

Violent Venezuelan Prison Gang Expands Operations in Western States

by Bethany Blankley,
The Center Square

(The Center Square) – Members of the violent Venezuelan prison gang, Tren de Aragua (TdA), continue to expand criminal operations in western states, including in Arizona, Colorado, Utah and Wyoming.

As the border crisis escalated, a record number of illegal border crossers from Venezuela were released into the country by the Biden administration and TdA violence expanded nationwide.

In Arizona, the Cochise County Sheriff’s Office arrested a confirmed TdA member as part of a human smuggling case. The 25-year-old Venezualan illegally entered in Texas, claiming asylum, and was released into the U.S. by the Biden administration, *KVOA News 4* reported.

In Colorado, a TdA crime wave made international headlines prompting the Aurora Police Department to create a task force involving state, local and federal law enforcement partners to target TdA criminal activity.

While initial reports claimed TdA crime was isolated, ongoing arrests disproved the claim. A multi-state TdA ATM crime theft ring is under investigation by law enforcement officials in multiple federal agencies and local authorities in several counties in Colorado, New Mexico, Ohio, Wyoming and Texas, *The Center Square* reported.

A TdA jewelry heist in Denver involved robbers pulling out guns and pistol whipping two women, *KDVR Fox 31 Ch. 2 News* reported. Of eight male suspects who got away, one with a criminal history was arrested and booked into a Denver correctional facility on

charges of attempted first degree murder, aggravated robbery and other charges.

One was turned over to the Denver Sheriff’s Office by U.S. Department of Homeland Security’s Homeland Security Investigations Las Cruces NM special agents.

The Albuquerque, NM, Police Department also issued a warning about TdA violence and directives to attack or shoot Denver police officers, *KDVR* reported.

Eleven people, including TdA members, were recently charged in a violent abduction and beating of a couple in a Denver suburb apartment complex. Eight are being held by U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement. One was arrested who was among six involved in a fatal shooting in Aurora, the Associated Press reported. Others remain at large.

A Colorado law firm investigation alleges TdA members began taking over an Aurora apartment complex in 2023 “engaging in flagrant trespass violations, assaults and battery, human trafficking and sexual abuse of minors, unlawful firearms possession, extortion, and other criminal activities, often targeting vulnerable Venezuelan and other immigrant populations,” *CBS News* reported. They also threatened to kill apartment complex management, the law firm said.

In Utah, TdA members have committed crimes in Herriman and Millcreek, and the governor announced a targeted approach to address illegal immigration and crime, *The Center Square* reported. The majority of illegal border crossers incarcerated in

VENEZUELA GANGS
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Colorado Ranks in the Top 10 Nationally with Number of Uninsured Drivers

by Allison Sherry,
Colorado Public Radio

The number of uninsured motorists in Colorado has jumped to the ninth worst in the nation with an estimated 17.5 percent of drivers cruising around without car insurance — an unfortunate distinction insurance experts attribute to the climbing price of insurance statewide.

This is a snowball effect, though. Because the more uninsured drivers there are out there, the more the claims rise because uninsured drivers statistically drive worse and have more severe accidents. That then causes insurance rates to increase for everyone.

In other words, in Colorado, the cause and effect is off, and it’s hard to make it right once it is like this, said Carole Walker, executive director at the Rocky Mountain Insurance Association.

Colorado rose into the top 10 states with the most uninsured drivers per capita in 2023 — and has a much higher rate of uninsured drivers than in previous years and the national average, according to data released by the Insurance Research Institute, a nonprofit research group working for the insurance industry.

In the last study released in 2023, 14 percent of drivers nationally were uninsured. Washington, D.C., led the nation with the highest

number of uninsured drivers at 25 percent. Colorado’s northern neighbor, Wyoming, had the least number of uninsured drivers at only 5.9 percent, according to the study.

“It’s associated with the affordability of insurance, but it has gotten worse. Some people are making choices between groceries and eggs and then taking their chances with driving illegally without insurance,” Walker said. “The hard part is there is always going to be some scofflaws who are going to flout the law, and we all end up footing the bill for that through our own insurance.”

Katy Guinn knows this story in painful, personal detail. She and her husband had both their cars hit by uninsured motorists in less than three weeks in Denver this fall.

In the first accident, Guinn was driving with her kids through an intersection and a man driving a car in the lane next to her swerved into her car.

“No one was hurt and he was nice about it, but he didn’t have insurance,” said Guinn, who said she called the Denver Police Department, but they said it would be hours before they could get there.

