

High Mountain Hay Fever Bluegrass Festival Recognized by International Music Association

by Shanna Lewis,
Colorado Public Radio

For more than two decades, banjo players, fiddlers and other musicians have gathered annually under a giant tent at the end of Main Street in Westcliffe. Those performances draw thousands of people to the tiny ranching community for the High Mountain Hay Fever Bluegrass Festival on a long weekend in July each year.

Bluegrass bands of all styles from traditional to progressive, along with old-time and folk music performers, and even story-

tellers and others who might not fit easily into any category have stepped onto the festival stage.

Now High Mountain Hay Fever is a finalist for the International Bluegrass Music Association's event of the year award. The winner were announced Thursday, September 26th.

KRCC's Shanna Lewis spoke with festival founder and musician Ron Thomason and his partner – old time fiddler Heidi Clare at their home in the Wet Mountain Valley.

This interview has been edited for length and clarity.



Old time fiddler Heidi Clare and bluegrass musician Ron Thomason sing during a festival.

Mario Cavalli/High Mountain Hay Fever Festival

Shanna Lewis/KRCC: *The festival has such an evocative name. What's the setting like?*

Ron Thomason: Well, I can only compare it to the Grand Canyon and the poor Grand Canyon can't

quite look as good as the Sangre Cristo Mountains that are the backdrop of the High Mountain Hay Fever Bluegrass Festival. And not only those mountains, but (the festival looks straight across) the Wet Mountain Valley. The people that come to see us try to get out of the tent pretty quickly so they can see how beautiful the place is.

Shanna Lewis/KRCC: *There must have been so many memorable performances. Tell us about one.*

Ron Thomason: Well, the second year we did the

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The 14 Questions on the November Ballot

by Sherrie Peif,
Complete Colorado Page Two

DENVER — Colorado voters will see a much longer ballot than usual for this November's election, with questions ranging from embedding abortion rights in the state Constitution to upending the primary elections system.

In addition to hundreds of local measures, there are 14 statewide ballot measures this year, with an equal number split between constitutional amendments and propositions that are written into state statute.

Some of the measures were put on the ballot via citizens' initiative while others came referred by the legislature, with several highly controversial matters to be decided.

Propositions need a simple majority (50 percent, plus 1) to pass, while amendments require 55 percent of voters to say yes.

The issues going before voters are:

- **Amendment 79**—This citizens' initiative would enshrine a right to abortion in the Colorado Constitution and remove a current constitutional provision that bans the use of public funds for abortions. If passed, women could use Medicaid and other state resources from taxpayer funds to pay for the procedure. Colorado law already allows for near-unrestricted access to

abortion (including for women from out of state).

- According to the *Denver Post*, "Coloradans for Protecting Reproductive Freedom so far has raised more than \$4.2 million and has spent nearly \$4 million of that. Of that, \$1.5 million has gone to TV advertising. And that's just the tip of the iceberg, according to advocates. As of September 6th, according to organizers, total donations have topped \$13 million, with much of that not yet reported."

- **Amendment 80** — **This citizen initiative would guarantee parents the right to choose which school model** is best for their child including everything from traditional brick and mortar to public charter, to home schools, and private schools. Advocates say it is needed to protect charter schools and other options from a legislature hostile to school choice. Opponents say it has a large threshold to pass, and if it fails it will only embolden anti-school choice legislators to make more laws restricting existing options.

- **Amendment G** — This legislative initiative would expand the property tax exemption for veterans with a disability to include those with "individual unemployment" status.

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"Shocking" Numbers of Criminal Illegal Aliens Roaming Free in U.S. Including 15,000 Murderers and 20,000 Sexual Assaulters

by Homeland Security Chairman Mark E. Green, House Committee on Homeland Security

—September 27, 2024

WASHINGTON, D.C. – Today, House Committee on Homeland Security Chairman Mark E. Green, MD (R-TN) issued a statement following the release of new data from Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE) showing that, as of July 21, 2024, nearly 650,000 criminal illegal aliens were currently on ICE's Non-Detained Docket (NDD) and roaming free in communities throughout the United States. This figure includes roughly 15,000 individuals convicted of or charged with murder, more than 20,000 of sexual assault, and more than 105,000 of assault:

"It may be shocking to hear that the Biden-Harris administration is actively releasing tens of thousands of criminal illegal aliens into our communities, but their own numbers conclusively prove this to be the case. This defies all common sense. Under President Biden and his 'border czar,' Vice President Harris, DHS law enforcement has been directed to mass-release illegal aliens whom they know have criminal

convictions or are facing charges for serious crimes—and these dangerous, destructive individuals are making their way into every city and state in this country. How many more Americans need to die or be victimized before this administration is forced to abide by the laws they swore to uphold? This is madness. It is something no civilized, well-functioning society should tolerate."

Background:

Last week, ICE Deputy Director Patrick Lechleitner sent a letter to lawmakers detailing the number of criminal aliens on ICE's national docket. As of July 21, 2024, nearly 650,000 criminal aliens were on the NDD—meaning they had previously been encountered by Customs and Border Protection (CBP), turned over to ICE, had their criminal history documented, and then were released into the United States.

The specific breakdown of what types of criminals have been released is just as sobering. The following numbers include both convicted criminals and those with pending charges for the specific offense.

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I will call on the LORD, who is worthy to be praised: so shall I be saved from mine enemies.
2 Samuel 22: 4 KJV

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

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

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

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Our Opinion...



How American Voters Got So Dumb

by Peter St. Onge,
The Daily Signal

Editor's note: A lightly edited transcript of the accompanying video by professor Peter St. Onge.

How did American voters get so dumb? Thank a public school.

It's a modern fetish that we're brilliant but our ancestors were idiots. After all, they didn't have iPhones, internets, or Kim Kardashian.

This is also academic consensus, for what it's worth. It's called the Flynn Effect—the idea is people do better on puzzles, so we must be smarter. Of course, one wonders if puzzles translate into, say, understanding monetary policy or how welfare destroys families.

Thankfully, we have a real-world test: actual political campaigns. Back when I was a professor, I ran every inaugural address through a Flesch-Kinkaid text analysis to measure the grade level. The logic being top speechwriters know how to talk at voters' level.

Doing that, it turns out we are getting dumb breath-

takingly fast. In 1900, inaugurals were written at between 13th and 14th grade—modern college level. Today, they're eighth grade for Obama, ninth grade for Trump, and ... seventh grade for Biden.

It gets worse the further back we go: Andrew Jackson's 1828 inaugural was written at 22nd grade—meaning, strictly speaking, two Ph.D.s was the median voter in 1828.

Keep in mind Jackson was a populist man-of-the-people.

George Washington's inaugural was closer to 26th grade.

Also keep in mind almost nobody in 1828—or 1789—had a formal education.

Jackson kicks off with, "Undertaking the arduous duties that I have been appointed." Washington starts with, "Among the vicissitudes incident to life." For Biden, it's "This is America's day."

So how did we get so dumb?

Easy: public schools.

The modern government

school came from 1800s Prussia, which had enough of worker riots and peasant revolts and resolved to indoctrinate kids into pro-regime obedience. It worked like a charm, turning the once unruly Germans into a government-directed army that went on to do terrible things.

Left-wing American intellectuals were fascinated by Prussia's indoctrination and imported it to the U.S. They were motivated not by peasant revolts but by the frustratingly small-government ethos of Catholics. Progressives figured they couldn't frog-march American Catholics into government utopia, but they have the children.

These activists spread government schools to every state and got a major boost postwar, when competence tests for employment were declared discrim-

inatory, forcing companies to instead rely on formal education to discover talent. This launched the university from a fringe toy for the 1% into a \$300,000 tax on anybody hoping for a white-collar job.

Meanwhile, like all government programs, opportunists—teachers unions—took over, spending \$878 billion per year dutifully peddling politics but neglecting the actual purpose of education, leaving American kids illiterate and innumerate. In a video last year, I mentioned how fully 23 Baltimore schools had precisely zero students proficient in math, and in Detroit, 96% of students lacked proficiency in math, and 95% can't even read. But by gum, they know their demi-genders.

Take people who can't name a state or don't know what the Supreme

Court is, wash them with decades of left-wing propaganda, stick them in a voter booth, and here we are.

So, what's next?

If we're to save our democracy, we have to save our voters—by replacing government schools with schools that actually teach instead of indoctrinate. That could mean school choice, it could mean vouchers, it could mean home schooling co-ops. But until we fix it, things will keep getting worse.

We publish a variety of perspectives. Nothing written here is to be construed as representing the views of The Daily Signal.

Please see: <https://www.daily.signal.com/2024/08/23/how-american-voters-got-dumb/>



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Custer County Sheriff's Office Introduces Deputy Brandon Thurston

by Fred Hernandez

The phone rang at the Sheriff's Office and the caller reported a "cold burglary". That means the crime is not in progress and the perpetrator has departed the scene. The case was assigned to newly minted Deputy Sheriff Brandon Thurston with less than a year in the force.

It was an exciting time for him as he is one who enjoys solving complex puzzles. He immediately went to the scene of the crime and found clues including a lock cut at the gate to the property. The front door to the house which was in the process of renovation also had a lock cut through with a bolt cutter. Inside, more clues materialized with the meticulous examination of the premises. Outside, a security camera revealed a grainy, fuzzy likeness of a person. Through painstaking application of different techniques and processes related to digital and photographic investigations and then passing on some of the material to social media, the ruffian was identified as someone already in custody in another town on a charge of driving under the influence of substance abuse. A search of the suspect's car revealed even more clues. After volumes of paperwork and carefully documenting the evidence at hand, the culprit was confronted with facts of the case.

With overwhelming evidence professionally detailed and realizing the futility of his situation he agreed to a plea deal of guilty. Good sleuthing and a well prepared case presentation led to a quick solution which avoided court time and saved the taxpayers unnecessary expenses. The understatement of Deputy Thurston about this experience: " I like working complex cases."

Born in 1987, in Raton, New Mexico, and raised in Hoehne, Colorado, on a cattle ranch south of Pueblo, Brandon attended Las Animas County high school before going to Phoenix, Arizona, where he attended college and earned a degree in Electronics Technology where he graduated. Immediately after college his first job was in one of the biggest surface mining companies in the state. For twelve years he worked for the huge Rocky Mountain based gold mining company as one of the demolition team members. Using immense drilling machines they would burrow forty feet into the ground where explosives are placed. These holes are a few feet apart from each other and when the explosives are ignited the eruptions follow one after the other in quick succession at intervals of mere seconds. The multiple explosions create great billows of smoke and dust over a large patch of ground. When the air clears it reveals the earth below and the

precious metals it holds. It was a good job and paid well.

From out of nowhere, almost, the so-called "pandemic" descended upon the unsuspecting world. No longer a mystery, the world now knows exactly where it came from. The company management

insisted on their employees taking the infamous, untested vaccine. Brandon refused, as was his right, and promptly resigned his position. Even in adversity there can be benefits. And so it was that during the Covid brouhaha, a blessing came to Custer in the person of Brandon Thurston and family.

With no job, it seemed the only choice at that moment was to visit Custer County where his wife was originally from and see if there might be any options there for them. It was during a church service in town that he met the local Sheriff and was offered a job as detention deputy, a job that required no experience. With not too many choices at the time, he accepted the offer. After six months working in that capacity, the Sheriff presented him with an opportunity to attend POST and the possibility to become a full fledged deputy sheriff. He quickly accepted the offer, took the course and passed with flying colors. In July 2023, he became Sheriff's Deputy Brandon Thurston.

Today Deputy Brandon enjoys his work in law enforcement. "I love my job. I am happy to be of help to the citizens of Custer County". Brandon has been happily married to Ashley for four years. They have two boys, Wyatt, ten years old and Glenn, two years old. Welcome home to Custer County, Thurston Family.



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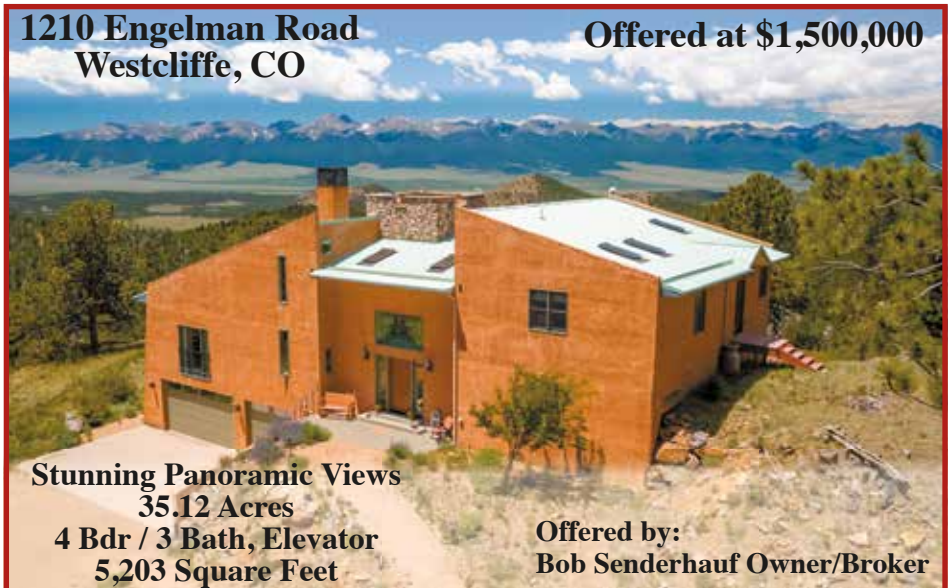
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“Free speech is my right to say what you don’t want to hear.” — George Orwell

Local Mountain News & Notices

15th Alla Prima Westcliffe Plein Air 23 Artists Awarded

The 15th Alla Prima Westcliffe Plein Air painting event took place from September 8-13. Artists came from all over the state to participate and enjoy painting our fantastic scenery.

Well-known artist Lorenzo Chavez gave a two-day workshop prior to the Alla Prima Westcliffe event and was the judge for the APW awards.

