

# Hurricane Helene Exposes a Deep Betrayal of America

by Justin O. Smith,  
The Burning Platform

Americans across several states are suffering and attempting to survive under unimaginably harsh conditions, without food and water, in the aftermath of Hurricane Helene which tore across ten states in the Southeast last week, leaving a path of destruction in its wake. And a week later, these people have found that they are largely on their own, as all the real help that has arrived has come through the efforts of individuals and nonprofit groups such as Samaritan Purse, Mountain Mule Packers Ranch, Save Our Allies and Aerial Recovery, which has exposed the fact — to anyone who didn’t already know — that the Biden regime doesn’t give a good d\*\*n about them, as Biden and his minions have engaged in

not just dereliction of duty but the worst betrayal of the American people ever witnessed, since the birth of the nation.

Joe Biden, placeholder-in-chief, showed up in Georgia [10-3-24] to give lip-service to the disaster and made promises of money to come, some twenty million dollars, and a recovery that will supposedly be totally undertaken by the federal government. No one should hold their breath waiting on that help to arrive, but if it does, they can bet the farm it will come with the intent of helping Biden special interest groups and supporters first.

Americans should note: \$20 million for the victims of Helene and well over \$640 million for illegal aliens and approximately \$180 BILLION for Ukraine. When does THIS D\*\*\*ed MADNESS Stop!?!

It’s an astounding matter that despite assertions of nineteen thousand National Guardsmen and FEMA workers already being on the ground in those states most severely affected, from Florida to Tennessee and Georgia and on to the horrific situation near Asheville, North Carolina, no one can find them, as FEMA workers are simply sitting in their trucks and sending out mass emails with an app for the victims of Helene to use to apply for financial help, rebuilding their homes, and most importantly finding a way to have food and water and medicines sent their way as soon as possible — THIS in areas where there currently isn’t electricity or any cellphone reception and internet.

It’s a curious thing to witness this tragic situation compounded

by the inaction of the federal government and federal workers, agencies and the U.S. military all missing in action as the victims keep asking where all these mysterious government workers are supposedly delivering aid and much needed necessities to anyone.

Where is the federal government? No one has seen much of an inkling from it yet.

For survivors in the Asheville, North Carolina area, Mountain Mule Packer Ranch has left this number — 910-885-1402 — for anyone who knows of specific needs and areas where they can be of assistance with their mule trains.

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## Largest Wolf Ever Killed



By the Sportsmen Party Facebook Page

Here is the largest wolf ever killed it weighed in at 230 lbs. and was taken in Drayton Valley, Alberta back in 2012. The previous record was 175 lbs

## SAR Overnight Rescue in Kirk Couloir

Press Release  
Custer County Search and Rescue  
—October 7, 2024  
Saguache County, Colo.

A solo hiker activated their Garmin In-Reach on Sunday afternoon, launching a large scale multi-agency rescue effort in the Kirk Couloir, that lasted overnight, and concluded mid-morning on Monday. The Kirk Couloir is a narrow couloir splitting the cliffs between Kit Carson and Challenger Peaks.

Coordinates placed the hiker at an elevation of 13,400 ft, in Saguache County, and the mission response was delegated to Custer County SAR. Due to mixed rock, snow and ice conditions, the hiker had become stranded on a narrow ledge, unable to either ascend or descend.

Responding agencies included Custer County SAR, Saguache County SAR, Chaffee County Search and Rescue – South, Alamosa Volunteer Search and Rescue, Colorado Search and Rescue, DFPC’s Cañon Helitack, Flight for Life Colorado, Colorado Army National Guard and the Colorado Hoist Rescue Team. Patient care was transferred to Flight for Life and the individual was transferred to an area hospital, where they were treated and later released.

According to 14ers.com, the Kirk Couloir should only be attempted with stable



photo courtesy of CC SAR

spring/early summer snow. Crampons, helmet, ice axe, and avalanche gear are recommended for this snow-only climb.

Custer County Search and Rescue would like to remind recreationalists that while winter conditions have arrived in the Colorado mountains, winter routes are not fully established. You may find locally heavy ice beginning to form, areas holding snow, along with shorter days and overnight freezing temperatures. Rescues can take hours to organize, aviation assets are weather and often daylight dependent, and back-country users need to be self-sufficient while waiting on rescue resources to arrive.



The earth is the LORDS, and the ful-ness thereof; the world, and they that dwell therein. Psalm 24:1

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

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

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SangreDeCristoSentinel

BOCC: Audit on Time,  
CTSI Insurance Renewed  
Bale Barn Named  
after Tommy G.

by George Gramlich, News and Commentary

The October 2, 2024 Custer County Board of County Commissioners regular meeting was held in their royally appointed annex building across from the courthouse. All three Commissioners were present: Bill Canda, Lucas Epp and Kevin "Turncoat" Day. The meeting started around 9 a.m.

In Commissioner Items, Epp said the county has met the deadline for filing our yearly audit. (Thanks to Epp and Vernon Roth for their huge efforts in getting this done.) Epp also announced the future budget hearing meetings noting that the budget must be done and "posted" by December 15th.

In New Business, a Proclamation naming the recycling barn the "Tommy G. Flower Bale Barn" was read and approved after some comments from the audience.

Next a Proclamation for the Domestic Violence Awareness Month was read and approved.

The county's CTSI Health Insurance Renewal was discussed and passed. No changes from last year.

And that was it....

STAGE I FIRE BAN FOR CUSTER COUNTY

As of 10/8/2024, there were no restrictions for Pike and San Isabel National Forests, Cimarron and Comanche National Grasslands.

SEE CC SO Facebook or SDCSentinel.com for full press release

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Business Directory QR  
(Scan to download)

website <https://SangreDeCristoSentinel.com>

CUSTER COUNTY LIFE CHAIN EVENT

Sunday, October 6th, On Main Street



Life Chain attendees line both sides of the street with some 50 participants this year.

Photo by Yvonne Phillips

by Fred Hernandez

The annual Life Chain took place last Sunday at the school parking lot (west) on Main Street. Members of different religious persuasions and faith denominations gathered to celebrate life and remind the public about the horrors of abortion and the need to end this evil national practice. God's children are not to be indiscriminately murdered. There can be no blessing for our nation until we all get together and condemn the killing of human beings. Attendance was one of the best in recent memory and some community leaders came to support the message of life and its importance.

Among the clergy Father Stephen Injoalu, Pastor of Our Lady of the Assumption Catholic Church was present along with Fr. Michael of the Anglican Church, Father Dan, a well known local prelate. Commissioner Bill Canda stood with the group as well as Pastor Andrew Zeller of the Sangre de Cristo Chapel and Patti Schulze, Paula Shapland, George Gramlich of the *Sentinel*, Sam Hepp former owner and operator of Tony's Mountain Pizza and many others on both sides of Main Street adding up to about fifty two supporters. A quiet group prayed in the background in petition for God's help in this endeavor. Support Life! Reject the culture of death!

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## A Wagging Good Tale

from VRBO, Facebook  
via the McCallisters

This story is told by Melissa Thomas, who was staying in a vacation rental home in the Rosita area.

"Saturday evening a stray dog showed up at our front door – it was pitch black outside... The dog was full of stickers – and matted hair – and he was shaking – very scared...He put his trust in me – I gave him water and I always have dog treats in my truck (where we board our horse has dogs, I always bring treats)..

He eventually trusted us enough to come inside the VRBO. We put out some bath towels, a bowl of water, and more treats -- and we gently tried to brush him. He was very scared, but eventually – relaxed and he slept inside with us Saturday night.

I posted on Next Door and Facebook – we found the owner !

The owner of the Dog (Jake) is an elderly couple who are visiting their son and daughter-in-law. They went on a trip and left the dog with a local person.

Anyway, somehow, the dog got loose and ran away.

I guess he was in a strange place, with a strange



Jake with Annie's Grooming assistant, Roy Messer  
Photo courtesy of Melissa Thomas

person, and was scared ...

So, we met up with the daughter-in-law on Facebook. I told her that we were leaving Sunday and offered to bring the dog back to her home – but she asked if we would bring the dog to her best friend's house. On the way to her friend's home, we saw Annie's Grooming. We saw that they were closed on Sunday, but we called the number anyway.

Annie answered and agreed to open up and give Jake (the stray) a bath and grooming...

It took Annie and her helper (a really nice young man) about an hour – and Jack looked wonderful !!

They did not charge to do this – Annie saw this post on Facebook and offered to do this from her heart.

When we dropped Jake off – he was doing the biggest butt wag you'd ever see ---

## Letters to the Editor

### Sex, Drugs & Rock'n Roll

Sentinel readers;

My personal bible ministry reaches many in the Colorado prison system, men who feel lost, no way out. Here's a portion of a letter I sent recently to one of those men.

"I'm frustrated by the sinfulness being flaunted by many, and it's accepted openly by some authorities, teachers, parents, . . . . even churches ! I believe when sin abounds, we're supposed to speak out; silence becomes approval. To remain silent in the face of evil, is evil! Jesus desires that we show love for all people, and correct them in a loving manner. But in today's world, to disagree is to be branded as a 'hater'. I'm not a hater; I'm moved by God's Holy Spirit to proclaim His glory and life-saving love to all people Let's face it, we're all sinners, we all fall short of God's glory; we all deserve to be fried. We know that Satan uses us to

propel his evil on the world. He's a deceiver, confuser, accuser, manipulator, and killer. His tools are simple . . . . sex, drugs & rock 'n roll (the 'catch-all' for every other form of sin). My drug was. . . . Tequila.

When I was living as a heathen, my heterosexual chasing was just as repugnant to God as any other deviant behavior, simply because He made the rules plain concerning all sin and I chose to do things my own way. After being put through the 'refiners fire', I began to see the light. I finally 'wanted' to serve Jesus, sick of being used as a tool of Satan. He softened my hard heart, replacing it with compassion. The evil our country is in with open borders, drugs killing our people, transgenering our youth, youth suicides skyrocketing, unabated violence, human trafficking,pornography,et. al.. . . to some, it seems absolutely hopeless. But in many quarters, we see youths

working to bring the word of God and the Truth of Jesus Christ to their peers. They're willing to stand up for what's right, often suffering the ire inflicted by unbelievers."

Our churches should be open to all people, and accept them as we all are, as sinners. Unfortunately, only a few call out evil, and warn them to beware of Satan's purpose, claiming souls for damnation. Many churches would rather let people sit and justify their own sinfulness, without correction. Prioritizing the Tithe over the Truth is a fast track to Hell. The church's job is to guide people out of their sin, not let them wallow in it aimlessly. The only way out is through the saving grace of Jesus Christ.

Let God be the quickening, Make America Godly Again.

Blessings,  
Ken W. Tiesg, Salida.



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# Obituary Randolph Knight

**Randolph Knight**

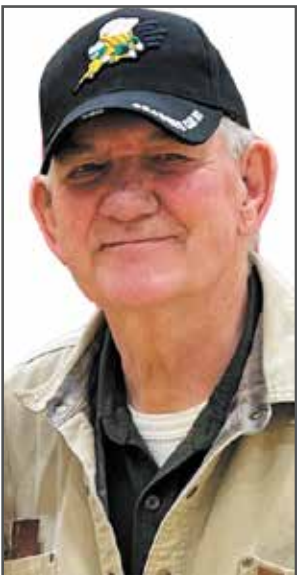
The man who "could talk a dog down off of a meat truck" spoke his last words on October 1, 2024.

Randolph "Randy" Leroy Knight passed away peacefully at his home in Westcliffe, CO, on October 2, 2024. His wife, daughter and two dogs were close by. He was 76 years old. He was born in Cortez, CO on February 23, 1948. He grew up in the Southwest corner of Colorado and attended schools there. Randy graduated from Durango High School in 1966. He attended Fort Lewis College in Durango and graduated with a bachelor's degree in secondary education with a minor in history and Spanish. He married Sandy Potthoff on August 2, 1969 in Westcliffe, CO.

Randy worked in the forest industry before joining the Navy construction battalion. He served in Vietnam and Guam. Randy spent most of his life working in the woods, which he loved. He was a true mountain man who enjoyed elk hunting, fishing, hiking and camping. Randy never met a stranger and would do anything for anyone in need.

Randy is survived by his wife, Sandy of Westcliffe; his daughter, Erica (Derek) Kilik and granddaughter, Sidney, all of Colorado Springs. He was preceded in death by his parents, Leroy and Melba Knight; and brother, Roland Knight.

A celebration of life and reception, followed by lunch will be held on



October 19, 2024, at 11 a.m. at Rancher's Roost Banquet Facility at Cliff Lanes in Westcliffe, CO.

In lieu of flowers, please befriend a stranger, enjoy nature or perform a random act of kindness.

This is My commandment, That ye love one another, as I have loved you.  
John 15:12 KJV

# Free Legal Resource Day October 25th

Press Release

The 11th Judicial District Access to Justice Committee is offering a free Legal Resource Day on Friday, October 25th featuring clinics with information on various legal topics and also ask-an-attorney sessions providing private consultations with attorneys.

The public is invited to attend the following free legal information clinics:

The Life of a Civil Lawsuit (9-10 a.m.)  
Simple Estate Planning (10-11 a.m.)  
Landlord/Tenant Evictions (11-Noon)  
How to Prepare for Court (1-2 p.m.)

Criminal Record Sealing (2-3 p.m.)

Each clinic may be accessed by (a) going to your local county courthouse and asking in which room the clinics are being broadcast, OR (b) watching on your computer or mobile device by going to web.webex.com, clicking "Join a Meeting" and then entering meeting #2593 082 9207.

The ask-an-attorney sessions are free 15-minute in-person consultations with an attorney at the Fremont County Courthouse, 136 Justice Center Rd. in Cañon City and run from 9-Noon, and 1-3 p.m. Appointments are required. To schedule an appointment, call Lori at 719-539-2561 ext. 30434 by Wednesday, October 23rd.

# Upcoming Free Events at the Library "Dementia Conversations"

The Alzheimer's Association is offering a "Dementia Conversations" workshop on Tuesday, October 29th from 10 to 11 a.m. in the West Custer County Library Community Room. This is a free

educational workshop that offers helpful tips to assist families in having honest and caring conversations. For more information please visit [www.westcusterlibrary.org](http://www.westcusterlibrary.org) events page.

# Ultra Processed Foods Class

Ashley Melchiorre, MSN, FNP-C is passionate about educating individuals on how they can find health by optimizing lifestyle and nutrition; join her Tuesday, November 12th at 10 a.m. at the West Custer County Library. Ashley will

educate on Ultra-Processed Foods, seed oils, and food additives that are affecting our health, and what we can do about it! For more information please visit [www.westcusterlibrary.org](http://www.westcusterlibrary.org) events page or call (719) 783-9138.

