

Republicans Are Winning Significant Victories in Colorado

by ColoradoPeakPolitics.com

State and national mainstream media insist Colorado has shifted even further to the left politically and think that’s what magically bucked the national trend to vote for Donald Trump at our state borders.

We countered last week it was fake news that we’ve lost even more political ground and we stand by our opinion.

Republicans have since won a tremendous victory in flipping the 8th District Congressional seat for GOP candidate Gabe Evans to give us a 4-4 even split of representation in the U.S. House.

Democrats blew more than \$16 million on the Western Slope District 3 seat and still couldn’t wrestle it from the grip of determined conservatives.

Even when the media pitched in to frame Lauren Boebert as some empty-headed hussy who likes to fight more than Beth Dutton, the left still couldn’t beat her with nearly \$4 million and an airhead establishment bureaucrat who used her campaign war chest to draw a personal paycheck.

Then Republicans dashed Democrat dreams of winning a supermajority in the state legislature, denying them the power to block gubernatorial vetoes, and preventing them from putting constitutional questions directly on the ballot without Republican input or support.

Democrats only needed to win one seat from Republicans to make that happen in the Senate, and mercifully failed when the GOP instead reclaimed a seat held by a party-switcher.

Now the Dems supermajority status in the House is at risk where the GOP needs to flip three seats to make that happen.

Which brings us to Greeley, where Republican Ryan Gonzales has flipped a seat held by Democrats since 2005 by beating three-term state Rep. Mary Young.

All eyes are now on potential seats two and three where Republicans are leading over Democrats.

In the Colorado Springs area of District 16, Republican Rebecca Keltie was leading Democrat Steph Vigil after the last weekend count by 21 votes.

In the Boulder and Weld area where Democrat Jillaire McMillan is trying to fend off Dan Woog from reclaiming the seat he lost to her two years ago, the Republican Woog leads by 207 votes.

Other key Republican wins include Yazmin Navarro, who beat Rhonda Solis for the District 8 State Board of Education seat.

In Pueblo, Kala Beauvaiais flipped the district attorney seat to become their first female Republican DA.

After voters finish curing their ballots on Wednesday, county clerks will wrap up their count on Thursday [and] all races will be finalized.

As for Trump, he had no more chance of flipping Colorado than he did California, Vermont or New York. Even though he did turn the Democrat stronghold of Pueblo to Republican red. That had to hurt.

But Colorado is not swinging even further to the left as some cool graphics created by the Washington

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Colorado Supreme Court Upholds “Slow Sip” Approach to Managing Underground Water Supplies

by Jerd Smith, Water Education Colorado

The Colorado Supreme Court, in a ruling that will affect water supplies for millions of Coloradans, said this week that a “slow sip” approach to managing groundwater that helps supply much of the Front Range will remain in place.

The ruling upholds tougher limits on how much nonrenewable groundwater can be pumped from wells over the life of a state permit. The limits date back to 2020.

The ruling comes after Parker and Castle Rock sued the state over new water volume limits included in well permits, saying that the estimates were too imprecise and could undercount how much water might be available in the future. After losing in a special water court, the Douglas County cities took their case to the Colorado Supreme Court.

Aurora and Greeley sided with the state in the case, and this week, the court sided with the Colorado Division of Water Resources, saying water regulators had acted properly in spelling out explicitly how much water could be pumped over the lifetime of a permit, and that the state’s approach to managing these water resources was critical.

“Given the state’s arid climate and population growth, it would be difficult to overstate the importance of groundwater to Coloradans today,” Supreme Court Justice Maria Berkenkotter wrote in the ruling.

Several aquifer formations underlie Colorado, some of which can be easily recharged via rainfall and snowmelt, and are considered renewable. Others cannot be readily recharged and thus are considered to be nonrenewable. These are known as nontributary aquifers, and wells drilled in them were at the heart of the dispute.

Tracy Kosloff, deputy director of the Colorado Division of Water Resources, said the state was pleased with the decision.

“It affirmed our long-held understanding of the law allocating nontributary groundwater, including in Denver Basin aquifers,” she said via email.

Ron Redd, manager of Parker Water and Sanitation, said he was disappointed in the court’s decision but was still reviewing the ruling.

Nearly 40 years ago, Colorado lawmakers moved to protect under

CO SUPREME COURT–Water see page 22

At The Center of Tragedy Asheville, North Carolina



by Fred Hernandez

The *Sentinel* had a source on the ground in Asheville, North Carolina reporting on real time conditions in one of the most devastated areas resulting from the recent hurricane. Based on the follow-up interview of the Florida based team members, this is the *Sentinel* report:

After receiving an urgent call for help from their central emergency office, the Disaster Response Systems team, (DRS) took a commercial flight to Greenville, North Carolina, from Florida. At the airport they were taken on the next phase of the trek in a four-wheel drive Jeep Wrangler over very rough terrain and roads that had been almost washed out by heavy flooding to a rally point where they hopped on an EC-135, a large helicopter that

also serves as aerial ambulances.

On their flight inbound they could see the extent of the destruction and the totally unexpected level of damage wrought on Asheville and the surrounding areas by the monster hurricane, Helene. The EC-135 landed on the rooftop of the Mission Hospital in Asheville. The seven hundred bed facility was surrounded by water and the emergency room on the ground floor was totally inundated.

Once on the ground the devastation was even more glaring. Pine trees bore evidence of how high the water rose from the clothing and other detritus and dregs tangled in the branches twenty or more feet above the ground. In one instance a human

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For Your mercy reaches unto the heavens, And Your truth unto the clouds. Psalm 57: 10 NKJV

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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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Colorado State News

Denver Government's Self-Sabotaging Priorities



by Mike Rosen,
Complete Colorado Page Two

For all the attention it gets, you'd think ending "homelessness" was the primary purpose of Denver government. The term is an all-inclusive generalization. It includes those who've had a sudden setback, are recently out of work, are down on their luck, temporarily having a tough time making ends meet, or even a college grad who's out of work and has moved back in with her parents. Only a small fraction of the homeless are street people (the "unsheltered" in politically correct lingo) but they're a major part of the problem. As a compassionate society we do what we can for them. Unfortunately, most reject treatment and rehabilitation. They say they just want their freedom.

But we can't ignore the damage they cause for the 700,000 other residents of Denver and the three million who live in the metro area, especially downtown. To put it bluntly, bums, vagrants, beggars, squatters and drug addicts camping out in public and private property, parks, and sidewalks infringe on the welfare of the people who make this city thrive, and they make Denver a less desirable place for tourists and folks who live in the metro suburbs to visit, dine out, recreate and work.

In other words it's bad for business. A recent study by Colorado's Com-

mon Sense Institute finds that the combination of crime, homelessness, and high office vacancy rates in downtown Denver has caused it to lag behind other downtowns around the country in economic recovery after the pandemic. Locally, the DTC, Boulder, Colorado Springs and Fort Collins are doing much better.

To borrow a title from Charles Dickens, the comparison of Aurora's handling of street people and Denver's provides an instructive "Tale of Two Cities." The approach of Denver's government—with its radical leftist dominated city council and rookie liberal Democrat Mayor Mike Johnston—is steeped in its philosophy of "social justice." They call it "housing first" without conditions or mandatory substance abuse rehab programs.

Aurora's Republican Mayor Mike Coffman and his conservative city council majority have taken a more practical approach to homelessness. They call it "work first," designed to elevate people to self-reliance with conditions for treatment, rehab and job training to qualify for free housing.

Denver is spending hundreds of millions on "affordable housing" and actually becoming a landlord, taking ownership of apartment houses. This can lead to even more homeless people flocking to Colorado to cash in on the goodies. Similar programs in Chicago and

NYC led to the dreaded "projects," low-income ghettos with dilapidated buildings, crime and drugs. To finance its benevolence, Denver is on a tax-increasing binge.

A progressive activist group that advocates for street people, the Housekeys Action Network, has protested police enforcement of the camping ban and of trespassing laws. But their demands are entirely self-interested, and they don't give a da*n about the overall welfare of Denver residents.

There's an economic truism: what you tax you get less of and what you subsidize and encourage you get more of. In this case, Denver will get fewer business enterprises, fewer jobs, fewer ambitious taxpayers, fewer outsiders paying sales taxes, and even fewer self-reliant residents than it has now. Instead, it'll get many more people dependent on government handouts. Overtaxed and over regulated people vote with their feet, as seen by the exodus of productive citizens from California, New York and Illinois en route to limited-government states like Texas and Florida. Denver's priorities are self-destructive. A city in economic decline is even less able to serve those in need.

Denver city council members afflicted with climate change paranoia and hell bent on "urban density" have bragged about mak-

ing driving an aggravating ordeal for motorists. They succeeded. Big mistake. Those stupid bike lanes that steal auto lanes—especially on Broadway and 15th Street—clog traffic, are a mortal danger to cyclists, are under-utilized, and will never be a significant mode of public transportation. Let's get rid of them. Also, return speed limits to what they used to be. Twenty mph on city streets and 30 mph on four-lane divided roads are too slow.

As for Democrats who control state government, their delusional goals and timetables for carbon reduction and electrification are unattainable, unaffordable, and undesirable. Oil, gas and coal will be essential for the foreseeable future. Wind and solar will always be minor players. And nothing Colorado does will have a significant impact on the planet's climate.

Longtime KOA radio talk host and columnist for the Denver Post and Rocky Mountain News Mike Rosen now writes for CompleteColorado.com.

(Editor/GG: Save Custer County from these delusional libs. Vote Republican. Vote Conservative.)

Please see: <https://pagetwo.completecolorado.com/2024/11/11/rosen-denver-governments-self-sabotaging-priorities/>

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Jeff Hurd Overcomes Adam Frisch in Colorado's 3rd District

by Tom Joyce,
The Center Square

(The Center Square) - The 3rd Congressional District of Colorado will stay in Republican hands.

Democrat Adam Frisch conceded the race around 4 p.m. local time. With 88% of the vote counted, Republican Jeff Hurd led Frisch 50.1% to 46.7% percent, with two third-party voters receiving a combined 3.2%.

“A few moments ago, I called to offer my congratulations to Jeff Hurd for being the next Representative for Colorado’s 3rd Congressional District,” Frisch said in a statement, according to *Colorado Public Radio*. “Elections are about showing up, and I traveled more than 75,000 miles this campaign authentically connecting with people from Dinosaur to Durango, Manzanola to Mancos, and everywhere in between. This campaign was about them, and I am

humbled by the immense outpouring of support I received all across CD3.”

The 3rd Congressional District was an open-seat race, as incumbent U.S. Rep. Lauren Boebert, R-Colorado, instead ran in the 4th Colorado District.

Frisch performed better in 2022 against Boebert; she only beat him by 0.2 points, 50.1% to 49.9%, two years ago. It made her vulnerable to a potential loss if she ran in the district again.

Frisch was an Aspen city councilor from 2011 to 2019. He ran as a moderate Democrat in this congressional race, supporting oil and gas drilling and abortion rights while opposing student loan debt forgiveness.

While Hurd will assume office in January, he has never held elected office. Previously, he was the U.S. Magistrate Judge

Merit Selection Panel for the U.S. District Court of Colorado.

During the race, Hurd prioritized border security, tax cuts, and energy independence.

Hurd also said he would avoid controversy if elected, something Boebert has faced over the last several years.

“A reporter once said that I’m as exciting as a bread sandwich,” Hurd told *The Colorado Sun*. “That’s OK. Rural Colorado doesn’t need excitement.”

Hurd was a strong favorite to win the election going into Tuesday. He had an 88% chance of winning it on Tuesday afternoon, according to *The Hill*.

Please see: https://www.thecentersquare.com/colorado/article_7e46ed68-9c98-11ef-944f-6bfb12283463.html

Veterans Day Pig Roast



The Inaugural Veterans Day Pig Roast was held for Veterans and their families on Veterans Day, at the Courtyard Country Inn in Westcliffe.

Photo from the local Veterans Rescue Ranch Facebook page.

Ohio for Trump



One of our Ohio readers dropped this beautifully painted Trump Rock at the base of the Sentinel’s Trump Tree a while back. It says “Ohio for Trump” on the front and on the back was written “We’re from Ohio”. This was the latest addition for our collection of Trump Rock offerings. Fight, Fight, Fight.



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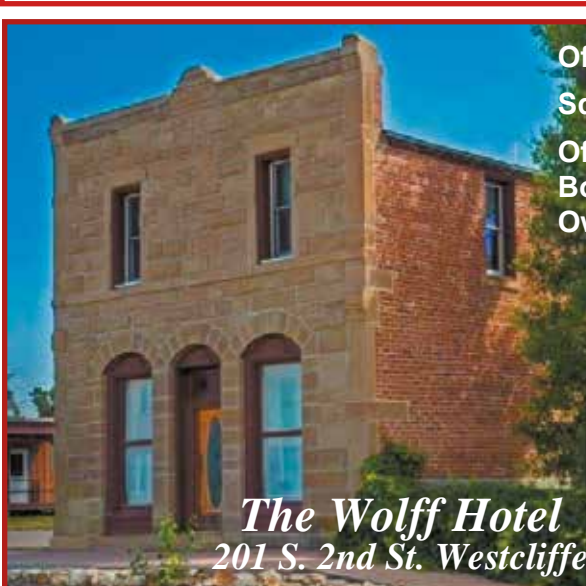
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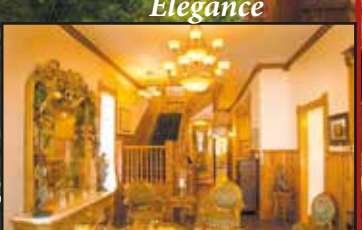


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ASHVILLE
from page 1

body was spotted high up in the trees tangled in the branches. Cars and other vehicles, sunk deeply in thick mud, had tags placed by workers in hazmat suits.