Guinn said the man acknowledged at the scene that he didn’t have

UNINSURED
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Highway 96 Closed at 96 and Highway 165



Press Release from the Custer County Sheriff’s Office
—December 29, 2024

H96/H165 closure extended.

Just before 3pm Sunday 12/29/24 Custer County received 911 calls regarding a rock slide at the intersection of Highway 96 and Highway 165. Responders determined there was a continued high risk of additional rock slides and closed the highway.

6pm update: At this point CDOT anticipates a multi day highway closure to allow an inspection by a geologist before crews can enter the slide zone and begin cleanup. Specialized rockfall mitigation may also be needed.

CDOT has requested and will deploy electronic sign message boards to be set up in Silver Cliff, Wetmore, and Rye.

This image was captured by the Wet Mountain Fire Protection District drone and shows the current rock fall.

Alternate Routes Include:

- 1.) CañonCity to Westcliffe via Oak Creek Grade (CR 255) or
- 2.) Cañon City to Westcliffe via Copper Gulch (CR 215) or
- 3.) Texas Creek to Westcliffe via Highway 69.

You cannot drive up Hwy 165 from Rye through the rock slide area.

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

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

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

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

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Winter Business Hours:

Tues: 9 a.m. - 3 p.m.
Wedn: 9 a.m. - 3 p.m.
Fri: 9 a.m. - 12 p.m.
Closed Mon, Thurs & Weekends

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

How to contact us:

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601 Main Street
Westcliffe, CO 81252
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The Most Politically Engaged Religious Group Is ...

by Ben Johnson,
The Washington Stand

The faith of America’s voters played a pivotal role in the 2024 election, but a study shows one religious group is more politically active than any other.

Ryan Burge, an associate professor of Political Science at Eastern Illinois University and research director for Faith Counts, analyzed different religions and Christian denominations in the United States by their level of engagement in the political process in 2020 using six criteria: donating money to a candidate, putting up a political sign, working for a candidate or campaign, attending a political meeting, attending a protest or march, and contacting a public official. Then he rated each faith and denomination.

“Atheists are the most politically engaged ‘religious’ category,” wrote Burge. “No one participates more in politics than atheists.” Secularists did more on these measures of political involvement than any other group over successive election cycles in 2018, 2020 and 2022, said Burge.

By contrast, Nones — those who belong to no religious background but do not necessarily deny the existence of God — rank as the

least politically engaged religious subgroup, found the study titled “What Religious Groups are The Most Politically Active?” published a month before the 2024 election.

Burge also found the Christian denominations most open to secularism were more engaged in the civic process than more traditional Christian groupings.

The Episcopal Church (TEC) led all denominations donating money to a candidate and tied with the United Church of Christ (UCC) in putting up a political sign. The two liberal Protestant denominations were followed by interdenominational Christians and the Presbyterian Church (PCUSA). Non-denominational fundamentalists came in fifth in both categories.

The UCC led TEC in working for a candidate or campaign, attending a political meeting, attending a protest or march, and contacting a public official. Interdenominational Christians, non-denominational charismatic Christians, and the PCUSA filled out the top five in each category.

UCC clergy were particularly visible in recent campaigns to normalize abortion. For instance, Terry Williams, who identifies himself as the pastor of a United Church of Christ in Ohio, stated in

a televised ad, “I am pro-abortion, not in spite of my faith, but because of my faith.”

“[T]he same broad trend is crystal clear — mainline Protestant groups were much more politically involved in 2020 compared to the average evangelical tradition,” noted Burge. “For instance, the Southern Baptist Convention scores below average on basically every one of these political activities. Their influence in the political process comes more from their sheer size than from the actual engagement of each Southern Baptist in the political process.”

Only one putatively Christian denomination proved more politically engaged than atheists: The Episcopal Church.

“I think this data shows us where different groups turn to try to solve the problems we see around us,” Joseph Backholm, senior fellow for Biblical Worldview and Strategic Engagement at Family Research Council, told The Washington Stand. “Christians should engage politically as an act of stewardship and to help government accomplish the purposes God created it for: to reward good and punish evil. But Christians understand the biggest problems can’t be solved politically, which is why the church is engaged in so many other things, especially evangelism.”

“But for atheists, the only possible solution to the problems in the world are political,” Backholm noted.

While atheists may take part more regularly in these measures, according to Burge, exit polls show conservative, pro-life Christians played a crucial role in electing Donald J. Trump the 47th president in 2024.