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### Statewide Ballot Initiatives

The Colorado Republican Committee makes the following voting recommendations for the 2024 Statewide Ballot Initiatives:

#### VOTE YES!

AMENDMENT G: Modify Property Tax Exemption for Veterans with Disabilities  
AMENDMENT I: Constitutional Bail Exception for first Degree Murder  
AMENDMENT K: Modify Constitutional Election Deadlines  
PROP. 128: Parole Eligibility for Crimes of Violence  
PROP. 129: Establishing Veterinary Professional Associates  
PROP. 130: Funding for Law Enforcement

#### VOTE NO!

AMENDMENT 79: Constitutional Right to Abortion  
AMENDMENT 80: Constitutional Right to School Choice  
PROPOSITION 131: Establishing an All-Candidates Primary Election and Ranked Choice Voting General Election  
PROPOSITION JJ: Retain Additional Sports Betting Tax Revenue  
PROPOSITION KK: Firearms and Ammunition Tax

**IF YOU ARE UNSURE, VOTE NO!  
DON'T LEAVE IT BLANK**

### PROPOSITION 131 (#310)

#### Concerning the Conduct of Elections (RANKED CHOICE VOTING)

## VOTE NO

*“Establish top-four primaries and ranked-choice voting (RCV) for federal and state offices in Colorado”*

This initiative establishes a top-four ranked choice voting system in Colorado for Congressional, Gubernatorial, Attorney General, Secretary of State, Treasurer, University of Colorado Regent, State Board of Education and Legislative elections.

RCV confuses voters, whose ballots will be discarded if all candidates are not ranked. In extreme liberal Colorado, RCV ensures the most extreme Democrats prevail, and less conservative choices for office end up winning elected offices. RCV is supported by Kent Thiry, whose goal is to eliminate parties and move to a centrist government.

A “yes” vote supports establishing top-four primary elections and ranked-choice voting for U.S. Senate, U.S. House of Representatives, Governor, Attorney General, Secretary of State, Treasurer, University of Colorado University Regent, State Board of Education, and State Legislature.

A “no” vote on Proposition 131 continues the existing primary election system and the current method of selecting candidates and counting votes at general elections.

*Alaska uses an all-candidate primary system where the top four vote-getters advance to a ranked choice voting general election. That system was adopted by voters in 2020 and first used in 2022. There is a measure on Alaska’s November ballot asking voters to repeal the state’s system.*

*In Alaska a share of general election races in the state this year will pit only candidates from the same party against each other, leaving supporters of the opposite party with no one who aligns with their political views.*

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720.309.4262 sapiahwoodworks@gmail.com

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Driveways, Rock Sales & Delivery  
719-783-2757 info@SBCompanies.com

**Solar Solutions Ltd**  
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10 Hermit Lane. Silver Cliff 719-783-9666  
email: pbailey@solarsolutions.com

**Valley View Windows & Doors**  
Call Marty Byler at 719-220-4151  
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719-275-0661  
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719-371-6074  
westcliffefirewood@gmail.com

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719-783-9393  
www.westcliffeflowershop.com

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719-275-4113  
www.holtfamilyfuneralhomes.com

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719-298-6689 STORE HOURS:  
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Lincolnparkpawn@hotmail.com  
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**Sangre Shooting Sports Club**  
P.O. Box 1554, Westcliffe  
http://sangreshooting.com



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



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

American Legion and VFW  
Monthly Meetings

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



Custer Senior Center Menu

Monday, October 14  
CLOSED  
COLUMBUS DAY

Tuesday, October 15  
#94 Swiss Steak w/Mushroom Sce.  
Smashed Red Potatoes  
Seasoned Greens  
Tossed Vegetable Salad w/Lite Ranch  
Orange and WW Bread

Thursday, October 17  
#40 Cream of Potato Soup  
Tuna Salad Wrap  
Shredded Lettuce & Tomato Sliced  
Creamy Coleslaw  
Cubed Cantaloupe

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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719-429-5411 ranchrealtor@outlook.com

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719-783-9300  
tonysmountainpizza.com  
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Tony's Steak & Tavern

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

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Driveways, Rock Sales & Delivery  
719-783-2757 info@SBCompanies.com

Solar / Renewable Energy

Solar Solutions Ltd

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

Storage

Wet Mountain Storage

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

Tractor/Trailer Sales

True Value Hardware and Trailers

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719-784-0123  
https://www.truevaluetrailers.com

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Finney Drilling

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

THANK YOU FOR SUPPORTING OUR ADVERTISERS!

Recurring Events

Mondays

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

1st Monday of the Month

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

Tuesdays

**12 noon – 1 p.m. Alcoholics Anonymous (CLDS)**  
“As Bill Sees It” St. Luke’s, 3rd & Rosita in W/C.  
Call Martha at 719-371-1853.  
**1st Tuesday of the Month**  
**9 a.m. - 3 p.m. Old Schoolhouse Quilters Comfort Quilters @Valley Bible**  
**6:30 p.m. American Legion Post 170** monthly meeting at Cliff Lanes meeting room.  
**4-6 p.m. Christian Music on KLZR 91.7 FM**  
**2nd Tuesday of the Month**  
**9 a.m. Old Schoolhouse Quilters Guild Meeting @Valley Bible**

3rd Tuesday of the Month

**Liberty Rocks TUESDAY** Meet/greet &order 5:30 p.m. Presentation 6 p.m. Location Tony’s Pizza All welcome.

Wednesdays

**8 -9 a.m. Veterans Coffee Social**, Veterans and Caregivers welcome. West Custer County Library Community Rm., 209 Main St. Westcliffe  
**9:30 – 11 a.m. Line Dancers** meet at United Methodist Church, 204 S 6th St. Call Debbie Underwood at (432) 553-7483.  
**9:45-11:30 a.m. The Posse Ladies Bible Study** “Names of God” at Sangre de Cristo Fellowship, 120 Jerry Dr. Westcliffe. September 18- December 4  
Questions? Holly 703-338-4100  
**10 a.m. Pickle Ball** Silver Cliff Memorial Park  
More info: [lizbrannen@gmail.com](mailto:lizbrannen@gmail.com)  
**6 p.m. Alcoholics Anonymous (CLSD)** Big Book Study at St. Luke’s, 3rd & Rosita, in Westcliffe. Martha at 719-371-1853.  
**6 p.m. Prayer Group Meeting.** First Baptist Church of Westcliffe. Call 719-783-2498.

First Thursday of the Month

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

2nd Thursday of the Month

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

3rd Thursday of the Month

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

Fridays

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

2nd Friday of the Month

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

Saturdays

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

3rd Saturday of Month

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

Community Park Fundraiser

Press Release  
Town of Silver Cliff

Last Saturday, September 28th, we held our 1st Annual Silver Cliff Community Park \$FUNDS Day and to say it was a “fun day,” is an understatement!

Because of the support and generosity of our community, we received over \$3,500 in donations and we cannot thank YOU enough. These dollars will go toward matching funds that we need for the Great Outdoors Colorado (GOCO) grant. Town administration should hear of the decision on this grant by the end of this month.

Mayor H.A. “Buck” Wenzel wishes to thank the following persons and businesses that made this event a success.

Staff members: Ileen Squire, Wendy Stroud, Scott Rowley,

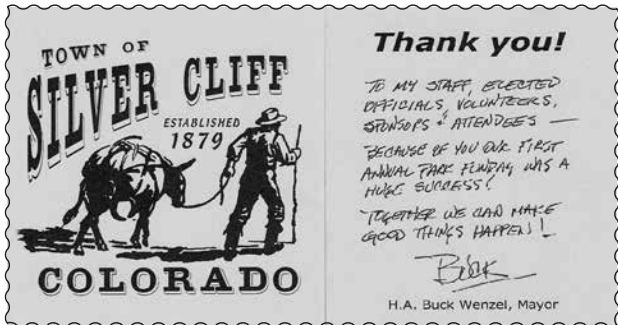
Jessica Adams, Brylee Shy, Isaac Selden and Shantel Squire.

Elected Officials: Mayor Pro Tem, Jake Shy, and Trustees Jordan Benson, Troy Bomgardner, and Joann Schlabach.

Volunteers: Sam Adams, Anita Bomgardner, Ashley Franklin, Steve Lasswell, Ed and Julie Smith, Jodi Richardson, Hal Walter and Tracy Ballard.

Our amazing Sponsors: Westcliffe Meats, The Liquor Cabinet, Wet Mountain Valley Saddle Club, Ed Vi Lyons, Mountain Valley Excavating, TC Smythe and Soundchick.net, KLZR Radio, Stacy Terrell from Custer County Kid’s Council, Bobcat students, cheerleaders and Cross Country and Volleyball.

We had several friendly competitions during last



Saturday’s event. The Town is happy to share the winners of each competition.

Harrison Walter won the 4K Men’s Division, with Mary Walter prevailing in the Women’s Division.

Mike Bannen was the winner in the always popular pickle ball competition.

Steve Lasswell and Sid Smith out-threw their competitors to win the Cornhole tournament.

Each of these folks chose his or her favorite Silver Cliff

garb to proudly wear around Custer County and wherever else their heart’s desired to roam.

If you would like to be one of the cool kids and sport some new duds, make sure and stop by the Silver Cliff Town Hall during our regular business hours, Monday through Thursday, 7 a.m. - 5 p.m.

We have hats, long sleeve and short sleeve T-shirts, sweatshirts and hoodies.

See you out and about Silver Cliff, friends and neighbors!

Journalism/Censorship 101



Look who was slithering around the *Sentinel’s* front yard last Thursday. (Thursday’s are our day off and no *Sentinel* staff were there.) Taking pictures of all the Republican political signs on all our lots. Maybe they offend the poor thing.... Or maybe he wants to censor them.... Is Free Speech alive today in Custer County? Some people here don’t want it to be....

Editor/GG

Photo Courtesy of the *Sentinel*

Come and Worship

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

Jesus said unto them, Verily, verily, I say unto you,  
Before Abraham was, I am. John 8:58 KJV



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# Classifieds

## Announcements

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

## Help Wanted

**Custer County is accepting employment applications for the following full-time non exempt positions. Minimum starting wage \$21.00/hr DOQ**  
**Accounts Payable Technician**  
**Human Resources Technician**  
Employment application and job descriptions are available on Custer County website <https://www.custercounty-co.gov/employment>. Custer County is an equal opportunity employer.  
Employment application and resume may be submitted to:  
Custer County Human Resources  
P.O. Box 150  
Westcliffe, CO 81252  
Email: [HR@custercounty-co.gov](mailto:HR@custercounty-co.gov)

**Lighthouse Pregnancy and Family Resources is seeking to fill a part-time Administrator position.**  
Applicant must have administrative experience preferably working in a nonprofit setting but we are willing to train the right individual. This position is 15hrs/wk. Monday, Thursday & Friday 11A to 4P, with occasional additional hours for meetings and events. Pay range is \$15-18/hr. For information regarding our organization please

review our website [www.lighthousepfr.org](http://www.lighthousepfr.org). To apply email resume to [lighthousehelp1@gmail.com](mailto:lighthousehelp1@gmail.com). and kathleen.koelling@yahoo.com

**The Town of Silver Cliff is accepting applications for the Building and Zoning Official, a full-time 40 hour a week position.**  
Pay is commensurate with experience and qualifications base pay starts at \$25.00 to \$30.00 per hour with full benefits.  
Applicants must have a valid Driver's License, be able to lift 50 pounds, and pass a pre-employment drug and alcohol screening.

Education: High school diploma or GED, with at least 10 years combined construction related experience and/or certifications required. ICC Certification is preferred or will need to achieve certifications within one to three years of the 2021 International Codes, in a timeline set by the Board of Trustees.

Technical skills: including but not limited to blueprint reading, interpretation and calculations, interpretate and enforce the 2006 & 2021 International Codes, Silver Cliff Zoning Ordinances, and all other pertinent land use regulations. Must have communication and organizational skills, work well with others.

Computer skills: basic knowledge, word processing, spreadsheets, and database applications.  
For more information or to receive a full job description and application contact Ileen Squire, Town Clerk at 719-783-2615 or pickup at 612 E. Main St., Silver Cliff, CO 81252, Monday – Thursday 8:00 a.m.– 4:00 p.m. or visit

our website [www.silvercliffco.com](http://www.silvercliffco.com).  
A complete application and resume including all education and references must be submitted by October 21, at 4:00 p.m.

**Custer County School District is now hiring for the following positions: Substitute Teachers. Coaching positions include**

MS Boys Head Basketball Coach, MS Girls Assistant Basketball Coach, MS C-Team Volleyball Coach, MS Head Track Coach, MS Assistant Track Coach, HS Head Baseball Coach, and HS Assistant Track Coach (Throwing). Any Certified Teacher/ Substitute application without a CDE license is incomplete and will not be considered. Online applications only. Please visit us on the web at: <https://custercountyschools.tedk12.com/hire/index.aspx> or South Central BOCES - Westcliffe openings for more information and to apply.

**Sangre de Cristo Sentinel**  
We Need Local people to Report on LOCAL News  
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## Wanted

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**God Bless You on your Birthday ,**  
**JAMES S. VASS**  
**Captain USAF Ret.**

**Happy Birthday**  
**Barbara Napolitan**

## Events

**October 18 @ 7:30 p.m. - October 20 @ 2 p.m.**  
**WCPA Live Theater – Squirrels \$S**  
Historic Jones Theater 119 Main St, Westcliffe  
**October 19 @ 10 a.m. - 3 p.m.**  
**Pines Ranch Wellness Event** The Pines Ranch  
379 Chalice Road, Westcliffe, CO  
**October 20, 3 - 5 p.m.**  
**Pie Sale Fund Raiser for Artist Edge Competition Team @** First Baptist Church see ad page 22  
**October 22, 1- 5 p.m.**  
**Integrity Insurance Presentation @** Custer County Senior Center. See ad on page 23  
**Friday, Oct. 25, 9 a.m. - 5 p.m.**  
**Annual Fall Yard Sale - Lighthouse Pregnancy & Family Resource Center @** 417 Cliff St., Silver Cliff

## Community Services

**Altitude Community Fitness**  
(719) 783-0750  
**American Legion Post #170**  
PO Box 424, Westcliffe, CO 81252  
[talpost170westcliffe@gmail.com](mailto:talpost170westcliffe@gmail.com)  
(719) 783-2462 [westcliffepost170.org](http://westcliffepost170.org)  
**Custer County Community Sharing Food Pantry**  
120 N. 3rd St. Fri. (719) 783-2994  
OPEN First 3 Fridays of the month 12 – 3 p.m.  
An Equal Opportunity Provider  
**Family Crisis Services**  
*Domestic Violence and Sexual Assault Center for Fremont and Custer Counties*  
(719) 275-2429 [FamilyCrisisOnline.org](http://FamilyCrisisOnline.org)  
**Front Range Clinic**  
Medications for Addiction Treatment (MAT)  
1-866-MAT-STAT  
[www.frontrangemd.com/mobile-unit](http://www.frontrangemd.com/mobile-unit)  
**Lighthouse Pregnancy Resources**  
Monday and Thursday 11a.m. to 4 p.m.  
Friday 10 a.m. to 1 p.m.  
(719) 783-4357  
**National Suicide HOTLINE**  
1-800-273-8255 Veterans Press 1  
**Solvista 24/7 Crisis Line**  
for Fremont and Custer Counties  
Regional 719-276-5488 Local Office 719-275-2351  
**VETERANS SERVICE Office (VSO)**  
**Dominic Edginton new VSO**  
(719) 618-8266 [vso@custercounty.co.gov](mailto:vso@custercounty.co.gov)  
Courthouse Bldg. (Rosita Rd. Entrance)  
**West Custer County Library**  
209 Main Street Westcliffe, CO 81252  
(719) 783-9138  
Tue. – Fri.: 10 a.m. – 5:30 p.m..  
Saturday: 10 a.m. – 2 p.m.  
**Wet Mountain Rotary Van Service**  
Limited Dispatch 719-783-2343

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

**Life begins at 40 – but so do fallen arches, rheumatism, faulty eyesight, and the tendency to tell a story to the same person, three or four times. —Helen Rowland**

# Local Mountain News & Notices

## KIDS

October 11, 2024

### Stubby the Hero Dog of WWI

This week we continue our journey into war heroes that are real animals.