The tags strictly instructed passersby and others not to open the doors or try to remove the vehicles. It quickly became clear that these vehicles were the final resting places of some of the unfortunate victims of destruction and death delivered by Helene's heavy hand.

ground close as possible to the medical facility that had been spared from flooding, they set up their emergency rooms in tents and immediately began the much needed aid and care of waiting patients, many of whom had received no medical attention in days.

Mission Hospital in Asheville, part of a chain of medical facilities, the only hospital for thirteen counties in the area, is owned and operated by Hospital Corporation of America, (HCA), one of the largest healthcare companies in the country. Mission is a Level Two Trauma Center. The members of the emergency response team from other



states came to Asheville to assist their colleagues in this time of disaster. They were to relieve the hospital workers of their duties in order to give them the time and opportunity to attend to their own family's needs. But this was not to be. After leaving the hospital they

were the ones who were giving desperately needed aid to other victims in the rural areas. Helping people out of their mud filled and destroyed homes, giving aid to those rendered homeless and ferrying those in need back to the emergency rooms



town proper, but they were simply preventing outsiders from coming into the affected disaster zones. They were also "confiscating" whatever relief goods were being brought in. The real assistance came from surrounding states and mainly from private groups and enterprises. In fact, they were surprised that only fifty miles from Asheville, there is a military installation that had several large helicopters that would have been ideal for rescuing people from their rural homes and ferrying them to safety. It was common knowledge on the ground that while the

available to assist its citizens because they had squandered their budgets on illegal aliens entering the country in such a force, much like the hurricane, is inexcusable and unconscionable.

For fourteen days, the team worked sixteen-hour days continuously, before they were told that they could return to their homes. And so as they prepared to leave their posts they sadly took a last look around. Their surroundings seemed as if it had been ravaged by a marauding army. Death and destruction everywhere. Their last memory was the stench permeating the air while above them flocks of buzzards circled lazily over the treetops.

Fred Hernandez comments:

In this reporter's opinion, nature's hurricane causing much destruction and death on American communities is akin to the man-made destruction caused by those in office to allow millions of unvetted, illegal aliens to swarm into the country unchecked. Much like an unwelcome hurricane. In some cases the same government officials intentionally flew in illegal aliens from other countries and settled them in small communities disrupting the lives of law-abiding citizens, causing cumbersome difficulties on their modest resources and inflicting pain and in some cases even death. Nature cannot be held accountable for its behavior. However, in the case of men inflicting great damage on his fellowman, they should be taken to task.



set up in tents outside the flooded medical building. There was no evidence of any teams or helpers from the government. These teams are known in their trade as strike teams. Team members who had previous experiences in these types of national disasters said that usually the government had teams of search and rescue professionals and medical aid personnel. This time there were none of these teams.

There were FEMA personnel on the outskirts of the

personnel at the base were eager to help, they were not allowed to do so.

This was a double disaster for some of the communities affected by this natural calamity. The first disaster caused by nature is something that man cannot control. Nature will behave as it is supposed to. After a natural disaster, however, man, which is to say government, should have been able to control the aftermath at least a little bit better than it was in this case. To have had no funds

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20th Annual Spirit Campaign Begins November 15th

Press Release

WESTCLIFFE, Colorado

The Wet Mountain Valley Community Foundation (WMVCF) is proud to announce the 20th anniversary of its signature Spirit Campaign, a fundraising initiative that has played a pivotal role in supporting the local community for two decades. This year’s milestone anniversary is a testament to the dedication and generosity of community members, donors, non-profits, and volunteers who have made the campaign a success year after year. The Spirit Campaign focuses on providing financial resources for our non-profits in the Wet Mountain Valley. The funds raised support various initiatives, including but

not limited to, education, healthcare, the arts, environmental preservation, and youth development. Your donation during the Spirit Campaign is then enhanced with funds from the WMVCF, increasing the impact of your donation. Over the years, with your help and generosity, the WMVCF has worked to strengthen dozens of local organizations and fund essential community programs.

Please consider donating this year. Every dollar matters, and has a huge impact on the organizations supported by the Foundation. For more information on the Wet Mountain Valley Community Foundation, the Spirit Campaign, or upcoming anniversary events, visit www.wmvcf.org.

VICTORIES from page 1

Post and New York Times claimed just hours after the presidential race was called, with our local news outlets quick to follow.

Kamala Harris continues to underperform Joe Biden’s 2020 win here by two points, losing the votes of over 118,000 Coloradans since that race.

Looking at Trump’s numbers from 2016 until now, he’s still up by about 117,000 votes.

2024	2020	2016
Kamala 1,686,157	Biden 1,804,352	Hillary 1,338,202
Trump 1,341,833	Trump 1,364,607	Trump 1,202,484

Please see: <https://coloradopeakpolitics.com/2024/11/11/republicans-are-winning-significant-victories-in-colorado/>

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by Tom Joyce,
The Center Square

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Please see: https://www.thecentersquare.com/colorado/article_7e46ed68-9c98-11ef-944f-6bfb12283463.html

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THANK YOU FOR SUPPORTING OUR ADVERTISERS!



Custer Senior Center Menu

Monday, November 18

#58 Lentil Soup

Egg Salad Sandwich

Shredded Lettuce

Three Tomato Slices

Banana

Tuesday, November 19

#41 Dijon Chicken

Brown Rice

Broccoli Florets

Tossed Vegetable Salad

Strawberries, Raisin Nut Cup

WW Bread w/Butter

Thursday, November 21

#35 Chili Relleno Bake

Corn & Zucchini Mexicana

WW Tortilla w/Salsa

Tossed Salad w/Lemon Wedge

Purple Plums

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

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

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

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

Recurring Events

Mondays
10 a.m. Pickle Ball Silver Cliff Mem.Park (SCMP)
More info: lizbrannen@gmail.com
6 -7:30 p.m. Men’s Bible Meeting (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, 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. colobamanan@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
6:00 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 (SCMP) info: lizbrannen@gmail.com
6 p.m. Alcoholics Anonymous (CLSD) Big Book Study at
St. Luke’s, 3rd & Rosita, 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, FBC (log bldg next to the
church) 417 S. 6th St. Contact Delores at 719-371-1451.

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

3rd Thursday of the Month
2 p.m. Round Mt Water District Meeting.

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

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

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

3rd Saturday of Month
8 a.m. Valley Bible Fellowship Men’s Breakfast Open to
all Men of the Community, 116 Hermit Lane, Silver Cliff
Questions, **Mike @ 719-650-0362**

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



The American Legion Monthly Meeting is the 1st Tuesday of every month at 6:00 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.





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The Sentinel's Court Report

Reporting on cases at the Custer County Court and the 11th Judicial District held at the Custer County Courthouse.



DISTRICT COURT – September 11, 2024

LAWRENCE, EVELYN JANE--- Westcliffe. Plea of Nolo Contendere/Found Guilty on charge of Assault 3 Know/Reckless Cause Injury ATT. Plea of Not Guilty and Dismissed by Plea: Four counts of Felony Menacing Real/Simulated Weapon. **Other Conditions of Sentence:** Standard terms and conditions. No drugs or marijuana without a valid prescription. Comply with all conditions of probation including any other evals or treatments they deem necessary. Court authorizes use of EHM to be used at the discretion of probation for noncompliance. Letters of apology to victims must be given to Probation to evaluate and then [be] submitted by probation to the victims service officer. **TOTAL FINES:** \$1,445.50

COUNTY COURT -- September 12, 2024

HINES, PATRICK KANE—Westcliffe, CO. Plea of Guilty to Cruelty/Animals-Non Agg Tort/Mutil/Kil. **Other Conditions of Sentence:** No Jail imposed. Comply with all conditions of probation. Court orders no possession of animals during probation sentence. Restitution open for 91 days. Complete useful public service. **TOTAL FINES:** \$2,705.50

HODGE, KAREN SUE---Pueblo, CO. Plea of Guilty to Owner of Dangerous Dog. **Other Conditions of Sentence:** Restitution open for 91 days. **Total Fines:** \$399.50

THOMPSON, WENDY---Westcliffe, CO. Plea of Guilty to Trespass 2 -Enclosed/Fenced Property. Other Conditions of Sentence: No Jail time imposed. **TOTAL FINES:** \$136.

CARARA, MICHAEL DUSTIN---Cañon City, CO. Plea of Guilty to Careless Driving. Dismissed by Plea: Operating an Uninsured Vehicle. **TOTAL FINES:**\$266.

ROHR, JOSEPH THAD---Pearland, TX. Plea of Guilty to Fishing without a License. **TOTAL FINES:** \$180.50

DISTRICT COURT – September 12, 2024

GIRON, BRANDON JOSEPH---Albuquerque, NM. Plea of Guilty to Trespass 1- Inhabited Dwelling. Charges Dismissed by Plea: Burglary 2-of Dwelling, Theft-less than \$300. Case runs Concurrent with case number 24CR49 in District Court, Huerfano County. **Other Conditions of Sentence:** Restitution open for 91 days. 1 Year Mandatory Parole /BLM. **Total Fines:** \$428.50

COUNTY COURT—October 10, 2024

RAINS, KASEY JANIEN ---Westcliffe. Plea of Guilty to Driving Under the Influence per se. **Dismissed by DA:** DUI, Reckless Driving, Leaving the Scene/ Accident-Unattended Veh., Failure to Report Accident. **Other Conditions of Sentence:** 10 Days Jail w/Stay of Execution. 12 Months Jail Suspended for use by Probation. Comply with all treatment and requirements of Probation. Fine Suspended upon completion of Probation on the first try. No Alcohol. No Controlled Substances w/out a Valid Rx. No Criminal Offenses. Comply with all recommendations of Probation including any other Evaluations and Treatment that Probation deems necessary. Ordered to SCRAM Monitored Sobriety for as long as Probation deems necessary. Complete level education required. Complete UPS. Serve on one MADD Victim Impact Panel. **TOTAL FINES:** \$1,940.50

MURPHY, CHRISTINE MARIE--- Cotopaxi, CO. Plea of Guilty to Careless Driving. Dismissed by Plea: DUI, Failure to Display proof of Insurance. **Other Conditions of Sentence:** Complete Community Service within 6 months. **TOTAL FINES:** **\$346.50**

COUNTY COURT- October 24, 2024

COMPTON, KATHELENE V.---Chester, SC. Plea of Guilty to Unsafe or Defective Vehicle. **TOTAL FINES:** \$198.50

Come and Worship

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

1 John 4:4



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Events

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59000 N. Highway 69, Westcliffe

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“A Craft Affair” All Aboard Westcliffe, 110 Rosita Ave.

Saturday, November 16, Starts at 5 p.m. \$15.
5 < under Free. Veterans Free with proof.

FFA Oyster Fry & Member Auction
@Custer County School MPR (West Gym)

November 28 Free Thanksgiving Dinner @ Rainbow Trail Lutheran Camp.
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December 14, 2024

National Wreaths Across America Day

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Deadline to sponsor a wreath is November 27, 2024.

Visit WWW.WreathsAcrossAmerica.org/CO0257P for more information or make a donation

They say it can’t be done, but sometimes that doesn’t always work.
Casey Stengel

Local Mountain News & Notices

KIDS

November 15, 2024

Great Pyrenees

Recently we made a new addition to our family, an almost two-year-old great Pyrenees. He is beautiful, loving, protective and very big. They are a majestic looking animal with a very gentle temperament.

Here is a little history on this breed. Many years ago, in the mountains of Asia Minor which now includes modern day Turkey, this breed's ancestors helped shepherds keep valuable flocks safe. Eventually this breed, with its owners and flocks, migrated to the Basque country, located on the northwestern edge of the Pyrenean Mountains between France and Spain, also known as the Pyrenees. They are also known as the Pyrenean Mountain dog in Europe.

The breed owes its existence in America to Mary Crane and her husband, Francis. Mary was a pet lover and the daughter of a Massachusetts governor. In 1930, after a friend returned from Europe with a pair of Pyrenees pups, Mary instantly fell in love with this breed. In 1931, Mary imported two Pyrenees pups. The female died from distemper but Urdo's male, went on to become the first Pyrenees to be shown at an AKC show in 1932. In 1933, he sired the first Pyrenees litter born in America.

They are big, immensely strong, standing as high as 32 inches at the shoulder and often tipping the scales at over 100 pounds. They are known for their fluffy white coats. Their undercoat is soft and wooly, while the outer coat is long and straight.

They are an independent dog used to working independently. You must train this dog. If not, he will become completely uncontrollable — and at his full size of up to 160 pounds, you don't want that. They are very courageous and devoted to his family, protecting those he loves with his life if needed. When trained correctly they are very social and they love to be active and play with other dogs.

One drawback I have found is they bark at anything and since they do guard duty at night they mostly bark at night. One odd thing I have found is that they have double dewclaws on both rear paws. They should not be removed because they use them to climb.

