiding it from them.

It is arguable that the entities charged with ensuring that our judiciary adhere to and robustly support a sincere respect for the rule of law and equal treatment under the law can no longer be trusted. It is up to the electorate to demand that no one, including judges, are above the law. The first step is ridding the courts of judges like Boatright, Marquez and Berkenkotter who do not believe the law applies to them.

For further information concerning judicial misconduct and discipline see ColoradoJudges.org

Dennis Maes previously served as chief judge for the 10th Judicial District in Pueblo, as well as a public defender and attorney in private practice. A version of this article originally appeared in the Denver Gazette.

(Editor/GG: The Colorado judicial selection process is flat out rigged. For replacements, Polis gets to pick from three candidates selected by the local district’s selection committee. INVARIABLY, one, two or even three libs are selected and Polis picks the most radical. Prove me wrong: Every 11th Judicial District Judge is a lib. Felons shooting at cops DON’T GO TO JAIL. The poor things need counseling. Most, if not all, of the 11th Judicial District judges are ex public defenders. You can’t beat that PD mindset out of them. VOTE NO ON EVERY SINGLE ONE OF THEM. DRAIN THE SWAMP.)

Please see: <https://pagetwo.completecolorado.com/2024/09/16/maes-dont-reward-judicial-misconduct-in-november/>

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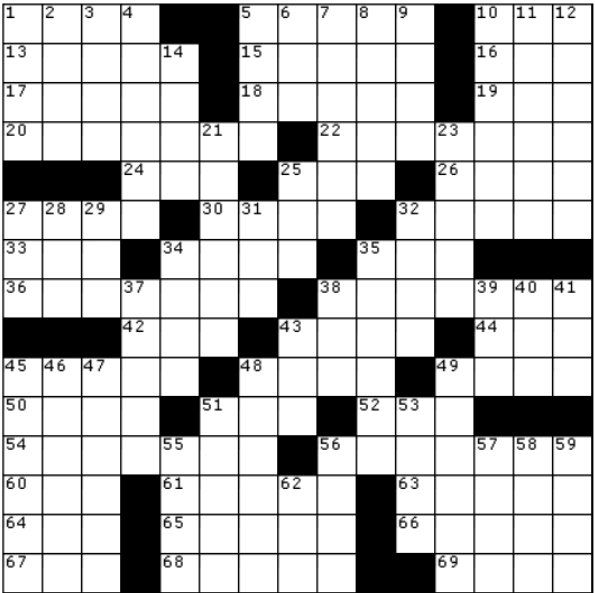
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The Liberty Tree

Religion, The Constitution & Culture

State, National, & World

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

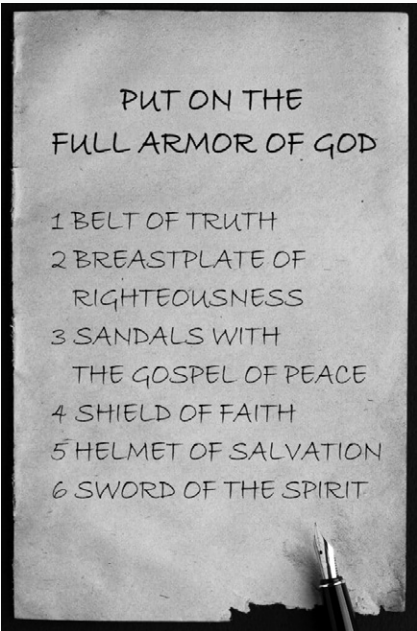
The Daily Jot

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

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

The Spirit of Amalek

The Apostle Paul writes in Ephesians 6 that we have to be vigilant to put on the whole armor of God to stand against the wiles of the devil. Verse 12 explains, “For we wrestle not against flesh and blood, but against principalities, against powers, against the rulers of darkness of this world, against spiritual wickedness in high places.” For followers of Christ, Paul is saying that it is a hostile world



out there—both physically and spiritually—so we need to be prepared to stand. Quite frankly, there are evil people and spirits that constantly test us in everyday living. Just like our parents taught us to look both ways before crossing the street, we need to be aware and prepared to deal with evil like the spirit of Amalek.

The Israelites had left Egypt and were in the wilderness when the story of Amalek begins in Exodus 17 where he attacks the Israelites. This is the battle where when Moses’ hands were lifted up, the Israelites prevailed and when his hands were lowered, Amalek prevailed. So Aaron and Hur held up Moses hands until Amalek was defeated. We don’t learn until Deuteronomy 25 the evil Amalek did. With no reason, Amalek attacked the Israelites’ rear ranks, “all the stragglers at your rear, when you were tired and weary; and he did not fear God.” These were the defenseless elderly, women, and children that Amalek slaughtered because he did not fear God. In Exodus 17:14, the Lord says, “I will utterly put out the remembrance of Amalek from under heaven.”

This is expounded upon in Deuteronomy 25:19, “When the LORD your God gives you rest from the enemies around you in the land that He is giving you to possess as an inheritance, you are to blot out the memory of Amalek from under heaven. Do not forget.” Back to Exodus 17:16 where the “LORD has sworn that the LORD will have war with Amalek from generation to generation.” So we see that Amalek was not only a physical king that did a most horrible atrocity against the children of God, but also an evil spirit that God promises to deal with over the generations until there is peace in Israel. We know there is no true peace in Israel until the return of the Lord. To this day an evil Amalek-type spirit continues to attack when people are at their weakest. The October 7, 2023 Hamas attack on Israeli citizens is a strong example.

The scripture says that Amalek did not fear God. The Hebrew root of name Amalek informs us that it is related to having a blind eye, or an eye that refuses to recognize truth. Rabbi Pesach Wolicki writes that “One of the primary purposes of Israel, if not the primary purpose, is to be a vehicle for the revelation of God in this world.” To deny this relationship is the essence of Amalek, and we see this same pattern in Israel’s surrounding enemies who have “no fear of God.” It is spiritual and manifests in the physical. Remember, as believers in Christ Jesus, we are grafted into Israel. This is a reason that we must be strengthened and fortified by the Word of God that we may withstand the evil that attacks us at our weakest points, just as Amalek did to the Israelites and his spirit continues to do so even today.

Bill Wilson

Dailyjot.com Printed with permission.

Biden/Harris Economics:

1.3 Million Native Born Americans

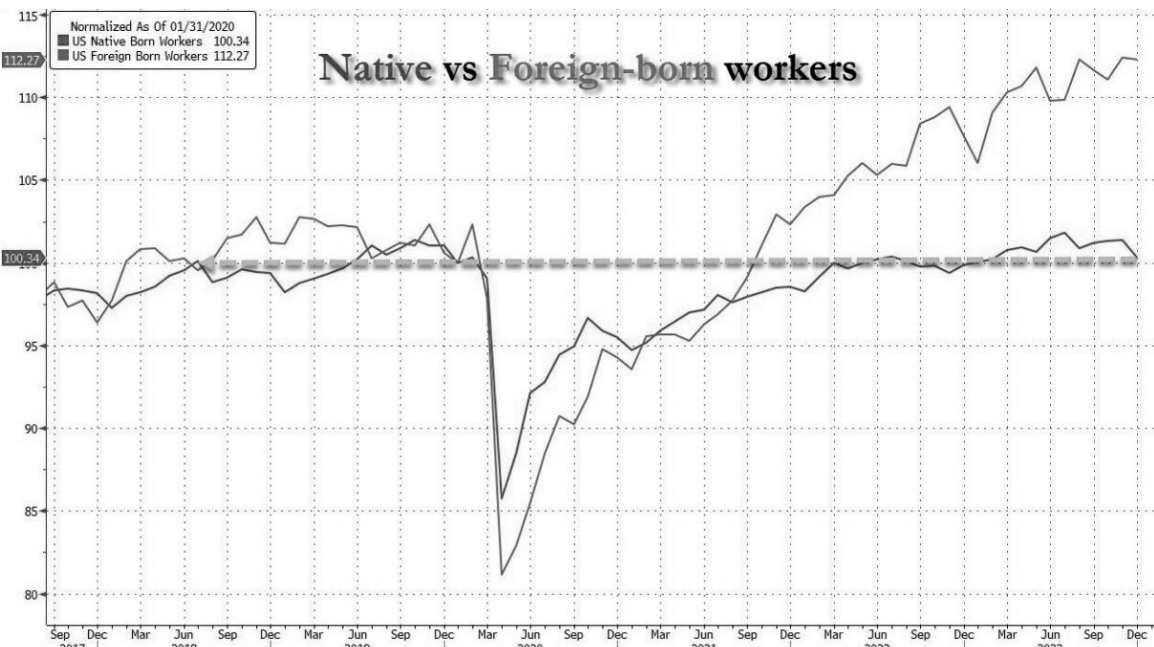
Just Lost Their Jobs,

Replaced by Immigrants

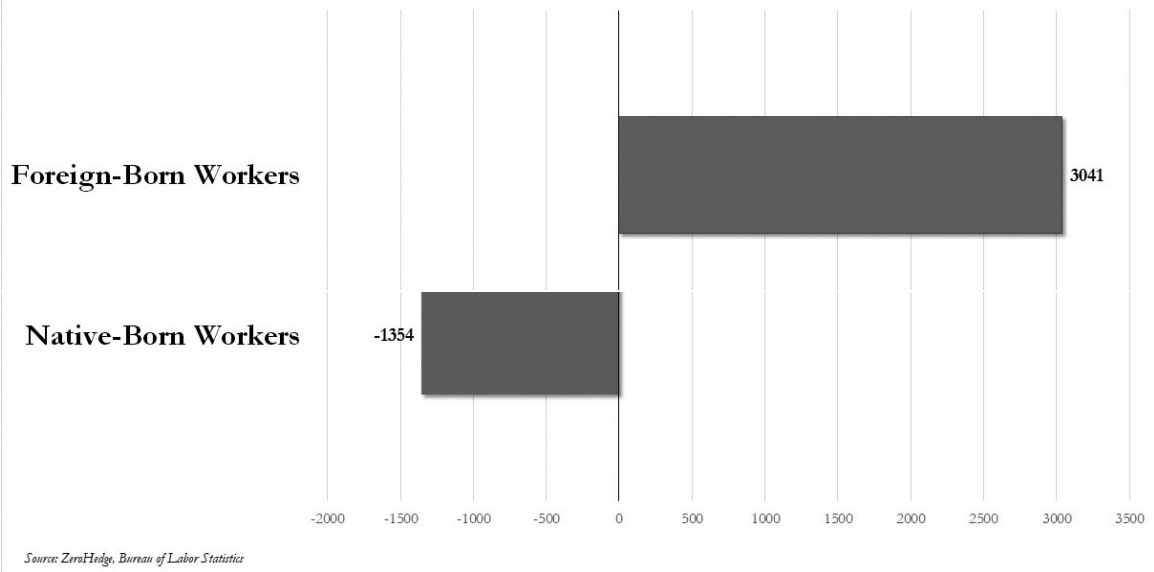
By Tyler Durden, ZeroHedge.com

At the start of the year, many months after we first pointed out that the biggest untold story of the U.S. labor market was the “great replacement” of native born workers with foreign-born workers (most of whom we subsequently learned were undocumented immigrants, i.e., illegal aliens), we asked how is it, that the ongoing replacement (because that’s what it is) of U.S. workers is “not the biggest political talking point right now” considering that “since October 2019, native-born US workers have lost 1.4 million jobs; over the same period foreign-born workers have gained 3 million jobs”

CHART: Native Born Workers Chart
Changes In Employment Since October 2019



Change in Employment Since October 2019 ('000s)



Source: ZeroHedge, Bureau of Labor Statistics

Eight months later, we are delighted to see that our relentless efforts to bring attention to this critical topic finally worked, and the continued replacement of native-born workers with immigrants and illegal aliens was finally the biggest political and media talking point, as demonstrated by such articles as “How Immigration Remade the U.S. Labor Force” by the WSJ and “Without Immigrants, U.S. Working-Age Population Would Shrink” from Bloomberg, both of which are an extension of the latest and greatest narrative, first spawned by Fed chair Powell, and then picked up by Goldman, which came down to the following: you can have (record) illegal immigration, or you can have even more (breakneck) inflation. So don’t be angry, and just accept the roving gangs of Venezuelan murderers in your neighborhood, if you know what’s good for you and if you want to

keep prices low (the same prices which are only high because the government decided to inject \$20 trillion in fiscal stimmmies in the past 4 years).

Which brings us to today’s jobs report... where the native vs foreign-born debate just exploded!

As we discussed earlier, superficially the August payrolls report was a mixed bag. On one hand, it was disappointing in that the payrolls print came in softer than expected, but was a big bounce from sharply downward revised June and July prints. On the other hand, the unemployment rate did drop from the Sahm Rule’s recession trigger level of 4.3% to 4.2%, and effectively eliminated the clear-cut case for a 50bps rate cut, especially since the Household survey was not only far stronger than the Establishment

survey but indicated the biggest increase in employment since March.

That, at least, was the quantitative view. And while that was mixed, there was no confusion in the picture painted by the qualitative aspect of the jobs report. Here, everything was a disaster.

Starting at the top, while the number of employed workers did rise by 168K, looking closer at the composition of this increase is disastrous: that’s because it consisted of an increase of 527K part-time jobs, offset by a 438K plunge in full-time jobs.

Who Is Kamala Harris?

A Disturbing and Haunting Record Part 8

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:)

Supporting Black Lives Matter & the George Floyd Riots

During a February 21, 2019 *Comedy Central* interview, Harris praised the Black Lives Matter movement for its “incredible” and “smart” activism in demanding change to an American criminal-justice system replete with “bias” and “systemic racism.” “One of the benefits that I believe the system received and that helped me do the work that I was able to accomplish [as a former prosecutor] was because of the incredible activism and smart activism of folks, like the folks who were Black Lives Matter. The folks who were involved on the outside who were saying and demanding that the system would change, demanding and marching and advocating.”

A number of U.S. cities were overrun by violent riots following the May 25, 2020 death of George Floyd, a black man who, shortly after having ingested more than triple a fatal dose of fentanyl, died in the aftermath of physical abuse by a white police officer in Minneapolis. On June 2nd, Harris delivered a speech in which she emphasized her belief that America always has been, and still is, a racist nation. Some excerpts:

“In the last couple of days, I’ve been saying America is raw right now. Her wounds are exposed. The reality of it is that the life of a Black person in America historically, and even recently with Mr. Floyd, has never been treated as fully human. And it is time that we come to terms with the fact that America has never fully addressed the systemic racism that has existed in our country. That’s just a fact. And so, the people protesting on the street are protesting understanding that we have yet to fulfill that promise of equal justice under the law. And there is a pain that is present that is being expressed in their constitutional right to march and to shout. [...]

“And I can say, with full certainty that it is time that the leaders in this United States Senate, in this United States Congress, take action to reform a criminal justice system that for far too long, has been informed by systemic racism and by racial bias. It is time that we say that bad cops are bad for good cops. It is time that we say that one should not be subjected to the indignity of being told to get on your knees and put your hands behind your head, simply because you are walking while Black. And it happens every day in America. There’s not a black man I know, be he a relative, a friend, or a coworker, or colleague, who has not been the subject of some form of racial discrimination at the hands of law enforcement, not one I know.

“And I’m talking about people at every level of life, including people who graduated, Harvard and Stanford and you name it. And the only thing that is common among them is that the color of their skin is black. That’s why the people are marching in the streets. [...]

“This is happening at a moment in time, where we have a so called commander in chief, who also has the title of President of the United States, who I promise you will never speak the words Black Lives Matter. Well, they do.”

On June 4th, *Cosmopolitan* magazine published an opinion piece written by Harris, in which she again discussed what she views as the intransigent scourge of American racism. Some excerpts:

“This week, something historic happened. Thousands of people from every walk of life, every state across the country, came together. Many felt feelings of anger, sadness, fear, and hopelessness following George Floyd’s killing. But we all felt the urgency

for change. Change in the name of George Floyd. Change in the name of Ahmaud Arbery. Change in the name of Breonna Taylor. And change in the name of the countless other Black Americans who have died at the hands of hatred and racism.