Sergeant Stubby was a dog and the unofficial mascot of the 102nd Infantry Regiment, US Army in WWI. He was assigned to the 26th (Yankee) Division in World War I, where he served for 18 months and participated in 17 battles and four offensives on the Western Front.



Stubby was a bull terrier who one day just showed up at Yale Field in New Haven, CT, where a bunch of soldiers were training. He moved around the soldiers as they were training until finally, he was friends with the whole bunch. One soldier in particular, a Corporal Robert Conroy, took a great fondness for Stubby, so much so that when it came time to ship out, he hid Stubby on board the troop ship and that is how Stubby got to France. It was there that Stubby showed his true colors. The boom of artillery fire didn't faze him in the least, and he soon learned to follow the men's example of ducking when the big ones started falling close.

Then came the night when Stubby made doggy history. It was an unusually quiet night in the trenches. Stubby was stretched out next to Conroy, when suddenly his head snapped up and his ears pricked alert. Suddenly, Stubby let out a growl, sprang to his feet and bounded out of the dugout and was out of sight in a flash. Soon, there was a sharp cry of pain and sounds of a struggle. Conroy ran toward the noise and what a sight he saw. In a vigorous offensive from the rear, Stubby had captured a German spy, who'd been prowling through the trenches. The German was desperately trying to shake off the snarling bundle of canine that had attached itself to his back side.

The retreating Germans covered their escape by throwing hand grenades. This led to Stubby taking shrapnel to his foreleg. Happily, he survived and was sent for medical treatment.

It's been said that Sergeant Stubby and a few friends were instrumental in the creation of the United States 'K-9 Corps' just in time for World War II.

Old age finally caught up with the small warrior on April 4th, 1926, as he took ill and died in Conroy's arms.

by Audrey Slater. Sources: [https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Sergeant\\_Stubby](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Sergeant_Stubby), <https://uswardogsheritagemuseum.org/sergeant-stubby/>  
Photo: Wikicommons

Sangre de Cristo Sentinel • Westcliffe, Colorado

## Corner

God : I Am יהוה (hāyâ)

And God said unto Moses, I AM THAT I AM: and he said,  
Thus shalt thou say unto the children of Israel,  
I AM hath sent me unto you.

Exodus 3:14 KJV



### Custer County School District C-1

MENU for the week October 14 thru October 17, 2024

|                  | Breakfast                               | Lunch                                                                 |
|------------------|-----------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------|
| <u>Monday</u>    | Cereal, Yogurt<br>Oatmeal<br>Fruit milk | Mac N Cheese<br>Mixed Vegetables<br>Fruit Milk                        |
| <u>Tuesday</u>   | Pancakes<br>Sausage<br>Milk             | Chicken Fajitas<br>Rice<br>Beans Milk                                 |
| <u>Wednesday</u> | Eggs<br>Sausage<br>Fruit Milk           | Garlic sticks w/ dipping sauce<br>Green beans<br>Fruit Milk           |
| <u>Thursday</u>  | Biscuit and Gravy<br>Applesauce Milk    | French Dip Sandwich<br>Oven Fries<br>Carrots and Celery<br>Fruit Milk |

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

## XC Bobcats at Salida



The Coach said, "At a tough meet in Salida with a monstrous hill, our runners did great!"

Mason Stover 19:54 (19th),  
Levi Carichner 21:43 (50th),  
Jacob Weeks 23:02 (81st)

## Booster Club Bobcat Corner



*Come out and support your  
Custer County Bobcats!*

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

**Friday, October 11:**

**1 pm HS Volleyball @ HOME vs Center**

**7 pm HS Football @ Fowler (away)**

**Saturday, October 12:**

**10 am HS Volleyball Tournament @ Swink vs Swink,  
Vanguard & Sangre de Cristo**

**Tuesday, October 15:**

**4:30 pm HS Volleyball @ HOME vs La Veta**

**Friday, October 18:**

**7 pm HS Football @ HOME vs Crowley County**

**Cross Country: Southern Peaks League @ Monte Vista**

**Golf Course: 10 am HS Girls, 10:45 am HS Boys**

**Saturday, October 19:**

**1 pm HS Volleyball @ HOME vs Monte Vista**

**HOMECOMING WEEK!**

**Friday, October 18th is the Football Homecoming Game!**

**Saturday, October 19th is the**

**Volleyball Homecoming Game and Senior Night!**

**The HOMECOMING PARADE**

**will begin at 10 am Saturday, October 19th!**

***Come out to show your support for your  
Custer County Bobcats!***

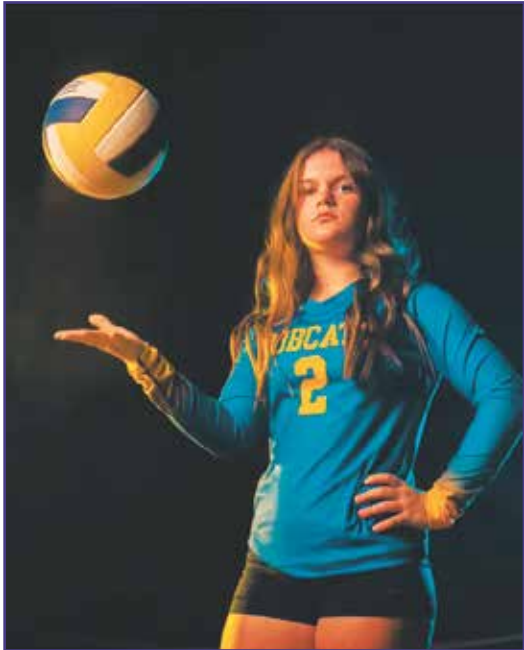
*Come support the Bobcats Concession Stand at every Home game!*

# Local Mountain News & Notices

## Tony's Pizza Player of the Week



TOP: Wade Pierce #22. BOTTOM L. Quincy Downing. No photo: Mary Weber



**Football MVP**  
Wade Pierce #22,  
1 Catch  
49 yards  
1 TD

**Volleyball MVP**  
VB Varsity MVP:  
Quincy Downing –  
During this past week, our team experienced some rollercoaster moments. Quincy remained consistent throughout both games and helped hold the team together defensively. Her hard work in practice was displayed when it was game time.

VB JV MVP:  
Mary Weber

Correction from last week (10/04/2024):

**VB MVP:**  
**JV MVP: Sierra Foster**  
Sierra Foster is starting to figure out her role and has become a key piece to our offense.

PHOTO Left: Sierra Foster

**Varsity VB MVP::Lily Bobgardner**  
Lily Bomgardner’s defensive abilities allows us to speed up our offense and she’s a great asset from the service line as well.



**Bobcats Scoreboard!**

**Tuesday, October 1:**  
**HS Volleyball @ Buena Vista:**  
*Varsity: 1-3: 25-20, 16-25, 14-25, 23-25; JV: 0-2: 15-25, 23-25*

**Wednesday, October 2:**  
**HS Volleyball @ Crested Butte:**  
*Varsity: 3-1: 25-17, 25-14, 18-25, 25-17; JV: 2-1: 26-28, 25-16, 15-8*

**Friday, October 4:**  
**HS Football @ HOME vs Walsenburg: 6-58, loss**

**Saturday, October 5:**  
**Cross Country: Salida XC Classic @ Vandaveer Ranch:**  
*Mason Stover 19:54 (19th); Levi Carichner 21:43 (50th); Jacob Weeks 23:02 (81st)*  
*At a tough meet in Salida with a monstrous hill, our runners did great!*

**GET THE TO-DO'S TO-DONE**

**CK SERIES**

- 20, 35 AND 40 HP ENGINES
- 4 TRANSMISSION CHOICES
- 80PS OR CUB MODELS
- EASY TO HIRE
- WE DO YOUR DIRT

# True Value

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

## Liberty Rocks - 2024

**Tuesday, October 15th**  
(**Tuesday** instead of Thursday)

**Tony's Steak & Tavern**  
**Tony's Mountain Pizza's Full Menu will be offered**  
— All are welcome —  
**Meet & Greet and Dinner begins at 5:30 pm**  
**Presentation begins at 6pm**  
**Come eat, discuss, engage, and learn**

★ ★ ★ ★ ★  
**Presentation by Custer County Search & Rescue**  
(CORSAR Cards will be available)

**And an opportunity for any Candidates who would like to speak**

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

# Market

*Your Neighborhood Grocery Store*

- Full Service Grocery Store
- Ice
- Blue Rhino Propane
- Firewood
- Hunting / Fishing License

**Open 7:00 a.m. - 8:00 p.m.**  
**7 Days a Week**

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

**50 Main Street**  
**719/783-0550**

# Western Mining History Crime in the Cripple Creek

By Jan MacKell Collins

(KB: As a refresher, last week's Part I left off with:

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.)

Thousands of goods and pieces of furniture were piled high in the streets. It was prime picking for looters and arsonists, the latter whom set even more fires to instill further panic so they could rob and steal. In response, firemen, police and good Samaritans beat, clubbed or shot the law-breakers as a way to restore order.



View from junction of Myers and “A” Streets during the April 29th, 1896 Cripple Creek fire

Petty crimes and robberies continued intermittently for the next few years, and brawls and gunfights were common throughout the district. Crimes increased dramatically when the Cripple Creek District rallied against Colorado Springs to form Teller County in 1899. El Paso County clearly did not want to lose its lucrative tax base from the rich mines of the district.



Aftermath of the 1896 Cripple Creek fires

Arguments over the matter turned into all-out screaming matches, fights, and shootings. Thus the newly formed county, with Cripple Creek as the county seat, found itself besieged with lawlessness, free-for-all fights in the saloons along Myers Avenue, and high-grading of gold which was so widespread it was hardly thought illegal.

For several more years, law enforcement continued grappling with the outlaw elements around the district. Incidents making the papers included the death of James Roberts, who was clubbed with a gun and left to die on the floor of the Dawson Club as other patrons urged him to the bar for a

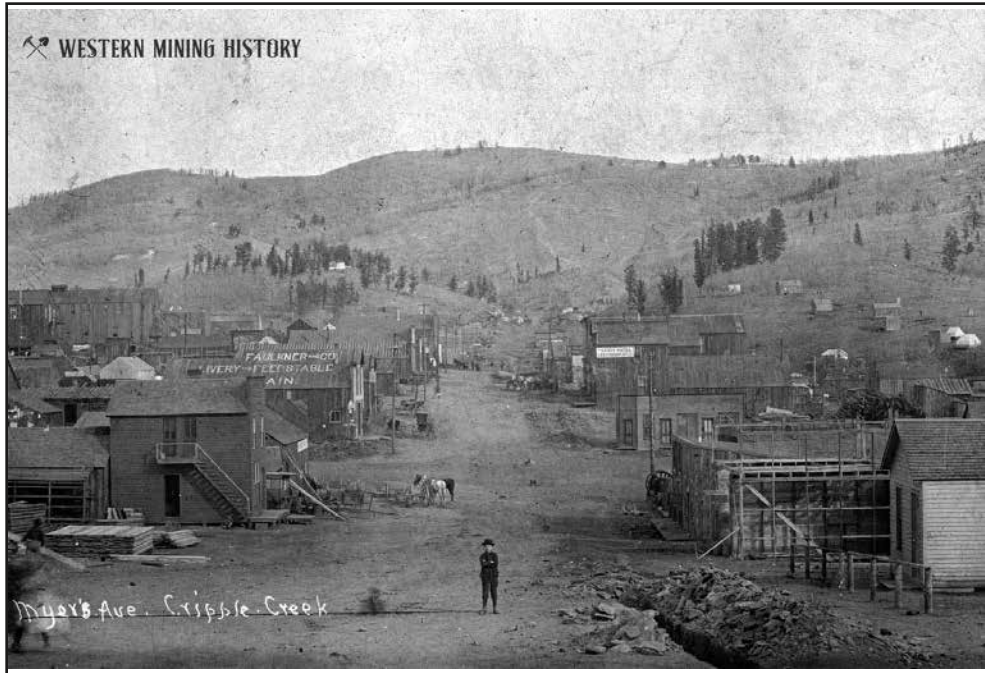
drink (a portion of Roberts’ skull, used in testimony against his killer, is on display at the Cripple Creek District Museum).



James Robert’s skull at the Cripple Creek District Museum

## Myers Avenue

Down in Cripple Creek’s infamous red-light district on Myers Avenue, prostitute Nell Worley was arrested for shooting at a man breaking down her front door. Nell was arrested because the bullet missed its mark and hit a musician on the way home from the Grand Opera House instead. Luckily he was only injured.



Myers Avenue – Cripple Creek 1892

Indeed, Myers Avenue was peppered with illegal gamblers, pick pockets and drunks who felt free to wave and fire their guns at will. The red-light district spanned a full two blocks, offering everything from dance halls to cribs, from brothels above saloons to elite parlor houses.

Crimes, suicides, death from disease and frequent scuffles were the norm on Myers Avenue, where anything could happen – and eventually did. Today, Madam Pearl DeVere remains the best-known madam in Cripple Creek, and her fancy parlor house, the Old Homestead, remains one of the most unique museums in the west.