Today, the Pyrenees' greatest talent is in its role as a family companion. Fewer than 10% of Pyrenees bred in the world are used as working dogs. The other dogs have adapted to being house dogs and protecting their family. Their DNA will continue their need to protect.

by Audrey Slater. Sources: <https://www.thesprucepets.com/breed-profile-great-pyrenees-1117970>, <https://www.akc.org/expert-advice/dog-breeds/great-pyrenees-history/>
Photo: Top is Bruno by Audrey Slater. Bottom: Wikimedia commons



Sangre de Cristo Sentinel • Westcliffe, Colorado

Corner



Custer County School District MENU November 18 thru November 21 2024

BOBCATS	Breakfast	Lunch
Monday	Cereal Oatmeal Mixed Fruit Yogurt, Milk	Roast beef Sandwich Coleslaw Baked Beans Fruit,, Milk
Tuesday	Sausage egg Sandwich Yogurt Fruit Choice of Milk	Walking Tacos Corn Rice Fruit, Choice of Milk
Wednesday	Waffles Sausage Fruit Choice of Milk	Lasagna Salad Garlic Roll Fruit, Choice of Milk
Thursday	Biscuits and Gravy Fruit Choice	SURPRISE! Choice of Milk

ELEMENTARY - MAIN DISH, GRAIN PRODUCT, VEGETABLE, FRUIT AND MILK. MIDDLE & HIGH - MAIN DISH (OR SALAD BAR), GRAIN PRODUCT, VEGETABLE, FRUIT AND MILK

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2024 Custer County FFA Oyster Fry and Member Auction

Mark your calendars for the annual Custer County FFA Oyster Fry and Member Auction!

Have a job you need complete? Come bid on a FFA member, enjoy some Rocky Mountain Oysters (we have chicken as well!) and bid on silent auction items.

November 16th
5 p.m.

Custer County School
MPR and West Gym

Custer County FFA Oyster Fry and Member Auction

When
November 16, 2024
At 5 pm

Where
At Custer County School
in MPR and West Gym

Cost
Per Person: \$15
Kids 5 & Under: Free
Veterans: Free (must have proof)

"I tried & tried, and they still got Fried!!"

Bobcats Scoreboard!

Monday, November 11:
HS Volleyball Regional Tournament:
vs Denver Christian: 0-3 loss; vs Haxton: 0-3 loss

Booster Club Bobcat Corner



Come out and support your Custer County Bobcats!
All games and dates are subject to change without notice.

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Jesus said

“Abide in Me, and I in you. As the branch cannot bear fruit by itself, unless it abides in the vine, neither can you, unless you abide in Me.”

John 15:4 ESV

Trump Names More Cabinet Picks

by Casey Harper,
The Center Square

President-Elect Donald Trump has named several more names to fill out his cabinet as the Trump administration begins to take form.

Trump named veteran and Fox News host Pete Hegseth as Secretary of Defense and former Director of National Intelligence John Ratcliffe to serve as director of the Central Intelligence Agency.

“From exposing fake Russian collusion to be a Clinton campaign operation, to catching the FBI’s abuse of Civil Liberties at the FISA Court, John Ratcliffe has always been a warrior for Truth and Honesty with the American Public,” Trump said. “When 51 intelligence officials were lying about Hunter Biden’s laptop, there was one, John Ratcliffe, telling the truth to the American People.”

Trump also named former Congresswoman and current governor of South Dakota, Kristi Noem, to serve as the Secretary of the Department of Homeland Security.

“She was the first Governor to send National Guard Soldiers to help Texas fight the Biden Border Crisis, and they were sent a total of eight times,” Trump said. “She will work closely with ‘Border Czar’ Tom Homan to secure the Border, and will guarantee that our American Homeland is secure from our adversaries.”

The announcement that has immediately grabbed the most attention is Trump’s decision to name billionaires Elon Musk and Vivek Ramaswamy to help with a new initiative.

“I am pleased to announce that the Great Elon Musk, working in conjunction with American Patriot Vivek Ramaswamy, will lead the Department of Government Efficiency (‘DOGE’). Together, these two wonderful Americans will pave the way for my Administration to dismantle Government Bureaucracy, slash excess regulations, cut wasteful expenditures, and restructure Federal Agencies - Essential to the ‘Save America’ Movement.”

Trump also announced William Joseph McGinley will serve as White House Counsel and Steven C. Witkoff to be Special Envoy to the Middle East.

Those announcements come after Trump had already announced other picks and more are expected this week.

As *The Center Square* previously reported, Trump named former New York congressman Lee Zeldin, a veteran, to serve as the Environmental Protection Agency administrator.

In addition, Trump chose U.S. Sen. Marco Rubio, R-Fla., as Secretary of State and named former Immigration and Customs Enforcement Director Tom Homan as his new “border czar.”

Trump also said Rep. Mike Waltz, R-Fla., will serve as National Security Advisor, former Arkansas Gov. Mike Huckabee will serve as ambassador to Israel, and Rep. Elise Stefanik, R-N.Y., will serve as ambassador to the U.N.

Please see: https://www.thecentersquare.com/national/article_81f52c48-a1d1-11ef-9cbb-cb1d25ae863b.html

Colorado Education Accountability System Report

by Tom Joyce, The Center Square

Members of Colorado’s Accountability, Accreditation, Student Performance, and Resource Inequity Task Force conducted 150 hours of meetings and determined that the state needs to overhaul its education accountability system.

The task force issued a report last week that said the state needs to change how it evaluates and supports K-12 schools.

The task force, formed last year, features 26 members, including parents, teachers, students, and community leaders.

The report looked at ways the state could address student outcome disparities, how to allocate resources to districts in a fairer manner, and how to help parents understand how schools prepare their children for life beyond K-12 public school.

The report made 30 recommendations and will be presented to the State Board of Education on Wednesday, November 13th.

Here are the core principles behind those recommendations, according to the report:

- Refine how the state accountability system rates schools and districts (e.g., addressing some of the challenges that schools serving smaller student populations face, adjusting performance frameworks to better reflect diverse student populations, paying greater attention to achievement gaps between student groups.)

- Enhance the accountability system’s Growth, Achievement, and Postsecondary Readiness Metrics (e.g., adding a new sub-indicator to help parents understand the efforts their schools are making to prepare students for post-secondary success.)
 - Modernize state assessments used for accountability (e.g., adjusting state assessments to be adaptive and accessible in multiple languages, encouraging assessment participation, and improving the timelines for sharing results.)
 - Improve data reporting and sharing for parents and communities, educators, education leaders, and policymakers (e.g., creating a statewide dashboard that is user-friendly for multiple audiences.)
 - Strengthen school and district improvement processes (e.g., implementing a comprehensive approach to improvement planning—including a system of early identification and intervention, expanding and targeting how schools are recognized for their successes.)
- The task force tells the state legislature, the State Board of Education, and the Colorado Department of Education to implement changes in a way that reflects the needs of its diverse array of schools and students. Additionally, it offers no specific timelines for implementing these changes.
- Please see: https://www.thecentersquare.com/colorado/article_7bb8e1fc-a128-11ef-afe7-cf0764b76af7.html



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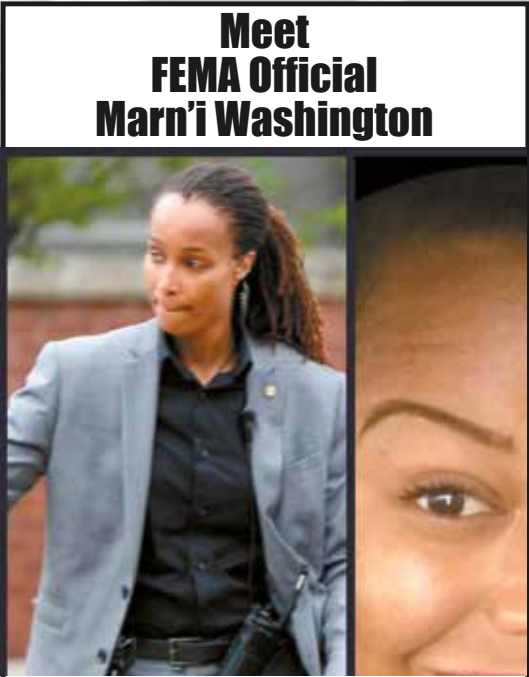
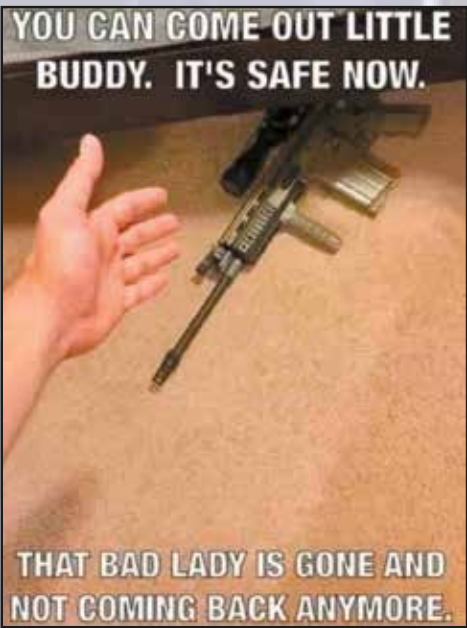
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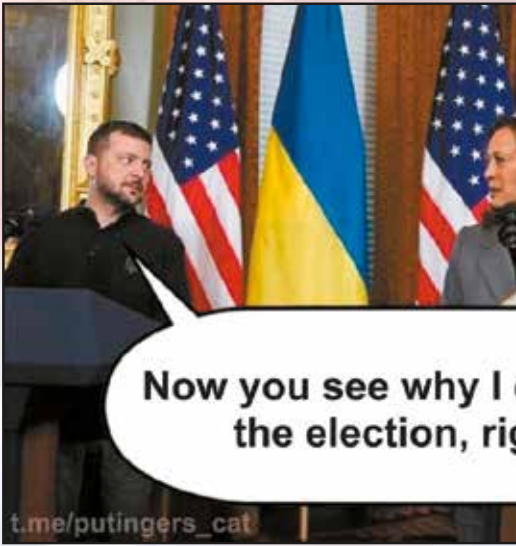
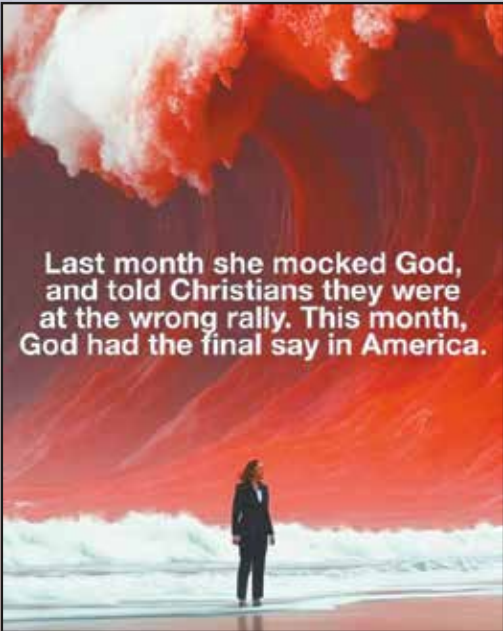
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MEMEOLGY 2024



Biden's diversity hire ordered FEMA workers not to assist Trump supporters in the aftermath of Hurricane Milton in Florida.



2024: VICTORY!

We're swearing off men since Trump got elected

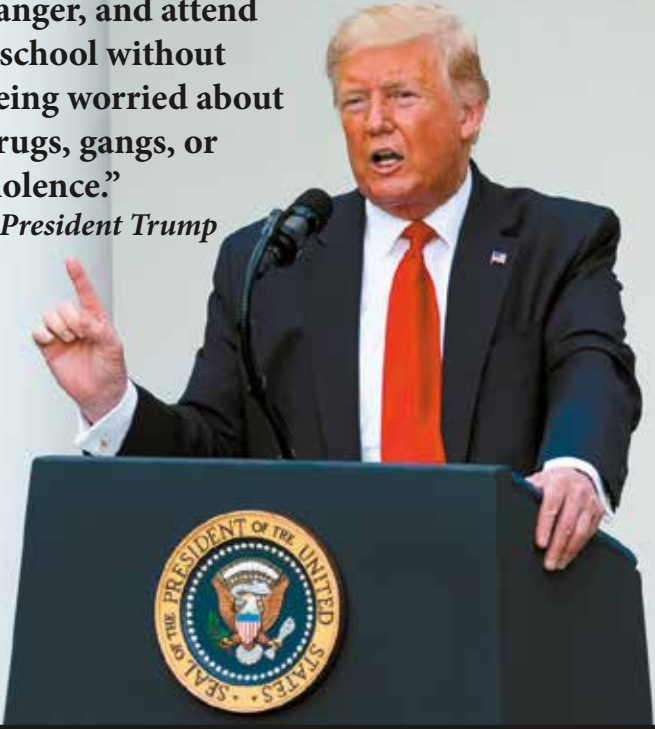


Thank God for Sparing Us

Documents being shredded and incinerated at FBI headquarters ahead of Trump's inauguration:



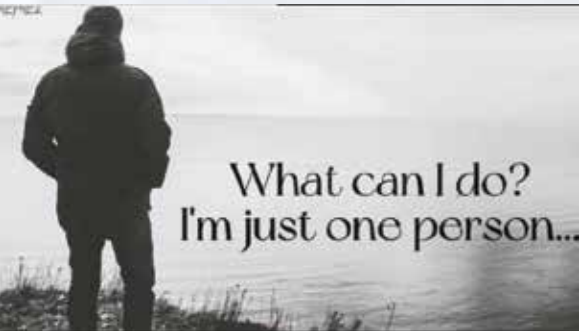
“Every child in America should be able to play outside without fear, walk home without danger, and attend a school without being worried about drugs, gangs, or violence.”
~ President Trump



Everyone Else



What can I do?
I'm just one person...