“This past weekend, I joined thousands of protesters in Washington, D.C. as we marched through the streets to demand justice for George Floyd. As I stood among the sea of people gathered outside the White House, I was overcome with emotion. I reflected on the fact that from the moment a Black woman gives birth to a child and holds her baby’s fragile body in her hand, she fears that that body could be viewed as a threat and that someone may try to do harm to her child....

“Let’s speak the truth: People are protesting because Black people have been treated as less than human in America. Because our country has never fully addressed the systemic racism that has plagued our country since its earliest days. It is the duty of every American to fix. No longer can some wait on the sidelines, hoping for incremental change. In times like this, silence is complicity. It will take each of us to confront the injustices that continue to perpetuate a broken system that has taken countless Black Americans’ lives. It will take people of every race, creed, and gender identity to speak up and to act. Now is the time to have those uncomfortable conversations about racism with family, friends, and neighbors. It’s time to have honest discussions about our country’s dark history of discrimination and confront the fact that structural racism lives on in our policies and everyday life. And it’s time for all of us—not just some—to speak out against racism.”

On June 5th, Harris was angered when President Trump said the following about George Floyd: “Equal justice under the law must mean that every American receives equal treatment in every encounter with law enforcement, regardless of race, color, gender or creed. They have to receive fair treatment from law enforcement. We all saw what happened last week. We can’t let that happen.” In response to Trump, Harris tweeted: “@realDonaldTrump, keep George Floyd’s name out of your mouth until you can say Black Lives Matter.”

In a June 17, 2020 appearance on “*The Late Show*” with Stephen Colbert, Harris stated that the nationwide Black Lives Matter (BLM) protests that had erupted following the death of George Floyd would, and should, continue indefinitely.

Said Harris:

“They’re not going to stop. This is a movement, I’m telling you. They’re not going to stop and everyone beware, because they’re not going to stop. They’re not going to stop before Election Day in November, and they’re not going to stop after Election Day. Everyone should take note of that on both levels. They’re not going to let up and they should not and we should not.... The only way we are going to truly achieve change is when there are people in the system who are willing or pushing to do it and when there are those of us who are outside the system demanding it. I am very clear that some of the success we have been able to achieve around criminal justice reform would not have happened in recent years without Black Lives Matter.”

In August, 2020, Senator Harris, who had just been named as Joe Biden’s vice presidential running mate, said in a reference to the influence that BLM and its allies were having on America: “[W]e’re experiencing a moral reckoning with racism and systemic injustice that has brought a new coalition of conscience to the streets of our country, demanding change.”

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

And: <https://www.discoverthenetworks.org/individuals/kamala-harris/>

by Discover the Networks via FrontPageMag.com

(Editor/GG: Part 4. And it gets worse....)

Walz’s COVID Lockdown Restrictions

During the early weeks and months of the COVID-19 pandemic in 2020, Walz allowed nursing homes in Minnesota to admit COVID-positive patients; few other states in the nation permitted such admissions. Predictably, residents of Minnesota nursing homes who became infected with COVID therein, constituted 81.9 percent of all coronavirus-related deaths statewide – a figure higher than that of any other U.S. state. “According to data compiled by the Henry J. Kaiser Family Foundation (KFF),” reported Breitbart.com, “Minnesota has the highest percent of COVID-19 deaths from nursing home patients of any of the 36 states that report that data. In fact, Minnesota’s 81.9 percent is 40 percent higher than the 41 percent average in those 36 states for COVID-19 deaths from nursing home patients.”

On May 13, 2020, Walz issued COVID-related lockdown restrictions that outlawed religious gatherings of more than 10 people in any one location. A week later, Minnesota’s six Catholic bishops as well as the diocesan administrator of the Diocese of Duluth together signed an open letter announcing that, in defiance of Walz’s order, public Masses would resume as of May 26. The letter stated that: (a) many people of faith “were disappointed in Governor Walz’s May 13 announcement that he would end the Stay-at-Home order to allow more commerce but prohibit religious gatherings of more than ten people”; (b) “an order that sweeps so broadly that it prohibits, for example, a gathering of 11 people in a Cathedral with a seating capacity of several thousand defies reason”; and (c) the governor’s order “does not address both the vital importance that faith plays in the lives of Americans, especially in this time of pandemic, and the fundamental religious freedom possessed by houses of worship that allows our country to thrive.”

On July 22, 2020, Walz announced a statewide mask order for Minnesotans, requiring all individuals to wear face-coverings in indoor public venues. “This is the quickest way to ending the COVID pandemic,” said Walz. “It is the surest way to getting us to the therapeutics and vaccines and with the least amount of impact on Minnesotans, and it is the absolute economic key to making sure that businesses are open and stay open.” This mask mandate would not end until May 2021, when, after the Centers for Disease Control (CDC) suggested that fully vaccinated people could now go without masks in most indoor and outdoor settings, the Minnesota executive council voted unanimously to lift the mandate.

On October 18, 2021, Walz announced the launch of his “Kids Deserve a Shot”

initiative, a vaccine incentive program for young Minnesotans aged 12 to 17. The program: (a) offered \$200 gift cards to people in that age group as a reward for getting vaccinated against COVID-19, and (b) pledged to award, via a lottery system, collegiate scholarships of up to \$100,000 apiece to five additional young people.

Walz Injects Race into the COVID Pandemic

As the deadly COVID-19 pandemic continued to sweep across the United States, Governor Walz, who had a great deal of influence over the Minnesota Department of Health (MDH) and was personally authorized to appoint the department’s commissioner, used his clout to promote the use of racial preferences in MDH’s dispensation of highly coveted COVID therapeutics. In compliance with Walz’s wishes, for example, MDH instituted a policy that made monoclonal antibodies — a very effective coronavirus treatment that was in short supply and thus had to be rationed — more accessible for nonwhite people than for whites. Specifically, MDH devised a point system to help medical professionals determine which COVID-positive patients ought to qualify to receive the precious, relatively scarce antibodies. In that system — where 4 points were necessary to qualify someone as a highest-need COVID patient — 2 points were automatically allotted to anyone who could be classified as “BIPOC” — i.e., Black, Indigenous, or People Of Color. This meant that a person’s BIPOC status alone would earn him or her just as many points as the presence of cardiovascular disease, obesity, or diabetes — co-morbidities known to dramatically increase the likelihood of serious or fatal outcomes for COVID patients. Under this MDH scoring system, a healthy 25-year-old black person seeking monoclonal antibodies would be given preference, strictly because of racial considerations, over a 55-year-old white person with hypertension, or over a 64-year-old white person of relatively average health.

On January 12, 2022, the conservative legal-advocacy group America First Legal (AFL) sent MDH’s then-commissioner, Jan Malcolm, a letter threatening a lawsuit if the department did not remove racial considerations – which AFL described as “blatantly unconstitutional, immoral and racist” — from its scoring system. “The color of one’s skin,” the letter read, “is not a medical condition akin to hypertension, heart disease, or obesity, which are known to aggravate the risk of death or severe illness among those infected with COVID-19.” In response to AFL’s threat, MDH immediately removed race as a factor to be considered in the rationed dispensation of monoclonal antibodies.