# Why: Bandits and Badmen: Cripple Creek District - Part II

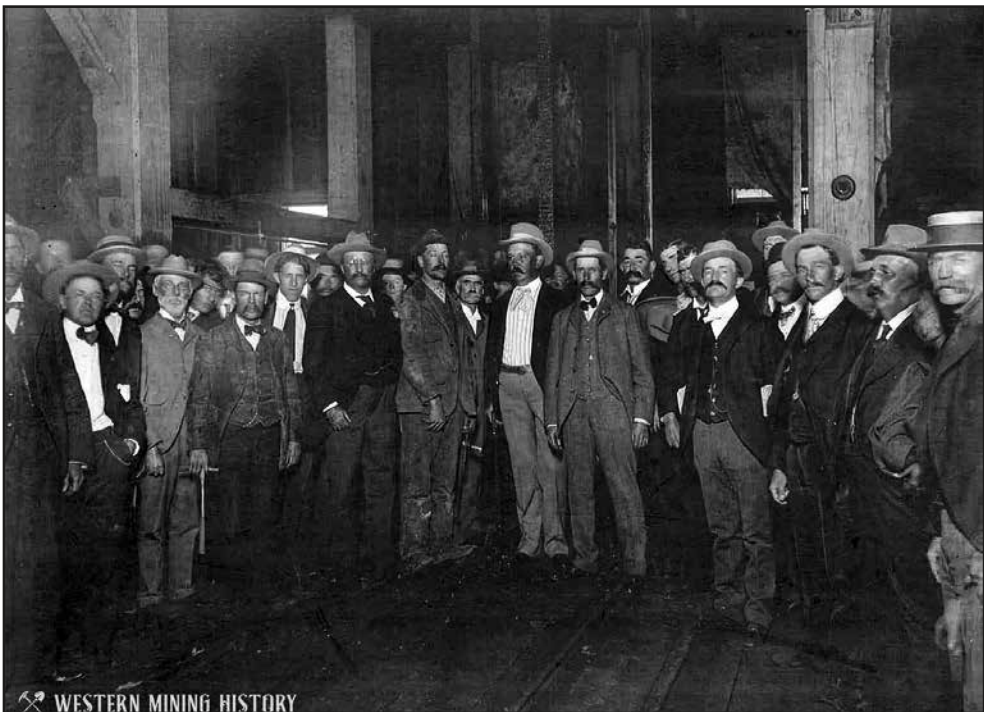


Interior view of Crapper Jack's Saloon, Myers Avenue, Cripple Creek, Colorado.  
Women, likely prostitutes, wear aprons or petticoats over their dresses  
(1895-1899)

## Theodore Roosevelt

Vice-presidential nominee Theodore Roosevelt visited Victor in 1900. Political tensions were high, and Roosevelt was attacked by an angry mob of protesters as he disembarked from the train. Cripple Creek postmaster Danny Sullivan is credited with keeping the crowd at bay with a two by four until Roosevelt was back on the train.

A year later Roosevelt visited again, then as Vice President. This time he was treated with much more respect, although the apologetic city council of Victor kept him entertained for so long that he barely had time to visit Cripple Creek before departing.



Vice President Theodore Roosevelt in the Portland shaft house 1901

## More Labor Trouble

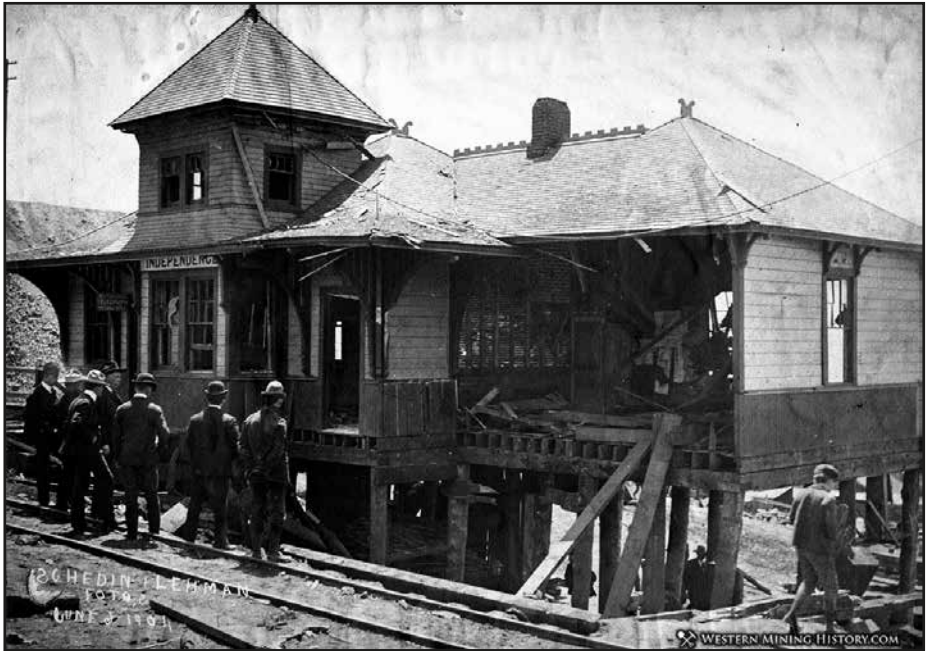
When labor strikes reared their ugly head once again in 1903, citizens of the district found themselves pitted against each other. Union and non-union miners fought against one another. Neighbors stopped speaking to each other. Down in the schoolyards, even children fought on the playground over a debate they actually knew little about.

Soon, miners were being jailed and/or deported from the district, and one time the entire staff of the Victor Record newspaper was arrested for publishing an unpopular editorial. Things reached a head when professional assassin Harry Orchard set off a bomb at the Vindicator Mine and blew up the train depot at the district town of Independence.

During a heated election debate in the district town of Goldfield, deputy sheriff

James Warford was hired to oversee the elections. According to Warford, Goldfield constables Isaac Leibo and Chris Miller were shot in self defense when they refused to "move on." An examination of the bodies, however, revealed both were shot from behind.

Eight years later, long after the strikes had been settled, Warford was found beaten and shot to death on nearby Battle Mountain. His murder was never solved.



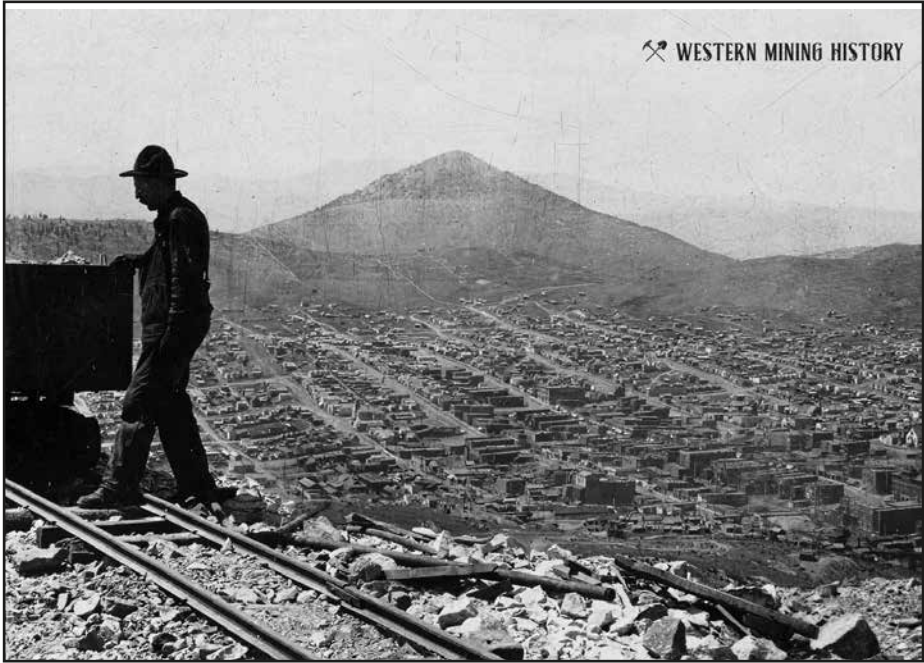
14 Wreckage of the Independence railroad depot

## End of an Era

Eventually the Cripple Creek District's mines began to decline from their peak years, and folks slowly began moving away. The sharks and scheisters moved on too, in search of fresh pigeons to pluck. It would be many more decades before legalized gambling would find its way to Cripple Creek, bringing a whole new, modern generation of eager residents, as well as the accompanying crimes.

For history buffs, there are still some mysteries remaining in the district yet. In Mt. Pisgah Cemetery at Cripple Creek, a wooden grave marker was once documented as reading, "He called Bill Smith a Liar." Urban legend has it that after gambling was legalized, renovations of Johnny Nolon's original casino in Cripple Creek revealed a body in a strange shaft under the building.

During the excavation of an outhouse pit at the ghost town of Mound City during the 1990s, remains of a perhaps quickly discarded revolver were found. These and other mysterious remnants still surface now and then, to remind us of the many other crimes the lively Cripple Creek District once witnessed.



15 Cripple Creek and Mt. Pisgah from the Anchoria-Leland Mine 1906

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

Layout by Katherine Brenchley



# 2024 Election Information

## 2024 Election: Custer County BOCC Ballot Guide Commentary

by George Gramlich, Commentary

Here’s some background on the candidates showing why we backed Vogelsong and Epp.

### Local Races:

#### Board of County Commissioners District 2 Race:

##### Vote for Paul Vogelsong.

Paul Vogelsong has a lot of management experience, in the service and in the private sector. He knows accounting and finance. Not afraid to get his hands dirty to finish the job. Has worked big jobs and small. He will represent the taxpayers vs. being a shill for big government.

The other candidate on the ballot, Incumbent Kevin Day has been a total disaster. He failed to supervise the Finance Department for two years, allowing all kinds of mayhem to happen. Hired a TOTALLY unqualified person to run it. Pushed to create the unneeded County Manager job (and did it illegally by failing to follow the statutory rules to establish that office.) Then hired the same failed Finance Director to be the County Manager! Put in a morally wrong \$45k separation payment for the County Manager into the contract so that if he was fired or the job eliminated, the CM would get a big payout. He did this, KNOWING that the job would likely be eliminated after the recall election just days away from the decision. That was \$45k of OUR money flying out the door due to Day’s arrogance. Day acts like a petty juvenile in his relations with fellow

Commissioner Canda. Being a lifelong government employee, Day always defends the government vs. protection the people’s rights on issues. Which invariably costs us taxpayers money. Also Day was elected as a Republican and then abandoned the party to run as Unaffiliated this year, as he knew he would not be nominated again due to his abysmal performance. Thus, not a loyal person. His candidacy is all about Day and not about the people.

There is also a write-in candidate running, Lynn Attebury. Lynn is a Republican and ran for the slot at the Republican Assembly but was beaten out by Vogelsong. Lynn then decided to still run but as a write-in candidate. Lynn was a County Commissioner about ten years ago and did a decent job. But the world, and local government has changed dramatically since then. We invited Lynn in for an interview, but it didn’t go well. He avoided discussing many of the current local gov issues. He seemed unprepared. He kept referring back to when he was Commissioner. He failed to present a concrete plan to address our problems. The interview was almost confrontational, which was regrettable. Lynn is a good guy but not the guy we would want now.

We need somebody to represent the people again and that is Vogelsong.

#### Board of County Commissioner Race District 3:

##### Vote for Lucas Epp.

Lucas Epp has done a good job. Couple

of little bobbles early on but has spent the time to get things done. He accepted the job of overseeing the Finance Department after Day’s epic failing of managing it and has done a great job on maneuvering through this minefield. This was the biggest problem the county has had and Epp voluntarily took it on and he is getting it done. Very organized. Sometimes a little too friendly with our fringe lefties to suit me, personally, but nobody is perfect. And you can definitely say he listens to all the citizens. Epp will put in the time to get the job done. He has demonstrated that he is detail oriented. He schedules the Commissioners various meetings (which Day should be doing.) Epp tries to keep things moving along while Day snores. Vote for Epp.

The other candidate on the ballot, the *Wet Mountain Tribune’s* Editor, Jordan “Redbug” Hedberg is probably the most unqualified candidate ever to run for county office in decades. (And folks, we are knocking him because of his attributes and not because he is a competitor. We like having the *Trib* around. Two papers are a good thing. It’s a sign of life and a healthy opportunity for all voices to be heard in this small county.)

Hedberg has so many issues we can only touch on a few. Temperament: Hedberg is known for his many public and private outbursts of anger and profanity. We have seen it right here at the *Sentinel* in the middle of the day. Business Acumen: Hedberg apparently has been an employee for this entire life until recently. He tried to run a restaurant in Westcliffe a few years ago and that didn’t last long. He borrowed a bunch of money to buy the *Wet Mountain Tribune* and according to an affidavit he filed in his lawsuit against me, the *Trib’s* gross income and subscriber numbers have plunged dramatically in the last few years. You don’t want him managing our money. Property Taxes: At a BOCC meeting early this year, when the Commissioners were working on dropping the mill rate to save us property owners from the draconian property tax increase caused by our state legislature’s refusal to extend the tax breaks. Hedberg called in at the end of meeting. He said he was for NOT reducing the huge increase so the county would have the money to do all the things they couldn’t do before. Easy for him to say, as he owns no property in Custer County that we’re aware of. So

Hedberg is for more taxes (as long as he doesn’t have to pay them?)

Public Interaction: Hedberg basically closed the *Trib’s* office months ago. Apparently working out of his rental home. The reason given: Threats were made against him because of the *Trib*. So he ran and hid. Dude, you bought a local newspaper, dealing with threats is part and parcel in this business. Put on your big boy pants and act like a man. What are you going to do if you are elected? Have 24 hours police protection? Work from home and attend meetings via Zoom?

Legal System Abuse: Hedberg sued the County over legal notices. Hedberg has sued me personally, apparently trying to put the *Sentinel* out of business. Hedberg filed a criminal complaint against Commissioner Canda that the DA had to spend money to investigate, and the DA eventually deemed it totally bogus. Hedberg filed an ethics complaint against our ex Public Health Director which was declined. Hedberg threatened to sue the BOCC if they voted to hold a voter integrity seminar. And just recently, Hedberg sued our County Sheriff to get a Temporary Restraining Order citing a rather bizarre reason. This necessitated retaining a criminal lawyer for the County to defend the lawsuit. Yet another County legal expense due to Hedberg’s lawfare. You get the picture, instead of resolving disputes person to person like a man, he appears to prefer using the legal system to get his way. Plus, he has had other legal issues.

Use of Extreme Profanity in Public: Tons of examples but maybe the worst was Hedberg using EXTREME profanity in various people’s discussions on some of our local Facebook community pages when the discussion was very courteous. The posters were often mature, local ladies who were having a chat about something and then—wham---Hedberg drops in with vulgarity out of nowhere.

You get the picture. Not the guy you want at the helm of a \$9 million a year operation requiring a lot of personal interaction, thick skin, and financial wisdom. Why he is running for Commissioner is unknown. Probably just another ego trip thing with him. It’s a shame. Hedberg’s got half a brain, but it is just wasted due to his personality issues. Suggest Hedberg read Andrew Murray’s “*Humility*”. It is a good place to start....