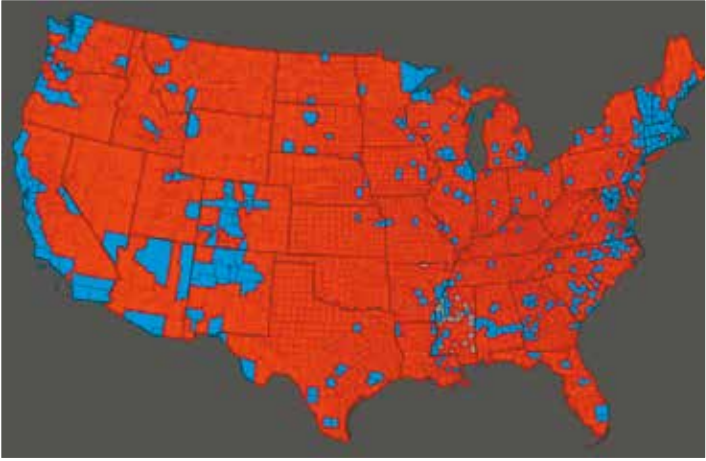
said 100 million Patriots



♪ He's making a list, he's checking it twice, gonna find out who'll be deported by ICE ♪



See those few blue spots? Those are the people who have forced discriminatory diversity, gender ideology, men in women's sports (that's pure misogyny), Critical Race Theory (CRT), climate activism, and censorship down our throats and made our lives more expensive and complicated. And the red part? Those people are done with it.

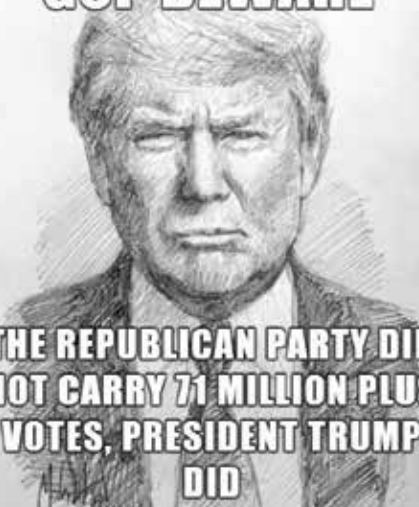


Now you see why I canceled the election, right?



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IF YOU'RE STILL NOT PRESIDENT



Colorado State News



How a Rye Revival in the San Luis Valley Could Save Its Soil and Keep Farms From Turning to Dust

by Emily Payne,
Colorado Public Radio

Sarah Jones was sitting at her kitchen table in Hooper, Colorado, last April when she received a mobile emergency alert from the National Weather Service: “DUST STORM WARNING ... Be ready for a sudden drop to zero visibility. Pull Aside, Stay Alive!”

It was unsafe for her daughters to be outside, and Sangre de Cristo Schools delayed pick-up until the storm passed.

Jones says dust storms are becoming more common in the San Luis Valley, where she and her husband run a fourth-generation family farm called Jones Farms Organics. Two years ago, a wave of dust caused a 15-car pile-up that stopped traffic on a highway near the farm. Jones and her daughters waited out the storm for an hour in a local Walmart because it was too dangerous to drive home.

“For people that haven’t been in it, this isn’t a cute little dust devil. The sky is turning brownish orange, you cannot see a few feet in front of you,” Jones said. “This is what we are experiencing, and it’s not getting better.”

A new answer in an old crop

Farmers lose valuable topsoil with each dust storm, threatening their livelihoods and the backbone of the San Luis Valley’s economy. Climate change has made south-central Colorado drier and the aquifer underlying the valley is straining to supply its water needs. The region needs to adapt in a way that protects agriculture and sustains family farms like the Jones’s, said Colorado Commissioner of Agriculture Kate Greenberg. “The alternative is more farms go under, less land in production, more land that’s dry, barren, without a root structure and a lot of blowing dust,” Greenberg said. “And less food security for Colorado and for the United States.”

Jones says there is a new answer in an old crop: rye. She co-founded the Rye Resurgence Project to sell consumers on the upsides of this grain, which protects the soil against dust storm conditions, uses less water in a drought-stricken region, and can provide farmers with additional income — making an economic case for low-water use crops. The project matches farmers growing rye with buyers throughout the state.



A field of rye popping up green, planted a few weeks ago at a farm next to Jones Farm Organics, in the San Luis Valley, October 21, 2024.

Hart Van Denburg/CPR News

Rye does not taste like caraway seeds, the spice typically added to rye bread that produces its signature — and polarizing — flavor. The grain itself has a nutty, earthy or spicy flavor, depending on how it’s prepared. Several distillers, chefs and bakers across the state are also embracing rye in their spirits and cuisine.

Jones says that the future of San Luis Valley agriculture might depend on Coloradans eating and drinking more of it.

Planting more, not less

The 8,000-square-mile San Luis Valley is the largest high-altitude desert in North America. It has been home to farms since before

Colorado’s statehood, and today, it is the second-largest fresh potato-producing region in the United States. It is also one of the driest parts of Colorado, data show, receiving seven to 10 inches of precipitation each year, compared to the state’s 17-inch average.

The region has been over-appropriated for more than a century, meaning more people claim water rights than there is water available. Throughout decades of severe drought, the aquifer is being drained at an unsustainable rate, regional water planners say.

“There’s really no sugar-coating. We are in a pretty tough situation in the San

Luis Valley,” says Heather Dutton, manager of the San Luis Valley Water Conservancy District and The Rye Resurgence Project’s other co-founder. “We have to figure out how to reduce our water use to match the supply that we have, which is much less than previous generations enjoyed, and we anticipate that’s going to keep going down.”

Historically, one practice to reduce water use in Colorado has been paying farmers to leave their fields fallow, either temporarily or in a “buy and dry” deal, in which farmland is purchased for its water rights and then transferred to other, non-agricultural uses. But bare fields are susceptible to wind erosion, which promotes dust storm conditions.

Jones and Dutton argue for reducing water use and protecting soils by planting more, not less.

Rye uses significantly less water than other common rotational crops, Dutton said. The grain can be grown to malt quality or used for seed with just 12 inches of water, compared to 18-22 inches for barley or 24-26 inches for alfalfa. Dutton calculated that

converting 750 acres of agricultural fields to rye production could conserve 500-acre feet of water per year.

Rye can also survive San Luis Valley winters, which can drop below -30 degrees. This means that farmers can plant the grain in the fall — immediately after potato harvest, for example — and keep living roots in the soil throughout the winter.

When the windy spring months arrive, the rye protects fields from runoff and erosion as a cover crop that also improves soil health, retains moisture and restores nutrients.

Deep roots in the valley

The difference rye makes after a dust storm is obvious, Dutton said. She received a photo from her mother, whose house in the valley is surrounded by agricultural fields and usually experiences significant erosion during the spring season.

“You could see the dirt every-where except for around where they were, because the field next to

RYE IN SAN LUIS
see page 23

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Colorado State News

Winners and Losers from 14 Statewide Ballot Measures

by Sherrie Peif,
Complete Colorado Page Two

In one of the longest ballots in Colorado history that included 14 statewide measures, including seven constitutional changes, Colorado voters were divided on some and very definitive on others.

Here is the complete breakdown of how the measures fared:

PASSED —

- **Amendment G: Passed by 72.82 percent** — This legislature-referred amendment expands the property tax exemption for veterans with a disability to include those with “individual unemployability” status.
- **Amendment H: Passed by 72.93 percent** — This legislature-referred amendment creates an independent judicial discipline adjudicative board and creates new rules for the judicial discipline process, including making the process public from the time the proceedings started, rather than confidential until the cases are completed.
- **Amendment I: Passed by 69.02 percent**— This legislature-referred amendment will make criminal suspects charged with first-degree murder ineligible for bail when the proof is evident or the presumption of guilt is great. The state Constitution currently says only those who have committed “capital offenses” can be denied bail.
- **Amendment J: Passed by 64.25 percent**— This legislature-referred amendment removes a sentence from the state Constitution that says “Only a

union of one man and one woman shall be valid or recognized as a marriage in this state.” Gay marriage has been legal in Colorado since 2014, and in 2015 the U.S. Supreme Court ruled that marriage equality is the law of the nation, making the language invalid.

- **Amendment 79: Passed by 61.86 percent** — This citizen-initiated amendment will enshrine a right to abortion in the Colorado Constitution, and remove a current constitutional provision that bans the use of public funds for abortions, opening the door to public subsidy of the procedure. Colorado law already allows for near-unrestricted access to abortion (including women from out of state).
- **Proposition JJ: Passed by 76.24 percent** — This legislative initiative will remove Taxpayer's Bill of Rights (TABOR) revenue restrictions on the tax money collected by the state from sports betting. Currently, the state can only keep up to \$29 million.
- **Proposition KK: Passed by 54.39 percent**— This legislative initiative creates a new tax of a 6.5% excise tax on firearms and ammunition manufacturing and sales to be imposed on firearms dealers, manufacturers, and ammunition vendors. A new cash fund would be created known as the Firearms and Ammunition Excise Tax Cash Fund and would be used to fund crime victim services programs, education programs, and mental and behavioral health programs for children and veterans.
- **Proposition 128: Passed by 62.17 percent**— This citizens' initiative will increase the minimum amount of time

spent in jail for certain crimes before being eligible for parole. It will require offenders convicted of certain violent crimes on or after January 1, 2025 to serve at least 85% of their sentence and offenders with two prior violent crime convictions to serve their full sentence before being eligible for parole.

- **Proposition 129: PASSED by 52.46 percent**— This citizens’ initiative will create the profession of veterinary professional associate (VPA), requiring a master’s degree and registration with the state board of veterinary medicine.
- **Proposition 130: Passed by 52.82 percent** — This citizens’ initiative will create the “Peace Officer Training and Support Fund” to provide funding for law enforcement training, retention, and hiring; training surrounding the use of force. It would also provide death benefits for surviving spouses and children of officers or first responders killed in the line of duty.

FAILED —

- **Amendment K: Failed by 55.17 percent**— This legislature-referred amendment would have changed the deadlines for filing initiative and referendum petition signatures and judicial retention notice deadlines. It would shorten the timeline [by] one week in order to allow one extra week for the secretary of state to certify ballot order and content and election officials’ deadline to transmit ballots.
- **Amendment 80: Failed by 51.60 percent**— This citizen-initiated amendment would have guaranteed parents the right to choose which school

model is best for their child including everything from traditional brick and mortar to public charter, to home schools, and private schools. Advocates said it was needed to protect charter schools and other options from a legislature hostile to school choice.

- **Proposition 127: Failed by 55.16 percent**— This citizen’s initiative would have prohibited so-called “trophy hunting” of mountain lions, bobcats, or lynx, despite the practice already being illegal in Colorado. Opponents made a winning case that the measure would deny the ability of the Division of Wildlife to control the big cat population with current, science-based wildlife management practices.
- **Proposition 131: Failed by 54.35 percent** — This citizen initiative would have fundamentally changed the way elections are held in Colorado for U.S. Senate, U.S. House of Representatives, governor, attorney general, secretary of state, treasurer, University of Colorado board of regents, state board of education, and state legislature by utilizing an open system and ranked-choice voting for the primaries. It would have created a true open primary (all candidates run on one ballot, no separating primary by party anymore), and the top four would advance to the general election. Voters would rank their choices by preference, and those rankings would be calculated by eliminating the lowest performing candidate in “rounds” and adding the voter’s “next choice” to the results until only four remain.

Please see <https://pagetwo.complete-colorado.com/2024/11/08/winners-losers-colorado-statewide-ballot-measures/>

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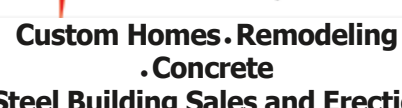


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Colorado State News

The Colorado Christian Baker Wins Again, But His Tormentors Will be Back

by Glenn K. Beaton,
The Aspen Beat

The left has hounded artistic Colorado baker Jack Phillips for over a decade. It started back in 2012 when a gay couple demanded that he create a “gay wedding cake” with two figurine husbands on top.

Of course, the gay couple could have gotten their gay cake created by many other bakers. They chose Phillips not despite, but because, creating such an object was contrary to his religious beliefs.

Phillips told them he would happily create a cake for them - regardless of their sexual orientation. But he refused to create a special “gay cake” for them.

That’s an important point. Phillips refused to create a “gay” cake for them, just as he would have refused to create a gay cake for anyone else, and presumably would have refused to act or dress “gay” for them or anyone else.

Phillips did not refuse to sell a product to gays (which would probably be in violation of the Federal Civil Rights Acts).

Rather, he refused to create a product that is gay.

The gay couple were something like a couple seeking out a Kosher restaurant, demanding that the Jewish chef cook up an elaborate pork dish, and then contending that they’d been discriminated against when told that pork is not on the menu.

It’s actually worse than that. The gay couple thought Phillips’ beliefs were not just discriminatory, but should be illegal. So, they schemed to establish that as a legal matter.

First, they brought an action against Phillips before the Colorado Civil Rights Commission, and won. The case then went to a Colorado appellate court, and they won there too.

Phillips finally filed for review in the Colorado Supreme Court, where all seven Justices are Democrat appointees. Those Colorado Justices refused to even hear the case on the grounds there was zero merit to Phillips’ appeal.

Then Phillips filed for an appeal in the U.S. Supreme Court. It’s the court of last resort in America,

and they accept only a few percent of the appeals lodged there.