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



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The Second Amendment Corner

Liberty's Line in the Sand

1776



2024

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

Poll Reveals Overwhelming Support for Right to Bear Arms

by NRAHQ National Rifle Association
Opinion

Americans are deeply divided on many issues these days. But a recent poll conducted by Marquette University Law School in Milwaukee, WI, revealed at least one area of broad agreement: A supermajority in the U.S. supports a right to carry firearms in public for self-defense. The poll questioned 1,005 adults nationwide from July 24 to August 1, 2024, and has a margin of error of +/- 4 percentage points. Participants were queried on a range of opinions about U.S. institutions and the Supreme Court in particular. One question asked: "In 2022, the Supreme Court ruled that, subject to some restrictions, the Second Amendment protects an individual's right to carry a handgun for self-defense outside

the home. How much do you favor or oppose this decision?" Forty percent of respondents "strongly favor[ed]" this decision, with another 29% "somewhat favor[ing]" it. In contrast, only 31% opposed the decision, with just 14% "strongly" opposed. These results showed an increase in support for the decision in *New York State Rifle & Pistol Association v. Bruen* since the last time Marquette University Law School asked the question during November 2022. At that time, 64% were strongly or somewhat in favor. In contrast to the overwhelming support for the Second Amendment right to carry, no branch of the government, nor the "national news media," managed to generate "a great deal" or "quite a lot" of confidence among a majority of respondents. For the presidency, it was 32%. For the Supreme

Court, it was 27%. For Congress, it was 13%. And for the media, it was a dismal 12%. Support for *Bruen* was the second highest of all the 10 Supreme Court decisions on which the respondents were polled. The highest support, at 77%, went to the case affirming that prohibiting firearm possession by persons subject to a domestic violence restraining order did not offend the Second Amendment. This indicates that while Americans strongly support the rights protected by the Second Amendment, they also view those rights as pertaining to peaceable, law-abiding persons. With the presidential election season well underway, the two major parties have been sparring over whose candidates represent the mainstream versus those with fringe views. When it comes to the right to bear arms, it is the Republican ticket of Donald Trump

and JD Vance who clearly reflect the nation's prevailing opinion that law-abiding Americans have a right to carry guns for self-protection as they go about their daily business. The official X (formerly Twitter) account of Kamala HQ, on the other hand, continues to host a video where vice-presidential candidate Tim Walz expresses his opposition to "reciprocal carry among states," meaning he supports the criminal prosecution of otherwise lawful carriers for crossing state lines. As for presidential aspirant Kamala Harris, we've already explained that she is on record for the proposition that the Second Amendment doesn't even protect any individual right to own guns, much less carry them in public. Americans should not make the mistake, however, of thinking

that the popularity of the Second Amendment will protect it from those, like Harris and Walz, who are dedicated to its destruction. The Democrat party elites, and those who fund them, have made their intentions clear. If there is safety in numbers, it can only be secured at the ballot box by voting pro-freedom candidates into office. *(Editor/GG: Remember the flatlander soy boy crying about people carrying guns in the BOCC meetings. It was pathetic and showed exactly what the divide is between people who believe in the Constitution and those who don't. You're in the wrong county, soy boy, for that kind of progressive whining.)* Please see: <https://www.ammoland.com/2024/08/poll-reveals-overwhelming-support-for-right-to-bear-arms/#axzz8jl5FnsK8>

Massachusetts Supreme Court Moves Forward with Cross Border Carry Case

by Dean Weingarten, ammoland.com

On September 9, 2024, the Massachusetts Supreme Court held oral arguments in the cases of *Commonwealth v. Donnell*. Another similar case in which a New Hampshire citizen worked in Massachusetts, Marquis, was consolidated with the Donnell case. Both cases involve New Hampshire citizens who had firearms in their automobiles in Massachusetts. The case concerns whether Massachusetts can impose undue burdens on people from out of state who can legally carry weapons in their home state. It appears the court has received all the arguments in this case and will now consider them and file an opinion and order. It is not known what the process will take. In the case of *Commonwealth v. Canjura*, the Massachusetts

Supreme Court heard oral arguments on December 4, 2023, and issued their decision on August 27, 2024, a period of nine months. If the same time is used for the Donnell case, we may see an opinion issued in June of 2025. The decision would straddle the presidential election. *Commonwealth v. Canjura* was decided by a unanimous Massachusetts Supreme Court, which did a good job following the guidance issued by the U.S. Supreme Court in the *Heller*, *McDonald*, *Caetano*, and *Bruen* decisions. All of the Massachusetts Supreme Court Justices who sat on the Canjura case are sitting on the Donnell case. One more Supreme Court Justice has been added to the Donnell case, Justice Gabriella Wolohojian, appointed by Governor Healy in April of 2024; As considered in a previous *AmmoLand* article, a number of high-powered amicus briefs

have been filed in this case. From August 19th to September 9th, the Massachusetts Association of Criminal Defense Lawyers, the CATO Institute, the Attorney General of the State of New Hampshire, and the New Hampshire Firearms Coalition filed additional amicus briefs. The oral arguments last an hour and six minutes. They were originally scheduled for 15 minutes for each side. In this correspondent's opinion, all the attorneys did well with what they had. The questions asked by the Supreme Court justices were skilled and of high caliber. Here are a few of the issues considered:

- Does state power to make criminal laws override the fundamental right to keep and bear arms?
- Can a state require time to vet people to see if they are dangerous, thus temporarily

disarming them?

- Can a state treat non-residents substantially differently from residents regarding fundamental constitutional rights?
- Will upholding the lower court decision to invalidate the non-resident part of Massachusetts law inevitably lead to nationwide reciprocity of carry permits, at the minimum, and perhaps, Constitutional Carry for all states?
- Can states ban "assault weapons," or are they protected under the Second Amendment?

Forecasting what a court will do based on oral arguments is risky business. This correspondent observed that the Justices were a bit tougher on the attorney representing the state than on those representing Donnell and Marquis. This may be because

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Real News for Informed Citizens

Ruger Reintroduces the Marlin Trapper Series Model 1894 in .357 Magnum

by Duncan Johnson,
ammoland.com

Sturm, Ruger & Company, Inc. (NYSE: RGR) is pleased to announce its reintroduction of the Marlin Trapper Series Model 1894 chambered in .357 Magnum.

Joining other Ruger-made Trapper Series rifles, the Model 1894 chambered in .357 Magnum is quick-handling, soft shooting, and ideal for small game, plinking and home protection. The rifle features a 16.1", cold hammer-forged barrel with a 1:16" twist. The threaded barrel (1/2"- 28), comes with a match-polished thread protector and will accommodate common muzzle devices. In addition to .357

Magnum, the rifle also accepts .38 Special.

The stainless steel receiver, lever, magazine tube and barrel feature an attractive non-glare, matte finish and all of the small parts are nickel-plated. The receiver-mounted Skinner Sight™ system is as accurate and rugged as the rifle itself. Machined from solid stainless steel bar stock, this durable, no snag, fully adjustable sight system provides for rapid target acquisition while enhancing the aesthetics of the rifle.

The black laminate stock and forend feature crisp checkering that deliver an excellent grip in all weather conditions. A generous butt pad absorbs recoil and makes the rifle easy to shoot.



Ruger Reintroduces the Marlin Trapper Series Model 1894 in .357 Magnum

The forend has been slimmed down for an attractive look and a comfortable feel. Consumers will notice that the hallmark black and

white "bullseye" found in Marlin stocks since 1922 is still there but in red and white.

To stay up-to-date on future Marlin announcements and learn more about the Marlin Trapper Series Model 1894 in .357 Magnum, visit MarlinFirearms.com, [Facebook.com/MarlinFirearms](https://www.facebook.com/MarlinFirearms) or [Instagram.com/MarlinFirearmsOfficial](https://www.instagram.com/MarlinFirearmsOfficial).

The acquisition, ownership, possession and use of firearms are heavily regulated. Some models may not be legally available in your state or locale. Whatever your purpose for lawfully acquiring a firearm – know the law, get trained and shoot safely.

Please see: <https://www.ammoland.com/2024/08/ruger-reintroduces-the-marlin-trapper-series-model-1894-in-357-magnum/>

When Solzhenitsyn Gave the Commencement Speech at Harvard

by Jeremy Wayne Tate

It was professional suicide and he knew it.

When Solzhenitsyn took the podium at Harvard in 1978 to offer the commencement address he was dearly loved by the media and America's elite.

When he finished he knew he would be an outcast for life.

Here's what he said.

- 1) Socialism of any type and shade leads to a total destruction of the human spirit and to a leveling of mankind into death.
- 2) Should one point out that from ancient times declining courage has been considered the beginning of the end?
- 3) A decline in courage may be the most striking feature which an outside observer notices in the West in our days.
- 4) Even biology knows that habitual, extreme safety and well-being are not advantageous for a living organism. Today, well-being in the life of Western society has begun to reveal its pernicious mask.

5) The defense of individual rights has reached such extremes as to make society as a whole defenseless against certain individuals.