SENTINEL GUIDE

from page 14

Proposition JJ (Statutory): Allow the State to Keep All of the Taxes It’s Collected from Sports Betting. Tough Call. Vote NO.

Proposition KK (Statutory): A New Excise Tax on Gun and Ammunition Sales. Vote NO.

Proposition 127 (Statutory): Ban the Sport Hunting of Big Cats. Vote NO.

Proposition 128 (Statutory): Parole Eligibility for People Convicted of Crimes. Vote YES.

Proposition 129 (Statutory): Creating the Position of Veterinary Professional Associate. Tough call. Vote - Your Call.

Proposition 130 (Statutory): \$350 Million in State Funding for Law Enforcement. Vote YES.

Proposition 131 (Statutory): All Candidate Primaries and Ranked Choice Voting. Vote NO.

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Westcliffe, CO

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Stunning Panoramic Views

35.12 Acres

4 Bdr / 3 Bath, Elevator

5,203 Square Feet

Offered by:

Bob Senderhauf Owner/Broker

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REALTY

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Westcliffe, CO

Offered at \$629,000

3 bed, 3 bath,

2,040 Sq. Ft.

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Bob Senderhauf Owner/Broker

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REALTY

## Independence Institute 2024 Voter Guide

### Amendment K – Modify Constitutional Election Deadlines

Recommendation: **VOTE NO**

This amendment would move the deadline up by one week for citizen initiatives to file their petition signatures. The changes would give the Secretary of State and county clerks extra time to finalize content of ballots before they must be printed and sent to voters. Because this is an amendment to the Colorado Constitution, a 55% majority is required to pass it.

While extra time to finalize content of ballots might be beneficial to the Secretary of State and county clerks, those benefits should not come at the expense of citizens wishing to make their voices heard at the ballot. Amendment K would reduce the time for citizens to gather and submit petition signatures to get a proposed initiative on the ballot, an already difficult and extremely costly procedure. As such, we recommend a no vote.

### Amendment 79 – Constitutional Right to Abortion

Recommendation: **VOTE NO**

It is generally Independence Institute policy not to weigh in on social issues, including abortion. This amendment, however, goes beyond questions of morality surrounding abortion to include the potential for future taxpayer-funded mandates for public health insurance plans.

This amendment would explicitly protect access to legal abortion via the constitution. It also would remove Colorado’s 40-year-old ban on the use of public funds for abortion services. This would allow Colorado to cover more abortions under Medicaid and state and local governments to add abortion coverage to their employee health insurance plans. Because this is an amendment to the Colorado Constitution, a 55% majority is required to pass it.

Abortion is already legal without any gestational limits in Colorado. The failure of this measure at the ballot would not change that. It would, however, prevent the Colorado General Assembly and local governments from creating new public health insurance coverage mandates, keeping taxpayers off the hook for funding procedures that may or may not violate their conscience.

### Amendment 80 – Constitutional Right to School Choice

Recommendation: **VOTE YES**

This amendment would establish the right to school choice in the Colorado Constitution for children in kindergarten through 12th grade and create the right for parents to direct the education of their children. It would also define school choice to include public neighborhood and charter schools, private schools, home schools, open enrollment options, and “future innovations in education.” Because this is an amendment to the constitution, a 55% majority is required to pass it.

As one of Colorado’s original school choice advocates, Independence Institute has long worked toward the expansion of educational opportunities for Colorado kids ranging from charter schools to private schools to homeschool. For that reason, and because we believe the failure of this initiative would send an inaccurate message to already hostile policymakers, we recom0

Colorado’s constitution to protect taxpayers from government growth and overreach. Propositions like this seem appealing to many because they only affect a small proportion of the populace and because sports betting is often considered a vice. It is convenient to say “Sure, raise taxes on them because it doesn’t affect me.” But what happens when the government wants to tax you on one of your hobbies?

In this endless cycle of taxation, it is the government who wins and takes more money than it needs for oftentimes wasteful projects. We recommend a no vote.

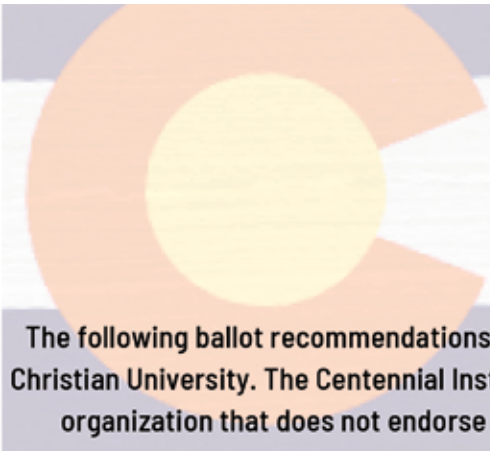
### Proposition KK – Firearms and Ammunition Excise Tax

Recommendation: **VOTE NO**

This proposition would ask voters to impose a new 6.5 percent excise tax on gun and ammunition sales. The tax would be paid by gun dealers, manufacturers, and ammunition vendors, who would then pass the cost on to consumers. The funds would go to behavioral health support for veterans and youth, school safety and gun violence

<https://i2i.org/>  
See page 17

# 2024 Election Information



## STATE OF COLORADO 2024 VOTER GUIDE

The following ballot recommendations are guided by the mission and strategic priorities of Colorado Christian University. The Centennial Institute at Colorado Christian University is a nonpartisan 501(c)(3) organization that does not endorse or oppose any candidate or political party for public office.

| TITLE                                                                                          | ABOUT                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                            | RECOMMENDED VOTE                                                                                                                                                                                                                               |
|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| <b>AMENDMENT G</b><br><br><i>Modify Property Tax Exemptions for Veterans with Disabilities</i> | Reduces the property taxes paid by some veteran homeowners by expanding the existing homestead exemption for veterans with 100% service-related disability to include veterans whose disability is rated as making them unemployable.<br><br><i>Passes with 55% of the vote.</i>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                 | <b>SUPPORT</b><br><br>Our veterans deserve support, and the amendment eases their cost of living. Conservatives also support lower taxes in general.                                                                                           |
| <b>AMENDMENT H</b><br><br><i>Judicial Discipline Procedures and Confidentiality</i>            | Creates an independent adjudicative board made up of citizens, lawyers, and judges to conduct judicial misconduct hearings and impose disciplinary actions. Currently a select panel of judges conducts judicial misconduct hearings and recommends disciplinary actions.<br><br><i>Passes with 55% of the vote.</i>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                             | <b>NEUTRAL</b><br><br>Accountability and transparency for the judicial branch are important, but conservatives may disagree on the best structure and process for doing so.                                                                    |
| <b>AMENDMENT I</b><br><br><i>Constitutional Bail Exception for First Degree Murder</i>         | Allows judges to deny bail to a person charged with first degree murder when the judge determines that the proof is “evident” or presumption is “great” that the person committed the crime. Currently, judges must set bail for each person charged with first degree murder.<br><br><i>Passes with 55% of the vote.</i>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                        | <b>SUPPORT</b><br><br>Christian conservatives value the sanctity of life, including victims and members of our community. This will promote greater public safety.                                                                             |
| <b>AMENDMENT J</b><br><br><i>Repealing the Definition of Marriage in the Constitution</i>      | Repeals language in the Colorado Constitution that defines a valid marriage as a union between one man and one woman. Same sex marriage is legal nationwide and in Colorado.<br><br><i>Passes with a majority of the vote.</i>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                   | <b>OPPOSE</b><br><br>Christian conservatives continue to believe that the only valid form of marriage is the union of one man and one woman, regardless of what current law may say.                                                           |
| <b>AMENDMENT K</b><br><br><i>Modify Constitutional Election Deadlines</i>                      | Makes deadlines one week earlier for citizens to submit signatures for initiative and referendum petitions, and for judges to file declarations of intent to seek another term; and requires that the content of ballot measures be published in local newspapers 30 days earlier than the current 15 days before ballots are sent out.<br><br>This makes it more difficult for Colorado citizens to gather signatures for initiatives, and the process of verifying signatures can be addressed with better administration and funding. Ballot measure language is also heavily publicized, making this unnecessary.<br><br><i>Passes with 55% of the vote.</i> | <b>OPPOSE</b><br><br>Conservatives believe that government needs to be accountable to the people, and the increase in public awareness does not outweigh the additional hurdles to citizen initiatives.                                        |
| <b>AMENDMENT 79</b><br><br><i>Constitutional Right to Abortion</i>                             | Makes abortion a constitutional right in Colorado and prohibits state and local governments from “denying, impeding, or discriminating against exercising” that right. This means that no restrictions on abortion can ever be passed in the future, and it denies parents the right to be notified when their minor child seeks an abortion.<br><br>It also repeals an existing Colorado constitutional provision banning the use of public funds for abortion services. Those who oppose abortion should not be required to fund it under force of law.<br><br><i>Passes with 55% of the vote.</i>                                                             | <b>OPPOSE</b><br><br>Christian conservatives believe strongly in the sanctity of life, and abortion is a clear violation of that. The amendment permanently codifies into state law an unrestricted right to take the life of an unborn child. |

Cont’d on page 17

# 2024 Election Information

| TITLE                                                                                 | ABOUT                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                             | RECOMMENDED VOTE                                                                                                                                                                                                                                       |
|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| <b>AMENDMENT 80</b><br><br><i>Constitutional Right to School Choice</i>               | <p>Creates a constitutional right to school choice for K-12 children and their parents, and specifies that school choice includes public, private, homeschool, and any future innovations in education. It also creates the right for parents to direct the education of their children.</p> <p><i>Passes with 55% of the vote.</i></p>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                           | <b>SUPPORT</b><br><br>Parents have a pre-existing natural right and obligation to direct the education of their children. It is good that the amendment recognizes that right, promoting freedom, justice, and high-quality education.                 |
| <b>PROPOSITION JJ</b><br><br><i>Retain Additional Sports Betting Tax Revenue</i>      | <p>Allows the state to keep sports betting tax revenue above the amount previously approved by voters, and use this money for water projects, rather than refunding it to casinos and sports betting operators.</p> <p>TABOR requires excess tax revenue to be refunded, and water programs are already fully funded. Excess gambling taxes should be used to fund gambling addiction programs.</p> <p><i>Passes with a majority vote.</i></p>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                    | <b>OPPOSE</b><br><br>Conservatives support limited government and lower taxes. The negative effects of gambling on individuals and their families should be better addressed by those who legalized it.                                                |
| <b>PROPOSITION KK</b><br><br><i>Firearms and Ammunition Excise Tax</i>                | <p>Creates a new 6.5% tax on firearms, parts, and ammunition; and uses the new revenue to fund crime victim support services, mental health services for veterans and youth, and school safety programs.</p> <p>This would increase state tax revenue by \$39 million in just its first year and makes gun ownership more expensive for hunters and for citizens who wish to protect themselves. The beneficiary programs are already funded by federal and state taxes.</p> <p><i>Passes with a majority vote.</i></p>                                                                                                                                                                           | <b>OPPOSE</b><br><br>Conservatives support lower taxes, Constitutional rights and limited government, and the right of citizens to defend themselves.                                                                                                  |
| <b>PROPOSITION 127</b><br><br><i>Prohibit Bobcat, Lynx, and Mountain Lion Hunting</i> | <p>Amends Colorado statutes to prohibit the hunting or trapping of bobcats, lynx, and mountain lions; and to continue to permit the killing of these animals under certain limited circumstances. Killing lynx is already prohibited, and Colorado Parks &amp; Wildlife carefully monitors and manages the population of predators in relation to overall biodiversity.</p> <p><i>Passes with a majority vote.</i></p>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                            | <b>OPPOSE</b><br><br>Conservatives value our natural resources, free markets, and limited government. This is an unnecessary change to existing wildlife management practices.                                                                         |
| <b>PROPOSITION 128</b><br><br><i>Parole Eligibility for Crimes of Violence</i>        | <p>Increases from 75% to 85% the amount of prison time a person convicted of certain violent crimes of violence must serve before becoming eligible for discretionary parole or earned time reductions. It also makes a person convicted of a third violent crime ineligible for discretionary parole or earned time reductions (similar to “three strikes and you’re out.”)</p> <p><i>Passes with a majority vote.</i></p>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                       | <b>SUPPORT</b><br><br>Christian conservatives understand that justice means getting what one deserves, and this ensures a more just penal system that benefits public safety.                                                                          |
| <b>PROPOSITION 129</b><br><br><i>Establishing Veterinary Professional Associates</i>  | <p>Establishes the new regulated profession of veterinary professional associate as a provider of veterinary care, alongside veterinarians, veterinary technicians, and veterinary technician specialists.</p> <p><i>Passes with a majority vote.</i></p>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                         | <b>SUPPORT</b><br><br>This increases job opportunities and small business formation, and extends veterinary care to underserved areas of the state.                                                                                                    |
| <b>PROPOSITION 130</b><br><br><i>Funding for Law Enforcement</i>                      | <p>Provides \$350 million in additional funding to local law enforcement agencies to improve officer recruitment and retention; and requires the state to provide a one-time \$1 million death benefit to the family of each state and local law enforcement officer killed in the line of duty. The sum is more than ten times the most recent allocation of state funds to retention and recruitment.</p> <p>This will require the legislature to find \$350 million, either through tax increases, budget cuts, or some combination. It is not clear that such a massive sum is targeted at the real needs of law enforcement across the state.</p> <p><i>Passes with a majority vote.</i></p> | <b>NEUTRAL</b><br><br>Crime is a major issue in Colorado, and conservatives support law enforcement recruitment and benefits. However, this greatly expands government and raises taxes. Conservatives may disagree on the wisdom of this proposition. |

Cont’d on page 24

## Independence Institute 2024 Voter Guide

prevention programs, and services for victims of domestic violence and other violent crimes.

The federal government already levies a 10 percent excise tax on handguns and an 11 percent tax on all other firearms and all ammunition to fund conservation efforts. If passed, the new 6.5 percent tax would be additive to the federal government’s and would make Colorado only the second state in the country (behind California, of course) to levy a state excise tax on gun and ammunition sales.

To quote Governor Jared Polis, “In effect, when you tax something, you penalize it.” Coloradans have a state and federal constitutional right to keep and bear arms. Those exercising that fundamental right should not be “penalized” in order to compensate for crimes they did not commit.

The added tax also risks exacerbating socioeconomic disparities in who has access to the best tools to defend themselves by pricing those with limited economic means out of the ability to purchase and train with firearms.

### Proposition 127 – Prohibit Bobcat, Lynx, and Mountain Lion Hunting

Recommendation: **VOTE NO**

This initiative would permanently end hunting seasons for mountain lions and bobcats in Colorado. It would also bar the state from allowing lynx hunting should the species ever be delisted by the Feds as “endangered.” The animals could still be killed by state or federal employees for population management, or, with state permission, by ranchers to prevent livestock depredation.