To everyone’s surprise, the U.S. Supreme Court decided that Phillips’ case was worth hearing. Not only that, but after hearing the case they reversed the Colorado decision. They decided that the Colorado Civil Rights Commission had exhibited an unfair antipathy toward Phillips’ religious-based actions.

Let that sink in. The U.S. Supreme Court – the highest court in the land – found that the Colorado Civil Rights Commission and state courts had shown six years of unfair antipathy toward Phillips’ ordinary Christian religious beliefs.

At least they didn’t feed him to the lions. But what happened next was almost as bad, as anyone who’s been a defendant in a lawsuit will tell you.

On the very day the U.S. Supreme Court issued its decision in favor of Phillips, a self-described “devil worshipper” demanded by email that Phillips bake a cake celebrating the devil’s birthday – complete with a [sex toy] on top.

As before, Phillips politely explained that he could not bake such a cake because it was contrary to his religious beliefs.

Before then, on the very day that the U.S. Supreme Court agreed to hear Phillips’ appeal of the “gay cake” case, someone came into Phillips’ bakery and demanded that he create a “transgender cake” depicting transgender stuff.

You can see the pattern.

As before, Phillips refused to create the “transgender cake.” As before, the transgender person brought an action before the Colorado Civil Rights Commission. As before, he/she won. And as before, the case eventually went up to the Colorado Supreme Court.

This time, the Colorado Supreme Court took the case (perhaps feeling stung by the U.S. Supreme Court’s reversal of the Colorado decisions the earlier time).

But the Colorado Supreme Court dodged a decision on the merits. Instead, they dismissed the case on a technicality.

It was a win for Phillips, but it didn’t establish any precedent for other Christian bakers or anyone else who wants protection for his religious beliefs.

Pity the Colorado Supreme Court. They were faced with either (1) defying the earlier U.S. Supreme Court decision by ruling against Phillips, or (2) defying their woke principles by ruling in his favor.

Ah, they were torn between the law of the land and the law of the woke. They found a clever way to choose neither.

But trust me, they’ll be back. The devil-worshipping transsexuals, the kangaroo state courts and “civil rights” commissions stacked with Democrat appointees, and the rest of the totalitarian wokerati – they’ll all be back, lawless as ever.

They want to outlaw religious beliefs that they don’t believe in, and that’s almost all of them.

Please see: <https://glennkbeaton.substack.com/p/the-colorado-christian-baker-wins>

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Federal Judge Strikes Down Louisiana Law Mandating Ten Commandments In Classrooms As ‘Unconstitutional’

by Mariane Angela

THE DAILY CALLER
NEWS FOUNDATION

November 12, 2024

A federal judge on Tuesday temporarily halted a Louisiana mandate requiring public schools to display the Ten Commandments in every classroom by Jan. 1, deeming the law “unconstitutional on its face.”

U.S. District Judge John W. deGravelles in Baton Rouge ruled that the statute had a clear religious purpose and dismissed state arguments that the commandments’ historical relevance justified their display, according to Politico. He said that no other key documents, including the Constitution or the Bill of Rights, are mandated for display in schools.

Louisiana Attorney General Elizabeth Murrill said in a statement that she and others “strongly disagree with the court’s decision and will immediately appeal.” Murrill and Republican Gov. Jeff Landry both backed the law and said the commandments reflect the nation’s legal heritage.

Daily Caller
(@DailyCaller)

Red State Schools Reluctant To Follow Mandate Requiring Bibles Be Taught In Classrooms <https://t.co/5eJFVHh2K1>

August 23, 2024

In issuing a preliminary injunction, de-

Gravelles pointed out that the plaintiffs, a group of Louisiana public school parents, are likely to succeed in their ongoing lawsuit, Politico stated. They argue that the law breaches First Amendment protections by imposing a religious display that could alienate non-Christian students.

The judge highlighted this concern and said the law coerces religious observance by mandating attendance in classrooms featuring overt religious symbols, Politico reported. Supporters contend that the measure recognizes the commandments’ historical influence, not merely a religious one.

The law, enacted by Louisiana’s Republican-led legislature, requires all public K-12 and state-funded university classrooms to display the Ten Commandments in prominent, poster-sized formats, accompanied by a contextual statement emphasizing their historic educational presence in the United States.

This legislation is among several recent moves by conservatives to integrate religion into educational settings. They include Florida’s authorization of volunteer chaplains in schools and Oklahoma’s directive to incorporate the Bible into curricula, according to Politico. Similar Ten Commandments bills have been introduced in Texas, Oklahoma, and Utah, but legal challenges have prevented them from taking effect.

Please see <https://dailycallernewsfoundation.org/2024/11/12/federal-judge-strikes-down-louisiana-law-mandating-ten-commandments-in-classrooms-as-unconstitutional/>



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Colorado State News



Colorado State Government Spending Skyrockets, Outpaces Inflation

by Tom Joyce, The Center Square

Colorado has vastly grown its government spending over the past 20 years, according to a new report from Common Sense Institute.

CSI’s “Then and Now” report found that government spending in Colorado has vastly outpaced inflation over the last 20 years. Adjusted for inflation, the state government has increased spending by 35% in that stretch from \$5,140 per Coloradoan to \$6,924.

Healthcare is a big reason for that spending increase over the last 20 years. The Department of Health Care Policy and Financing grew its budget by 429% from Fiscal Year 2005 to Fiscal Year 2025, from \$3 billion to \$15.9 billion; that department went from 22% of the budget to 37%.

Even as the state increased education spending by 128% over those 20 years, its share of the budget decreased from 25% to 18%. Education is the area

that had the biggest decrease in terms of its share of the budget.

The report also found that revenue subject to TABOR that is available to spend, accounts for nearly half (46%) of the state’s spending. The report projects 3.3% annual growth from Fiscal Year 2024 to Fiscal Year 2027, from \$18 billion to \$20.6 billion. Meanwhile, it expects that \$3.2 billion in TABOR surplus revenue will be made available for taxpayer refunds.

From Fiscal Year 2025 to Fiscal Year 2026, Colorado will likely increase its spending even more; CSI projects an 8.9% increase, or \$617 per Coloradan, based on the requested budget from Governor Jared Polis.

Polis touted this increase as fiscally responsible in a letter to the Joint Budget Committee and the General Assembly.

“This budget does all of those things

while driving greater government efficiency and ensuring that fiscal responsibility is front and center,” Polis said in the letter. “We are able to make strategic investments to protect funding for public safety and K-12 education, making good on our promise to Coloradans. This budget also maintains financial reserves that will help Colorado weather economic storms, and after a thorough review process, it puts each dollar to its best possible use.”

“This budget includes the tough choices we are elected to make but does so in a way that protects the progress we’ve made and carves a path to advance Coloradans’ priorities—all while maintaining our mandate to be fiscally responsible now and going forward,” he added.

Please see: https://www.thecentersquare.com/colorado/article_7e56e1d4-9b01-11ef-a593-1b6b265b703e.html

CUSTER COUNTY LEGAL NOTICES

**NOTICE
NOTICE TO CREDITORS**

Custer County Combined Courts,
Colorado
205 S. 6th St.
PO Box 60
Westcliffe, CO 81252

**In the Matter of the Estate of
Jerold Greenstreet, Deceased**

Attorney or Party Without
Attorney (Name and Address):
Richard Greenstreet
1838 Pinion
Canon City CO 81212
Phone: 719-275-7384

Case Number: 2024PR15

**NOTICE TO CREDITORS BY
PUBLICATION PURSUANT**

TO 15-12-801, C.R.S.

NOTICE TO CREDITORS
Estate of Jerold Greenstreet,
Deceased
Case Number 2024PR15
All persons having claims
against the above named estate
are required to present them to
the personal representative or
to District Court of CUSTER
County, Colorado on or before
March 1, 2025 or the claims may
be forever barred.

Richard Greenstreet
1828 Pinion
Canon City, CO 81212

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Last Published: November 22, 2024
Sangre de Cristo Sentinel
Westcliffe, Colorado

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ACROSS

1 Embarrass

6 Biblical Greek word for love

11 Truck

14 Curly corn chip

15 Direct to someplace

16 Brew

17 Biblical weeds

18 Seasoning Brand

19 School group

20 Legume

22 Also

23 Kid’s mom

24 Fast plane

27 Allow in

29 Gold,frankincense and ___

30 Shortening

32 Lubricate

33 Clean

34 Great ape (first letters)

36 Small money units

38 Fuming

41 Region of Palestine

43 Medium

45 Possessive pronoun

46 Sound of a sneeze

48 City destroyed by fire

49 Expert

50 Scamp

52 Tropical edible root

53 Luster

56 Plague of Egypt

58 Guy

59 Visionary

60 Foreign Agricultural Service

61 Pair

63 Talk

64 Opaque

66 Wrinkle removers

70 Adam and ___

71 Agricultural student

72 Wealthy man

73 Crimson

74 Daniel was thrown into the ___’ den

75 Delete

DOWN

1 Behind

2 Undergarment

Puzzle key on page 7

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

The Daily Jot

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

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

A New Day

A lot of emotions are running through my mind as I sip on coffee from a cup Chris and I bought in Valley Forge with a sculpture of George Washington facing me. It is a reminder of my ancestors who overcame so much during the Revolutionary War to carve this great nation into being. It was the Lord that was with them then. It is the Lord who is with us today as Donald Trump overcame the forces of tyranny to win back the presidency. This is a historic moment and one that I believe offers America a reprieve from the darkness of those demons that have dragged this country down into the miry pit. And while the insane left stands in shock, this change is an opportunity for all to reset toward a better world.

All the lawfare, fear-mongering, assassination attempts, lying, and politicking came to no avail as the American people overwhelmed the ballot box for Trump. When Romans 13:1 is quoted today: “For there is not power but of God: the powers that be are ordained of God,” let everyone and all be settled that this was a hand of God election. People voted. God delivered. In this present generation, there never has been such an election. Satan used a political party to throw every legal, political, and physical obstacle at Trump. He (and Americans) survived assassination attempts, the corrupt legal system, personal attacks, a corrupt media, election interference and more for over a decade. For if they can do it to Trump, they can do it to the rest of us.

This should be a message to those who sit in their depressed stage of wonder: evil eventually destroys itself. So self-righteous were those who proudly supported some of the most immoral and unthinkable acts—the grooming of America’s children into homosexuality and transgenderism; the rabid commitment to kill babies in the womb; human trafficking of women and children because of no border security; attacking Christians for their faith; creating a deadly drug crisis sending billions upon billions of taxpayer dollars to terrorists, while saying they support Israel. All the while they destroyed the U.S. economy, driving up inflation and the flooding the country with illegals for political and economic exploitation. These things are evil. Thank God for the break and the opportunity to do good. Maybe now the scales can be reset.

You see, we have our work cut out for us. We have bought some time. There are only promises of a better, more righteous future for our nation. We must hold accountability—not the type of accountability of judgment and condemnation to our fellow citizens who disagree with us and are blinded by the god of this world, but the accountability of the standard of Christ in whom we believe and are disciples. From protecting our children to the treatment of Israel to freedom of religion, we must stand in the gap and make the hedge. We must be ever vigilant that our nation is fully advantaged by the mercy our Lord has bestowed upon us. Let us continue to pray, act, repent, and seek the Lord that He may forgive our sin and heal our land.

Bill Wilson
Dailyjot.com Printed with permission.

A Shift in Time Saves Nine: How the Trump Election Impacts the Supreme Court

by Jonathan Turley,
JonathanTurley.Org

In 1937, it was said that a critical shift of one justice in a case ended the move to pack the Court by Franklin Delano Roosevelt. It was said that it was “a shift in time saves nine.” In 2024, a shift in the Senate may have had the same impact. Trump’s victory means that absent a renewal of the court-packing scheme and other extreme measures of the left, the Court will remain unchanged institutionally for at least a decade.

The expectation is that Associate Justice Clarence Thomas could use this perfect time to retire and ensure that his seat will be filled with a fellow conservative jurist. Justice Samuel Alito may also consider this a good time for a safe harbor departure. They have a couple of years before they reach the redline for nominations before the next election.

The election means that court-packing schemes are now effectively scuttled despite the support of Democratic senators like Elizabeth Warren (D., Mass.) and Sheldon Whitehouse (D., R.I.). Given Kamala Harris’s reported support, the Supreme Court dodged one of the greatest threats to its integrity in its history.

The impact on the law will also be pronounced. Returning the issue of abortion to the states will remain unchanged. A younger generation will grow up in a country where the voters of each state are allowed to determine what limits to place on abortions.

Likewise, gun rights and religious rights will continue to be robustly protected. The checks on the administrative state are also likely to be strengthened. Pushes for wealth taxes and other measures will likely receive an even more skeptical court.

The possible appointment of two new justices would likely give Trump a total of five to six nominees on the court. Liberals previously insisted that it was time for Justice Sonia Sotomayor to leave the Court, a campaign that I opposed. The appointment of seven of the nine justices by a single president would be unprecedented. (I expect, as with the calls to “end the filibuster” as undemocratic, the liberal campaign to push Sotomayor to retire ended around 2:30 a.m. on Tuesday night).

Trump has shown commendable judgment in his prior nominations. All three—Gorsuch, Kavanaugh, and Barrett—are extraordinary jurists who have already created considerable legacies. I testified at Neil Gorsuch’s Senate confirmation hear-

ing and still consider him one of the most consequential and brilliant additions to the Court in decades.