Donald Trump won 81% of the white evangelical Christian vote, which made up 22% of voters, according to NBC News. Fox News found Trump won nearly two out of every three voters who attend church services weekly, while Kamala Harris won 62% of the 33% of voters who “never” attend church. In all, 65% of the 2024 electorate identified as Protestant, Roman Catholic, other denominations, or part of the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-Day Saints (LDS).

President-elect Trump won 62% of members of the LDS church, 60% of Protestant voters, 59% of white Roman Catholics, Mormons by 29 points (62% to 33%), and “other Christian” believers by 24 points (61% to 37%).

Burge’s previous research found

**MOST POLITICAL
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Local Mountain News & Notices

BOCC: New Attorney Approved for DHS County Courthouse Taj Mahal Project Rises from the Dead

by George Gramlich,
News and Commentary

The December 26, 2024 Custer County Board of County Commissioners regular meeting started at around 9 a.m. and was held at the commissioners meeting room in the “Annex” building across from the court house. All three commissioners were present: Bill Canda, Lucas Epp and Kevin Day.

There were no Commissioner Items comments of importance.

The first item up was approval of last month’s Accounts Payable. The amount was \$232,372.59. This was approved.

Next was the Agenda Item to approve all the various board members for our myriad of boards around the county. Epp made the suggestion that instead of laboriously going through each one that the commissioners approve all of

them in one big majestic gesture. The commissioners spent some time looking at their computers going over the various proposed board members and finally gave their approval.

The Department of Human Services’ (DHS) new Attorney Agreement was next.(Remember, last month the BOCC fired our current County Attorney Dan Slater who also did the DHS legal beagle stuff. He is still on board for the county’s regular legal work as they haven’t found a replacement, but DHS did find a replacement for theirs.) Laura Lockhart, DHS Director, said she found an attorney in Salida, Julie Katz, who does this work (child welfare/child support, etc.). Katz is willing to work at a lower rate (\$110 per hour) than our current attorney Slater. The commissioners approved the hiring of Katz.

Next was the Lease Contract

with All Aboard Westcliffe to use their meeting room in 2025 to hold their BOCC and Board of Health (BOH) meetings there on Thursdays (plus any other special meetings). The cost was initially stated in the discussion as \$3,570 for all the meetings for the year but Epp later said it was around \$5k for the year. The agreement states that the BOCC must clean the place, including the bathrooms, after each meeting. *(We are anxiously waiting to see which commissioner will humbly, and with dignity, clean the bathrooms. Toilet brush mandatory, commissioners....)* Epp said the BOCC will be holding three or four regular meetings each month and generally skipping the first week. The agreement was approved.

The Inter-Governmental Agreement between the Custer County Sheriff and the Town of Westcliffe was the next Agenda Item.

This was the same deal as last year and all three commissioners voted to approve it.

Resolution 24-30, Receipt of Monetary Donations, was the next subject. Vernon Roth, Interim Finance Director, read off all the money donated to the county in 2024 and where it was designated to go. This was approved.

The \$6k left in the Fed ARPA grant from the glorious COVID reign of terror was next. This was allocated to “training” in 2025.

In Public Comment, Citizen Joy Anderson brought up the Justice Center project and asked what the status was. Canda explained that the project is now only about building a new “Justice Center” and not also a new jail. (Basically a Taj Mahal courthouse with all kinds of fancy, expensive add ons. And, it has to be built to Colorado State specifications so it

will cost a fortune. Note that, according to Canda, the state is MANDATING Custer County build one, to the STATE’S specs, but we have to pay for it.)

Canda said that the BOCC is “firing up” the committee again in January and is looking for members. Joy said she is interested in being on the committee. *(Joy will keep a watch over it for us tax paying serfs.)* Joy also asked Canda if this would effort be brought to the public for vote and Canda said yes. *(Remember the last time this came to a vote, it was shot down big time. The eventual cost to us, with the bond that we had to get to finance the monstrosity was over \$30 MILLION dollars! Which is flat out insane for a little county like us. We’re gonna need Elon Musk here to review this for us when it is time...)*

The BOCC drama will be continued next week....



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Photos by Donna Holt



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

Help Your Neighbors: Drivers Needed for Rotary Van Service

Help! Your neighbors and the Rotary Van Service are in dire need of volunteers. For 20 years the Van Service has provided transportation for the mobility impaired (seniors who can no longer drive, those who need cancer and other medical treatments, the impoverished, veterans, etc.).

Our current list of those who have needed rides is over 50 people and

growing. Unfortunately, we have only 6 dedicated drivers, and they cannot keep up with the demand. We have had to turn down 30% of rider request over the last few months. Could you use our vehicles to volunteer once a week or once a month to transport riders to Salida, Cañon City, Pueblo, Colorado Springs or local? While you are waiting for the riders to complete their visit, surely there is something you need to do in these communities?