Policymaking by duplicity is no way to govern a state. The proponents of the Proposition 127 ban have compared the lawful taking of mountain lions to “trophy hunting” to give the impression that the animals are merely killed for sport and left to waste. Yet, current Colorado law explicitly requires all successful mountain lion hunters to prepare their quarry for human consumption, and many thousands of Colorado hunters do just that each year.

The measure is also not about the health of Colorado’s big cat populations. Colorado Parks and Wildlife biologists estimate that the state’s population of mountain lions has grown since the species was classified as a big game species in 1965, as has the state’s bobcat population.

Instead, the measure is about using the force of law to take away long-cherished practices of certain residents that offend the sensibilities of urban Colorado, the latest instance of waging culture war at the ballot box. The ban would have both direct and indirect economic impacts by ending the big cat hunting industry. A larger, unmanaged big cat population could damage other big game populations and increase big cat encounters in rural and exurban areas of the state.

We hope that the voters of Colorado have learned their lesson from the reintroduction of wolves about the perils of ballot-box biology and opening new fissures between urban and rural parts of the state. We strongly recommend a no vote.

### Proposition 128 – Parole Eligibility for Crimes of Violence

Recommendation: **VOTE YES**

Proposition 128 would require persons convicted of certain violent crimes to serve at least 85 percent of their sentence in prison before being eligible for parole. It would also make a person convicted for the third or more times of certain violent offenses ineligible for parole.

We agree with the idea that violent offenders, particularly those who repeatedly victimize others through violent criminal acts, should remain incapacitated and removed from our communities until they have paid their debts to society.

Voters should temper their expectations about the impact of this measure, in that judges will likely just reduce their sentencing to account for the new requirement. The measure does not create minimum sentences for certain crimes. And judges are fully aware of the percentage of time served behind bars when they order a sentence. The measure also risks taking away a potential tool for encouraging good behavior behind bars.

On balance, however, it is the duty of a well-governed state to remove violent offenders from polite society

<https://i2i.org/>  
See page 24



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# Smotherman Busted for Blowing Campaign Funds on Hair and Makeup

by [ColoradoPeakPolitics.com](http://ColoradoPeakPolitics.com)

State Senate candidate Vivian Smothe-rman has been busted for blowing campaign funds on a beauty consultant to do hair and makeup, signaling to voters how careless she's likely to spend their tax dollars if elected.

Smotherman is the Democrat running for the District 6 seat in southwest Colorado that includes Alamosa against incumbent Republican state Sen. Cleave Simpson.

According to the LGBTQ Victory Fund, Smotherman is a bisexual transgender woman and would be the first transgender woman elected to Colorado's state Senate.

That's if District 6 voters find Smotherman to be fiscally responsible.

*Colorado Politics* has the scoop on Smotherman's questionable campaign expenditures

From January through June Smother-man spent campaign donations on "style and appearance consulting" that included hair and makeup. The questionable spending includes purchas-

es from different stores plus alterations to fit the Navy veteran with stylish clothing.

All for \$1,075.93.

Such spending is at obvious odds with state campaign finance laws that prohibits using donations for personal use, and it doesn't get more personal than hair and make-up.

Smotherman claims she asked the Secretary of State's office if the expenditures were permitted, and told *Colorado Politics* the response was simply that no one had ever asked the question before.

Probably because no other candidate has been so vain or vapid as to presume campaign consultant meant hair and makeup.

No political candidate has probably ever asked if it's okay to use campaign donations to buy votes either, that doesn't make it a permission slip to go ahead and do it.

This is a hotly contested race with Democrats pulling out all the stops to flip this seat from the GOP incumbent and what few Republicans are left in

the state legislature in order to obtain a veto-proof majority.

Such huge numbers in the state House and Senate would give Democrats an historic supermajority that would remove all checks and balances on their governing, including the governor himself.

Such an achievement seems to be the opposite of democracy and would swing Colorado over the edge to an authoritarian government.

Smotherman would be the perfect player in such a world. Thankfully, we're not there yet.

Please see: <https://coloradopeakpolitics.com/2024/10/03/smotherman-busted-for-blowing-campaign-funds-on-hair-and-makeup/>



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## CUSTER COUNTY LEGAL NOTICES

**NOTICE OF GENERAL ELECTION**

**NOVEMBER 5, 2024**

**OFFICE OF THE CLERK & RECORDER**

**CUSTER COUNTY, COLORADO**

In accordance with §1-5-205(1) C.R.S., notice is hereby given that a General Election will be held by Mail Ballot Election process, in the County of Custer, State of Colorado, on Tuesday, the 5<sup>th</sup> day of November 2024.

**Mail Ballots** – Ballots will be mailed starting October 11, 2024 to all active registered voters in the county. If you have recently moved and not updated your physical and/or mailing address, you can either come into our office to update your address or go online to [govotecolorado.gov](http://govotecolorado.gov). Ballots **cannot** be forwarded.

**Voter Service and Polling Center (VSPC)** – You may obtain a replacement ballot, drop off your ballot, update your voter registration, register to vote, or vote using a voting machine at the Custer County Clerk's Office located at 205 S. 6th Street, Westcliffe, CO. Dates and hours of operation are:

October 21<sup>st</sup> through November 5<sup>th</sup>

Monday-Friday, 8:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.

Saturday, November 2<sup>nd</sup>, 8:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m.

Election Day, Tuesday, November 5<sup>th</sup>, 7:00 a.m. to 7:00 p.m.

A voting machine will be available at this location only, starting Monday, October 21<sup>st</sup>.

**Ballot drop-box locations** – A 24-hour ballot drop-box is located at the rear entrance of the County Building, 205 S. 6th Street, Westcliffe, CO; and at the Wetmore Community Center, 95 County Road 393, Wetmore, CO.

Sample ballots may be obtained at the Custer County Clerk's Office, or under "Clerk and Recorder" on the County website at [custercounty-co.gov](http://custercounty-co.gov).

In Testimony Whereof, I have hereunto, set my hand and affixed the seal of the County of Custer this 3<sup>rd</sup> day of October 2024.

Kelley S. Camper

Custer County Clerk and Recorder

Published October 11 & 17, 2024  
Sangre de Cristo Sentinel  
Westcliffe, Colorado

### NOTICE OF BUDGET

Notice is hereby given that a proposed budget has been submitted to the Wet Mountain Fire Protection District for the ensuing year of 2025; a copy of such proposed budget has been filed in the office of the Wet Mountain Fire Protection District, where the same is open for public inspection; such proposed budget will be considered at the board meeting of the Wet Mountain Fire Protection District to be held at 215 North 4th Street, Westcliffe, Colorado on December 11th, 2024 at 5:30pm.

Any interested elector of the Wet Mountain Fire Protection District may inspect the proposed budget and file or register any objections thereto at any time prior to the final adoption of the budget.

Teri Munson  
Secretary to the Board  
Wet Mountain Fire Protection District

Published October 11, 2024  
Sangre de Cristo Sentinel  
Westcliffe, Colorado

### 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

### NOTICE

The Town of Silver Cliff has a vacancy on the Board of Trustees and one vacancy on the Planning Commission. All residents, 18 years or older, who are registered to vote and have resided in Silver Cliff for 12 consecutive months immediately preceding the date of appointment are eligible to submit a letter of interest to the Town Clerk, 612 Main St., Silver Cliff, CO 81252, or [townclerk@silvercliffco.com](mailto:townclerk@silvercliffco.com), by 4:00 p.m., October 17, 2024. Please call Ileen Squire, Town Clerk, at 719-783-2615 if you have questions.

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

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Religion, The Constitution & Culture

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

Appalachian Elegy

by Mark Tapson,  
FrontPageMag.com

In the wake of biblical-level devastation left by Hurricane Helene this last week, fatalities have soared over 200, more than 1,000 people are unaccounted for, and severe flooding has washed out towns, roads and bridges from Florida to North Carolina, the hardest-hit state. Whole communities have been without necessities like water, power, cell phone service, and food for nearly a week. Some residents are trapped in mountainside homes with no way to communicate with emergency personnel. This is an ongoing disaster of epic proportions.

One resident of Fairview, a suburb of Asheville NC, said “the heavens came down” with the hurricane. “It was incomprehensible, what we witnessed, as it relates to the magnitude it was,” reported a Charlotte City councilman. “[I]t was truly something that you really can’t even visualize unless you see it.”

In true American style, civilian volunteers, many from out of state, have leapt into action to locate and assist survivors. Their heroic efforts stand in sharp contrast to an absent federal government that has no clear leadership. Decrepit, deposed President Joe Biden belatedly issued a statement about sending in a too-little, too-late force of a thousand Army servicemembers. Kamala Harris, who is worthless under the best of circumstances, has been busy salvaging her campaign after running mate Tim “Not Ready for Prime Time” Walz’s catastrophic performance in Tuesday’s vice presidential debate. So no one in the White House is available, or cares enough, to help Americans in dire need.

One Fairview resident said, “I’ve seen lots of out-of-state rescue, lots of county ambulances. I’ve seen lots of state resources, wildlife resources... But I haven’t seen any federal government. I guess when you have a disaster like this, you imagine the federal government would swoop in, but that hasn’t been the case here.”

Unfortunately, the federal government now is swooping in; to paraphrase Ronald Reagan’s famous statement, “We’re from the government and we’re here to make a terrible situation immeasurably worse.”DepartmentofTransportation diversity hire Pete Buttigieg took a break from complaining that highways are racist to announce that civilian helicopter pilots and drones used for locating victims

would no longer be allowed in the airspace of the devastation. Indeed, volunteer chopper pilots trying to assist survivors in need are being threatened with arrest. The purported reason for this policy is that civilian volunteers might hinder government efforts or create “safety issues.” The real reason is that the government is a jealous god and resents civilians swooping in and doing a better job.

A “cynical” person might even believe that the Biden-Harris (Harris-Biden? Obama-Rice?) regime doesn’t want civilians helping because it doesn’t care about the lives of rural whites. After all, Kamala said back in 2022 that the Biden regime would distribute disaster relief “based on equity” by directing funds to “communities of color.”

In any case, there are no disaster funds for anybody. Homeland Security Secretary and open-borders enthusiast Alejandro Mayorkas broke the news to reporters on Air Force One that FEMA, the Federal Emergency Management Agency, has no more money to address the crisis: “We do not have the funds. FEMA does not have the funds to make it through the [storm] season and what — what is imminent.”

That deficit is a result of Homeland Security allocating \$640.9 million this year alone in FEMA funds to aid state and local governments in processing and resettling illegal migrants swarming over the southern border which the Biden-Harris regime purposely left open. “Mayorkas and FEMA — immediately stop spending money on illegal immigration resettlement and redirect those funds to areas hit by the hurricane. Put Americans first,” Texas Republican Gov. Greg Abbott tweeted Wednesday.

Fat chance. America First is not a Democrat principle.

Four million dollars have been paid directly to hurricane-ravaged families and individuals in the last week, according to White House press propagandist Karine Jean-Pierre. Those funds are from a \$10 million FEMA allocation that allows storm victims pathetic grants of \$750 for groceries – \$750. In a joke that would be hilarious if it didn’t contain so much painful truth, the Babylon Bee satire site posted this mock headline: “North Carolina Asks [Ukraine President] Zelensky For \$100 Billion In U.S. Funding.”

“FEMA spending over a billion dollars on illegals while they leave Americans stranded and without

help is treasonous. U.S. citizens are dying. Pray for our country folks,” Rep. Tim Burchett (R-Tenn.) tweeted.

Rep. Eli Crane (R-Ariz.) wrote: ““The Biden-Harris FEMA spent over \$1 BILLION on funding illegal aliens. America LAST.”

“Connect the dots, if you can,” wrote Tim Murtaugh, an adviser to former President Donald Trump’s campaign. “DHS says FEMA might not have enough cash to help people through hurricane season. But in 2 years of a new Biden-Harris program, they’ve spent \$1 BILLION on housing and other services for migrants.”

Republican Rep. Tom Tiffany from Wisconsin tweeted, “\$750 for Hurricane Helene victims. \$700 for Maui fire victims. \$175 BILLION to Ukraine. FREE flights, health care, housing, and food for illegal aliens. Under Joe Biden and Kamala Harris, American citizens come last.”

Indeed they do. This East Coast apocalypse is the direct consequence of the Democrat obsession with flooding Ukraine with billions in taxpayer funds (remember them enthusiastically waving Ukrainian flags in Congress? Can you imagine them doing the same with the Stars and Stripes?) and flooding the entire country with illegal migrants they are counting on to vote blue. Every death, every missing resident, every washed-away community in the wake of Hurricane Helene can be laid at the doorstep of the Biden/Harris/Obama White House and a Democrat Party that always prioritizes the needs of illegals, Ukrainian kleptocrats, and Palestinian Jew-haters, with American citizens always a distant and dead last – and white rural Americans bottom-most.

Also culpable, it must be said, is a feckless Republican Party that willfully refuses to get its act together to defend American citizens from Democrat destructiveness.

In less than five weeks Americans get to decide whether this nation proceeds with the havoc wreaked by a far-Left, America-hating Democrat Party, or changes horses to an America First, Make America Great Again Party that embraces American exceptionalism. When voters enter the booths on Election Day, let them remember who is responsible for, among other disasters, the devastated communities of North Carolina.

Please see: <https://www.frontpagemag.com/appalachian-elegy/>

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.

Dems & Media turn up Assassination Dog Whistle

After two assassination attempts on former president Donald Trump, one would think that Democratic Party mouthpieces and the media would tone down the hate speech rhetoric. Not the case. On September 25th’s MSNBC’s “Morning Joe,” Commerce Secretary Gina Raimondo said in reference to Trump, “Let’s extinguish [Trump] for good...Let’s just get it done.” Long-time Democratic Party consultant/pundit James Carville said in a September 27 Youtube video that Trump is inhuman. Joe Biden said on a September 25th episode of “The View” that Trump doesn’t have a “lot of social redeeming value,” likened him as a terrorist to world leaders, and mimicked smashing Trump like a bug.

Seemingly to want to ensure the audience that Raimondo didn’t mean Trump should be assassinated, Co-Host Mika Brzezinski asked her to clarify. Then Raimondo said, “Vote him out. Banish him from American politics, yes. Just vote him out so that he goes away. [Vice President Kamala Harris’] new way forward, her vision, let’s turn the page on his chaos and craziness, vindictiveness, wrongheaded economic strategy, hatred towards women, and move forward.” Raimondo’s remarks were prefaced by a tirade on Trump’s abortion policy, essentially saying that Trump deserved death for trying to save the lives of the unborn, obviously cloaked in the Democratic Party’s dog whistle terms for murdering children in the womb under the name of “women’s healthcare.”