These justices were subjected to appalling treatment during their confirmation process, including attacks on Barrett for her adopting Haitian children. New Trump nominees can expect the same scorched-earth campaign from the media and the left, but they will have a reliable Senate majority for confirmation.

These justices have shown the intellect and integrity that bring credit to the Court, including each voting in key cases with their liberal colleagues when their principles demanded it. Trump can cement his legacy by continuing that legacy over the next four years with nominees of the same caliber.

In this way, the election may prove the key moment in ending one of the most threatening periods of the Court’s existence. With the loss of the control of the Senate, the push for new limits on the Court and calls for investigations of conservative justices will subside for now. However, the rage in the media and academia will only likely increase.

Both media and academic commentators pushed for sweeping constitutional changes, including packing the Court or curtailing its jurisdiction. Many saw the Harris-Walz Administration as the vehicle for such extreme measures. Harris herself pledged to “reform” the Court.

Some liberals figures even called for the dissolution of the Court and other radical changes.

Erwin Chemerinsky, dean of the UC Berkeley law school, called for the scrapping of key constitutional elements in his “No Democracy Lasts Forever: How the Constitution Threatens the United States.” In a Los Angeles Times op-ed, he described conservative justices as “partisan hacks.”

In the New York Times, book critic Jennifer Szalai denounced what she calls “Constitution worship” and warned that “Americans have long assumed that the Constitution could save us; a growing chorus now wonders whether we need to be saved from it.” She frets that by limiting the power of the majority, the Constitution “can end up fostering the widespread cynicism that helps authoritarianism grow.”

In a New York Times op-ed, “The Constitution Is Broken and Should Not Be Reclaimed” , law professors Ryan D. Doerfler of

Harvard and Samuel Moyn of Yale called for liberals to “reclaim America from constitutionalism.”

Other law professors have denounced the “constitutional cult” and the First Amendment as the Achilles Heel of America.

Given that the majority of voters reject panic politics and radical agendas, these figures are likely to become more activist and aggressive.

I recently debated a Harvard professor at Harvard Law School on the lack of free speech and intellectual diversity at the school. I noted that Harvard had more than 75 percent of the faculty self-identified as “liberal” or “very liberal.” Only five percent identified as “conservative,” and only 0.4% as “very conservative.” It is not that Harvard does not resemble America, it does not even resemble Massachusetts in its virtual purging of conservative or Republican professors.

We just had a country where the majority of voters chose Donald Trump. Among law school faculty who donated more than \$200 to a political party, 91 percent of the Harvard faculty gave to Democrats.

Yet, the professor rejected the idea that Harvard faculty or its students should look like America (only seven percent of incoming students identified as conservative). So, while the Supreme Court has a strong majority of conservatives and roughly half of the federal judges are conservative, Harvard law students will continue to be taught by professors who overwhelmingly reject those values, and some even reject “constitutionalism.”

The result is that the Court will continue to be demonized while the media and academia maintain their hardened ideological silos.

The rage will continue and likely rise in the coming years. However, this critical institution just moved out of harm’s way in this election. It will remain the key stabilizing institution in the most successful constitutional system in history.

Jonathan Turley is the Shapiro Professor of Public Interest Law at George Washington University and the author of “The Indispensable Right: Free Speech in an Age of Rage.” He teaches a course on the Constitution and the Supreme Court.

Please see: <https://jonathanturley.org/2024/11/07/a-shift-in-time-saves-nine-how-the-trump-election-impacts-the-supreme-court/#more-225145>

‘Overwhelmed’: Hundreds of Thousands of Migrants in U.S. Public Schools Is ‘a Crisis in the Making’ Part 2

Part 2 of 2

Ben Johnson,
The Washington Stand

In all, less than half of English as Secondary Language (ESL) students graduate high school in four years. “The bottom line is these kids are being robbed of their futures,” said Sister Kathy Maire, a Roman Catholic nun who worked with Brooklyn’s bilingual community, in the 1990s. “I just kept hearing from parents that their children were not learning to speak English in bilingual education.”

The policy costs all U.S. taxpayers, thanks to Great Society-era legislation. Title III of the Elementary and Secondary Education Act of 1965 forces taxpayers to underwrite some of the costs associated with local schools hiring ESL teachers. Title III funding amounted to roughly \$890 million in the last fiscal year; some House Republicans aimed to eliminate that funding, which is managed by the Education Department’s Office of English Language Acquisition (OELA). The pro-amnesty group UnidosUS (formerly the National Council of La Raza, or “the race” in English) has called for Title III budget to swell to \$2 billion.

The radical group’s political arm, UnidosUS Action Fund, endorsed Kamala Harris in July after endorsing Joe Biden in May.

But some struggling school districts may have a small incentive to maximize the number of such children to claw back some federal funding. “[C]hildren who speak a language other than English at home, live in poverty, or have disabilities requiring an individualized education program, or IEP, come with extra federal and state dollars attached,” reports the Oklahoma-based NPR station, KOSU. “For districts like Santa Fe South” in Oklahoma, where 76% of students are non-English speakers, “that can mean the difference between existing or not.”

The federal government restricts Title III funds, which cannot be used for testing, nor state and local mandates. “People have

looked at the question of whether the federal government should really foot the bill for the whole amount of money to serve these kids, because they are coming in based on federal policy,” said Sugarman. Alternately, the federal government could enhance border security, stop the flow of illegal immigrants, and enforce current law by deporting anyone illegally present in the United States.

“It is our citizen students who miss out on a high-quality public education as funds are shifted away from classroom learning” to accommodate students in this country illegally, testified Mari Barke, a member of the Orange County (California) Board of Education, at a June 4 hearing of the House Early Childhood, Elementary, and Secondary Education Subcommittee on “The Consequences of Biden’s Border Chaos for K-12 Schools.”

Advocates for American children say little can be done until the Supreme Court overturns a 40-year-old activist ruling that locks this system into place.

A Supreme Error?

The Supreme Court decision at the heart of the issue, *Plyler v. Doe* (1982), was a controversial, 5-4 decision written by Justice William Brennan Jr. The landmark case scrutinized a 1975 Texas law allowing the Tyler Independent School District to charge the children of illegal immigrants \$1,000 annual tuition to attend U.S. schools. The Carter administration’s Justice Department opposed the law and called it unconstitutional, a position the DOJ abandoned under President Ronald Reagan. The outcome hinged on the 14th Amendment’s definition of personhood, which Brennan affirmed for illegal immigrants even as he denied it to unborn U.S. citizens as one of the seven justices who supported the *Roe v. Wade* opinion a decade earlier. An illegal “alien is a ‘person’ in any ordinary sense of that term,” opined Brennan.

With that, American public schools had to serve any child who showed up in their district. “The Supreme Court said ... we’re

obligated to educate every child on planet earth so long as they can break into our country, and that seems to be not very fair to our people,” said *Newsmax* host Chris Salcedo on Thursday. The judicial activist opinion paved the way for our country’s transition into a post-American nation, say some conservatives. “The decision in *Plyler* effectively abstracted the Constitution so as to cover every sentient biped with a prefrontal cortex, exploding the preambular statement that restricted it ‘to ourselves and our posterity’ — to America and Americans,” wrote Pedro Gonzalez in *The American Conservative*. The decision “raises the question of whether nations are homes that owe something to their people or merely boarding houses and bordellos for a never-ending flow of strangers.”

Furnishing those in the country illegally with “free” schooling paved the way for an ever-expanding vista of taxpayer-funded welfare benefits for illegal immigrants and/or their children. Ever since, politicians at every level of government have tried to reinstate policies that put America first.

States Fighting for American Children’s Education

President Donald Trump has vowed to “carry out the largest domestic deportation operation in American history” if elected. He has also promised to abolish the Department of Education, a promise originally made by President Ronald Reagan in the 1980 campaign and renewed periodically ever since.

Thirty years ago, the citizens of California passed Proposition 187, which would have limited public schools and other welfare benefits to U.S. citizens. The measure, which passed with 59% of the vote, was struck down by the late U.S. District Court Judge Mariana R. Pfaelzer, a Jimmy Carter appointee.

In 2011, Alabama passed H.B. 56 into law, asking public school administrators to count the number of illegal immigrant children enrolled in the state’s schools. The Obama-Biden administration

promptly sued, forcing a settlement that eliminated the requirement to keep accurate school records in 2013. The Obama DOJ was joined by a constellation of left-wing legal groups including the Southern Poverty Law Center (SPLC); the National Immigration Law Center; the American Civil Liberties Union Foundation and its state affiliate; the Mexican American Legal Defense and Education Fund (MALDEF); LatinoJustice PRLDEF; Asian Americans Advancing Justice (AAJC); and private attorneys Brian Spears, Freddy Rubio, and Ben Bruner. A decade later, the SPLC still condemned the law’s “cruel legacy” (although, it noted, “not one constituent has enforced it”).

But in the last year, states have seemed to find new courage to tackle the issue. In August, Oklahoma State Superintendent of Public Instruction Ryan Walters said he would issue a guidance to assure “accurate and effective accounting about the costs and burden that illegal immigration has not only on their schools, but the taxpayers of the state of Oklahoma.”

Walters’s spokesman, Dan Isett, explained, “Thanks to Joe Biden, Kamala Harris, and the Democrats, we have faced an unprecedented years-long surge of illegal immigration that has had a significant impact on our schools and our students. Superintendent Walters is dedicated to gathering more hard data regarding the impact of illegal immigration in order to protect students and Oklahoma taxpayers.”

Amnesty advocates feel outraged that the plan might require counting the number of students unlawfully present in their schools. Legal Advisor for the American Immigration Council (AIC) Michelle Lapointe said that schools and teachers act as “the bedrock for these [illegal] students and their families and protect them in so many ways.”

Texas Governor Greg Abbott (R) has also drawn attention to the topic. Texas State Senator Drew Springer (R-30) introduced a bill (SB 923) which would direct the state to “seek to enter into an

agreement with the United States government for the United States government to pay the cost of educating” illegal immigrants, or demand reimbursement from the federal government for the full cost of educating illegal immigrants’ children. The bill further specifies that “a student who is not a citizen or national of the United States or an alien lawfully present in the United States is not entitled to the benefits” of public education due to legal residents’ children.

Tennessee State Representative Bruce Griffey (R-75) introduced a similar bill (H.B. 1648) in 2021.

Even in deep-blue Massachusetts, school officials have taken action to protect American students’ access to a quality education. After the share of one Boston-area school district’s English learners soared to one in three, the Saugus Public School Committee Chairman enacted a new policy last August requiring enrolled pupils to be “legal residents whose actual residence is in Saugus” — and residents apparently approve. “The policy has been in place for over a year, and we have received no complaints,” said committee chairman Vincent Serino this summer. Although Serino said the policy aims only to bar entry to people living outside the city limits and that no student “will be denied access to school due to immigration status,” his community has received a legal warning from a group called Lawyers for Civil Rights.

Heritage Foundation scholars hope a lawsuit over one of these laws will cause the Supreme Court, which has been hailed as the most constitutional court in nearly 90 years, to reconsider *Plyler v. Doe* — a position shared broadly among conservatives.

“Overturning *Plyler* wouldn’t fix everything overnight,” concluded Gonzalez, “but it would be a big step in the right direction after so many wrong turns.”

Please see <https://washingtonstand.com/commentary/overwhelmed-hundreds-of-thousands-of-migrants-in-us-public-schools-is-a-crisis-in-the-making>

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The Second Amendment Corner

Liberty's Line in the Sand



2024

Colorado Gun Control Fails to Stop One-Man Crime Spree

by Cam Edwards,
BearingArms.com

Over the past twelve years Democrats in Colorado have repeatedly placed new restrictions on the right to keep and bear arms; bans on “large capacity” magazines, “red flag” laws, “universal” background checks, and more. They’ve even undone the state’s firearm preemption law so local governments can implement gun control laws that are more restrictive than state law.

For most of that time, violent crime has trended up across the state, thanks in large part to the Democratic majority’s refusal to get tough on offenders. The latest example? The arrest of a Denver man on multiple charges who arguably should have been behind bars instead of preying on the public.

“The man accused of trying to abduct a girl walking to school in Westminster in late October was allegedly involved in multiple crimes that same day, according to his arrest affidavit.

Charges were filed against Jeremiah Samuel Mullins, 31, of Denver on Oct[ober] 25th, a few hours after the alleged attempted abduction. He faces charges of aggravated robbery, kidnapping, attempted kidnapping, aggravated motor vehicle theft and possession of a weapon by a previous offender.”

According to police, about an hour before Mullins allegedly tried to kidnap the 14-year-old girl who was walking to school he allegedly tried to carjack a man in Thornton, Colorado at gunpoint. Then, a few hours after the attempted abduction, Mullins allegedly tried to abduct another woman and her baby, once again at gunpoint. The woman was able to run to her apartment and get inside before the would-be kidnapper drove off.

The following day Mullins allegedly carjacked a woman in Westminster, but couldn’t figure out how to start her electric vehicle. When police investigated the crime, they found footage of a gold Subaru that had been reported stolen two days earlier, and discovered that an officer had stopped the car on October 24th.

“The driver, who handed the officer an ID card for Jeremiah Mullins, said he got the car from a friend and was not sure who it was registered to. After the officer told the driver to stay put as he walked back to his patrol car, the driver pulled away. The officer followed as the suspect reached 70 mph in a 40 mph zone and, after an unsuccessful attempt to stop the suspect with a spike strip, police stopped the pursuit, according to the affidavit.