The Gala Reception and announcement of awards was Saturday, September 14th at Lange Hall. First

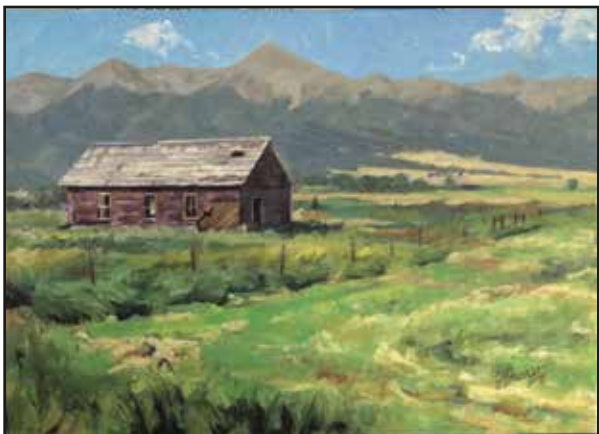


Place went to Jeanene Parker for "Old-school" and Best of Show was

"After the Rain" by Larry Day. Second place went to Jan Kraus, for "Pines Rd. Vista", and Third place was awarded to Ken Hartman's "It's a Whopper".

A total of twenty-three awards were given out to numerous artists, including Doug Graybeal, Anne Dye, Julie Cutting, Pat Wiles and Jean Krueger. We appreciate all of the enthusiastic painters!

The new show "Haunting Images" begins this weekend at the 3rd Street Gallery at 59000 N. Highway 69, Westcliffe.



Top: Lorenzo Chavez who gave a two-day workshop at the event, and Jeanene Parker. Bottom: First place went to "Old-school" by Jeanene Parker. Courtesy Photos

MVP's Awarded Gift Cards from Tony's Pizza

Johnny Winton, owner of Tony's Mountain Pizza and Tony's Steak & Tavern, presents Taylor Bradford #55 with a \$30 gift card to Tony's for being the Defensive Player of the Week against Sedgwick County.

Agi Thomas, in the background, also received two gift cards for his "Player of the Week" nominations for games against Sedgwick County and Holly.

Johnny will be awarding Tony's gift cards, every Monday after practice, to Varsity players who are nominated for "MVP's of the Week" in volleyball and football. Cross Country runners will also receive a gift card every time they have a PR (personal record) at a meet.

This generous contribution back to Custer County High



School student athletes will continue all year including winter and spring sports.

The Custer County Booster Club, parents, and student athletes would like to

recognize and thank Johnny and Tony's Mountain Pizza and Steak & Tavern for their continued support of all athletic programs!!

photo by Mark Grundy



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"We the People" Speak

Letters to the Editor

Please send your submissions to us at sdcsentinel@gmail.com, mail them or bring them in to the office at 601 Main St., Westcliffe CO 81252.

Rules: We will print, at our discretion, the thoughts and ideas of our fellow citizen-patriots. Please limit your offerings to 500 words or less. No profanity or vulgarity, no personal attacks, and please sign your name and give us the general location of your residence. Also please provide your phone number or email - for confirmation only. *The opinions expressed here are solely those of the author; they do not necessarily reflect the opinions held or endorsed by the Sentinel.*

Vote NO on Amendment 79

(Editor note/Sentinel staff:: We received this letter from the Catholic Church in Westcliffe from the Diocese of Pueblo. Although the letter is written to Catholics, the message is for all Christians and believers in God who believe in the sanctity of life. Emphasis ours.)

by Bishop Stephen J. Berg

I write today as your Shepherd. We approach the celebration of the Feast of St. Therese of Lisieux October 1, which brings the national month to Respect Life. Preparing for the November ballot, I bring deep concerns about one particular measure, called Amendment 79: "Right to Abortion", where I must clearly urge you to vote "No".

We are called to protect life in all its stages and forms, preborn and living, all God's children. Amendment 79 intends to increase the attack on the unborn, their mothers, and the family structure in three ways. **It expands Colorado's already most liberal abortion law in the country to be enshrined in the Colorado Constitution, to a right to unrestricted abortion for all 40 weeks of pregnancy, it eliminates parental notification laws, and it allows for taxpayer funding for abortions, which is currently prohibited.**

Sadly today, much of society is complacent with the notion of the 'right' to abortion. **Amendment 79** is even more extreme. It will **seriously limit, if not end, our ability to pass prolife legislation** in the future.

Countless children known only to God will die in Colorado, already being brought in from many neighboring states, funded by us through our state taxes. Parents will be further alienated from their rights and responsibilities for the medical, psychological, emotional and spiritual needs of their teenaged children. Society will pressure these troubled children into abortion without parental knowledge. If this Amendment passes, parents will lose their rights to their protection, safety, and wellbeing of their children.

I appreciate that you, as Catholics, know Catholic teaching and where we stand on the issue of abortion. Vote "No" on Amendment 79. This pulpit announcement will not be the last words you hear through the upcoming month. We must pray, get the word out, work with prolife brothers and sisters and defeat Amendment 79. Please check out the toolkit on our diocesan website and be guided by the Holy Spirit in our cause.

Write in Candidate

A few weeks ago I heard the best news I thought I could have heard. Today I found out that the news was even better than I could have imagined. Lynn Attebury not only put his name in as a write in for County Commissioner, he was asked by several people to do so. You might ask why this news makes me happy. I was the assistant secretary for a city commission many long years ago, so I understand what a Commissioner must be like.

Knowledgeable about the job. Being a professional is a great plus. Understanding that a commissioner must be neutral is a prerequisite of the job. As with any elected position a commissioner is a servant of the people and must do their bidding. That involves listening to all opinions, understanding the problem at hand, and abiding by the will of the majority. That is why it is very important for we as citizens to study the problems ourselves and to let the commissioners know where we stand. A commissioner needs to be neutral. Lynn Attebury is all of this and possibly more than I can understand. A vote for Lynn is a vote for Custer County. There are many of us who experienced Lynn as a County Commissioner and he is getting our votes.

Sincerely,

*Linda Anderson
Rural Custer County*



PRAY God's Word

Psalm 94 (The Living Bible) ²⁰ Will you permit a corrupt government to rule under your protection—a government permitting wrong to defeat right? ²¹⁻²² Do you approve of those who condemn the innocent to death? No! The Lord my God is my fortress—the mighty Rock where I can hide. ²³ God has made the sins of evil men to boomerang upon them! He will destroy them by their own plans. Jehovah our God will cut them off.

Lord God be with President Trump, Melania, Baron, and all family members. Cover all those involved especially the people murdered, their families and all 1st responders.

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

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

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, October 7 #69 Roast Beef Mashed Potatoes w/Gravy Green Bean Amandine Apricot Peach Compote Whole Wheat Dinner Roll	Tuesday October 8 #20 California Veggie Bake Spinach Salad w/Egg & Lite Italian Pear, Citrus Cup Oatmeal Raisin Cookie WW Bread w/Butter	Thursday, October 10 #21 Chicken & Noodles Seasoned Green Beans Baked Acorn Squash Apricot Pineapple Compote WW Bread w/Butter
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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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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



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HMHF from page 1

festival, my favorite fiddle player in the world, Heidi Clare, happened to be in the band that played there, the ReelTime Travelers, and that got us started off to something even better than bluegrass music.

Shanna Lewis/KRCC: *And you might be a little bit biased about Heidi Claire being the most memorable performance since she’s sitting right here. Is there anybody else you want to mention?*

Ron Thomason: Yes. So in 1969, I became Ralph Stanley’s mandolin player, and we just drove all around. It was a time when rock and roll had moved bluegrass music out of the world, and we would just go day in, day out, (earning) maybe \$200 per show. And the great thing about Ralph Stanley was he didn’t have any bigotry and then in Southwest Virginia, that was very rare and it made me love being on the bus. That was the same time when Ralph Stanley also got to perform for Richard Nixon and Lyndon Johnson. And finally he got to come here and he did it three times. That got us off to a good start.

Shanna Lewis/KRCC: *That was in the early two thousands, right?*

Ron Thomason: Yes.

Shanna Lewis/KRCC: *Westcliffe is pretty small and off the beaten path. It’s an hour west of Pueblo. Ron, what motivated you to start this festival here?*

Ron Thomason: Well, I wish I could say I did it all by myself, but I didn’t. The motivation for this festival was four families - we realized that the children in our area didn’t have access to any healthcare. So four families got together and we each threw \$5,000 or \$10,000 in a pot, took it up to the clinic, gave it to ‘em, said, let us know if you need more. And at the end of the year, they brought us back almost 80% of the money, and we didn’t know what to do. We thought it would be taken. It was explained to us that people didn’t want to take charity. There was a wonderful person that wanted things to work for the children, and he shot his finger out at me and he said, “well, you know how to have a Bluegrass Festival. Let’s do that.”



Children, known as Hay Seeds, because they have participated in the youth workshops at High Mountain Hay Fever Bluegrass Festival in Westcliffe, perform during the last day of the event.

High Mountain Hay Fever Bluegrass Festival

Shanna Lewis/KRCC: *Heidi, what do you find that’s special about this particular festival? You’ve been to a lot of festivals over the years.*

Heidi Clare: I think one of the very most amazing things about this festival is that while Ron brings these incredible performers here, and it’s a huge job, emails and phone calls and just getting that job done, but when they come, the last thing they say when they leave is, “can we come back” every time.

Shanna Lewis/KRCC: *So High Mountain Hay Fever is a nonprofit organization that’s run by volunteers, Heidi, who are these folks that make the festival happen every year?*

Heidi Clare: They are a group of very overqualified volunteers, but the most important thing that they have is their willingness to work and their commitment to the cause.

Shanna Lewis/KRCC: *How many people does it actually take to get the festival going for the long weekend and then keeping it going for the whole long weekend?*

Heidi Clare: About a hundred, when you’ve counted everyone who helped set up and tear down, and then also the folks that are there to do the work during the event.

Shanna Lewis/KRCC: *Ron, you and your band, Dry Branch Fire Squad have been the hosts of the festival right from the very beginning. And you perform your traditional style of bluegrass on most days. But on Sunday mornings at the festival, it’s time for Bluegrass Gospel. What song would you pick for someone to listen to?*

Shanna Lewis/KRCC: *Heidi, if you wanted to get a young person interested in old time fiddling, what would you play for them?*

Heidi Clare: Probably “Sally Goodin”.

Shanna Lewis/KRCC: *Have there been any sort of unusual or special things that have happened when these really well-known bluegrass musicians come to this tiny little place?*

Ron Thomason: There was a time at the local pizza place. Bobby Osborne and his band went there to get some pizza, and nobody in the place even knew him. And they said, “what are you doing here?” And he said, “we’re working at the Bluegrass Festival. They said, “Can you play a song for us? And he said, “No, I’d rather just buy a pizza. But in the end, they finally got him to stand up and sing “Rocky Top”.

Shanna Lewis/KRCC Ron, *you’ve been involved in the Bluegrass Festival scene for years. What does it mean to have High Mountain Hay Fever selected as a finalist for the event of the year by the International Bluegrass Music Association?*

Ron Thomason: The International Bluegrass Music Association is quite a big thing now. I’m an old man and I wish I could answer that for you. But the basic thing is we here in the mountains are very proud of what we’re doing. The money always goes to things for the children, including healthcare. But also a couple years ago we started with mental and dental and we try to make sure everybody’s getting a meal sometime.

(Friday, September 26th: The International Bluegrass Music Association announced that the Industrial Strength Bluegrass Festival in Wilmington, Ohio, won the 2024 event of the year award over four other nominees, including High Mountain Hay Fever in Westcliffe. The headline has been changed to reflect this update.)

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Please see: <https://www.cpr.org/2024/09/25/southern-colorado-high-mountain-hay-fever-bluegrass-festival-award-nomination-interview/>

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

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God Bless You & Happy Birthday Patrick Owen!

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Events

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Sangres Art Guild ~ Haunting Images – Gallery Reception @ 59000 N. Highway 69, Westcliffe

Sunday, October 6, 10 a.m. - 7 p.m.

Octoberfest-Volksmarch (Leisurely Walk) Westcliffe Outpost Amphitheater & Park 116 W. 2nd Street, Westcliffe

Sunday, October 6, 2 - 3:30 p.m.

National Life Chain Pray for the Unborn and their Mothers. Meet on sidewalk at Custer County School West parking lot.

Sunday, October 6, 2-4 p.m. Ready, Set, VOTE event

“Meet & Greet”, register to vote. TWO locations::

- Rivervalley Ranch, 1000 CR 150, Westcliffe
- Wetmore Community Center, 95 CR 393, Wetmore

Thursday, October 10, Open 5:30 p.m. Dinner 6 p.m.

Custer County Conservation District Annual Meeting/Dinner \$\$ @ Ranchers Roost. Last day to reserve is October 4th. custercountyconservationdistrict.org.

October 18 @ 7:30 p.m. - October 20 @ 2 p.m.

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KIDS

October 4, 2024

Sergeant Reckless

This one is a horse who served in the Korean War, Sergeant Reckless, the Artillery Horse that braved enemy fire in Korea. Sergeant Reckless served with the U.S. Marine Corps for years, facing intense enemy fire.

This horse was a chestnut mare born in 1948. She was a mare of Mongolian horse breeding and she was supposed to be raised as a racehorse. Her Korean name in English was “Morning Flame”. She was in training with her stable hand, Kim Huk-moon, At that time Lt. Eric Pedersen of the Recoiless Rifle Platoon, Anti-Tank Company, 5th Marine Regiment, 1st Marine Division was searching for a horse in 1952. Kim Huk-moon was reluctant to sell her but he needed money to buy his sister a prosthetic leg after her’s was blown off when she stepped on a land mine, so he sold the horse for \$250.

After being sold to the Marine Corp she was put through an equine boot camp dubbed “hoof camp.” That is where she was trained for the realities of war. She was trained to step over communication lines and barbed wire. When they yelled “incoming” she would run to a bunker and get down. She also learned how to understand various hand signals and how to find her way back to the platoon, if necessary. She became one of the “guys”. She slept with them in their tents and ate with them in the mess hall.

She was sent to serve in one of the bloodiest battles, the five-day battle for Outpost Vegas in March 1953. The second day of the battle Sergeant Reckless made 51 trips across rice paddies and mountain trails that inclined at a steep 45-degree angle. She hauled supplies and ammunition weighing over 9,000 pounds to the front and transported wounded soldiers to safety. Her journeys weren’t without dangers. She was hit above the eye and on her left flank, yet continued to make trips through the “smoking, death-pocked rubble” on her own volition.”