Carville said, “I think humans, just as a result of their humanity, have some brand of some expectation that they’ll be treated as human beings ... I guess Trump is human in one sense, in another sense he’s not. I really think he is such an odious and despicable man that he should not be accorded the most basic courtesies that one human being would extend to another human being. I think he is a grotesque, immoral man who is incapable of understanding anything or anybody that’s not him.” Biden said about the same thing on “The View”. Whoopi Goldberg told Biden, “He (Trump) was like a bug. He just kept being there, he was like a bug right there, bzzzz.” And Biden smashed the imaginary bug where Whoopi pointed. People actually applauded. This kind of hate speech, is a dog whistle to those who psychologically take these Democratic Party leaders seriously.

They demonize Trump for calling them names. Like it or not, name calling has been a part of politics since the beginning of politics. What is new to American politics is Democratic Party leaders dog whistling for people to assassinate the former president. Interesting that the Commerce Secretary, a prominent Democrat political consultant, a major Hollywood personality, and the current U.S. president all said similar things within 48 hours of each other. Interesting that the media amplified it. Seems like they are all reading off the same script.

Christians—understand the satanic hold here. As Ephesians 6:12 says, “We wrestle not against flesh and blood, but against principalities, against powers, against the rulers of darkness of this world, against spiritual wickedness in high places.” The Democratic Party leadership is the earthly manifestation of this spiritual evil. Take heed and discern this darkness.

Sources:

Commerce Secretary Gina Raimondo Says Trump Should Be ‘Extinguished’ After Second Assassination Attempt *The Daily Caller*

‘Rotten Mothaf\*cka’: James Carville Says Trump’s Not Fully ‘Human’ Less Than 2 Weeks After Assassination Attempt *The Daily Caller*

Bill Wilson

Dailyjot.com Printed with permission.

“Real power is achieved when the ruling class controls the material essentials of life, granting and withholding them from the masses as if they were privileges.”

—George Orwell



1776

# The Second Amendment Corner

## Liberty's Line in the Sand

2024



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

# A Rifle Is Not Enough Part 2

by Tunnel Rabbit,  
SurvivalBlog.com

(Continued from Part 1.)

### PM AND THE AR-15 RIFLE: FAILURE IS THE BEST TEACHER

As I've mentioned in a previous SurvivalBlog article, the first five ARs that I ever fired *all* failed. All five were in what appeared to be like new condition. Four of them failed due to a lack of lubrication. The fifth one was a new rifle that had yet to be test-fired. It turns out it was a home build that was sold through an FFL, a local retail store as if it was a factory build, yet the parts used were sub-standard and the builder lacked attention to detail. He was just looking to make a buck and used the lowest-cost parts and the lowest standards to get a product sold. This practice is all too common. *Buyer beware.*

All new rifle purchases should be thoroughly tested for function as soon as possible. Ideally, several hundred rounds should be fired, to include both brass and steel-cased ammunition run through it to see how it performs.

While I have received no instruction from the military and should not be considered to be an expert on the M16/AR-15 or firearms in general, I do have more than 40 years of experience diagnosing and repairing mechanical things and have been using firearms throughout my life in different venues. I have repaired many types of semi-auto rifles that were all purchased used yet appeared to be in unused condition. Some were relatively easily fixed, other problem child semi-autos would stump the average gunsmith and required my extensive blood, sweat and tears to repair on my own. Hiring a gunsmith would be excessively expensive and it would be more cost-effective just to buy another cheap AR and cannibalize the problem child for spare parts.

### THE AK FAMILY: EXTREME RELIABILITY



When an AKM rifle runs, it will continue to run and run. But if they have one or more problems, because of how they are manufactured, and because of the technology that is used, these rifles require a specialist and craftsman who understands this rifle well to find the problem. A fellow who has mastered the AR platform would probably be stumped if they worked on an AKM. Pictured at above is a thumbhole-stocked RPK clone. The RPK is an AKM variant designed for use as a squad automatic weapon (SAW).

The AKM design defies reason and logically should not operate so reliably, yet it does. That is the best way that I know how to characterize how it operates. No one

sells a good horse. If at all possible, use a local and reputable dealer when purchasing a firearm, or stay away from AKs unless the price is super low and therefore the risk/reward ratio is greatly in your favor. Of course, I have also purchased new ARs that were faulty as well, but ARs are easier to fix and replacement parts are cheap in comparison.

These bad experiences with like-new rifles that forced me to repair them on my kitchen table is extremely valuable. It is not a coincidence. Four of the AR-15 rifles that failed to cycle were owned by highly educated and intelligent Vietnam veterans. They should have known better than to hand me their personal rifles that were not maintained, even if for only target shooting, but they did not. Do not let complacency get you killed. The U.S. Army spends approximately a week of instruction on how to maintain the M16/M4. Do we have that same level of minimum training and education on our own rifles? Not likely. Visit the University of YouTube often and while you can, and then apply that knowledge.

### KEEP YOUR RIFLE CLEAN AND LUBRICATED

The AR needs to be serviced often to be reliable when in daily use and exposed to dust and dirt. Learn how and why to clean and most importantly how to *lubricate* the rifle in the field on a moment's notice. As a general rule, lubricate the AR-15 after every 500 rounds when in battle, or every six months if not in use and stored in a clean environment. This is advice I have received from guys who were deployed in The Sandbox.

I would rather be hyper-vigilant than have a rifle fail. Reports of high round counts without cleaning the rifle may be possible, yet the folks providing these accounts are likely not exposing their rifle to use in the field, nor exposed it to the ground with an open dust cover when they are taking cover.

They are certainly not using the rifle in a fight.

Oil in the rifle is necessary for its function, yet excessive oil on the metal parts will also hold onto dust, sand, and dirt. If there is no time to properly clean the rifle prior to lubrication, lubrication may be all that is needed to keep it running. It takes little time to quickly wipe down the wearing surfaces of the action, and then lubricate when we are well practiced. **Do not** use WD-40. That is formulated for water-displacement and penetrating corrosion and dirt to free up moving parts. It has more in common with kerosene than it does oil. It is **not** a lubricant.

If you do not know how to disassemble the action for maintenance, then perhaps as a

last resort would I condone spraying Break Free CLP (Cleaner, Lubricant, Protectant) into an action using it to flush out dirt and lubricate to get the action to cycle properly. If excessively viscous lubricants for the season or temperature extremes are in the action, using this light oil might be appropriate as a stopgap/emergency and temporary remedy.

### COLD WEATHER LUBRICATION

In sub-freezing temperatures CLP alone is prescribed by the U.S. Army. In sub-zero weather, lubricate with CLP and then be sure to wipe the surfaces dry. A very thin layer of the oil will remain to lubricate. Excess oil that remains on the moving parts will thicken in very cold temperatures to the point that it is sticky or excessively viscous so that the rifle cannot cycle or strip an unfired cartridge from the magazine and into the chamber.

To reduce the spring pressure on the Bolt Carrier Group (BCG) do not top off the magazine. Down-load 30-round magazines to 28 rounds or perhaps even less in extreme cold weather. As another prevention, leave the rifle outside in freezing temperatures lest condensation form inside the rifle's action when brought inside where the air is moist and warm. Should condensation form, once the rifle is taken out into dry freezing temperatures, ice will form and often prevent the rifle from operating.

Some actions will function with only a light coating of a lubricant that is wiped clean from the metal leaving a microfilm of lubricant behind. This microfilm of lubricant would be reapplied often, and the action made as clean as possible to promote reliable function in cold or extreme cold weather.

There are new lubricants available out there that might be tested for use in extreme cold weather. I am not an expert on this topic. Instead, I will simply use an AK in freezing to extreme cold weather whenever possible. But there may not be enough ammunition available to keep 7.62×39 platforms fed.

To reduce the spring tension in the magazine and to ensure the main spring has the force necessary to operate the action so that it can strip a round from the magazine, I only use 28 rounds in a 30-round magazine, and 17 rounds in a 20-round magazine. I also use extra-strength buffer springs and I am using the appropriate lubrication for the season of the year. A 5-20-weight synthetic motor oil might be good for most seasons, but CLP is needed for sub-zero temperatures. Many lubricants can become so thickened by cold temperatures that they begin to behave as an adhesive instead of a lubricant.

My rifles are test-fired in sub-zero temperatures after remaining outside for many hours to test the lubricant being used. Hornady One Shot Case Lube is used as a dry film lubricant on brass cases during the reloading process. It might be a good choice during extreme low or sub-zero temperatures that might be as low as -40F. My rifles are tested at -20F. Depending on your climate zone, be sure to test your rifle during extreme cold weather periods if experimenting with the lubrication options at hand.

For those who are not mechanically inclined or who do not have the ability to field strip, clean, and lubricate the AR-15 on a moment's notice during or after a battle, I strongly urge you to get an AKM rifle. This

is the rifle that I will use much of the time. Many AR-15 rifles will become dry or lack enough lubrication after a prolonged battle or become dirty so it is imperative that you can field strip it and use a toothbrush and a small rag to clean and lubricate your rifle.

Always remember to close the dust cover to keep the action protected from debris. Keeping a rifle clean in battlefield conditions is a serious problem for all rifles, including the M1 Garand, M1 Carbine, or even the most popular battle rifle in world history, the AK-47. But it is more of a problem for the AR-15 family of rifles.

### MAGAZINES

My minimum is 20 spare 30-round magazines per rifle. Twice or thrice that number would not be excessive as we can pre-position loaded magazines throughout our home and property, at various fighting positions. (Use ammo cans to store any magazines that would be exposed to the elements.)

Without a magazine, the rifle is useless. Do not become a proverbial "Only four magazines" Ukrainian. Magazines will inevitably become lost and broken over time. As a contingency plan, purchase ammunition from Federal or PMC that is in bandoleers containing cardboard boxes that hold three 10-round stripper clips, or load your ammunition on 10-round stripper clips and carry a stripper clip guide ("spoon") that allows one to rapidly reload a magazine.

Based upon the history of war zones, it is safe to assume that common-caliber ammunition will become *de facto* currency. This is true in Ukraine. It is also reported that spare magazines are used as currency as well. Many Ukrainian soldiers are issued only four magazines with their AK. This makes a dump pouch of some kind absolutely necessary. It means we *must* dump empty magazines or into a proper dump pouch designed for that purpose, or lacking that, even stuffing them down the fronts our shirts. **We will need to retain our magazines!** Currently, quality PMAG magazines for the AR-15 can be purchased for as little as \$9 each. Currently, the impoverished Ukrainian soldier may pay up to \$40 for just one magazine.

To be better armed, be better read. Here is just one example of the information and wisdom that can be found in the SurvivalBlog archives. This 2023 article was found with a quick search:

From Thoughts on a General Purpose AR-15 Rifle – Part 2:

"Choice of magazines should be conservative. I like the PMAG 20-round polymer magazines, although quality-made metal body magazines also work quite well. All your magazines should have anti-tilt followers. There is nothing wrong with 30-round magazines except that they make the rifle functionally "taller" top to bottom and are heavier when fully loaded. In any case, fire at least a few rounds from each magazine you purchase to sort out any with severe issues. Look for sales on quality magazines. You should keep extra magazines on hand."

(To be continued next week, in Part 3.)

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# Most Common AR-15 Malfunctions & Quick Fix Guide

by Scott Witner,  
ammoland.co

The AR-15 platform, known for its reliability and versatility, is popular among shooters for various applications, from sport shooting to home defense. However, like any mechanical system, it is not immune to malfunctions. Whether at the range or in a critical situation, experiencing a malfunction can be frustrating and, at times, dangerous if not handled properly. Understanding the most common issues and knowing how to quickly and effectively clear them is essential for any AR-15 owner.

In this article, we'll explore the most common AR-15 malfunctions, such as failure to feed, failure to eject, and double feeds, along with practical tips on addressing each one. These troubleshooting techniques can help ensure your rifle operates smoothly, reducing downtime and keeping you target focused. Always remember to prioritize safety when diagnosing and clearing any firearm malfunction.

### Safety First

Before diving into specific malfunctions, it's important to emphasize the need for safety. If your AR-15 doesn't fire as expected, remove your finger from the trigger and ensure the firearm is pointed in a safe direction. Avoid attempting to force the weapon to function. Instead, take a moment to assess the situation calmly. With experience, diagnosing and clearing malfunctions will become second nature, but taking it slow and steady is the safest approach for now.

### Failure to Feed (FTF)

Failure to Feed (FTF) is one of the most common malfunctions encountered by AR-15 users. It occurs when a round from the magazine fails to load into the chamber. This malfunction can happen unexpectedly, whether it's the first shot of the day or midway through a magazine. The

good news is that most failure-to-feed issues are straightforward to diagnose and resolve.

### Quick Fix:

Tap, Rack, Reassess: Tap the magazine to ensure it's seated, rack the charging handle to chamber a round, and reassess the rifle's readiness to fire. If the problem persists, switch out the magazine and check for worn-out springs or bent feed lips.

Preventative Tip: Regularly inspect your magazines. For reliable performance, consider using trusted options like **Magpul Gen 3 PMAGs** or **D&H metal magazines**. Why these? The D&H mags don't just stand up to the challenge; they're built for it, with anti-tilt followers and a gray Teflon finish that withstands temperature changes and environmental challenges like a champ.

As a Marine infantryman, I've carried the M16/M4 across the globe and fired thousands of rounds through them. This experience hasn't just made me a better shooter; it's shown me firsthand how often gear can fail, especially magazines. Most malfunctions? They came down to issues with the mags—worn out from use, bent feed lips, damaged followers, or springs that just couldn't cut it anymore. The fix was usually simple: swap out the faulty magazine. More often than not, that was all it took to get back in action.

### Failure to Eject/Extract (FTE)

Failure to Eject (FTE), also known as a "stovepipe" malfunction, occurs when the empty cartridge case of a fired round fails to exit the chamber and gets stuck, usually protruding from the ejection port. Similarly, a Failure to Extract happens when the bolt successfully extracts the spent casing from the chamber but fails to eject it completely, leaving it trapped in the rifle. Both types of malfunctions prevent the next round from being chambered.

### Quick Fix:

Immediate Action: Lock the bolt to the rear, drop the magazine, and tilt the rifle to shake out the casing. If stuck, use a cleaning rod to push it out from the muzzle.

Preventative Tip: Regularly clean your bolt carrier group and chamber to prevent carbon buildup. Ensure the extractor and ejector springs are in good condition.

### Failure to Fire (FTF)

Failure to Fire (FTF) occurs when the shooter pulls the trigger, but instead of the expected "bang," there is only a disappointing "click." This malfunction can be caused by various factors, ranging from ammunition issues to mechanical problems within the rifle. This includes rounds with improperly seated bullets, damaged casings, or bad primers.