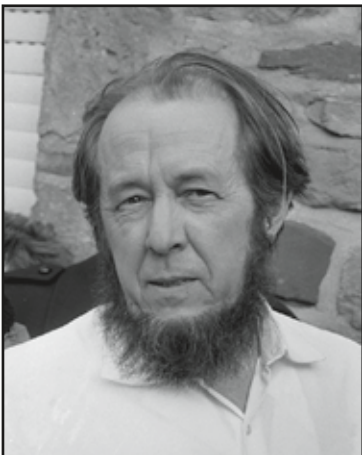
6) Hastiness and superficiality are the psychic disease of the 20th century and more than anywhere else this disease is reflected in the press.

7) I have received letters in America from highly intelligent persons, maybe a teacher in a faraway small college who could do much for the renewal and salvation of his country, but his country cannot hear him because the media are not interested in him.

8) But should someone ask me whether I would indicate the West such as it is today as a model to my country, frankly I would have to answer negatively. No, I could not recommend your society in its present state as an ideal for the transformation of ours.

9) A fact which cannot be disputed is the weakening of human beings in the West while in the East they are becoming firmer and stronger.

10) There are meaningful warnings



Aleksandr Solzhenitsyn in 1974 Russian Author and Dissident.

By Bert Verhoeff for Anefo - [1] Dutch National Archives, The Hague, CCO, <https://commons.wikimedia.org/w/index.php?curid=29177274>

which history gives a threatened or perishing society. Such are, for instance, the decadence of art, or a lack of great statesmen.

11) Only moral criteria can help the West against communism's well planned world strategy. There are no other criteria.

12) In spite of the abundance of information, or maybe because

of it, the West has difficulties in understanding reality such as it is.

13) And yet -- no weapons, no matter how powerful, can help the West until it overcomes its loss of willpower. In a state of psychological weakness, weapons become a burden for the capitulating side.

14) In the American democracy at the time of its birth, all individual human rights were granted because man is God's creature. That is, freedom was given to the individual conditionally, in the assumption of his constant religious responsibility.

15) All the glorified technological achievements of Progress, including the conquest of outer space, do not redeem the 20th century's moral poverty which no one could imagine even as late as in the 19th Century.

16) Not by coincidence all of communism's meaningless pledges and oaths are about Man, with a capital M, and his earthly happiness. At first glance it seems an ugly parallel: common traits in the thinking and way of life of today's West and today's East?

17) Liberalism was inevitably displaced by radicalism; radicalism had to surrender to socialism; and socialism could never resist communism.

18) In our Eastern countries, communism has suffered a complete ideological defeat; it is zero and less than zero. But Western intellectuals still look at it with interest and with empathy.

19) Even if we are spared destruction by war, our lives will have to change if we want to save life from self-destruction.

20) If the world has not come to its end, it has approached a major turn in history, equal in importance to the turn from the Middle Ages to the Renaissance.

###

Jeremy Wayne Tate is founder and CEO of the Classic Learning Test (CLT), a humanities-focused alternative to the SAT and ACT tests, and a member of the board for CatholicTech.

See <https://threadreaderapp.com/thread/1836208862782734568.html>

FYI...

for your information...

The Sangre de Cristo Sentinel is published every Friday.

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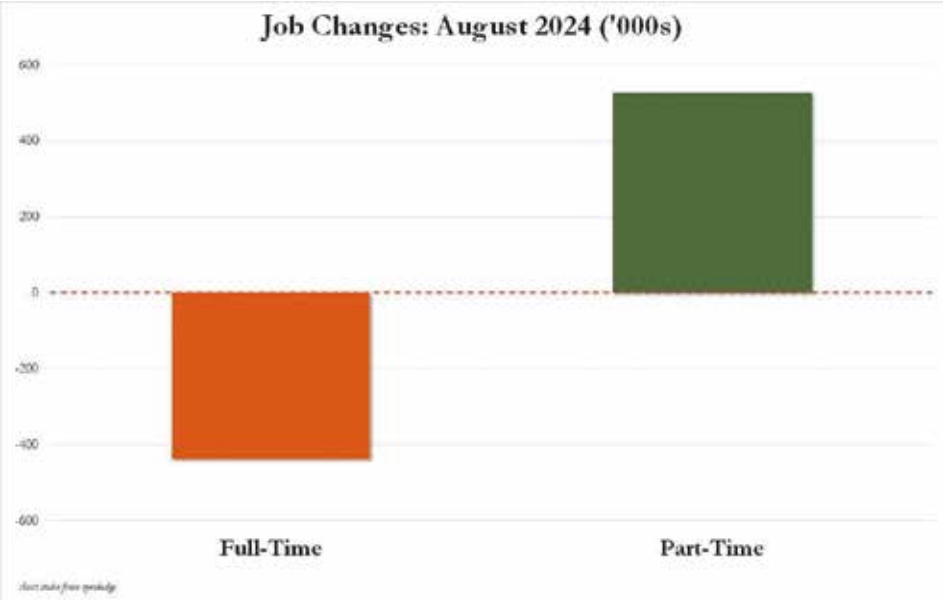


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ECONOMICS
from page 18

been pounding the table on in the past: the reason is the **continued replacement** of native-born workers with immigrants



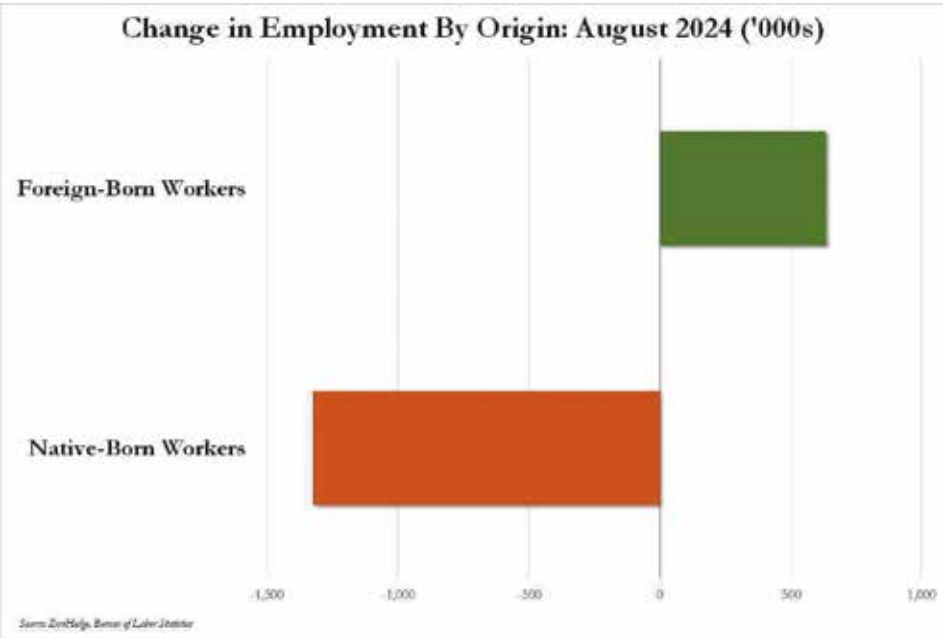
JOB CHANGES AUGUST 2024

This means that since last June, the U.S. has added just over 2 million part-time jobs and lost over 1.5 million full-time jobs.

Needless to say, part-time jobs pay far less, don't offer benefits, and generally

(some legal but mostly illegal). And as the following chart shows, it is anything but a theory: it is cold hard fact.

PRESENTING EXHIBIT A: the number of native-born vs foreign-born workers in August 2024.



lead to a suboptimal outcomes for the labor market, one of which is the need to get more than one job, and sure enough, the number of multiple jobholders - or people who for whatever reason have more than one job - jumped above 8.5 million, back to all-time highs.

And while the quality of job gains in the past year has clearly been catastrophic - a necessary condition to give the impression that headline, or quantitative, job growth was strong - there was a very clear reason for that, and it goes back to what we have

In an absolute shocker of a data point, in the past month, the U.S. added 635K foreign-born workers, while losing 1.325 million native-born workers. This was tied for the biggest one-month drop in native-born workers since the covid crash!