In November 1954, after the Korean War she set foot on American soil for the first time. Sergeant Reckless was awarded two Purple Hearts, the Marine Corps Good Conduct Medal, the Navy Presidential Unit Citation with Bronze Star, the National Defense Service Medal, the Korean Service Medal, the United Nations Korea Medal, the Navy Unit Commendation and the Republic of Korea Presidential Unit Citation, among others. She wore these on her horse blanket. She died in 1968 and was buried with full military honors.

by Audrey Slater. Sources: Sources: <https://www.warhistoryonline.com/korean-war/sergeant-reckless.htm>, <https://www.history.com/news/the-four-legged-marine-who-became-a-korean-war-hero>, https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Sergeant_Reckless, Photo from <https://www.warhistoryonline.com/korean-war/sergeant-reckless.html>

Sangre de Cristo Sentinel • Westcliffe, Colorado

CORNER



Jesus said

“This is My commandment, That ye love one another, as I have loved you.”

John 15:12 KJV

Bobcats Scoreboard!

Thursday, Sept. 26:

HS Volleyball @ HOME vs Cotopaxi: 3-0: 25-9, 25-15, 25-14 Win!

Cañon City Cross Country Invitational @ Royal Gorge Bridge:
Mason Stover 18:19 (11th); Levi Carichner 20:35 (50th)
Jacob Weeks 29:31 (167th); Piper Cunningham 30:13 (104th)

Saturday, Sept. 28:

HS Volleyball @ HOME vs Calhan:
Varsity - 3-0: 25-22, 25-23, 25-19 Win!
JV - 2-1: 26-24, 15-25, 15-15 Win!

Tuesday, October 1:

HS Volleyball @ Buena Vista:1-3: 25-20, 16-25, 14-25, 23-25 Loss

HS Volleyball moved from 34th in 2A to 25th and is 8-2!
Great work, girls!

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Only \$20 to support your Bobcat
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- * Central Building Supply (10% off purchases under \$100)
- * Chappy’s Woodfired Grill (10% off total purchases, no large groups)
- * Custer County Supply Co. (20% off entire purchase, excluding guns, one time use)
- * Elevation Meat Market (1 lb free ground chuck with \$25 order)
- * Napa Auto Parts - Westcliffe (10% off total purchase, except oil)
- * Native Woods Garden Center (10% off total purchase)
- * Rejuvenated Living Spa (10% off massage)
- * Salty Pine Floral & Boutique (10% off total purchase)
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- * Valley Ace Hardware (free engraving w/ any Yeti purchase, one time use)
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Find your favorite volleyball player
or contact Lea Grundy at 720-234-7751 to get yours now!

Booster Club Bobcat Corner



Come out and support your
Custer County Bobcats!

All games and dates are subject to change without notice.

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)

Saturday, October 12:
TBD HS Volleyball @ Swink vs Swink, Vanguard & Sangre de Cristo

\$\$

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Come support the Bobcats Concession Stand at every Home game!

Education without values, as useful
as it is, seems rather to make man a
more clever devil.

—C. S. Lewis

Local Mountain News & Notices



Tony's Pizza Player of the Week



Varsity MVP:

Lily Bomgardner played a great defensive game against a fast paced offensive team. Her desire to always be better and push harder inspires those around her to do the same. Lily’s ability to keep a level head is a huge asset to our team.

JV MVP:

Keely Huffman had a lot of encouraging energy and played with a desire to win. She continued to be aggressive and tough throughout the whole match. She led her team-mates by having a great work ethic and never giving up on a play.



MOST VALUABLE PLAYER

Mason Stover CX MVP

XC Player of the week
Mason is runner of the week for his incredible determination and addictive spirit for running. He has beat his personal records twice this season (current best time is 18:12) and continues to push himself at every practice and meet. We are so happy to have Mason as a Custer County Bobcat!
Written by Coach Heather Ramer

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► **REGISTER TO VOTE**
► **2024 BALLOT QUESTION EDUCATION**

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Wetmore Community Center Building, 95 CR 393, Wetmore

Lynn **Write In
Candidate**

Attebery

The "Write" Choice.

**COMMISSIONER
DISTRICT 2**

Paid for by Lynn Attebery

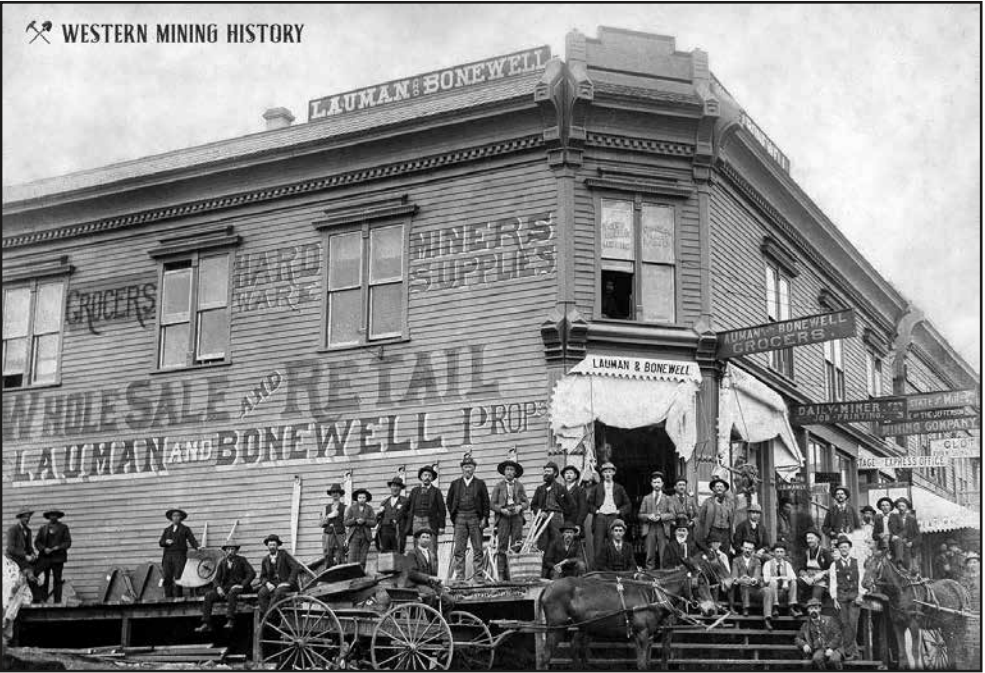
“this vote is not like any other, it is the last act of a civilized man participating in a civilized act simply to erase the last vestige of responsibility before becoming absolutely ungovernable.”
~ T.L. Davis, referencing a video by LTC Steven Murray

Western Mining History Crime in the Cripple C

By Jan MacKell Collins.

The last of Colorado’s great gold booms occurred in the Cripple Creek District, high on the backside of Pikes Peak, in 1891. Prior to that, the ranchers populating the area were hardly concerned with crime. The busy bustle of city life had yet to descend on the area.

With the discovery of gold, however, the region’s status quickly turned from that of quiet cow camps and homesteads to several rollicking boomtowns within a short distance, each complete with the accompanying evils.

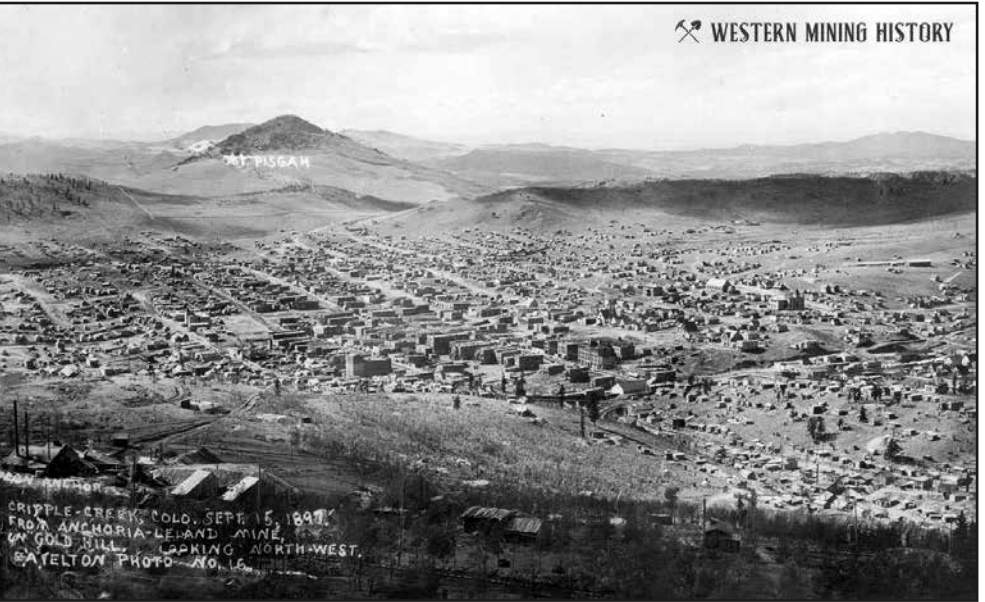


Lauman and Bonewell merchants – Cripple Creek, Colorado 1892

The growth of crime in the newly founded Cripple Creek District grew in proportion to the swelling population as prospectors, merchants, doctors, attorneys and a fair amount of miscreants descended upon the area. Marshal Henry Dana of Colorado Springs once joked that crime was down in his city because the law-breakers had all moved to Cripple Creek. He wasn’t far off.

Already, rumors had circulated for some time that the Dalton Gang of Kansas had used the area as an outlaw hideout. As the district grew, the Dalton’s moved on to their fateful end in Coffeyville, Kansas.

But for every outlaw who left the area, there was another one to take his place. Bunco artists, robbers, thieves and scammers soon descended upon the district in great numbers. The Cripple Creek District was still in its infancy and would lack proper law enforcement for some time.

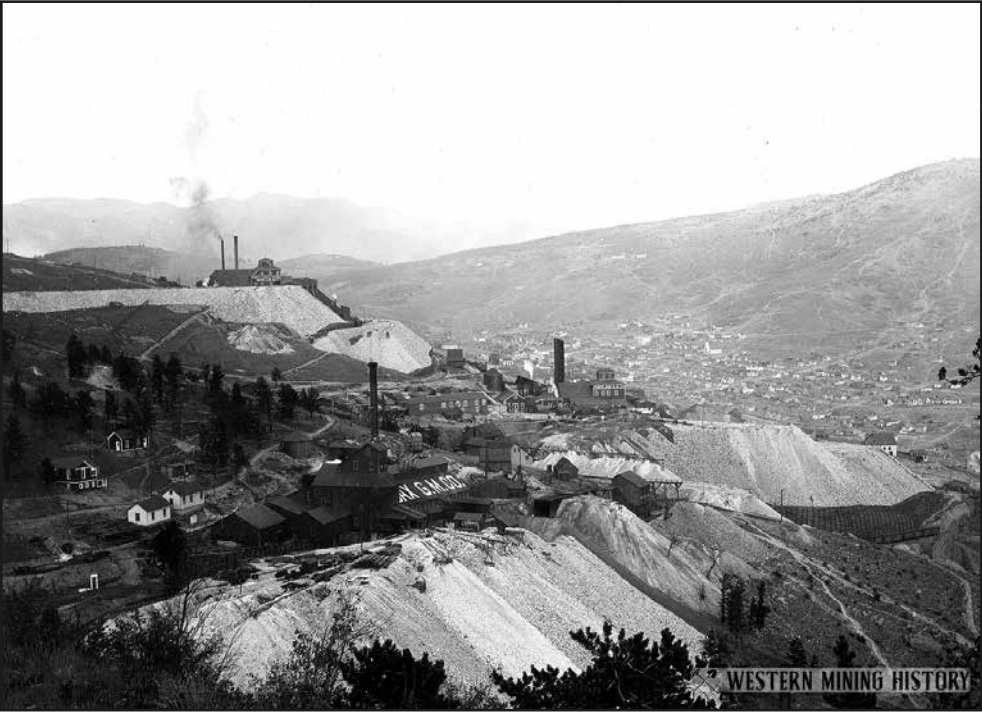


Cripple Creek Colorado 1897

Only after Cripple Creek ruffian Charles Hudspeth accidentally killed piano player Reuben Miller while attempting to shoot the bartender at the Ironclad Dance Hall did the city ban guns for a short time. But it was already too late. Cripple Creek’s outlaws were already blazing their own bloody path through history.

By 1894, gangs and undesirables were running rampant throughout the district. “Dynamite Shorty” McLain was one of the first bad guys to make

the papers for blowing up the Strong Mine in the district city of Victor during labor strikes.



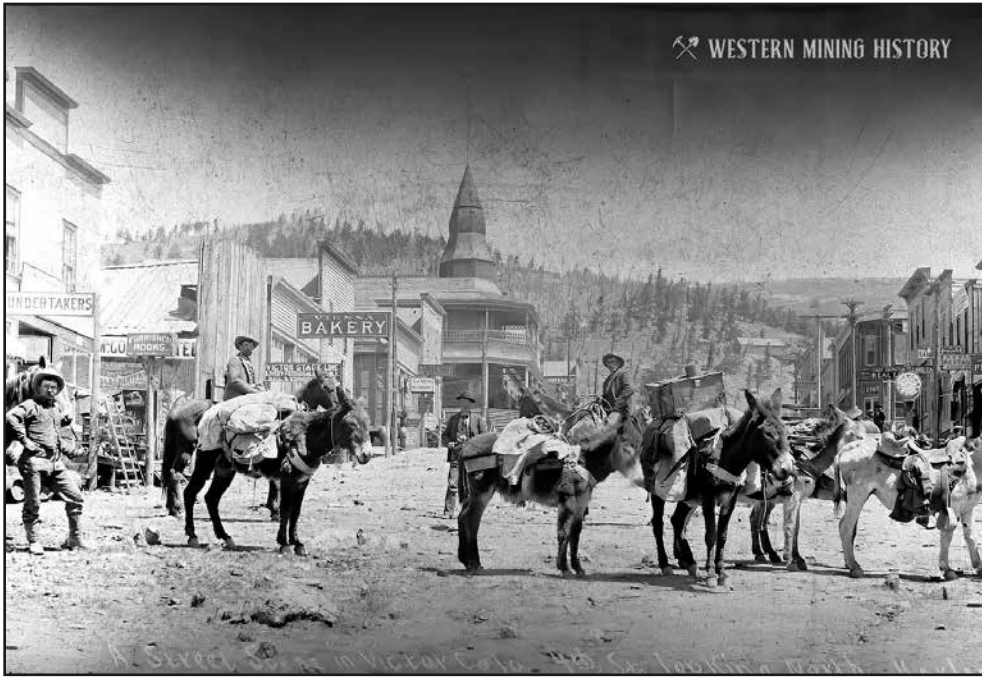
Battle Mountain Mines above Victor, Colorado.
The town of Goldfield is visible in the distance

The Crumley Gang

There was a gang hanging around Victor too, headed by the Crumley brothers. Grant, Sherman and Newt Crumley, lately of Pueblo, found the pickings quite ripe and soon fell in with outlaw Bob Taylor and his sister Nell, Mrs. Hailie Miller, Kid Wallace and O.C. Wilder.