Footage from this incident showed that the car had bumper stickers, a sticker on the driver’s side rear window, a temporary tag and matched the description of the cars used during the robberies in Thornton, the affidavit reads.

When police searched for Mullins in their database, they discovered he had a parole warrant related to a 2019 carjacking.”

As it turns out, that wasn’t his only previous offense.

“At 5:39 p.m. on Oct[ober] 25th, police issued a bulletin asking all law enforcement to be on the lookout for Mullins and the Subaru. Barely five minutes later, a Westminster police officer found the car at a motel parking lot. The officer saw a man, whom he identified as Mullins, get out of the car. A second officer arrived in an unmarked car and also identified the man as Mullins. The officers believed he had a gun in his pocket, according to the affidavit.

Police made a plan to arrest him and he was taken into custody. They found a small caliber semi-automatic handgun in his pants pocket, the affidavit reads. Because Mullins had been convicted of a robbery in 2020, he was not allowed to possess a weapon.”

In just the past five years Mullins has been convicted or pleaded guilty to carjacking and robbery. So why wasn’t he behind bars? And why didn’t any of Colorado’s gun control laws prevent him from illegally obtaining a gun?

Colorado’s soft-on-crime approach has made the state a more dangerous place, and the restrictions placed on lawful gun owners have made it more difficult for good citizens to protect and defend themselves and their loved ones. I don’t know that we’ll see much of an electoral shift this election cycle, but until voters chart a different course, we’re likely to see more ridiculous outcomes like this.

Please see: <https://bearingarms.com/camedwards/2024/11/05/colorado-gun-control-fails-to-stop-one-man-crime-spree-n1226798>

Connecticut's Defense of 'Assault Weapons' Ban: Wacky

by Cam Edwards,
BearingArms.com

[Last] Wednesday, the Second Circuit Court of Appeals heard oral arguments in two challenges to Connecticut’s ban on so-called assault weapons; one brought by the National Association of Gun Rights and the other by the Connecticut Citizens Defense League and the Second Amendment Foundation. The cases were appealed to the Second Circuit after U.S. District Judge Janet Bond Arterton upheld the gun ban in a decision last August, opining that the guns prohibited by the state were “dangerous and unusual” weapons that were not commonly used in self-defense, and therefore beyond the scope of the Second Amendment’s protections.

Contrary to Arterton’s ruling, the Supreme Court has *not* held that the Second Amendment only protects arms used in self-defense. Instead, it’s repeatedly stated that arms commonly used for lawful purposes *including* self-defense are protected under the right to keep and bear arms. Still, attorneys for the state latched on to Arterton’s erroneous interpretation of the Supreme Court’s Second Amendment decisions in their defense of the state’s gun ban.

Thankfully, at least one of the three judges on the panel pushed back on Connecticut’s assertion, asking if their argument meant that commonly-owned rifles and shotguns used for hunting could be banned without violating the Second Amendment.

Firearms Policy Coalition@gunpolicy

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Oct 16, 2024

Replying to @gunpolicy

One judge points out that under Connecticut’s argument (that only guns commonly used in self-defense are protected), it would mean that guns commonly used for other lawful purposes (such as hunting) aren’t protected by the Second Amendment.

Connecticut gives a long meandering...

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Connecticut argues that only brandishing and firing count when determining how often certain guns are used for self-defense. One judge responds by saying that most police officers never fire their gun outside a firing range during their career, but it still counts as being used... Show more

4:13 PM · Oct 16, 2024

The word salad offered by the state’s attorneys don’t make much sense. They suggested that since bolt-action hunting rifles or over/under shotguns haven’t been prohibited by the state, they’re “democratically protected”, but may not be “constitutionally protected”. They then claimed that guns like hunting rifles don’t *need* to have any kind of constitution-

al protection because guns that are popular won’t be prohibited, before finally contending that state officials “probably” couldn’t ban those rifles and shotguns because they’re not “unusually dangerous.”

The attorneys for NAGR and CCDL/SAF both argued that the semi-automatic firearms banned under Connecticut’s “assault weapon” prohibitions aren’t “dangerous and unusual” *or* “unusually dangerous”, noting that the law prohibits the sale and possession of some of the most popular rifles in the country.

Josh Perry, on behalf of the Connecticut Attorney General’s office, disagreed. He argued Wednesday that the U.S. has a deep history of restricting the ownership of rifles that are just like the AR-15 — namely, the M16.

As acknowledged by the parties, AR-15-style rifles are similar to M16-style weapons. But a key difference lies in their firing modes. AR-15s are typically semiautomatic, while the military-focused M16s can be fired fully automatic. Perry argued that this alone doesn’t make the guns as different as the plaintiffs would like the court to believe, however.

“They still haven’t shown why these weapons are not just like the M16s, which it would be startling if states could not regulate,” Perry said, adding that an AR-15 can be “easily converted” to M16-style semi-automatic fire, and can “empty its magazine of 30 rounds in as little as five seconds.”

The “deep history” of prohibiting semi-automatic rifles stretches back less than 40 years. If there truly is no difference between a fully-automatic machine gun and a semi-automatic rifle, why didn’t Congress include semi-autos in their list of restricted firearms under the National Firearms Act? For that matter, why did the federal government allow the sale of surplus semi-automatic M1 Garand rifles through the Civilian Marksmanship Program?

Perry’s argument that AR-15s can be “easily converted” to full-auto fire and should be treated like machine guns was also recently disputed by Solicitor General Elizabeth Prelogar during oral arguments before the Supreme Court in the *Vanderstok* case challenging the ATF’s rule treating unfinished frames and receivers as “firearms”. Prelogar stated that AR-15s (and presumably, other semi-automatic rifles) are “obviously something that’s designed and intended to be used for semi-automatic fire,” adding that the ATF “has never suggested that AR-15s, standing alone, are regulated machine guns.”

If the legislative and executive branches have never treated semi-automatic firearms as machine guns, there’s no basis for the judiciary to conclude they’re one and the same. If the Second Circuit adopts Connecticut’s argument, it wouldn’t just mean that some of the most popular rifles and shotguns in the country could be prohibited, but that the most commonly owned *handguns* wouldn’t be protected by the Second Amendment either.

Arterton’s decision to uphold Connecticut’s ban was deeply flawed in a couple of different respects, and the Second Circuit panel has the opportunity to set the record straight by adhering to the Supreme Court’s “text, history, and tradition” test.

The national tradition of gun ownership includes the possession of such “unusual” weapons as the long rifle in the 1700s, revolvers in the mid-1800s, lever action and repeating rifles in the latter part of the 19th century, and semi-automatic rifles and handguns in the early 1900s. At one point in time, each of these technological advances would have been considered new and unusual technology, but there’s not a scintilla of evidence to suggest that prohibitions on those firearms were commonplace, much less in accordance with the text of the Second Amendment’s guarantees.

The guns banned by Connecticut *are* commonly owned for lawful purposes by millions of Americans. Neither Congress nor the executive branch treats them the same as machine guns. Reversing Arterton’s original ruling should be a slam dunk for the Second Circuit, but unfortunately, it’s entirely possible that the panel will adopt her errors as their own instead of reaching a logical, and constitutionally sound, conclusion.

Please see: <https://bearingarms.com/camedwards/2024/10/17/connecticuts-defense-of-assault-weapons-ban-poses-a-problem-for-gun-control-activists-n1226593>

Ruger 10/22 Takedown – The Ultimate Survival Rifle?

by Terri Hebert, [ammoland.com](#)

U.S.A. —([Ammoland.com](#))- In a previous article, we took a look at a pair of classic take-down 22 caliber rifles: the Henry AR-7 and the Marlin Papoose. In that work, I stressed the importance of a lightweight, packable rifle for emergency survival use and how the time-proven AR7 and Papoose came along to fit the need.

The elephant in the room was the Ruger 10/22 takedown, a rifle that has been out for several years and one that seems like a natural competitor to those other rifles. I dismissed the Ruger as a good rifle but one that is too heavy for the purpose of a pure survival option. However, many of my readers thought I was too quick to discount the Ruger Takedown. So I get to say because of you, I got my hands on a Ruger 10/22 Takedown for a full review.

Ruger 10/22 Takedown



Ruger 10/22 Takedown & Henry AR-7

I have been around .22 caliber autoloading rifles from Savages to Mossberg in my earlier years to Marlin’s and Henry’s most recently. The first gun ever gifted to me happened to be a then-exclusive Ruger 10/22 with a composite stock and stainless steel furniture. Thanks, mom! The standard takedown model is essentially the same gun I once owned, but it breaks in half and comes in a nifty black nylon case. I was quite amused to open the pack and snap the gun together.

The Ruger 10/22 Takedown in its nylon



case. There are plenty of pockets for extra goodies.

The gun breaks apart by pulling back a recessed lever forward of the magazine well. Retract the charging handle a touch and twist the gun together. Do the same in the opposite direction to break the gun back down. One swift motion.

Other than this neat takedown feature, we are working with a standard Ruger 10/22—one of the most popular rifles

made, with an aftermarket to suit any taste. It uses an eighteen-and-a-half-inch tapered barrel that wears the standard notch and post iron sights.

The stock is a standard, black composite, type with brisk checkering appointments at the pistol grip and the forend. Like any other 10/22, it features a cross-bolt safety and a paddle-style magazine release. Speaking of magazines, the rifle comes with a single-ten-round factory magazine but I made plenty of use of BX 25 magazines too.

Below: The sights consist of a front beaded post and a rear v-notch.



Ruger 10/22 Takedown Accuracy

Like the other takedown rifles in my inventory, the Ruger 10/22 Takedown is a pretty straightforward animal on the range. While I was not going to throw the rifle into a stagnant pond to see if it floats, I wanted to verify reliability, accuracy, and general handling to see if the 5 lb. 2 oz. weight is justified in what I believe would be

the main reason people would buy it as a survival or pack gun.

After a quick range cleaning, I assembled the rifle and started shooting from a rest at distances of 25, 50, and 100 yards. The ammunition I chose are [listed in the chart below.]

My first targets at fifty yards were somewhat disappointing as I had trouble seeing the relatively fine front sight on a small six-inch target. All loads shot a few inches above the point of aim, with the exception of the standard velocity

Federal Target loads, which coincidentally grouped the best for me. I could consistently put five rounds within 1-1.5 inches at that distance.

Moving into twenty-five yards—something like going in the wrong direction— I tried again.

The group sizes were smaller with the Winchester Westerns turning in a 2-inch group at worse. The Federal Target rounds were hitting within a half-inch. I started having trouble with the Remington Yellow Jackets, whose flat conical profile continually got caught on the feed ramp.

When I wasn’t shooting paper, I was dusting clays and hitting my eight-inch steel plate out to one hundred yards. I could peg the plate consistently, shooting offhand. But turning in a group with the iron sights at one hundred yards was nearly impossible with my eyes and these iron sights. For the best luck, I used the Target loads. At best, I could put four out of five into a six-inch bullseye.

Accuracy, with these iron sights and my eyes, was very good for my purposes. Though I am aware I could shoot

further and more precisely with an optic, the stock irons are nothing to sneeze at, even if I had trouble seeing that fine front sight at times. 22 rifles are their own animals, and they tend to group well with some ammunition over others, so your results may—and probably will—vary.

Reliability

Reliability is a category in which 22 rifles tend to fall short in because of the dirtiness of the ammunition and the sensitive rimfire ignition. You are going to get a stoppage every now and then, especially as the gun gets dirty or with inexpensive ammunition. Some of my ammo selection is built around the cheap stuff for this reason. CCI ammunition is incredibly reliable and it ran in my rifle at one hundred percent, but for general use and a day of plinking, I doubt I will use it. The famously inconsistent Remington Thunderbolts ran flawlessly too. The Ruger ate the Federal Target loads too.

There were about a dozen stoppages in my six-hundred-round test, two from those Remington Yellow Jackets with the rest being failures to fully eject using the Winchester Western and Federal Automatch rounds. There were no failures to fire at all. It didn’t happen often and most of them occurred toward the end of my test, bearing in mind that I did no cleaning in between range sessions. Getting up to six hundred rounds is fairly high to go through without having problems that require cleaning.

Brand	Bullet	Best Group @ 50 yards
Remington Yellow Jacket	33 grain hollow-point	5.3 in.
Remington Thunderbolt	40 grain lead	4.4 in.
Federal Automatch	40 grain lead	3.1 in.
Federal Target	40 grain lead	1.0 in.
CCI Mini Mag	36 grain hollow-point	2.6 in.
Winchester Western	36 grain hollow-point	4.8 in.

Ergonomics

Despite being somewhat disagreeable with the sights, I found the 10/22 to be ergonomic for the most part. The rifle fits an adult but is not so ungainly and heavy that a smaller-statured shooter couldn’t shoulder it. Speaking of shouldering and handling, the checkered plastic buttplate and the checkering on the stock kept the gun in my shoulder and in my hands very well. That isn’t of consequence on the square range, but most of my shooting was done in a flooded, muddy environment. The safety and magazine release are right where they should be and it was fun and easy to slip that twenty-five-round mag in, though not as easy with the flush-fitting ten-shot magazine.

My only real aesthetic qualm is the polymer barrel band, standard on all 10/22s. It lacks the same color and texture as the stock and stands out somewhat. I would prefer that piece be made of stainless steel to match the barrel, but if that is all I can nitpick, then as a whole the gun is doing well.