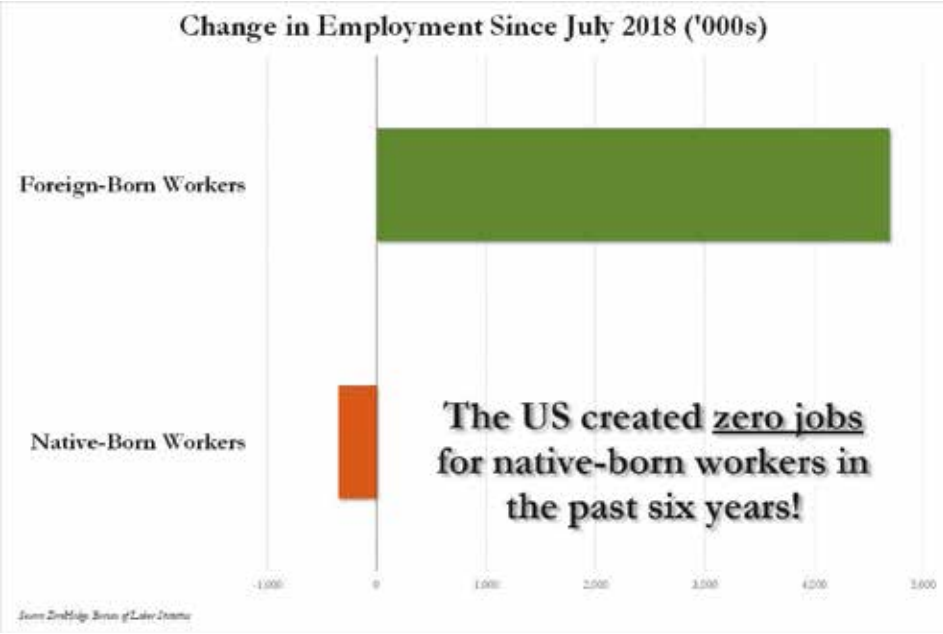
But it's not just the past month, or two, or three... As regular readers know, the reason why suddenly we are bombarded with media pitches for why illegal immigrants are actually great for you, is that the U.S. has not created a single job for native-born workers since July 2018! And in that

interval, it has created 4.7 million jobs for immigrants, both legal and illegal.

CHANGES IN EMPLOYMENT SINCE JULY 2018

Finally for those wondering when the Great Job Replacement Fact (again, *not* theory)

contributed to employment growth. NFP counts workers with an EAD just like any other. Using that data, it is easy to estimate that undocumented workers have added 109k jobs per month to NFP out of the average 231k increase so far in FY24."



kicked in, the following chart showing the historical divergence between native and non-native born workers will make it clear: the gap first emerged at the start of the Biden administration and has exploded to a record size today!

Finally, for those who would push back that these are *mostly legal immigrants*, here is what Standard Chartered strategist Steven Englander wrote at the start of June to refute that claims and prove that most of these immigrant workers are virtually all illegal: echoing what we have said for the past two years, Englander wrote that immigration, particularly illegal immigration, "is a political flashpoint that has also become an important factor in assessing economic performance. Detailed data from U.S. Customs and Border Protection (CBP) and U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services (USCIS) suggest that half of non-farm payroll (NFP) growth to date for FY24 (started 1 October 2023) has been from undocumented immigrants who have received an Employment Authorization Document (EAD)" (he defines undocumented immigrants as those who entered the U.S. through non-traditional immigration pathways, such as asylum seekers, parolees, and refugees, i.e. illegals).

"The ability to track EAD issuance to undocumented workers is an advantage in estimating how much they have

Which is a big problem because as the BLS now admitted with its downward payrolls revision two weeks ago, the monthly increase in jobs in the past years was not 230K as it had indicated previously, but rather 150K when one removes the 818K jobs that were never there in the past year to begin with.

So if the true pace of job creation in the past year was 150K, and another 109K jobs per month are illegal aliens, that leaves just about 40K jobs for everyone else, i.e., law abiding Americans.

It also means that, *great worker replacement* scandal aside, the labor market in the U.S. has - for the past year - been an absolute catastrophe and harbinger of economic disaster.

(Editor/GG: You are literally seeing the destruction of the U.S. right in front our eyes. Entire cities are being taken over, eg: Aurora, CO and Springfield, OH. And it is getting worse every day. More and more illegals are flooding our country every day. If Kamala wins, you can count the days left without a calculator. Ask your local lib neighbor why are they voting to destroy our once beautiful country.)

Please see: <https://www.zerohedge.com/markets/great-replacement-job-shock-13-million-native-born-americans-just-lost-their-jobs-replaced>

Are You Racist?

New Film Is a Master Class in Dismantling Anti-Racism

by Mark Tapson,
FrontPageMag.com

Daily Wire commentator and filmmaker Matt Walsh’s new film is now in theaters earning a 99% favorable rating (as of this writing) among moviegoers on the Rotten Tomatoes site, despite being utterly ignored by the almost-entirely progressive industry of film critics, and despite a coordinated campaign to threaten theater owners to cancel the film’s showings. In the vein of his very successful mockumentary *What is a Woman?*, *Am I Racist?* stars Walsh going undercover (sort of) to expose the idiocy, hate and race hustling of the so-called anti-racism field of social justice.

“Disguised” in skinny jeans and an ill-fitting man-bun wig, Walsh presents himself to various key anti-racist figures as undertaking a woke “journey” to understand how to shed his white privilege and unconscious racism. That “journey” earned quite a few laughs and even a few shocked gasps from the audience I sat with in the Dallas area.

It’s mind-boggling to observe that none of the progressives he targeted recognize Walsh or that he is obviously toying with them, until you understand that the Left largely occupies a bubble when it comes to right-wing media; we know their media stars but they don’t know ours, apart from a very few ubiquitous superstars like Ben Shapiro.

Whether it’s disrupting a circle of self-righteous self-flagellants being lectured by a black “expert” about their threatening whiteness, or commiserating with a white Diversity, Equity and Inclusion (DEI) “expert” about their “racist uncles,” Walsh manages to expose the lucrative scam and open anti-white bigotry behind these repugnant anti-racism thought leaders, some of whom are white themselves. Along the way, he learns that the process is all about committing to “do the work” – the never-ending, demeaning work – of de-centering one’s “whiteness” from all public and private spaces.

By contrast, Walsh also questions everyday Americans who remain untouched by the kinds of radical ideology that have infected our cultural elites. He heads for a biker bar on Main Street USA to ask the patrons – black and white – there and elsewhere in the community what they think about the need to de-center whiteness. Needless to say, he gets an earful about what nonsense that is from people who are refreshingly not obsessed with skin color and

false notions of structural power dynamics.

One of the most disturbing sequences of the film features Saira Rao, founder of Race2Dinner, a group that arranges intimate dinner events to “help white women confront their own racism.” Rao and a partner “help” these masochistic white liberal women by berating them for their whiteness and trashing America as a racist hellhole, a privilege for which Rao charges thousands of dollars. It’s clear from the glimpses we get into one such dinner event that she is a race-mongering, anti-American sadist who enjoys pushing the dinner attendees to tears.

Astonishingly, a comically bewigged Walsh manages to get (or at least buy off) best-selling *White Fragility* author Robin DiAngelo to sit down with him for what she thought was a social justice documentary. She later said things “felt a little off” from the very beginning but she nevertheless went through with the interview – likely because she was paid \$15,000 (which she later donated) to participate in it. In one of the funnier, even jaw-dropping, moments in the film, Walsh offers a few dollars in slavery reparations to his black producer Ben and convinces DiAngelo to chip in some cash as well, after she apologizes directly to Ben for her part in systemic racism.

How effective has the film been in terms of putting heat on these hoax-mongers? As soon as the principal anti-racist racists featured in the movie realized they’d been taken in by a Daily Wire operative in a Michael Moore-style documentary investigation, they deleted their X accounts. Robin DiAngelo even felt compelled to issue a statement addressing the film in which she described it as “a Borat-style mockumentary... designed to humiliate and discredit anti-racist educators and activists.” A delighted Walsh tweeted “She couldn’t be more correct in that assessment. Thank you, Robin!”