Sherman Crumley was especially susceptible to running with would-be robbers. In May of 1895, he and Kid Wallace were arrested after five armed men robbed the newly formed Florence and Cripple Creek Railroad. Apparently a “toady” named Louis Vanneck squealed after receiving less than his share of the loot, which primarily consisted of money taken from passengers. Wallace went to jail, but the popular Crumley was acquitted.

Following the incident, the Crumley gang contented themselves with cheating at poker and rolling gamblers in the alleys. Sherman was also a known thief, often stashing his loot in abandoned buildings around smaller communities like Spring Creek just over Mineral Hill from Cripple Creek.



Pack train on Victor Avenue – Victor, Colorado ca. 1895

The Crumleys remained in the Cripple Creek District for some time, until Grant shot mining millionaire Sam Strong to death at the Newport Saloon in Cripple Creek in 1902. Grant was not without good reason, for Strong had suddenly pulled a gun on him and accused him of running a crooked roulette wheel.

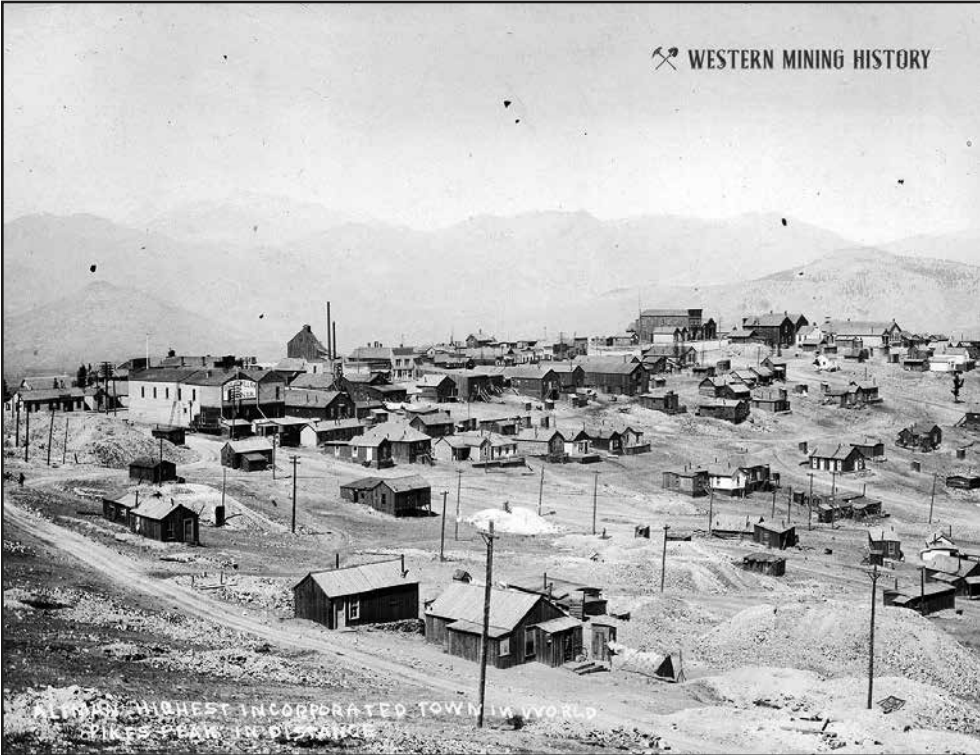
by: Bandits and Badmen: Cripple Creek District - Part I

Still, the killing of a man was not a reputation the Crumley’s wished to sustain, and the threesome quickly moved on to Tonopah and Goldfield, Nevada. Grant quickly earned a fine reputation as a man about town, while Newt became quite respectable and even owned the fabulous, four-story Goldfield Hotel for a time. His son, Newt Jr., would become a state senator.

“General” Jack Smith

The activities of the Crumleys were actually quite minor compared to those of “General” Jack Smith and his followers at the district town of Altman. Miner, poet and *Colorado Springs Gazette-Telegraph* columnist Rufus Porter (aka the “Hard Rock Poet”) once wrote a ballad about the town’s first marshal, Mike McKinnon. The honorable lawman died following a gunfight with six Texans (but not, allegedly, before he killed all six outlaws).

Porter may have actually been recalling an incident from May 1895, when outlaw General Jack Smith dueled it out with Marshal Jack Kelley. Smith had been running amuck for some time and had been warned by Kelley to stop trying “to run the town in his usual style.” On May 14, Smith wrapped up a night of drinking by shooting the locks off the Altman jail, thereby freeing two of his buddies, who were already incarcerated for drunkenness.



Altman Colorado 1897

Smith wisely left town, but the next day, a constable named Lupton and one Frank Vanneck located him in a Victor saloon. “I want you, Jack,” Lupton said, to which Smith replied, “If you want me, then read your warrant.” Lupton began reading the warrant, but Smith appeared to go for his gun. The constable quickly pinned the outlaw’s arms while Vanneck shoved a gun to Smith’s chest. Smith was arrested with a bond of \$300.

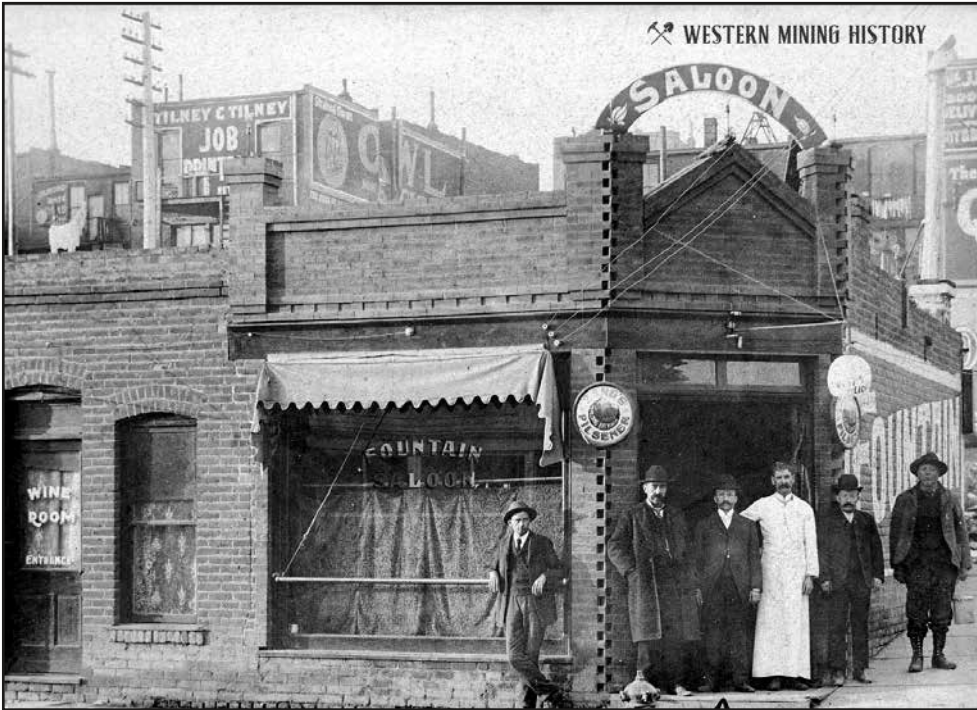
He managed to pay the bond quickly, however, and was next seen riding toward Altman “with the open declaration of doing up the marshal who swore the complaint.” Altman authorities were notified as Lupton and Victor Deputy Sheriff Benton headed for the town. By then, Smith had already gathered a small force of men, including one named George Popst.

The bunch headed to Gavin and Toohey’s Saloon, where Smith started ordering one drink after another. Outside, Lupton and Benton met up with Marshal Kelley and set out in search of the General. Kelley “had just lifted the latch of Lavine and Touhey’s [sic] saloon, when ‘crack’ went a gun from the inside. The ball struck the latch and glanced off.” Kelley threw the door open and shot Smith just below the heart. From the floor, Smith fired and emptied his own gun as Kelley continued shooting him.

Outside, Benton fired a shot through the window that hit Popst. “The latter may recover,” predicted the newspaper, “but Smith is certain to die.” Popst also died, about a week later.

Shootings and Robberies

Saloon shootings in the Cripple Creek District occurred with such frequency that sometimes, they were hardly regarded as newsworthy. An 1895 article in the *Colorado Springs Gazette* reported half-heartedly that Joe Hertz, a.k.a. Tiger Alley Joe, was shot above the Denver Beer Hall in Cripple Creek by Clem Schmidt. Hertz staggered down to the bar exclaiming, “That crazy Dutchman shot me!” A few minutes later, he fell to the floor and died.



Fountain Saloon at Cripple Creek late 1890s

The Gazette neglected to follow up on the crime or make comment on its effect in Cripple Creek. The year 1896 did not prove much better for the lawmen of the district. General Jack Smith’s widow, a prostitute known as “Hook and Ladder Kate,” masterminded the robbery of a stagecoach outside of Victor. In early April, Coroner Marlowe was contending with the likes of J.S. Schoklin, who dropped his loaded gun in a saloon and subsequently fatally shot himself in the side.

On April 25 and again on April 29 of the year 1896, Cripple Creek suffered two devastating fires that sent residents into a full blown panic as much of the downtown area and hundreds of homes burned. Folks hurried to rescue what they could in the wake of the flames.



Cripple Creek Fire 1896

Reprinted with permission. Visit <https://westernmininghistory.com/towns/colorado> for this and more great articles.

(KB: Keep your eye out for Part II to read how the good citizens in the district handled the “mostly peaceful” looters and arsonists!)

Layout by Katherine Brenchley



Colorado State News



14 BALLOT ISSUES from page 1

- **Amendment H** — This legislative initiative creates an independent judicial discipline adjudicative board and creates new rules for the judicial discipline process, including making the process public from the time the proceedings started, rather than confidential until the cases are completed.
- **Amendment I** — This legislative initiative would make criminal suspects charged with first-degree murder ineligible for bail when the proof is evident or the presumption of guilt is great. The state Constitution currently says only those who have committed “capital offenses” can be denied bail.
- **Amendment J** — This legislative initiative would remove a sentence from the Constitution that says “Only a union of one man and one woman shall be valid or recognized as a marriage in this state.” Gay marriage has been legal in Colorado since 2014, and in 2015 the U.S. Supreme Court ruled that marriage equality is the law of the nation, making Colorado’s Amendment 43 invalid.
- **Amendment K** — This legislative initiative would change the deadlines for filing initiative and referendum petition signatures and judicial retention notice deadlines. It would shorten the timeline one week in order to allow one extra week for the secretary of state to certify ballot order and content and election officials’ deadline to transmit ballots.
- **Proposition 127** — This citizen’s initiative would prohibit so-called “trophy hunting” of mountain lions, bobcats, or lynx. Opponents say there is no need for this law as Colorado law already bans the practice, and that this law is simply to deny the ability of the Division of Wildlife to control the big cat population with current, science-based wildlife management practices.
- **Proposition 128** — This citizen’s initiative would increase the minimum amount of time spent in jail for certain crimes before being eligible for parole. It would require offenders convicted of certain violent crimes on or after January 1, 2025, to serve at least 85% of their sentence and offenders with two prior violent crime convictions to serve their full sentence before being eligible for parole.
- **Proposition 129** — This citizen initiative would create the profession of veterinary professional associate (VPA), requiring a master’s degree and registration with the state board of veterinary medicine.

- **Proposition 130** — This citizen initiative would create the “Peace Officer Training and Support Fund” to provide funding for law enforcement training, retention, and hiring; training surrounding the use of force. It would also provide death benefits for surviving spouses and children of officers or first responders killed in the line of duty.
 - **Proposition 131** — This citizen initiative would change the way primaries are held in Colorado for S. Senate, U.S. House of Representatives, governor, attorney general, secretary of state, treasurer, Colorado University board of regents, state board of education, and state legislature by utilizing an open system and ranked-choice voting for the primaries. It would create a true open primary (all candidates run on one ballot, no separating primary by party anymore), and the top four would advance to the general election. Voters would rank their choices by preference, and those rankings would be calculated by eliminating the lowest performing candidate in “rounds” and adding the voter’s “next choice” to the results until only four remain.
 - According to the *Denver Post*, the issue committee supporting the measure raised “nearly \$5.5 million before Labor Day and spent nearly \$4.7 million of that to gather signatures, hire consultants and run advertisements. Most all of that money has come from either the political action committee Unite America or from Kent Thiry, a multimillionaire with a long history of political activity. Over the past two decades, Thiry has spent nearly \$10 million to influence Colorado politics, according to campaign finance records, including \$1.4 million — so far — on this latest effort.”
 - **Proposition JJ** — This legislative initiative would remove Taxpayer’s Bill of Rights (TABOR) revenue restrictions on the tax money collected by the state from sports betting. Currently, the state can only keep up to \$29 million.
 - **Proposition KK** — This legislative initiative creates a new tax of a 6.5% excise tax on firearms and ammunition manufacturing and sales to be imposed on firearms dealers, manufacturers, and ammunition vendors. A new cash fund would be created known as the Firearms and Ammunition Excise Tax Cash Fund and would be used to fund crime victim services programs, education programs, and mental and behavioral health programs for children and veterans.
- Please see: <https://pagetwo.completecolorado.com/2024/09/20/coloradans-to-decide-14-statewide-questions-on-jam-packed-november-ballot/>



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State Representative - Distict 60
✓ Stephanie Luck
District Attorney - 11th Judicial District
✓ Jeffrey D. Lindsey
County Offices
County Commissioner - District 3
✓ Lucas Epp
County Commissioner - District 2
✓ Paul Vogelsong

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ELECTION DATE: NOVEMBER 5, 2024

Ballot Drop Box Locations:

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Local Mountain News & Notices



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

by George Gramlich,
News and Commentary

The September 18, 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.