Understanding the root causes of FTF and how to address them can save time and prevent unnecessary frustration at the range or in a critical situation.

### Quick Fix:

Eject the round and check the primer for a light or absent strike.

Reload and chamber a new round. If the rifle still doesn't fire, inspect the bolt and firing pin for damage or dirt buildup.

Preventative Tip: Use quality ammunition and keep your rifle clean and lubricated to ensure reliable firing.

### Over-Gassed and Under-Gassed Rifles

Whether your AR-15 is over- or under-gassed, gas system issues can lead to a range of malfunctions that affect your rifle's reliability and performance. Understanding the symptoms and causes of each condition is crucial for diagnosing and resolving related malfunctions effectively.

Over-gassed symptoms: Harsh recoil and failure to eject properly.

Under-gassed symptoms: Failure to lock the bolt back or weak ejection.

### Quick Fixes:

Over-Gassed: Install an adjustable gas block or use heavier buffers and springs to slow down the cycling.

Under-Gassed: Check gas block alignment and use higher-quality ammunition. You may also need to switch to a lighter buffer and spring.

Preventative Tip: Keep your gas system clean and consider using an adjustable gas block to fine-tune the system for your ammo and shooting conditions.

### Double Feeds

A double feed occurs when two rounds attempt to enter the chamber simultaneously, causing a jam. This usually happens when a live round is stuck behind a previously fired round or its empty casing. Faulty magazines, weak springs, or extractor and ejector failures can cause double feeds.

### Quick Fix:

Drop the magazine, lock the bolt to the rear, and use your fingers or a tool to remove the obstructing rounds. After clearing the jam, insert a fresh magazine and cycle the bolt.

Preventative Tip: Ensure your magazine springs are strong and avoid overloading your magazines to reduce tension-related failures.

### Bolt Override

A bolt override is a rare but serious malfunction where a live round or spent casing gets stuck above the bolt and below the charging handle. This type of jam can be particularly challenging to clear.

### Quick Fix:

Drop the magazine, pull the charging handle back, and lock the bolt to the rear. While keeping pressure on the charging handle, strike the butt of the rifle on

a hard surface to dislodge the obstruction.

Preventative Tip: Ensure your ejector and extractor are functioning properly and keep your rifle clean to avoid buildup that could lead to a bolt override.

### Stovepipe Malfunction

A stovepipe malfunction, named for how the spent casing sticks vertically out of the ejection port like a stovepipe, occurs when the empty casing fails to fully clear the rifle during ejection. This can disrupt the cycle of operations and prevent the next round from being chambered. Although stovepipes are relatively easy to fix, repeated occurrences can indicate underlying issues that need to be addressed.

### Quick Fix:

To eject the casing, perform the "tap, rack, reassess" drill. If it's still stuck, manually lock the bolt to the rear and clear the obstruction.

Preventative Tip: Keep your rifle clean, especially the bolt carrier group, and ensure your ejector functions correctly. If this happens frequently, consider upgrading your ejector spring.

### Conclusion

Experiencing these AR-15 malfunctions can be frustrating but understanding the most common issues and how to address them will help you become a more proficient and confident shooter. Regular maintenance, proper cleaning, and using quality components are key to minimizing these malfunctions.

From failure to feed to stovepipe malfunctions, each issue has specific causes and solutions. By familiarizing yourself with these troubleshooting techniques, you can quickly diagnose and clear malfunctions, ensuring your rifle remains functional.

Please see: <https://www.ammoland.com/2024/10/most-common-ar-15-malfunctions-and-quick-fix-guide/>

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BETRAYAL  
from page 1

Several individual volunteers like John Howard, with Aerial Recovery, have told of speaking with various military units that were on the ground but awaiting authorization and orders to release them to act, including two Air Force helicopters that were simply sitting idle at the Asheville Airport.

This is beyond unconscionable once one considers that the 82nd Airborne can be up and on their way to any hotspot in the world between eight and eighteen hours. It's simply a lack of a president and any leadership in the federal government, as one should note that in 1990, a brigade of the 82nd Airborne was deployed to Saudi Arabia after Iraq's invasion of Kuwait in less than three days, followed by all the armaments of a full division, including light armor, within the week.

However, in one case, where FEMA and National Guardsmen are found, "they are getting in the way" as told to Fox News on October 2, 2024, by Tim Kennedy, a relief volunteer, who had gathered survivors in his ongoing efforts to find them shelter. He explained how he and these survivors were turned away from one hotel after being told it was completely booked by federal employees.

Adding insult to injury, all America heard Joe Biden say his regime has "done all we can do" in regard to this crisis and the misery the victims of Hurricane Helene are enduring, as the Secretary of Homeland Security, Alejandro Mayorkas — the biggest anti-American traitor next to Biden — told the country that the money for FEMA to respond had simply run out for the fiscal year, after FEMA has spent more than \$1.4 BILLION since the fall of 2022 to provide necessities for illegal alien invaders.

But darned if they don't pull out all stops to find financing for homes, food and clothing for illegal alien invaders, who are murdering our sons and daughters as we speak and spit on our American flag, and two wars approximately six thousand miles away each, while Vice-President Harris parties in L.A. with Hollywood celebrities in order to beg campaign funds.

As recently noted by Stephen Miller, of America First Legal, the FEMA Emergency Food and Shelter Program has been reshaped to primarily provide funding to illegal aliens encountered by the Border Patrol and ICE at the southern border, in spite of the fact it was originally created to help only U.S. citizens. In one post, he asserts that \$685 million of U.S. taxpayer dollars have been diverted to aid illegal aliens, as FEMA's own website acknowledges spending \$640 million on "noncitizen migrant

arrivals". <https://www.fema.gov/es/node/683797>

Miller added:

*"Over the last four years, the Biden administration has steadily transformed FEMA — the agency responsible for responding to natural disasters like Hurricane Helene — into an illegal alien resettlement agency that emphasizes DEI over public safety."*

Florida's Attorney General, Ashley Moody obviously agrees with Miller and others who see this treason unfolding, as she recently told Fox News: Americans should be 'outraged' over Mayorkas' comments on FEMA funds: <https://www.foxnews.com/media/all-americans-outraged-mayorkas-comments-lack-fema-funds-florida-ag-moody>

"This is not something that has just happened recently. Florida's been warning about this since this administration took over. Mayorkas has come in like a virus and infected these — what need to be healthy, strong, fundamental programs to ensure the stability and safety of Americans in times of disaster. So you heard, they have taken the FEMA emergency food and shelter program and over time, siphoned off hundreds of millions of dollars into basically making it an illegal immigrant resettlement program [which will only encourage more illegal alien invaders to come].

Adding more insult to more injury, Kamala recently stated that FEMA would distribute \$750 in relief funds to all people in the devastated areas with immediate needs. But one North Carolinian went on the internet to succinctly tell her what she can do with that paltry sum, in part stating:

*"North Carolina flood victim: Kamala Harris, we don't want you here. We don't want your party here in North Carolina. If you're a Democrat and you live in North Carolina, good for you. But this woman is given illegal immigration, patients, more rights to be entitled to be called American, thousands of dollars in food stamps, loads of money in their pockets, and she's going to give the people in the mountains \$750 dollars. You can take that money and go wipe your a\*\* with it, Kamala."*

There remains a little matter of the \$20 billion boost Congress gave to FEMA in September's temporary funding bill that was signed into law by Biden. This must be solely used strictly for U.S. citizens only and relief for all currently living in unbelievable misery as they wonder when they will receive their next meal or enough fresh drinking water to make it through each day.

These traitorous criminals are using the federal treasury as their own slush fund to finance every single one of their destructive, anti-American agendas and policies, as they keep passing and attempting

to pass two or three trillion dollar omnibus bills without any real oversight to later disappear in the pockets of their Marxist-Maoist cronies here and abroad.

It's a good darned thing that there are still many great Americans who can be found in this country willing to help one another in their direst times of need, because the federal response has been one monumental failure in this instance, whether due to intent or a lack of a sense of urgency and apathy, as in "we'll get there when we get there". This moment should serve as a wakeup call that we are living in a rudderless nation and, in times of emergency and real need, we can only look to ourselves to save each other and our families, because any regime led by the Democratic Party Communists certainly will not be overly concerned if we live or die, since they have their pick of Third World illegals to import to America on the taxpayers' dime.

If this hasn't been one of the worst cases of a betrayal of America and treason in all U.S. history, I don't know what else one can call it, other than a crime against all Americans that should be punishable by life imprisonment at the least but in fact with the death penalty.

Please see: <https://www.theburningplatform.com/2024/10/05/hurricane-helene-exposes-a-deep-betrayal-of-america/>

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# Colorado State News



## Tina Peters Sentenced to Nine Years

by ColoradoPeakPolitics.com

A Western Slope judge threw the book at former Mesa County Clerk Tina Peters sending her to prison for nine years and labeling her a charlatan who deceived her followers in pursuit of fame and money.

Judge Matthew Barrett denied her request to remain free on bail pending an appeal. She's to serve out several months in the Mesa County Detention Center then she's off to prison.

Peters became a cult hero among some on the far right after breaching the county's election system she was responsible for securing in a failed election data scheme to prove election rigging.

She could never prove it but used the headlines and a far-right network of online social media chats and

podcasts to promote her rambling theories of election fraud that just never made sense.

For years she has insisted her proof was just around the corner. But the so-called proof always turned out to be more murky claims.

"You cared about the jets, the podcasts, and the people fawning over you," Barrett said in handing down his sentence on Thursday.

"You are a charlatan, and you cannot help but lie as easy as you can breathe," Barrett said.

Peters still lives in denial that her actions had consequences or that she broke the law.

"I'm not a criminal, and I don't deserve to go to a prison where other people committed heinous crimes," Peters said.

She will forever be a tragic figure in Colorado politics, and a punchline for Democrats.

Peters would be 79 years old when she finishes her sentence.

*(Editor/GG: A bit harsh considering convicted violent felons, with felony priors, don't go to jail in the 11th Judicial District (and all over Colorado). One even shot at a deputy here in Happy Valley and we had to get the Pueblo Swat Team up here to capture the guy. What did our judge do? Five months in rehab!!!!!!!!!!!!!! No jail time. And Peters gets 9 years for a non-violent crime?)*

Please see: <https://coloradopeakpolitics.com/2024/10/03/judge-calls-tina-peters-a-charlatan-sentences-her-to-9-years-in-prison/>

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**STAGE I FIRE BAN FOR CUSTER COUNTY**

As of 10/8/2024, there were no restrictions for Pike and San Isabel National Forests, Cimarron and Comanche National Grasslands.

Independence Institute

2024 Voter Guide

Proposition 129 –

from page 17

Establishing Veterinary Professional Associates

Recommendation: VOTE YES

This initiative would create a new mid-level position between a vet technician (2-year associates degree) and a veterinarian (8 or more years of education). Functioning similarly to a Physician’s Assistant (PA) role in human health care, the position would be for those with a master’s degree and given the title of a veterinary professional associate or VPA. VPAs would be licensed and regulated by the State Board of Veterinary Medicine and could diagnose, perform routine surgeries, and order/perform tests and procedures under supervision of a licensed veterinarian.

It is no secret that Coloradans love their pets. Unfortunately, the state is also facing a shortage of veterinarians to care for those pets, particularly in rural Colorado. Creating a VPA position would help ease this problem by allowing educated and highly trained animal medical professionals to enter practice more quickly to help shoulder some of the workload of existing veterinarians.

Ultimately, Proposition 129 is a positive “scope-of-practice” reform for animal healthcare that has the potential to help pet owners get increased access to quality veterinary care at lower costs. We recommend a yes vote.

Proposition 130 – Funding for Law Enforcement

Recommendation: VOTE YES

Proposition 130 would direct the Colorado General Assembly to make a one-time \$350 million appropriation from the General Fund to a newly created “Peace Officer Training and Support Fund” administered by the Department of Public Safety (CDPS).

The CDPS would be tasked with distributing that money in grants to local law enforcement agencies to improve officer recruitment, training, and retention. It would also require the state to provide a one-time \$1 million death benefit to the family of each state and local law enforcement officer killed in the line of duty. The state would be required to maintain the benefit even after the initial \$350 million fund is depleted.

It should be noted that the measure does not specify when legislature must make the \$350 million appropriation to create this new fund, meaning lawmakers could put it off potentially indefinitely. It does, however, require the money to come from existing General Fund revenue rather than from a new tax.

Proposition 131 – Establishing All-Candidate Primary and Ranked Choice Voting General Elections

Recommendation: NEUTRAL

This initiative would end party primaries in favor of jungle primaries for candidates running for certain offices, including Governor, state and federal legislative seats, Attorney General, and Secretary of State. All qualified candidates, regardless of party affiliation, would be put on the same primary ballot to be voted on by all registered voters. The top four vote getters would then move on to the general election, where a winner would be selected by voters rank-ordering candidates by preference. The winner is then determined by tabulating the ranked votes using a method called instant runoff voting, whereby the candidate with the least number of first-choice votes is eliminated in rounds until a candidate secures more than half of the active remaining votes.

Overall, we like the measure’s innovative approach to shaking up a stale system for selecting candidates for office. A jungle primary could force candidates to campaign on issues that appeal to a broader cross-section of voters, rather than just to committed partisans that may or may not be representative of the rest of the state.

However, we have some concerns that ranked-choice voting could add complexity and expense to conducting elections, especially in the short-run. This, in turn, could risk reduced trust in election integrity. The state legislature has also erected a series of benchmarks that must be hit before the measure, even if it is adopted by the voters, can take effect.

Because of the potential upsides as well as the lingering uncertainty surrounding the measure, we remain neutral on Proposition 131.

Please see: <https://i2i.org/election2024/>

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Colorado Christian School- Centennial Institute

VOTER GUIDE

from page 17

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|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| <div>PROPOSITION 131</div> <div>Establishing All-Candidate Primary and Ranked Choice Voting General Elections</div> | <p>Creates an all-candidate primary election for certain state and federal offices, where the top four candidates advance to the general election; and allows voters to rank those candidates in the general election, with votes counted over multiple rounds to determine who wins the election.</p> <p>Ranked choice voting works better in proportional representation electoral systems. RCV can be confusing, does not guarantee majority support, and it reduces the role that political parties play in aggregating interests and vetting candidates. It would enshrine single party rule in districts that are already non-competitive.</p> <p>Passes with a majority vote.</p> | <div>OPPOSE</div> <p>Conservatives prefer tradition and time-tested methods, not novel experiments that are poorly suited to our constitutional government.</p> |
|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|

This ballot guide was compiled by utilizing information from the Colorado Secretary of State.  
For more information, visit: <https://www.sos.state.co.us/>.

CENTENNIAL INSTITUTE  
at Colorado Christian University

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Exercising that right is your duty.