The Bottom Line – Ruger 10/22 Takedown

I fully expected a quality 22 rifle when I turned to the Ruger 10/22. My run with this one was not perfect—nothing ever is, especially with 22 rifles. But I did come away with yet another takedown rifle I am unwilling to part with. The Ruger is accurate, fairly reliable, and steady to hold and shoulder with the appropriate features where they need to be. So was it unfair to leave it out of the running when pitting the better-known Marlin Papoose and Henry AR-7 against one another? Maybe so.

The Ruger definitely has some advantages while others have advantages of their own. I won’t turn this into a comparison, but the Ruger is markedly heavier than those other options. The Ruger comes in at 5 lbs. 2 ounces with a fully loaded twenty-five-round magazine, about twice as heavy as her competitors and about on par with an ordinary 22 rifle. There are aftermarket options you can buy to shrink it down further and I see the need, but I don’t see that need for me.

The Marlin Papoose and Henry AR-7 are excellent survival rifles and I highly recommend them, but they may not be the easiest guns to use when survival is not at stake. For a relaxing day popping cans or wandering the brush for rabbits, the Ruger might be the better option. As I set off for home with too many rifles to clean, I started to think of the Ruger 10/22 takedown in greater applications other than survival. It really is a general-purpose hunting or fun gun that you can break down for ease of transport and survival applications. One gun to do it all, so to speak.

Usually, the idea of a universal gun means a gun that does nothing extremely well, but for the extra two and a half pounds the Ruger 10/22 Takedown makes for an excellent jack of all trades.

Please see: <https://www.ammoland.com/2024/10/ruger-10-22-takedown-the-ultimate-survival-rifle/>



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“You Know It’s Serious When Amish Get Involved”

by Tyler Durden, ZeroHedge.com

As Pennsylvania’s polls near closing, an unexpected twist has emerged: a massive mobilization of Amish voters. Known for their separation from mainstream society and reliance on traditional values, such as horse-and-buggy transportation (arguably more ‘green’ than EVs), these folks, traditionally not big participators in U.S. politics, have been out in force at PA polling stations, voting for former President Trump after Biden-Harris’ big gov’t waged war on the community.

Let’s begin with the context. Earlier this year, the Pennsylvania Department of Agriculture and big government Democrats targeted a small Amish farmer in Lancaster over compliance issues. This apparently infuriated the Amish community so that many of them registered to vote and voted red in the last several days.

zerohedge@zerohedge

Big Gov’t Raids Small Amish Farmer Who Refuses To Participate In The Industrial Meat/Milk Complex

zerohedge.com

Big Gov’t Raids Small Amish Farmer Who Refuses To Participate In The Industrial Meat/Milk Complex

“A man growing food for informed customers, without participating in the industrial meat/milk complex? It’s shameful that it’s come to this. “



8:40 PM · Jan 5, 2024

Real America’s Voice’s Tera Dahl was speaking at a Trump rally in Pennsylvania on Monday, and she explained that the Amish community is not a traditional group of voters in U.S. elections.

Utah Politics

Deseret News

“But they’re voting this year - and I think a big reason is the overreach of government - and one example that could’ve had a big impact was back in January. An Amish farmer was selling his milk - and the gov’t raided his home and stopped his business,” she said.

Real America’s Voice (RAV)

AMISH FOR TRUMP! Tera Dahl reporting that the Amish are tired of the government overreach on their lives and are showing up for Trump in Pennsylvania.



An Amish person was asked outside one PA polling station: “Who are you voting for?”

He responded, “Donald Trump.” He explained that the Amish had “more freedoms under Trump,” while government overreach drastically increased under Biden-Harris.

Laura Powell@LauraPowellEsq

US Rep. Lloyd Smucker, R-Pa., whose district includes Lancaster County, at the epicenter of America’s Amish population, told PBS News last week, “They just want government to stay not only out of their businesses but out of their religion.”

azure

You know it’s serious when the Amish get involved.



9:05 AM · Nov 5, 2024

Gunther Eagleman™

Even the Amish know

5:31 PM · Oct 31, 2024

AmericanGreatness @NONbiasedly

WHY DO AMISHTRUMP?

ANYTHING YOU DON’T LIKE ABOUT KAMALA?

“Yeah, they’re involved with the deep state”.

YOU’RE FAN OF TRUMP?

“Yes we are”.

WHY?

“Because he’s a business person. We are too”.

ANYTHING ELSE?

CO SUPREME COURT – Water from page 1

ground water supplies after watching those in Douglas County plunge amid fast growth and heavy use.They enacted a “sip slowly” management process that required communities such as Parker and Castle Rock to pump out just 1% of their estimated share of the aquifers each year in an effort to make the resource last at least 100 years. Those pumping rates were based on estimates of water in the aquifers.

Fast forward to 2020. That year, the state directed well owners to sip even more slowly, explicitly stating how much water their permits entitled them to based on those estimates,

and requiring them to stop pumping at the end of that 100-year period if they have fully used all the water they were entitled to when the original well permits were issued.

But Parker and Castle Rock argued that the original volume estimates used to calculate their annual pumping rates were never meant to be formal, total volume limits. Those limits the state had begun using, they argued, were essentially a best guess, based on measuring technology that has changed considerably since then.

State officials said they added the water volumes to ensure wells are regulated in a uniform way and that well owners are informed at the start of that 100-year clock how much actual water they can pump.

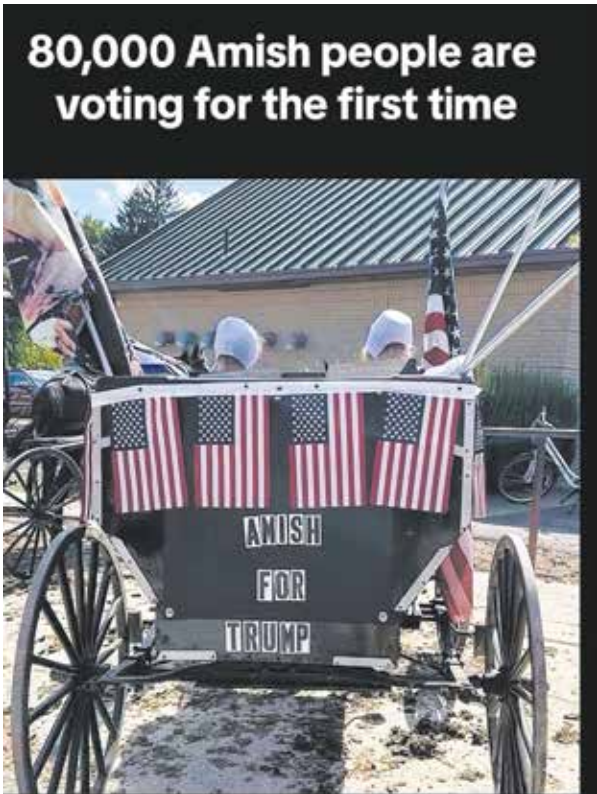
Steve Boand, a former Douglas County commissioner who closely tracks the health of the aquifers, said he agreed with the state Supreme Court’s decision.

“The Supreme Court affirmed what was always the case. You’re entitled to a volume of water, and when it is exhausted, you’re done pumping.”

Jerd Smith is editor of Fresh Water News. She can be reached at 720-398-6474, via email at jerd@wateredco.org or [@jerd_smith](https://www.wateredco.org).

Please see: <https://www.watereducationcolorado.org/fresh-water-news/colorado-supreme-court-upholds-slow-sip-approach-to-managing-underground-water-supplies/#/>

“There’s a lot... we need better border. We need less regulations, less... Show more



Meme Wars

Replying to @MarioNawfal

They must know something



8:26 PM · Nov 3, 2024

There are currently 92,000 Amish in PA. It’s going to be a tight race, and these votes could make all the difference.

Please see: <https://www.zerohedge.com/markets/you-know-its-serious-when-amish-get-involved>

RYE in SAN LUIS
from page 14

them was rye,” says Dutton. “It’s this beautiful green field and everywhere else are these crazy dust clouds. My dad called [their neighbor] that day and thanked him for planting rye because it could have been a lot more miserable for them.”

Rye used to be more widespread in the San Luis Valley — and across the United States. The grain was commonplace before government corn subsidies made it more profitable to grow other crops like corn and soybeans.

According to the U.S. Department of Agriculture, Colorado averaged more than 100,000 planted acres of rye per year from 1940 to 1970. That has steadily dropped over the decades, and in 2024, the U.S. Farm Service Agency reports less than 12,500 acres of rye planted statewide.

One hurdle to a rye comeback is concern among farmers that there’s not enough of a market to grow the grain as a cash crop, Jones said.

But when Jones started connecting with chefs, bakers and distillers from Denver to Albuquerque, she found eager buyers who were especially interested in San Luis Valley grain.

“Pretty quickly, I was able to sell 100 percent of what we were growing, which was just once a cover crop, to now be a cash crop for us,” says Jones.

San Luis Valley terroir

The dry climate, warm days and cool nights bring exceptional flavor to San Luis Valley crops, Dutton said. This is especially noticeable with rye.

“The rye has a really special flavor because it’s not burning up all day, like in some other grain-growing

regions of the country.” Award-winning distillers agree. Denver-based distillery The Family Jones — no relation to Jones Farms Organics — believes that the San Luis Valley’s climate “lends a unique terroir to the whiskey,” said Lead Distiller Jamie Burns.

Alan Laws, founder of Laws Whiskey House in Denver, says when he started sourcing rye from the Cody family of Colorado Malting Company in Alamosa, “it changed everything that we did because of [the grains’] freshness,” and the rye “added dramatically to the flavor profile of our whiskey.”

The Rye Resurgence Project currently has more than 10 buyers including Louisville’s Moxie Bread Company, Denver’s Joy Hill pizza restaurant and Boulder’s Dry Storage bakery, which is run by the acclaimed chef Kelly Whitaker. And there is plenty of rye supply from farmers in the valley, Dutton says: The Project asked 10 San Luis Valley farmers to collectively grow 1,200 acres of rye this year, and they ended up growing more than 4,000.

“Getting farmers to grow rye is not the problem,” Dutton said. “And there are a lot of people that are using San Luis Valley rye now who would be really excited to use more.”

But Dutton said more work is needed to transform this growing into a robust market for high alpine San Luis Valley rye.

The local grain value chain

While The Rye Resurgence Project team has been playing matchmaker between farmers and customers, its main goal is to raise awareness. Jones and Dutton say more middlemen are needed to keep this work going and grow the market.

“We have to be able to have the chain

absorb the demand, the whole way through...making sure that we’re selling rye at a price that is fair to farmers and not just trying to undercut them so that the middleman can make more profit,” says Dutton. “We have to have that profit come down to these farmers if they’re going to truly be able to stay on this land.”

Dutton is working with companies like Colorado Malting Company to expand its operation and build up that middle market. But in the end, more consumer demand is necessary to develop the entire local grain value chain, from the distilleries and kitchens to the malters and millers.

“Every time you’re eating, you’re choosing that treatment of the soil and of the aquifer, and you’re voting for that practice, and you’re voting for that product,” Jones said. “We as Americans like cheap burgers, cheap beer and cheap french fries. And that is what we’re growing. Why would a farmer grow something that they don’t have a demand for?”

Dutton and Jones hope that the increased interest in locally grown food translates to support for businesses that source rye grown in the San Luis Valley

“Without supporting farmers in being able to diversify their crops, we have the potential of losing agriculture production in this valley,” Dutton said.

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“They claim to have won a trifecta. Whatever that is there will be no effecta on me as I unburden myself by what has been. You see when you unburden yourself from what has been it is sort of a bifecta which is less than a trifecta but more than a unifecta (cackle). All with no effecta. You know what I mean? Come see me at Antlers soon!”

~ Kamala Harris

(Venezuelan beer is still on sale.)



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10. LAST TRAIN TO CLARKSVILLE	Monkees
11. TALK TALK	Music Machine
12. YOU ARE SHE	Chad and Jeremy
13. WHY PICK ON ME	Standells
14. NEXT TIME I SEE YOU	Robbs
15. WINCHESTER CATHEDRAL	New Vaudville Band
16. HAVE YOU SEEN YOUR MOTHER, BABY, STANDING IN THE SHADOW?	Rolling Stones
17. STOP STOP STOP	Hollies
18. I'M YOUR PUPPET	James and Bobby Purify
19. SEE SEE RIDER	Eric Burdon and the Animals
20. CAN I GET TO KNOW YOU BETTER	Turtles
21. POOR SIDE OF TOWN	Johnny Rivers
22. IF I WERE A CARPENTER	Bobby Darin
23. CHERRY, CHERRY	Neil Diamond
24. THE GREAT AIRPLANE STRIKE	Paul Revere and the Raiders
25. REACH OUT, I'LL BE THERE	Four Tops
26. BUS STOP	Hollies
27. OUT OF TIME	Chris Farlow
28. I JUST DON'T KNOW WHAT TO DO	Dionne Warwick
29. WORKING IN A COAL MINE	Lee Dorsey
30. MR. SPACEMAN	Byrds
31. YOU CAN'T HURRY LOVE	Supremes
32. SEE YOU IN SEPTEMBER	Happenings
33. YELLOW SUBMARINE b/w ELEANOR RIGBY	Beatles
34. LITTLE MAN	Sonny and Cher
35. PAINT ME A PICTURE	Gary Lewis and the Playboys
36. WHO AM I	Petula Clark
37. ALL I SEE IS YOU	Dusty Springfield
38. LOOK THROUGH MY WINDOW	Mama's and Papa's
39. WHAT BECOMES OF THE BROKENHEARTED?	Jimmy Ruffin
40. LOVE COME WHAT MAY	Randy Fuller



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