In Public Comments, local democrat big wig, James “Dr. Doom” Gilbert, was in a huff about Sheriff Smith calling Jordan “Red Bug” Hedberg’s Temporary Restraining Order (TRO) lawsuit against the County “frivolous” last week. This set him off in another Kamala style word-salad explosion which included these tidbits: freedom of the press, information dripping out from the board and agencies, erosion of our election system (*you can’t make this stuff up, folks,*) comments about no confidence in our election system is not good (*the left considers that misinformation and it must be suppressed,*) unfortunate that the Sheriff should consider a restraining order “frivolous” (it is). Gilbert finished his Ceasar salad entrée with a rousing plea for the Commissioners to “unite in support of the election system in this county”. BRAVISSIMO! Dr. Doom!

BOCC: Mañana for Transparency

by George Gramlich,
News and Commentary

The September 23, 2024 Custer County Board of County Commissioners regular meeting was held in their royal annex across from the courthouse. All three mighty Commissioners were present: Bill Canda, Lucas Epp and Kevin “Turncoat” Day. The meeting started around 9 a.m.

Epp was present via Zoom.

In Commissioner Items there was the usual babble but nothing important.

Accounts Payable was first up in New Business. The monthly amount that the county was going to pay out was \$221,712. During this discussion, Canda said, “We need to post this information on the internet.” Canda added that we “don’t have a BOCC administrator” and maybe Vernon (Roth) can post the reports. Epp piped up with, “We can find a place for the reports.” Kelley Camper, our County Clerk, then noted that Vernon is “overwhelmed” (which is true) and he can’t take any more work. She added the people can get copies by just asking me for one. Epp then said we “need to get somebody in there to help Vernon.” Then, in a typical bureaucratic mindset that “mañana, mañana” (tomorrow) is always ok and that there is no rush to actually do anything in government land, career government employee Day said, “as soon as we get the personnel to do this we will post them.”

(Background on the above: A few weeks ago, the *Sentinel* made a big stink about the Commissioners not posting the written reports they are now getting from the departments and the other elected officials so the people can see what is going on. This was agreed to be done a while back but of course none of the three Commissioners actually tried to set it up so now “we the people” are in the dark on what is going on in county government and we can’t report on it. Remember all three of these clowns ran on a “Transparency” platform but that apparently disappeared as soon as they were elected. Kudos for Canda bringing up the issue. Based on their record of trying to hire people in a timely manner, and Day’s apparent lack of caring, this could take a while. This is just another example of lack of planning that we see over and over again with Day seeming to be the worst. It is actually embarrassing...)

The only other item on the Agenda was accepting the bid for a county owned lot in Golden Valley that was up for bid. The only bid received was for \$3,500 which the Commissioners accepted.

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A	F	E	M		A	D	P	P	U	P	A	G	A

How the Second Amendment Came from Our Judeo-Christian Heritage

by Rachel Alexander,
FrontPageMag.com

John Zmirak, one of the most powerful and inspiring conservative writers of this era, has published another book, “No Second Amendment, No First: God, Guns, and the Government”. The Yale-educated journalist and former college professor shows how gun control efforts are misguided, damaging and incompatible with church teaching, in contrast to the right to keep and bear arms, which flows from “the very heart of biblical faith and reason.”

The ambitious book digs deeply into the history of the Christian church, American history and its precursors in ancient history where the Founding Fathers got their principles. The right to keep and bear arms comes from natural law.

Zmirak dedicated it to three people who lost their lives after around 2020 due to the left’s “anarcho-tyranny:” Jake Gardner, Ashli Babbitt and Rosanne Boyland. It begins with a quote by former Rep. Tulsi Gabbard explaining why she had to leave the Democratic Party.

Bestselling author and talk show host Eric Metaxas provided a foreword, where he relayed how he attended Yale when Zmirak did but was warned by progressives to stay away from the “conservative Christian fascist.” After becoming miser-able listening to his friends’ advice and views in the college full

of elitists, he became a Christian, which changed his political views.

In his introduction, Zmirak stated, “The most effective practical tool these elites are using is a weaponized perversion of the concept of ‘public health.’” He cited New Mexico Governor Lujan Grisham declaring a public health emergency a few Septembers ago, in order to suspend laws that allow open and concealed carry of firearms in Albuquerque for 30 days. He pointed at the abuse Kyle Rittenhouse and Gardner endured through the legal system for defending themselves with guns from progressive rioters. The Iraq War veteran killed himself after realizing he could end up spending the rest of his life in prison. Zmirak dedicated a heartbreaking epilogue to him.

Zmirak said three legal scholars concluded after an in-depth study, “The historical record shows that, almost without exception, genocide is preceded by a very careful government program that disarms the future victims.” He went over the danger of Red Flag laws, where the burden of proof is wrongly placed on the gun owner.

The first part of the book “explores the degeneration of the Judeo-Christian worldview that made possible the founding of a self-governing, free republic such as the United States of America.”

Instead, “we now see ourselves and our neighbors as termites

in a hive — dependent on top-down management and constant protection by our ‘betters.’”

The second part of the book offers solutions, and the third part goes over the historical background of “how the biblical view of man helped create (unique to the West) a philosophy of freedom.”

He derisively observed that “journalists, leftist flakes, and massively funded anti-gun activists might as well have a template on their computers, so interchangeable do the statements seem whenever a mass shooting occurs.” They act like there is an “awakening of common sense” in the face of “an epidemic of gun violence.”

Zmirak denounced the “sold-out churches;” the mainline Protestant religious congregations that issue a “long list of Woke buzzwords” after mass shootings. Cleverly, he crafted his own draft statement that churches should issue instead, which emphasizes the victims and how to stop the societal problems that create dangerous killers, instead of focusing on “gun violence.”

He discussed the history of Christianity in the U.S., and how the state began replacing God as the source of salvation — including as the source of defending yourself. He said the last great Christian moment was the Civil Rights movement.

The book is full of the classic lines Zmirak is known for, like this one regarding wokism: “Go deeper into the cult and the disciplines get more rigorous.” In reference to the Second Amendment, he sarcastically said, “Aristocrats warn the commoners that we are unworthy of the liberties our forefathers deeded us,” so the government must control all the weapons so “we sheep may safely graze.”

He derisively referred to a “brilliant piece of marketing” by Black Lives Matter, which was “weaponizing a perfectly legitimate biblical sentiment in service of a Marxist sect of street thugs and corporate shakedown experts.” It didn’t work. “The rate of homicides with black victims increased 53% since the protests after the death of George Floyd,” Zmirak said.

Florida State University criminologists Gary Kleck and Marc Gertz estimated that defensive use of guns, which includes merely brandishing one, occurs by Americans between 2.2 million to 2.5 million times each year.

Zmirak recommended legal scholar David Kopel’s book, “The Morality of Self-Defense and Military Action: The Judeo-Christian Tradition”, for more information on Jewish scriptural support for the Second Amendment. Kopel cited Exodus 22:2, which states, “If a thief is found breaking in, and is struck so that

he dies, there shall be no blood-guilt for him; but if the sun has risen upon him, there shall be bloodguilt for him.”

Zmirak denounced weak pastors in Hitler’s Germany who used Romans 13 to justify capitulating to the Nazis. While the Apostle Paul said Christians must be subject to the governing authorities, Zmirak clarified, “If your reading of a Bible verse leads to outrageous consequences that violate Natural Law or vitiate the Old Testament, or that seem to condemn the behavior of many saints . . . then you are indeed reading it wrong.”

Zmirak provided a fascinating account of The Crusades, pointing out that the atrocities were committed by “disorganized bands of commoners who attached themselves to the crusaders,” attacking others “[a]gainst the explicit orders of local bishops and Christian nobles.”

Zmirak didn’t just cover the Second Amendment, but related topics to provide context.

The book is full of so many fascinating, little known historical facts and spot-on analysis that it is a must read in order to understand our history and how we got to where we are today.

Please see: <https://www.frontpagemag.com/how-the-second-amendment-came-from-our-judeo-christian-heritage/>



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Local Mountain News & Notices

CUSTER COUNTY LEGAL NOTICES

NOTICE OF HEARING TO CONSIDER 2025 BUDGET AND RATE INCREASES ROUND MOUNTAIN WATER AND SANITATION DISTRICT

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN pursuant to Section 29-1-106, C.R.S. that a proposed budget has been submitted to the Board of Directors for Round Mountain Water and Sanitation District for the ensuing year of 2025; a copy of such proposed budget has been posted to our website, <https://rmwsd.com> , filed in the office of Round Mountain Water and Sanitation District and posted at 59000 Hwy 69 N, Westcliffe, Colorado, where the same is open for public inspection; such proposed budget will be considered at the Regular Board meeting on

November 21, 2024 at 2:00 p.m. Any interested person may inspect the proposed budget and file or register any objections thereto at any time prior to the final adoption of the budget.

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN pursuant to Section 32-1-1001, C.R.S to the customers of the Round Mountain Water and Sanitation District (RMWSD) and all other interested persons that, according to the schedule of the rate study that was completed in January of 2020, the Board of Directors of the RMWSD will continue increasing water and sewer rates. Effective January 1, 2025, the current water rates are proposed to increase by 6% and the current sewer rates are proposed to increase by

6%. Such proposed rates will be considered at the Regular Board meeting on November 21, 2024.

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN pursuant to Section 32-1-1001 (2)(a), C.R.S. to the customers of the Round Mountain Water and Sanitation District (RMWSD) and all other interested persons that the Board of Directors of the RMWSD will consider increasing the District’s Bulk Water Rate from .05 cents per gallon of bulk water to .06 cents per gallon, effective January 1, 2025. Such proposed rates will be considered at the Regular Board meeting on November 21, 2024.

This is an open public hearing to be held on:

November 21, 2024
2:00 p.m.

The meeting will be in person and via Zoom.

Please call 719-783-2604

to request a Zoom invitation.

NOTICE OF THIS PUBLIC NOTICE IS PUBLISHED on the District website at <https://rmwsd.com>

Dated this 20th day of September 2024

By: Dave Schneider, General Manager and Peggy Quint, Business Office Manager
Round Mountain Water and Sanitation District
Published on or about October 10th, 2024.

Published October 4 & 11, 2024
Sangre de Cristo Sentinel
Westcliffe, CO

Kirkpatrick Bank Adds Craig Boelte to Board of Directors

OKLAHOMA CITY, OK.

“We are excited to have Craig join our board and look forward to his contributions to our success,” said George Drew, President & CEO of Kirkpatrick Bank. Drew added that Boelte will also serve on the bank’s credit and audit committees.

Boelte, 61, has served as Chief Financial Officer of Paycom Software Inc. (PAYC) since February 2006 and as treasurer since May 2017. He also served as secretary from May 2017 to February 2024. Before joining Paycom, Boelte owned an accounting practice serving more than six hundred clients and served Paycom. Prior to that, he spent nine years at Deloitte & Touche as a senior tax manager.

Boelte is a member of the Oklahoma Society of CPAs and the American Institute of CPAs. He holds a bachelor’s degree in business administration and a master’s degree in accounting from Oklahoma State University. He has more than thirty-six years of experience in the workforce management and HR industries.

“Seek the LORD
while He may be found;
call upon Him while He is near;

Let the wicked forsake his way,
and the unrighteous man
his thoughts;
let him return to the LORD,
that He may have compassion
on him,
and to our God, for He will
abundantly pardon.”

Isaiah 55:6-7 ESV

Come and Worship

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

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

Church of Jesus Christ of Latter Day Saints
240 Ridgeline Dr, Westcliffe
Pres: 719/214-4589

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

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

Cotopaxi Community Church
9:45 a.m. Sunday School
11 a.m. Worship
6 p.m. Wedn. Bible Study
Pastor Steve Holcomb@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
4:30 p.m. Wedn. AWANAS
417 S. 6th Street, Westcliffe
Pastor Josh Olsteen
719/783-2498

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

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

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

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

Our Lady of the Assumption

Roman Catholic Church
Diocese of Pueblo
11 a.m. Sunday Mass
10 a.m. (2nd Tuesday of month) Mass
10 a.m. Wednesday Mass
5:30 p.m. Thursday Mass
109 S. 5th Street, Westcliffe
719/783-3507

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

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

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

St. Patrick's Anglican Church
11 a.m. Worship
403 S. 2nd S., Westcliffe
925/339-0175 or 719/783-2500

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

Sangre de Cristo Cowboy Church
Pastor: Mike Shields
10 a.m. Sunday School Bible Study
11 a.m. Worship
Last Sunday of Month:
Potluck at Noon
sangredecristocowboychurch.com
also on Facebook
60260 Hwy 69, Westcliffe
719/232-5372

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

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

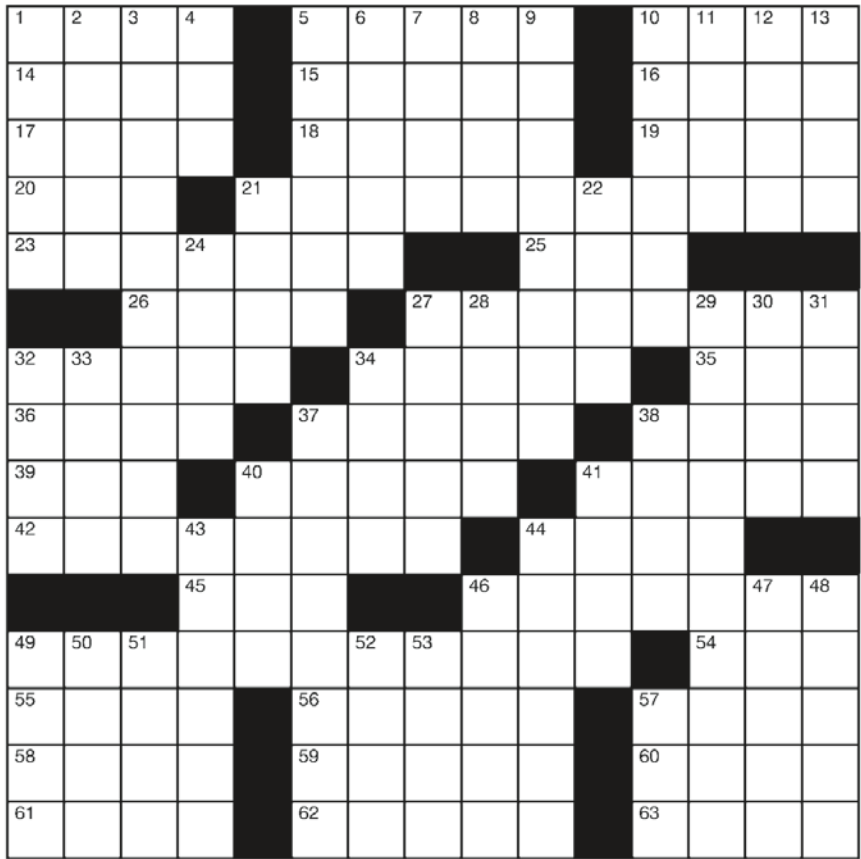
Valley Bible Fellowship
10 a.m. Worship
116 Hermit Lane, Silver Cliff
719/581-7572