A key lesson here for conservative culture warriors is one drawn straight from the activist handbook called *Rules for Radicals* by the late Saul Alinsky, who arguably ranks second only to Karl Marx in terms of his influence on Left-wing strategy. Rule Number Five in that handbook reads, “Ridicule is man’s most potent weapon. It’s hard to counterattack ridicule, and it infuriates the opposition, which then reacts to your advantage.” This is a brilliant strategy which the Left mastered long

ago and has wielded against the Right like a bludgeon, and which conservatives need to adopt themselves more often.

As conservatives, our instinct is to debate our opponents and explain why our ideas are true and better, but reason is useless against the true believers of the cult of social justice. They derail our rational approach by declaring not only that reason and facts are tools of white supremacist power, but also that our denial of racism is itself the strongest evidence of our racism. Although facts and truth are important weapons to wield in the culture war against those who have ears to hear, we cannot win without also going on the offensive by relentlessly mocking the Left’s stupid, destructive agenda. *Am I Racist?* is a master class in terms of throwing the Alinsky’s strategy right back in their faces.

The most important takeaway from *Am I Racist?* is not the comedy but the tragedy – not that anti-racism seems ridiculous to normal people, but that it is so vilely and intentionally divisive, that it subverts America in many ways, and that so many white people are so eager to demean themselves in order to assuage the undeserved racial guilt they have absorbed from relentless anti-white cultural messaging from the kinds of scam artists highlighted in this film.

These self-proclaimed anti-racists are actually full not of empathy and compassion but of either vicious hatred and contempt (if they’re non-white, like Rao) or self-loathing (if they’re white, like DiAngelo). Theirs is a sick, racist ideology that is not at all designed to heal racial issues, of course, but to exacerbate them – to rub raw, as Saul Alinsky put it, the resentment of the people. As Walsh and other normal people in the film suggest repeatedly, the only solution to racial tensions is the colorblind one: to treat everyone the same – as individuals who deserve to be treated with dignity and decency as fellow Americans.

But that is a solution the Left rejects – because it can’t be exploited for power or money.

(Editor/GG: This movie hits the bullseye. The biggest racists I have seen, and I am talking all over the world, are the white libs. Watch them when they encounter a black person or a black crowd. It’s better than a Monty Python movie.)

Please see: <https://www.frontpagemag.com/are-you-racist-2/>

‘It is easier to resist at the beginning than at the end.’

Leonardo da Vinci

‘Where there is shouting, there is no true knowledge.’

Leonardo da Vinci



Massachusetts Supreme Court Moves Forward with Cross Border Carry Case

by Dean Weingarten,
ammoland.com

On September 9, 2024, the Massachusetts Supreme Court held oral arguments in the cases of *Commonwealth v. Donnell*. Another similar case in which a New Hampshire citizen worked in Massachusetts, Marquis, was consolidated with the Donnell case. Both cases involve New Hampshire citizens who had firearms in their automobiles in Massachusetts.

The case concerns whether Massachusetts can impose undue burdens on people from out of state who can legally carry weapons in their home state. It appears the court has received all the arguments in this case and will now consider them and file an opinion and order. It is not known what the process will take. In the case of *Commonwealth v. Canjura*, the Massachusetts Supreme Court heard oral arguments on December 4, 2023, and issued their decision on August 27, 2024, a period of nine months. If the same time is used for the Donnell case, we may see an opinion issued in June of 2025. The decision would straddle the presidential election.

Commonwealth v. Canjura was decided by a unanimous Massachusetts Supreme Court, which did a good job following the guidance issued by the U.S. Supreme Court in the *Heller*, *McDonald*, *Caetano*, and *Bruen* decisions. All of the Massachusetts Supreme Court Justices who sat on the Canjura case are sitting on the Donnell case. One more Supreme Court Justice has been added to the Donnell case, Justice Gabriella Wolohojian, appointed by Governor Healy in April of 2024; As considered in a previous *AmmoLand* article, a number of high-powered amicus briefs have been filed in this case. From August 19th to September 9th, the Massachusetts Association of Criminal Defense Lawyers, the CATO Institute, the Attorney General of the State of New Hampshire, and the New Hampshire Firearms Coalition filed additional amicus briefs.

The oral arguments last an hour and six minutes. They were originally scheduled for 15 minutes for each side. In this correspon-

dent’s opinion, all the attorneys did well with what they had. The questions asked by the Supreme Court justices were skilled and of high caliber. Here are a few of the issues considered:

- Does state power to make criminal laws override the fundamental right to keep and bear arms?
- Can a state require time to vet people to see if they are dangerous, thus temporarily disarming them?
- Can a state treat non-residents substantially differently from residents regarding fundamental constitutional rights?
- Will upholding the lower court decision to invalidate the non-resident part of Massachusetts law inevitably lead to nationwide reciprocity of carry permits, at the minimum, and perhaps, Constitutional Carry for all states?
- Can states ban “assault weapons,” or are they protected under the Second Amendment?

Forecasting what a court will do based on oral arguments is risky business. This correspondent observed that the Justices were a bit tougher on the attorney representing the state than on those representing Donnell and Marquis. This may be because the State arguments were significantly weaker.

Justice Wolohojian, appointed by Governor Healy, gave a good account of herself with well-thought-out questions.

Expect to see more discussion of the Supreme Court’s ban on “means-ends” arguments regarding the Second Amendment. The justices repeatedly mentioned that the Second Amendment is a fundamental constitutionally protected right. The entire question of reciprocity appears to be a “means-ends” argument.

A decision will unlikely be published on this case until long after the November presidential election.

Please see: <https://www.ammoland.com/2024/09/massachusetts-supreme-court-moves-forward-with-cross-border-carry-case/>

WON'T COME BACK
from page 2

Delivery driver Andy explained how the immigrant influx has destroyed Charleroi's economy and job market. "That's what these staffing agencies are doing. ... They said, 'We can't find people to work.' Well, that's a half-truth. There's people that would work if you paid them, you know ... the going wage for the work," Andy said. He continued, "But they want to pay less and so they ended up hiring these, getting involved with these agencies that bring in these workers." He added:

"Those jobs that they [Haitian immigrants] have, they used to be American jobs. But they [employers] decided, 'We don't want to pay five bucks more an hour, we'll pay three bucks more an hour and we'll take that off the top and we'll keep that, and we'll bring in Haitians with them through this work program.' It's a lot of jobs that have been lost by Americans. So they bring in ... people from third-world countries who will do that work for poverty wages. And they think it's a great deal — and it probably is a good deal for them."

"You get a lot of people saying they're illegals and everyone wants to fight about that term, but it doesn't really matter. What matters is what's going on and how it's affecting everybody," Andy summarized.

Truck driver Ernie told America 2100 how the immigration has increased the cost of living in town, while decreasing the quality of actually living in Charleroi. "This used to be just a nice, blue-collar, middle-of-nowhere town. It was affordable to live in, wasn't a terrible neighborhood, you could raise your family here and live your life and everybody would just pretty much leave you alone," Ernie began. He continued, "But I don't know if it's going to come back from this, I don't know if we're going to come back from this. It's at the point now, I think they've just destroyed the town and they bought all these properties."

He said that while you "might be able to buy a house cheap," Charleroi homeowners now have to worry about what kind of neighbors they'll have. "Right now, I'm surrounded by the immigrants, never used to be that way. They

don't care about their property, they'll destroy it, run through, steal your stuff, break your stuff. There's no pride anymore. Nobody cares about anything," he said, speaking from experience. The truck driver continued, "You're bringing in people from one of the poorest countries in the Western hemisphere, paying them nothing because they don't know what a dollar is, then you got this company who's buying the houses, renting off them. I mean, it's full all-around corruption, extortion, somebody's lining their pockets."

"We're over here struggling. I make a pretty decent wage and I'm picking up a second job to try to help cover the bills, my girlfriend's working two jobs to try to cover the bills," Ernie said. He added, "And it never used to be like that." Addressing the number of longtime Charleroi residents leaving town due to the immigration issues, Ernie said, "It's killing another small town in America. ... There's a lot of fighting people around here and it takes a lot for people to quit. It's happening. Whenever you see the natives — from this area in particular — going somewhere else, it's bad."