Wetmore Baptist Church
9:45 a.m. Sunday School
10:45 a.m. Worship
6 p.m. Worship
Junction of Hwy 96 & 67, Wetmore
719/371-1230

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

Send Church updates to sdcsentinel@gmail.com
(719) 783-3360

CROSSWORD PUZZLE



“DOUBLE L”

A Charles Preston Puzzle

CROSS

- Heroic story
- Raised, as an ante
- A disaster agcy.
- Certain poems
- Late Judd
- Test
- Vietnam's neighbor
- Mrs. Flintstone
- Latvian capital
- The 'A' of USDA: abbr.
- Five-time Yankees manager
- Backslide
- Lamb's mama
- Roof overhang
- Slalom behind a boat
- Ungainly
- Stood up to
- Roofing sealant
- Part of HOMES
- Vestibule
- End-user test
- Zilch
- Connery and Penn
- Some people make these
- Fish story
- Yawn producer
- Nosh

- Chimpanzee researcher Jane
- Goldie Hawn's beloved
- Grazing area
- “___ this moment . . .” (2 wds.)
- Itinerary
- Blueprint
- Actress Patricia
- Infielder's goof
- Group at home on the range
- Whirlpool
- Shorthand writer, for short
- Bed and breakfasts

DOWN

- ___ panels
- Saying
- A political writer
- Dolt
- Inadvisable
- Buckets
- Politician's probe
- TV award
- Circle measurement
- Memorable actor José
- Sign over a door
- First Christmas visitors
- To ___: unanimous (2 wds.)
- Flock of quail

- Thunderstruck
- Leaf gathering tool
- Late actor John
- High cards
- A TV pioneer
- 'Kiss Me, ___'
- Gershwin and Levin
- Bloke
- Diva showstopper
- Young horse
- Eyes, nose, et al.
- The ___ of Avon
- Constellation component
- Sheep are sheared for this
- Lash out (2 wds.)
- Ravel opus
- Board (2 wds.)
- Memorize
- Comes to earth
- Role for Orson Welles
- Second-hand
- “On the ___ again . . .”
- Genre
- Of course!
- ___ Beta Kappa

Puzzle key on page 15

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.

Vows & Promises

We Make

Anytime we promise to do or not do something, we are making a vow. It is important to follow through with it. For example, if parents don't follow through on what they say they will do, children can get the idea that they can lie. When we don't follow through on what we promise, it's a reflection on our character. There was a time when someone could get a loan at the bank on his word and a handshake. His word was his bond. But nowadays there is not that level of trust. How many times have we found ourselves bargaining with God saying, if you only do this Lord, I will Our words have meaning and consequences. Society has become very casual about the words we use. Vow making, however, is a serious matter.

Numbers 30 begins with the discussion of vows to the LORD, and gives permission for a woman to be released from a vow by the authority of her husband or father. Numbers 30:2 says that whoever makes a vow "is not to break his word." The Hebrew word for "break" comes from the root chalul, meaning to profane or make unholy. This is the same root used in the phrase chillul Hashem, which means to desecrate the Name of the LORD. Leviticus 22:32 says, "And you shall not profane (chillul) My holy name; but I will be sanctified among the children of Israel: I am the LORD who sanctifies you." Deuteronomy 7:9 says, "From this you know that the LORD your God is indeed God, the faithful God, who keeps his covenant and extends grace to those who love Him..."

The LORD will always keep His word, and so He wants us to keep ours as well. Jesus is the Word of God, just as His words are true and life giving, so should ours be also. The sages say that the words we speak, either good or bad, call for a response in the heavenly realm. The Hebrew for "word," devar, also means "thing." The words we speak or keep in our hearts can and do define the course of our lives—and things. We've discussed lashon harah (evil tongue) many times, and the weight that our words carry before God. This is why Jesus warned not to make an oath or vow, since our words should be enough. He says in Matthew 5:37, "Let your 'Yes' be a simple 'Yes,' and your 'No' a simple 'No.'; anything more has its origin in evil."

Let us remember Jephthah in Chapter 11 of Judges who made a vow to the LORD, that whatever came out of his house to meet him when he returned from battle would be sacrificed to ADONAI, and his only child, a daughter, came to greet him—An extreme case, yes, but it was included in scripture for our benefit. Our words are meant to glorify God, and strengthen and build up one another. Ephesians 4:29 exhorts, "Let no harmful language come from your mouth, only good words that are helpful in meeting the need, words that will benefit those who hear them." Ecclesiastes 5:5 says, "It is better not to vow than to make a vow and not fulfill it." This is referring especially to making a vow before God. Remember your words have meaning.

Bill Wilson

Dailyjot.com Printed with permission.

Florida Sues Over Violent

Foreign Nationals Being Released

from Prison into U.S.

by Bethany Blankley,
The Center Square

The state of Florida is suing the Biden-Harris administration to obtain information on how many illegal foreign nationals convicted of violent crimes who served time in prison were released into the U.S. instead of being deported.

“Historically, when illegal aliens were brought to the U.S. to be prosecuted for their crimes, it was well understood that the aliens would be deported once they have served their sentence,” Florida’s lawsuit, filed by Attorney General Ashley Moody, states. “That was until the Biden-Harris Administration implemented their shockingly irresponsible immigration policy, pushing unknown numbers of dangerous criminals straight from federal prison into our communities and causing chaos, anarchy and crime.”

The lawsuit was filed after Florida received no response to a Freedom of Information Act request it submitted in March seeking information about criminal illegal foreign nationals allegedly being released into the U.S. instead of being deported.

It was filed in the U.S. District Court Middle District of Florida Fort Myers Division and names U.S. Immigration & Customs Enforcement and the Federal Bureau of Prisons as defendants.

“In addition to flat out refusing to secure the border, reports indicate that President Biden and failed Border Czar Kamala Harris refuse to deport dangerous illegal immigrant prisoners into our communities once they are released from prison,” Moody said. “This administration has made it clear they will not turn over documents showing this dangerous and unlawful scheme in a timely manner. Now, American cities are suffering in a very public way. I will not stand idly by and allow this dereliction of duty.”

When filing the FOIA request in March, she said, “The Biden administration has full knowledge that prisoners from other countries are making their way into the United States through our wide-open border. Now, we are demanding to know reasons why the Biden administration is releasing criminal illegal aliens in U.S. prisons directly into the interior, rather than deporting them back to their country of origin,” saying, “the American people deserve to know.”

The complaint states the administration is “unlawfully withholding records” and by doing so, harming Florida by “continuously denying Florida access to documents that it has a legal right to.” It also states the harm is irreparable until ICE is compelled to follow the law. The lawsuit asks the court to order the defendants to respond to Florida’s request and cover attorney fees.

In the complaint, Moody also alludes to the different processes followed by U.S. Customs and Border Protection Air & Marine Operations, Border Patrol, and U.S. Coast Guard officials when apprehending an illegal border crosser at a land border versus at sea.

Unlike those illegally entering at the southwest or northern borders by land, who are largely processed into the U.S. instead of for removal, when apprehended at sea, most illegal foreign nationals are repatriated to their country of origin, *The Center Square* has reported.

U.S. Coast Guard 7th District in South Florida crews continue to interdict and repatriate foreign nationals attempting to illegally enter the U.S. off the coast of Florida, including a record number under the Biden-Harris administration, *The Center Square* has reported.

According to **Coast Guard records**, in six months from October 1, 2022, to May 17, 2023, for example, crews interdicted or encountered **6,679 Cubans** and **4,473 Haitians**, *The Center Square* previously reported.

By comparison, crews apprehended 838 Cubans in fiscal 2021, 49 in fiscal 2020, 313 in fiscal 2019 and 259 in fiscal 2018, *The Center Square* reported.

These numbers exclude interdiction efforts of Miami Sector Border Patrol agents, also exclusively reported on by *The Center Square*.

Critics argue if the policies implemented at sea, off the coast of Florida, or on Florida shores were implemented at U.S. northern and southwest land borders, potentially millions of illegal foreign nationals would have been processed for removal instead of being released into the country with a notice to appear before an immigration judge several years into the future.

Those apprehended by federal and local officials on the Florida coast after they illegally arrived by sea, who didn't legally arrive at ports of entry with any immigration claim, are primarily processed for removal and “are generally not eligible to claim asylum or to appear before an immigration judge,” Moody notes.

Under the Biden-Harris administration, “criminal aliens [are brought] to the United States [by the federal government] so the aliens can be prosecuted consistent with federal law and serve time in prison. But everyone has always assumed – in both Democrat and Republican administrations – that such aliens would be deported the moment they finished their criminal sentence,” she said. “Otherwise, the decision to bring a criminal to the United States for prosecution results in a benefit to that alien in the form of the right to permanently remain in the United States.

“For the first time in history, however, the Biden-Harris Administration has abandoned that practice ... In other words, as things stand, asylum seekers caught on the high seas have been returned to their home country without even seeing an immigration judge, while drug traffickers and other serious criminals brought to the United States only for the purpose of serving prison time are being released straight into our communities to wreak havoc on our citizenry.”

(Editor/GG: What kind of SICK minds would release those animals back into our society to kill, rob, rape and pillage again? Democrats.)

Please see: https://www.thecentersquare.com/national/article_90f9c15a-6a26-11ef-8327-7fc9b12d220a.html



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Who Is Kamala Harris?

A Disturbing and Haunting Record Pt.9

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:)

Accusing President Trump of Racism

On June 11, 2020, Harris joined other Democrats as well as a number of media outlets in declaring that President Trump's plans for future campaign rallies in Tulsa, Oklahoma, and Jacksonville, Florida, were racist — simply because of the locations chosen, and the dates for which the rallies were scheduled. For example, Harris was vexed by the Trump campaign's announcement that it would hold its first rally in Tulsa on June 19 — occasionally known as "Juneteenth," the anniversary of the day when freed slaves in Texas were first read the Emancipation Proclamation. In the senator's calculus, Trump's choice of that date was a deliberate provocation: "This isn't just a wink to white supremacists—he's throwing them a welcome home party," she tweeted. Democrats and journalists also claimed that the choice of Tulsa as the site of the rally was racist, because in 1921 that city had been the scene of deadly race riots by local whites. Critics likewise objected to a Trump rally scheduled for Jacksonville on August 27th, noting that it would coincide with the 60th anniversary of a Ku Klux Klan attack against black activists in that city.

Harris' Senate Voting Record

Harris' voting record made her the farthest-left member of the U.S. Senate in 2019.

For an overview of Harris' voting record on a variety of key issues, see <https://www.discoverthenetworks.org/organizations/voting-record-kamala-harris>

Nominated by Joe Biden As Vice Presidential Running Mate

On August 11, 2020, Harris was announced as former Vice President Joe Biden's running mate for the 2020 U.S. presidential election.

Advocating Equality of Outcomes — i.e., Communism

On November 1, 2020 — two days before election day — Harris posted (on Twitter) a video animation that she narrated, and in

which she said: explaining the difference between "equality" and "equity" and concluding that "equitable treatment means we all end up at the same place." The video showed illustrations of a white man and a black man each preparing to climb a mountain; the white man had access to a rope that helped him get started, while his black counterpart did not. Meanwhile, Harris recited her narration: "So there's a big difference between equality and equity. Equality suggests, 'Oh everyone should get the same amount.' The problem with that, not everybody [sic] startin' out from the same place. So if we're all gettin' the same amount, but you started out back there and I started out over here — we could get the same amount, but you [you are] still going to be that far back behind me. It's about giving people the resources and the support they need so that everyone can be on equal footing and then compete on equal footing. Equitable treatment means we all end up at the same place."

Plagiarizing a Martin Luther King Story

In October 2020, *Elle* magazine published an interview with Harris that said: "[Harris] remembers being wheeled through an Oakland, California, civil rights march in a stroller with no straps with her parents and her uncle. At some point, she fell from the stroller (few safety regulations existed for children's equipment back then), and the adults, caught up in the rapture of protest, just kept on marching. By the time they noticed little Kamala was gone and doubled back, she was understandably upset. 'My mother tells the story about how I'm fussing,' Harris says, 'and she's like, Baby, what do you want? What do you need? And I just looked at her and I said, Fweedom.'" Harris also told this same story in a televised C-SPAN-2 interview.

As *Breitbart News* noted, Harris't story bore a striking resemblance to a January 1965 *Playboy* interview with Martin Luther King, Jr., in which he recalled, "I never will forget a moment in Birmingham when a white policeman accosted a little Negro girl, seven or eight years old, who was walking in a demonstration with her mother. 'What do you want?' the policeman asked her gruffly, and the little girl looked him straight in the eye and answered, 'Fee-dom.'"

KAMALA HARRIS
see page 22

The Real Tim Walz

by Discover the Networks via FrontPageMag.com

(Editor/GG: Part 5. And it gets worse....)