Lifelong Charleroi resident Tom talked about the cultural conflicts arising from the mass importing of 2,000 Haitians. "They don't have anything in common with our culture. ... When people say 'the culture,' a lot of times they say they don't know what it means. What culture means is the way we do things around here. Worldwide, that's what culture is," Tom said. He continued, "What I've seen ... since the influx has started is they have no interest in our culture, this culture. They've brought their culture here."

Tom also dismissed the claim that the immigration surge somehow enriches or betters the town. "I don't believe that argument of 'They had to bring that population here to save Charleroi' has any validity. We weren't prepared for it, we don't have the tax base for it. This is a town of 4,000 people hanging on the best they can," he said. He continued:

"So whoever is responsible for putting them here, that is an act of negligence. And when it's found out who directly decided that this was a good place to do this, they should be held accountable fully,

their feet should be held to the fire long-term. They should never be allowed to work in the industry again, whether it's politics or business, because what they've done here is despicable — and they don't know that because, again, nobody cares about Charleroi, Pennsylvania. The 4,000 people that lived here cared about it and were doing their level best to make it a place to live and want to be."

Tom shared that, due to the problems caused by the mass migration, he has pulled his son out of school and is selling his house. "If you told me, after all of the other garbage that has been heaped on this community since the early 80s, that this would be the denouement, I would have mortgaged my house and bet you were wrong," he said. "But here we are," he concluded.

(Editor/GG: It can, and maybe will, happen here. Thank your local Biden/Harris supporter.)

Please see: <https://washingtonstand.com/news/residents-fear-small-penn-town-wont-come-back-from-this-after-bidenharris-import-thousands-of-haitian-immigrants>

UNDECIDED
from page 1

and make America energy independent again (most of which he actually did last time around, FWIW).

The thing is, *they've both spent roughly the same amount of time in the White House.* There's no wild card in this deck. We know pretty much where each candidate stands and what he or she will be most focused on and committed to if (re)elected. So ask yourself: Are you better or worse off today than you were four years ago? Are your basics like food, gas, rent, insurance, and entertainment more or less affordable? Do you feel safer or less secure in your home or in your community? Are you saving for the future or struggling to make ends meet? Joy and humility and kumbaya aside, which presidential hopeful is more likely to march us straight into WWII?

Let's look at where the candidates stand (and how they've fared) on some key issues that directly impact your day-to-day life:

HEALTHCARE

In a recent report looking at the ten most advanced economies in the world, the US healthcare system came in *dead last* on all metrics. We spend the most on healthcare, have the shortest lives, suffer the most avoidable deaths, and our infant mortality rate is among the worst. It's actually embarrassing, when you think about it.

Harris champions "healthcare for all" which would expand the role of government in healthcare funding, eliminate private insurance, and sounds an awful lot like socialized medicine (you can ask folks in the UK and Canada how that's working out). With RFK Jr. on his team, Trump will address the rise of chronic conditions like

autoimmune disorders, autism, and obesity, and eliminate the chemicals in our food and the corruption in our health agencies. Basically, she'll keep you sick but possibly make it cheaper to go to a doctor (that you might have to wait eighteen months to see); his team wants to make you healthier so you don't need to see the doctor at all. Tough call, I know.

TAXES

In 2022, Harris cast the tie-breaking vote on a bit of legislation that allowed the IRS to track and tax tips. (I know, she later flip-flopped to "no taxes on tips" right after Trump announced "no taxes on tips," but her plan was very different in that it was the exact same.) She's proposed a terrifying plan to tax unrealized capital gains (which admittedly would only impact the wealthiest at first... exactly as the Alternative Minimum Tax was designed to do in 1969—literally targeting 155 households—and which ultimately affected millions of people). It's easy to sit back and declare "the wealthiest should pay more" until they change the definition of "the wealthiest" to include *you*.

This week, the IRS wholeheartedly endorsed the democratic candidate (could that have anything at all to do with Harris casting the deciding vote to boost the IRS budget by \$80 billion?), which basically translates into as MSNBC put it, "get ready to be taxed to death." Conservative strategist Greg Price added, "If the IRS, the FBI, Wall Street, Iran, Putin, the military industrial complex, the *New York Times*, Iran, 100 former McCain interns, and Dick Cheney all want one candidate to win then, for the love of God, vote for the other one." He's got a point.

ECONOMY

Author and sociologist Michael G. Zey explained the state of American finances succinctly

in an article in the *American Thinker* (and these are but a few highlights; I encourage voters to read the whole piece):

"When Americans elected Biden in 2020, their message to him was clear: Trump handed you a booming economy. Just don't do anything to ruin it! Unfortunately, Biden has done just that, and Americans have taken notice.

"The Trump economy Biden inherited in early 2021 was expanding at a 6.7% annual rate. Unfortunately, in less than three years, Biden's war on fossil fuels, overregulation of industry, and wasteful government spending has driven the country into financial hell.

"Trump slashed regulatory costs by \$11,000 per household. Biden's regulations cost Americans a total of \$10,000 per household.

"Trump's energy policies drove gas down to \$1.87 per gallon. Biden's climate policies resulted in a record \$5.02 in June 2022. Gas hit \$7.00 per gallon in some areas."

But gender equity and social justice! It's another tricky decision undecided voters will have to think long and hard about.

IMMIGRATION

Trump wanted to build a wall. Harris wants to use your taxpayer dollars to give illegal immigrants food, housing, cell phones, healthcare, cash, interest-free loans, and gender reassignment surgeries, should they (the illegals, not the surgeries) fancy them (the surgeries, not other illegals *sorry but pronouns are confusing*).

Sure, you're pinching pennies to put food on your table and walking around with a cracked iPhone SE and paying 7% interest on your home loan—*just kidding who can afford a home anymore?*—and recently cancelled Netflix to save \$10 a month, but you know what?

Complaining about any of that is obviously racist. Better to keep your mouth shut and be thought a fool than to open it and remove all doubt.

AMERICA FIRST

The U.S. has provided more than \$174 billion in aid to Ukraine alone since February 2022, money that could have been used to repair and improve decaying infrastructure in this country (which would also create jobs and boost the economy, BTW), provide tax rebates to American families (increasing disposable income and stimulating spending), provide affordable childcare to working families (duh), fund mental health programs in schools, and much more.

Democrats will say it's our global civic duty—our humanitarian responsibility—to help other countries in need. *Why do the millions of Americans in need not exist on their own neighbors' radar?*

Imagine a couple who has four children, two of whom are emaciated, barefooted, and infested with lice. Now imagine the couple is donating thousands of dollars a month to the neighbor's Pool Party Fund (even though those kids don't lift a finger to help around the place and barely even show up for school and they don't even invite the starving barefoot children to their stupid party). If that makes sense to you, you're technically not an *undecided voter*. #You'reWithHer

FREE SPEECH

During the pandemic, if you said something controversial online—you know, like "hey, look, this super safe drug is treating Covid with remarkable efficacy" or "my husband/wife/sister/daughter/friend died an hour after being vaccinated"—you were silenced. Your social media accounts were immediately shut down. If you

were on the side of safe-and-effective-and-everything-else-is-disinformation, maybe you even gloated or cheered when you saw this happen. But what if the next big controversy is something less fringy? What if the thing you suddenly can't say online is "The sky is blue," or "Twizzlers are better than Red Vines," or "folding a fitted sheet is the awfulest of all the awful household tasks"?

Not a real headline but damned funny and also accurate.

Here's the thing: Without the ability to express (possibly dissenting) beliefs and ideas and challenge authority, democracy collapses. Free speech is how we hold the powerful accountable. A society without it is a dictatorship in disguise. And it's a slippery-as-hell slope from "we're protecting you from this harmful opinion" to *"this is what you will think, say, and do, and nonconformists will be severely punished."*

Kamala Harris has promised a Brazil-style crackdown on free speech if elected. If that doesn't scare the bejesus out of you, kindly move to North Korea or Cuba and take your vote with you.

"If liberty means anything at all, it means the right to tell people what they don't want to hear." —Orwell

"I disapprove of what you say, but I will defend to the death your right to say it." —Evelyn Beatrice Hall (conjuring Voltaire)

"The freedom of speech may be taken away—and, dumb and silent, we may be led, like sheep, to the slaughter." —George Washington

Please see: <https://www.zerohedge.com/political/word-undecided-voters>

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