Walz's Response to the Death of George Floyd & the Ensuing Race Riots

The infamous death of George Floyd at the hands of a white Minneapolis police officer named Derek Chauvin occurred on Monday, May 25, 2020. During the next two days, Tuesday and Wednesday, Black Lives Matter-affiliated protests and riots in the city became increasingly numerous and violent, leaving the area looking like a devastated war zone. Minneapolis' Democrat mayor, Jacob Frey, telephoned Walz on Wednesday to request that the governor deploy National Guard troops to help quell the chaos. But not until Thursday, May 28th, did Walz sign an executive order activating the Minnesota National Guard. This was too little, too late, however. As of Thursday night, May 28th, only 90 National Guard troops were on the ground in the Twin Cities — an insufficient number to combat the massive hordes of rioters and vandals. The violence, therefore, continued to grow more intense. Perhaps the most memorable scene that day was the burning down of the Minneapolis Police Department's 3rd Precinct building, which occurred after Walz had instructed the police to give up the building to the rioters and arsonists, and to flee the scene. Meanwhile, Walz issued at least two separate statements indicating that he had completely failed to avert the massive crisis that was now engulfing the city:

- "This is the largest civilian deployment in Minnesota history that we have out there today. And quite candidly, right now, we do not have the numbers. We cannot arrest people when we're trying to hold ground because of the sheer size, the dynamics, and the wanton violence that's coming out there."
- "I will take responsibility for underestimating the wanton destruction and the size of this crowd. We have deployed a force, that, I think ... would have, in any other civilian police operation, worked. But the terrifying thing is to hear people who have seen this, and myself looking at this, it resembles more of a military operation at times now, as, especially, ringleaders moving from place to place."

Walz finally mobilized the full Minnesota National Guard on Saturday, May 30th. By Sunday, May 31st, the violence in Minneapolis had largely abated.

During the course of the mayhem that was tearing Minneapolis apart, Walz issued a number of statements characterizing the destruction as an understandable response to America's long legacy of racism against black people, and as a wake-up call to the nation at large. Some examples:

- "Minneapolis and St. Paul are on fire. The fire is still smoldering in our streets. The ashes are symbolic of decades and generations of pain, of anguish, unheard, much like we failed to hear George Floyd as he pleaded for his life, as the world watched, by people sworn to protect him, his community, our state. Philando Castile, silenced, unheard. So many other [nonwhite] friends, brothers, sisters, mothers, fathers, senselessly died in our street. Their voices went unheard, and now generations of pain is manifesting itself in front of the world — and the world is watching.... What the world has witnessed since the killing of George Floyd on Monday has been a visceral pain, a community trying to understand who we are and where we go from here."
- "Watching this [police killings of unarmed blacks] happen across the United States. Watching another name be added [to the list of black people killed by police]. And for those of us who are old enough [to remember], to Rodney King, to Mike Brown, And unfortunately now we've added George Floyd."
- "I want to be very clear and speak to that [black] community. The very tools [police and other law-enforcement personnel] that we need to use to get control, to make sure that buildings aren't burned, and the rule of law collapses [doesn't collapse], are those very institutional tools that have led to that [current] grief and pain. I understand clearly there is no trust [for the police] in many of our communities. And the differentiation between the Minneapolis Police Department that we witnessed losing trust of those they are there to serve, is very difficult for people to make for those [white people with political power] standing up here with me. I understand that. And I will not patronize you as a white man, without living those lived experiences, of how very difficult that is. But I'm asking you to help us. Help us use a humane way to get the streets to a place where we can restore the justice so that those that are expressing rage and anger and demanding justice are heard."

TIM WALZ
see page 22

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The Second Amendment Corner

Liberty's Line in the Sand



2024

A Rifle Is Not Enough Part 1

by Tunnel Rabbit,
SurvivalBlog.com

In this six-part article, I'll be covering a few of the areas concerning the AR-15 that are often overlooked and do not receive enough attention. This is an attempt to bring some considerations to the attention of new shooters before it is too late to correct an oversight. While this article is decidedly AR-15 rifle-centric, there will be other rifle platforms and alternative ammunition types mentioned. Please be advised that I am not a trained professional and I have no formal weapons training or formal education of any kind and have never been in the military. I speak only as a self-taught citizen defender, and I'm not qualified to have a professional opinion on these matters.

I believe that the ordinary citizen can and should strive to bear arms in an effective manner and that we can do this on our own if we have the will to do so. We are the stock that has provided our Armed Forces with the talent and means it once possessed. Apathy killed this country. If there is a will, then there is a way, and the audience is now the Praetorian Guard of the American way.

What I'm describing will require hard work and dedication, yet what are our lives, faith, and liberty worth? I am hopefully providing information that might serve the Christian faith, our grandsons, and the future of this country. As I see it, it shall be primarily the old and the young that would be willing to die to retain a remnant and portion of the land that what once was, and what could be, if we are not indeed entering the End Times.

THE AR-15, A SYMBOL OF FREEDOM

Simply owning a rifle without knowing how to maintain and use it makes it more symbolic than real. As I recall JWR used an incisive analogy. He is often quoted as saying: "Owning a gun doesn't make someone a 'shooter' any more than owning a surfboard makes someone a surfer." One should conclude that the rifle alone is not enough to

protect life and liberty. In modern America, it seems that owning a rifle has become the goal, and that owning many rifles to make us feel safer. Yet it is only a *platform*, an important tool that requires training and must be understood and supported by accessories and supplies, and the knowledge to maintain it, otherwise owning a rifle is merely symbolic.

Buying 'Gucci' rifles and hanging the latest and greatest accessories on the rifle does not necessarily make it a better rifle. It would certainly make the rifle heavier and possibly less combat-effective for people who are not in peak physical condition. Buying only a rifle and what is needed for a day at the range practicing is not going to cut the mustard, either. Instead of buying a sports car with the most expensive and powerful motor and all the options and having no way to pay for the gas, oil, and tires to keep it on the road, we could end up with an expensive club that is not as effective as a club. Before purchasing a firearm the total cost of ownership and operation should be determined first and then an affordable rifle and supporting accessories and ammunition chosen, and preferably purchased together to complete a package.

To quote one unidentified soldier in Ukraine:

"This conflict has taught me a lot about the context of "good enough" vs "Gucci." Gucci sxxx is great, Gucci sxxx is better, but good enough will still drop bodies and get you through the fight all the same. Plus you save money for the most important sxxx, like ammo [and body armor] plates."

UKRAINIANS ARE LEARNING THE HARD WAY

The variety of rifles and equipment being used in Ukraine is whatever is available, affordable, and sourced from many different countries, their surplus system, grey markets, and even the Internet. Much of it is Cold War and later gear, and inexpensive items purchased with personal funds. Many of the affordable modern accessories for rifles and gear in general tends to

be of lower quality, and it is not battle-tested. I would not want to be in the same situation as a contemporary Ukrainian. Therefore I am encouraging Americans to fix this problem now.

For the Ukrainian grunt, 5.56 ammunition and magazines are 3 to 4 times the current retail price found in the U.S. Considering that the average Ukrainian has a lower standard of living makes the purchase of these supplies during war time extremely expensive. Special units are provided with the latest and greatest gear, yet the average Ukrainian grunt must buy his own if they want better than issued that is typically an AK-74 and 4 to 10 magazines and no more than 300 rounds.

Unlike the Ukrainian grunt's experience, there may be **no resupply** for Americans during a grid-down collapse. The learning curve could be much steeper, if not sharply abrupt for Americans. We should not expect any outside help or access to markets. Depending on how our cookie crumbles, because of the long list of small manufacturers specializing in the AR platform, and because of the amazing innovations produced for the AR-15, it is possible that a low level of manufacture may persist, yet I would not assume that it would exist.

THE IMPORTANCE OF REPLACEMENT PARTS

Eventually, all springs lose their ability to function as they were intended to do over time and with used. Leaving the action cocked and stored for period of many months after clearing the weapon can cause the hammer spring to slowly and imperceptibly lose spring tension prematurely. And springs can break. The AKM recoil spring, should it fail, can be replaced with several large rubber bands or even a good bungee cord, but that is **not** an acceptable long-term solution.

This same problem can occur with lower cost and possibly lower quality magazines. Avoid storing fully-loaded magazines for long periods such as 6 months or more, and have more magazines and spare magazine

springs just in case. The highest quality equipment would presumably be less likely to suffer from the effects of use over time. But do your research before you order, because some components are sourced from China or other countries that now dominate the industrialized world. A product or part could be assembled in the U.S. or even manufactured in part or wholly in the U.S., but yet the base materials, and tempering are mainly provided by foreign manufacturers and quality control could be inconsistent. If trade becomes impossible with these countries, then the ability to produce parts or a complete weapon would likely be increasingly difficult if not impossible without a significant increase in production costs if we were able to produce the base metals or polymers used.

Because of the current inconsistent quality of available parts and materials, manufacturers are competing in a tightly contested market that favors ever-lower prices as our currency further declines in purchasing power. The result, as time progresses is that the service life of the item could be shorter than expected. Springs, clips, fasteners, and other small parts such as firing pins will increasingly fail or wear out prematurely or become otherwise lower in quality or nonexistent. This trend is not our friend. This is a key reason to stock up on *many* sets of small parts to keep any rifle and an AR running for the next decade and beyond.

Without a deep supply of replacement parts, all weapons will eventually wear out or break after being in service for a few years. ARs will need to have their ejectors replaced after around 5,000 rounds — or perhaps even sooner if low-cost steel-cased ammunition is used extensively. Barrels will lose their peak accuracy above the 7,000-round count. Spare parts and complete uppers for the AR-15 are relatively inexpensive. Everything including butt stocks might need to be replaced. In a protracted conflict, a foe would size up the manufacturing ability and target key industries for destruction as all war is

essentially a war of attrition. Remove or destroy the ability to manufacture key small parts and strategic materials, and a large military force can be stopped in its tracks.

THE LOGISTICAL ADVANTAGES OF THE AR-15

The AR-15 is now ubiquitous and has the huge advantage of having a deep supply of inexpensive parts and there are untold pallets of ammunition out there. And it has deep technical support as well. Technical support should not be underestimated. But even this broad supply would be quickly be consumed or otherwise not be available as lines of communication are disrupted or denied.

At one time, the AKM was the king of survivalist arsenals, but now it is the AR-15 because it is inexpensive to purchase the rifle, extra parts and ammunition supply, and because the rifle is so easy to work on that the average kitchen tabletop kinda guy need not be a gunsmith.

However, without a deep supply of parts, on average our AR-15 rifles will no longer function well or at all after about 5,000 rounds. If used during a time of war, the AR-15 will after the first to two years of constant use, become combat ineffective. If we have twice that amount of ammunition, perhaps 10,000 rounds, yet no replacement parts to keep the rifle running, then we have made a serious logistical error.

The first spare part kits to buy are the kits that include all the springs and small parts that wear out or can become accidentally lost. Second on the list to buy is a complete Bolt Carrier Group (BCG)) that can be carried in your sustainment field gear and installed immediately after a failure to eject. Third, buy a spare complete upper, and fourth, a complete lower parts kit that includes the butt stock and pistol grip.

(To be continued, in Part 2.)

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Please see: <https://survivalblog.com/2024/09/17/a-rifle-is-not-enough-part-1-by-tunnel-rabbit/>

by Logan Metesh,
ammoland.com

It's not uncommon for brand name objects to assume the role of catch-all term for their generic equivalent. The two most obvious and ubiquitous examples are when you refer to all facial tissues as *Kleenex* and all cotton swabs as *Q-Tips*.

While not nearly as common in the realm of firearms, the same thing does happen from time to time. That's the case with the terms

"derringer" and "Deringer." If you didn't know that there was a difference, then this story is for you. Or, perhaps you knew there was a difference but didn't really think it meant much of anything. Well, then, this story is for you, too.

So now that we've established that they're two different terms, why are they different, and what do they mean? For starters, the catch-all spelling uses a lower-case D and has two R's, and



Pistol made by Henry Deringer (Morphy Auctions)

the brand name version uses an upper-case D and has only one R. This is because the latter is a proper name. Henry Deringer, Jr. had gunsmithing in his blood: his father, an immigrant from Germany, came to the American Colonies before the Revolutionary War. Henry Deringer, Sr. settled in Pennsylvania and was known for making the now-iconic Pennsylvania-style long rifles and pistols.

DERINGER see page 21

DERINGER
from page 20

Born in 1786, Junior apprenticed at the Virginia Manufactory in Richmond in his early twenties. There, he learned the intricacies of the trade by making arms for the Virginia state militia. Upon completion of his apprenticeship, he moved back to Philadelphia and opened his own gunsmithy.

By 1814, much of Henry’s time was occupied with filling various government contracts. These contracts were quite lucrative, and it was the desire of most gunmakers in this era – just as it is today – to obtain one. Deringer ended up making more than 20,000 Model 1814 and Model 1817 flintlock long arms. He also made some 50,000 flintlock trade arms, including those for John Jacob Astor’s American Fur Company.

When the military contracts waned after the end of the War of 1812, Deringer shifted his focus to firearms for private purchase. By the 1840s, he had left government work behind and focused solely on the civilian market. The decision to make this market shift would lead to his name becoming forever linked to pocket pistols, whether he actually made them or not.

What we think of today as the quintessential Philadelphia-style derringer came to fruition in 1852. In the years immediately prior to this, during the height of the Gold Rush, Henry had seen the rise in need for a small, concealable arm



“Real” derringers have only one R in the name. (Morphy Auctions)

suitable for personal protection. Colt’s Model 1849 Pocket revolver was selling quite well, and while it was indeed small compared to the Model 1851, it was hardly a pocket pistol.

In order to create something that really could fit in someone’s pocket, Deringer realized that creating any kind of revolver was out of the question. (It would still be a few years before Smith

& Wesson came out with the .22 Short, ushering in the era of pocket revolvers.)

Because of this, Henry’s creation would have to be a simple, single-shot design. Unfortunately for Deringer, there was nothing new about any of the mechanisms employed in his pistol. This meant that there was nothing for him to patent and make uniquely his own. He also failed to legally



Generic derringer-style pistol (Morphy Auctions)

trademark his name and the way it was marked on his guns, which was DERINGER / PHILADELA, stamped on the lock plate or the top of the barrel.

If Deringer’s pistol design had been uniquely his or if he had trademarked his name, then it’s quite possible that he would have become one of the hundreds of arms inventors whose names and creations in the 19th century are generally lost to history among the behemoths such as Colt, Remington, and Smith & Wesson.

The lack of a patented design created a legal headache for Henry for the rest of his life, but it also, somewhat ironically, cemented his place in arms maker history and the American lexicon.

That “derringer” and “Deringer” are actually two different things was almost as unknown of a fact then as it is today. Competitors capitalized on this and began stamping their knock-off lock guns with names that were similar in spelling and sound to the real thing. Some examples include H. Deringer, J. Deringer, Deeringer, Beringer, and Derringer.

The exact number of companies making copies of Deringer’s design is unknown; it is believed that there were at least half a dozen in Philadelphia alone! One such Philly-based maker, Slotter & Company, even employed former Deringer employees. As a result, their guns were almost indistinguishable from the genuine ones.

Over the following decades, the lines got blurrier as “derringer”

became an increasingly popular term for any easily concealable pistol. (In fact, my computer’s word processor insists that I’ve spelled derringer wrong every time I write the proper noun!)

At the end of the day, does it really matter how the word is spelled? To most people, no, but to gun collectors, yes. That capital D or an additional R can mean the difference of hundreds of dollars when it comes to buying and selling these pocket pistols.

Think about it this way: would you spend the same amount of money on a Ford F-150 as you would on a Ford F-160? Of course not! But why not? They’re both pick-up trucks, and they look the same. They are spelled and sound almost the same, so it’s basically the same thing, right? Now, I know that’s an exaggerated example, but I think it really gets the point across about how important something as seemingly insignificant as the spelling of a word can be to some people.

Regardless of how you spell it, Deringer’s pistols and the generic derivatives have been an incredibly popular part of American arms history. Henry’s diminutive handgun with no patentable or trademarked design would make the name Deringer a household word. Whether or not he’d be upset by the spelling or capitalization, though, is anyone’s guess.

Please see: <https://www.ammoland.com/2024/09/whats-in-a-name-derringer-vs-derringer/>

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CRIMINAL ILLEGALS
from page 1

In all categories, the former exceeded the latter:

- Homicide: 14,944
- Sexual Assault: 20,061
- Assault: 105,146
- Burglary/Larceny/Robbery: 60,268
- Traffic Offenses: 126,343
- Weapon Offenses: 16,820
- Kidnapping: 3,372
- Commercialized Sexual Offenses: 3,971

In its recent report, “Crisis by Design,” the House Committee on Homeland Security documented how DHS law enforcement often have very little information to use in vetting illegal aliens crossing the border, and the massive flood of illegal border crossers under the Biden-Harris administration has made this task even more difficult. According to former Border Patrol Chief Rodney Scott, vetting has become a “check-the-box exercise.” The fact that in hundreds of thousands of cases, criminal illegal aliens are being released even after derogatory information about them has been discovered is simply

inexcusable, and can be traced back to the Biden-Harris administration’s policy of mass “catch and release.”

The number of criminal aliens crossing illegally under Biden and Harris’ leadership is astounding. From FY21 through FY24 year-to-date, the Border Patrol recorded more than 53,000 arrests of illegal aliens with criminal backgrounds, approximately 30,000 more such arrests than FY17-20. By October 2023, the Border Patrol was apprehending more than 47 illegal aliens per day with “serious criminal histories.” According to one veteran agent, “[t] here’s really nothing stopping them from coming here at this point.” Deputy Chief Patrol Agent Dustin Caudle of the Border Patrol’s Yuma Sector told the Committee last year that “any crime that can be committed, we do encounter people who have committed them.”

(Editor/GG: Ask your local democrat about this. He voted for it.)

Please see: <https://homeland.house.gov/2024/09/27/chairman-green-on-new-shocking-numbers-of-criminal-illegal-aliens-roaming-free-in-u-s-defies-all-common-sense/>

KAMALA HARRIS
from page 19

Election Victory

In a presidential election that was marred by enormous amounts of fraud and a host of unconstitutional changes to state election laws, the Biden-Harris ticket won the election of November 2020. Kamala Harris was now Vice President of the United States.

Harris’s Kwanzaa Memories

In December 2020, Harris made a video in which she wished Americans a happy Kwanzaa holiday and shared, in particular, her personal memories of celebrating Kwanzaa with her family as a child. Said Harris: “Happy holidays, everyone. I wanted to take a moment to send my warmest wishes to everyone celebrating Kwanzaa. Like so many other holidays, we [the Harris family] will be celebrating Kwanzaa a little differently this season, in our home. We’ll be doing it over Zoom [because of the coronavirus pandemic that was still actively infecting many people]. You know, my sister and I, we grew up celebrating Kwanzaa. Every year, our family, and our extended family, we would gather around, across multiple generations, and we’d tell stories [...] and we would

light the candles, and of course afterwards we would have a beautiful meal. And of course there was always a discussion of the seven principles [of Kwanzaa]. [...]”

Harris did not mention that the seven principles of Kwanzaa mirrored precisely the principles that were embraced by the Symbionese Liberation Army, a pro-Marxist, revolutionary terrorist organization of the 1970s. Nor did she mention that the founder of Kwanzaa was Maulana Karenga, a Marxist activist, black nationalist, and Black Power militant who in 1971 was arrested for brutally assaulting and torturing two women.

Vis-a-vis Harris’ claim that she had celebrated Kwanzaa from her youngest days as a child, podcaster Michael Knowles, in response to the video, pointed out that during Harris’ youth: “[Kwanzaa] was only celebrated, or even recognized, in Black Power circles ... like the Black Power movement, the Black Panthers. Something tells me that Kamala Harris was not running in those circles, with her Indian mother and her Jamaican father, a Jamaican father who has called his daughter a liar before.”

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

TIM WALZ
from page 19

- “People who are concerned about that police presence, of an overly armed camp in their neighborhoods that is not seen in communities where children of [white] people who look like me run to the police; others [nonwhites] have to run from [the police]. So I understand that that’s out there.”

During a May 29, 2020 appearance on *Fox News*, former New York City Mayor Rudolph Giuliani argued that both Walz and Minneapolis Mayor Jacob Frey should resign their posts because they had utterly failed to protect their constituents:

“[The] first person who threw a brick would

have been arrested. The second person who burned a car would have been arrested. The third person who tried to hurt somebody would have been arrested, and it would have been over. And the statement to them would be push it any further and try me, and you’re — you’re going to regret it. ...

“Progressive Democrats are incapable of keeping their people safe because they have criminal family policies that are pathetic, that are dangerous, and now, we are seeing the results are only there, but watch the cities that start burning. They are all going to be run by so-called progressive, idiot Democrats who let criminals out of jail, who set bail for murderers and who encourage this kind of thing. ...

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

Either you will control your government, or government will control you. —Ronald Reagan

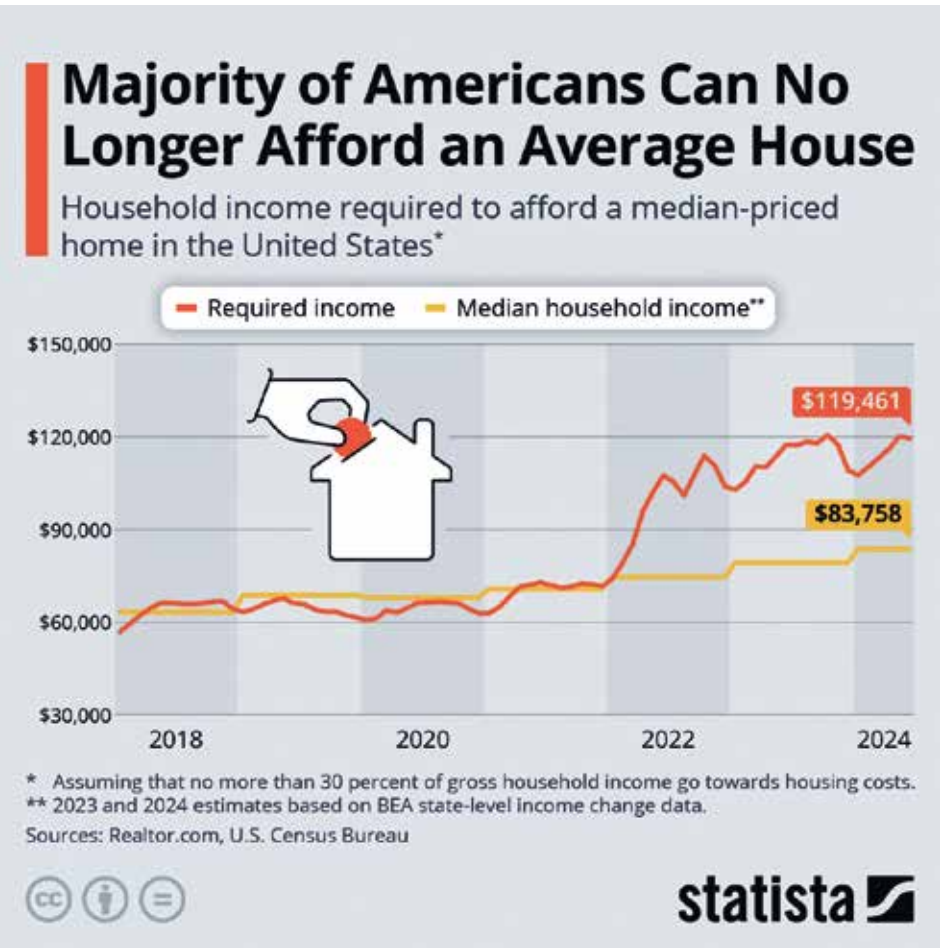
Majority of Americans Can No Longer Afford an Average House

by Tyler Durden,
ZeroHedge.com

Housing affordability in the United States has taken a sharp turn for the worse in recent years, as house prices surged to historical highs during and after the pandemic and mortgage rates have risen steeply over the past three years, as the Fed tried to rein in inflation.

It all began with a surge in demand for houses during the Covid-19 pandemic, when many Americans, flush with cash from government stimulus checks, reevaluated their living situation and sought more space amid stay-at-home orders and the sudden possibility of remote work. Further fueling demand were the historically low mortgage rates after the Fed had slashed interest rates to near zero at the onset of the pandemic.

At the same time, supply of new and existing homes was very constrained, as construction was disrupted by Covid restrictions and would-be sellers refrained from putting their house on the market during this uncertain time. This imbalance caused a rapid increase in home prices across the country, pushing many potential buyers out of the market, a trend that was exacerbated when the Fed started to tighten its policy stance in March 2022 in its efforts to cool inflation.



As Statista’s Felix Richter shows in the chart, according to data compiled by the National Association of Realtors, **buying an average home is now out of reach for the majority of Americans**, as the annual household income needed to afford a median-priced home without too much financial strain has shot up 60 percent since January 2022.

You will find more infographics like the one above at Statista.

Back then, the minimum income to buy a mid-range house – around \$380,000 at the time – was \$74,000, roughly in line with

the national median income.

Since then, a massive affordability gap has opened up, as a required income of \$120,000 stands opposite a median income of around \$84,000 – more than 40 percent shy of what would be needed.

(Editor/GG:. Only the rich can afford to move here now. And notice the sharp rise in price during the early part of the Biden/Harris regime. Not by accident.)

Please see: <https://www.zerohedge.com/personal-finance/majority-americans-can-no-longer-afford-average-house>

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Griswold's Partisan Spin on 21,000 New Registered Voters Falls Flat

by ColoradoPeakPolitics.com

Secretary of State Jena Griswold tried her hand at spinning a significant number of newly registered voters as a result of the debate between former Presidents Trump and Vice President Harris.

From her press release Thursday:

More than 21,000 Coloradans either newly registered to vote or updated their voter registration online the day of the debate and the two days following.

A closer examination of her math shows that 1,000 Coloradans registered to vote during the debate. The numbers are not broken down by registration, but if trends hold, most likely the majority selected not to affiliate with any political party.

Griswold also credits Taylor Swift's endorsement of Harris for bringing in an additional 900 registrations, but again those numbers do not include party registration.

The most significant driver for new voter registration seems to have come as Meta pushed a voter registration drive nationwide on all its platforms including Facebook and Instagram, bringing in 12,000 new voters to the state.

Also from her press release:

An additional 11,300 registered to vote or updated their registration on September 17 — National Voter Registration Day. Since the start of September, more than 60,000 Coloradans have either newly registered to vote or updated their voter registration online.

With 3.9 million registered in the state, here's the latest breakdown by party registration:

1,900,268 Unaffiliated (48.6%)

1,017,664 Democrats (26.0%)

907,509 Republicans (23.2%)

Griswold did not mention whether it is common for voter registration numbers to significantly increase in the weeks before ballots are mailed, but common-sense dictates this would be the case.

Yet Griswold never misses an opportunity to politicize even the most basic aspects of her job, in this case, new voter registrations.

Please see: <https://coloradopeakpolitics.com/2024/09/24/griswolds-partisan-spin-of-21000-new-registered-voters-falls-flat/>

CCSO Co-RESPONDERS' CORNER The Blue Line

by Jaclyn & Tom Manzione

Feeling safe is very important for our mental and physical well-being. It means feeling secure and free from fear or worry, which helps us to do well and be healthy. Feeling safe has a big impact on how we handle stress and how healthy and happy we are. Feeling safe affects how we interact with the world, how we connect with others, and how we go about our daily lives. When we don't feel safe, it can trigger stress and affect our overall health.

We live in tumultuous times and many of us often don't feel safe, and this lack of safety can make us feel very afraid. It's important to recognize when we don't feel safe so we can deal with it. Not feeling safe can make our heart beat faster, make us sweat, or make us feel hyper-alert. Emotionally, it can make us feel scared, anxious, or overwhelmed. These feelings can make it hard for us to go about our daily lives, causing us to avoid social situations, rely on unhealthy ways of coping, or even turn to drugs and alcohol. Over time, not feeling safe can lead to long-term mental health problems, like anxiety, depression and trauma.

Feeling safe emotionally is a basic human need. When we don't feel emotionally safe, it can cause a lot of distress and make us distance ourselves from others. So, emotional safety is really important for our

well-being. Current uncertainty, division amongst the citizenry, and external threats to our community denigrate emotional safety.

Take comfort in knowing that the members of the CCSO are dedicated to the time-honored philosophy of protecting and serving. For us, it's not just a job, it's our mission. Our commitment is to cultivate familiarity and trust with our community. And, to reassure our neighbors that the Sheriff's Office is equipped to deal with any possibility of trouble or ruin.

We maintain constant vigilance and draw the line at the first sign of any danger. We frown upon those who would trample over the laws of this land. We step up to the line with a firm conviction to uphold the law. Any threat to the peace and security of the public will be met with swift and decisive action.

We, as co-responders and mental health professionals, partner with the deputies to provide an immediate response to those in crisis. Having trained professionals respond to the scene of a crisis allows for a more accurate needs assessment. It facilitates speedy access to care and the decriminalization of mental health issues. We are here to help.

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