Pastors, please make your congregations aware of our needs. ‘Love thy neighbor as yourself’. Use your faith to give hope to your neighbors and be charitable by volunteering.

Please don’t think but do and call this number to volunteer now: 719-371-5353.

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Voter ID

The question of the legality of the GOP to impose voter IDs on the states has come up. Anything that affects every citizen of every state is the business of the President of the United States of America. Such as legal tender to make commerce between states easy. Each and every voter’s vote would be protected. At first only property owners could vote. Surely they had to

show proof of ownership. Our Founding Fathers knew that things would change in the future of America and voting laws have changed. Some of those laws are controlled by the states, such as legal voting age. But, voting actually affects every voter in this nation. If non citizens are allowed to vote, that vote negates a citizen’s vote. If a vote comes from the grave,

that vote negates a citizen’s vote. The citizens of America have rights. One of those rights is to vote. I say yes to fraud free elections. It only takes a moment to show an ID. Voting is the most important reason to show an ID.

Sincerely,

Linda Anderson
Rural Custer County

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insurance. They lost the family car for several weeks and had to pay for the fixes and the cost of a rental car.

Then, less than two weeks later, they came out of their east Denver home in the morning and Guinn’s husband’s truck had been smashed by a Toyota in the night, which had been abandoned next to the truck in front of their house.

They called the police, who ran the plates and found out who the car belonged to. The man also didn’t have insurance.

“I don’t want to be punitive on anybody, but how bad are the penalties for driving uninsured? Our family is definitely carrying some pretty big financial hits for this. Are we the only ones who will?” she said, noting her insurance company told them their rates would go up as a result of these accidents. “It’s not like I’m out to get anyone, but it doesn’t feel terribly fair that it’s only the person who gets hit who bears any penalty. It’s been a very frustrating situation.”

Walker said Colorado does have relatively steep penalties compared to other states for driving without insur-

ance. They include four points off a driver’s license, a minimum \$500 fine and a license suspension until a driver proves they are insured.

“All we can do is try and put laws on the books to have penalties for repeat offenders,” she said. “At the same time, someone is never going to go to jail for that.”

Why are there so many expired license plates on Colorado roads?

The Colorado Department of Revenue does have a database that is updated daily with both car registrations and insurance companies who report people who aren’t paying premiums. Ideally, this gives law enforcement more real-time information about who is uninsured when they’re stopped for another infraction.

The Colorado State Patrol has given out more uninsured driving tickets in 2024 than in the previous two years, according to data acquired through an open records request.

In 2024, state troopers gave out 9,675 citations on state roadways and highways. That is up from 8,916 tickets in 2023 and 8,226 tickets in 2022.

In Colorado Springs, the police department has decreased the number of tickets given over the past two years. They have given 1,466 tickets

through mid-December, down from more than 1,900 tickets in 2022.

They said they didn’t know what drove the decrease in citations, but “I can tell you we would much rather people follow the laws of the state of Colorado and the city of Colorado Springs by their own choice and good behavior, rather than us trying to influence their behavior through enforcement and writing them tickets,” said CSPD spokesman Ira Cronin.

Guinn said having both cars smashed in a matter of weeks by uninsured drivers has made her feel less secure about driving anywhere – and also a bit helpless in preventing it from happening again.

“I don’t know if there’s anything we could have done to prevent it from happening,” she said. “My husband needs a car every day to go into work ... We try to be really good about riding our bikes and walking when we can, but it’s also December and you can’t just ride your bike and walk everywhere.”

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Please see: <https://www.cpr.org/2024/12/26/colorado-high-number-uninsured-drivers/>

We must reject the idea that every time a law’s broken, society is guilty rather than the lawbreaker. It is time to restore the American precept that each individual is accountable for his actions.

— Ronald Reagan



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email: pbailey@solarsolutions.com

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westcliffefirewood@gmail.com

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719-298-6689 STORE HOURS:
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Solar Solutions Ltd

Off Grid and Grid Tie
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email: pbailey@solarsolutions.com

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larryfinneydrilling@gmail.com

THANK YOU FOR SUPPORTING OUR ADVERTISERS!



Custer Senior Center Menu

Monday, January 6

#37 Combination Burrito w/Salsa

Lettuce, Tomato
Cilantro Lime Rice
Refried Beans
Citrus Cup

Tuesday, January 7

#24 Chicken Cacciatore

Green Beans
Smashed Red Potatoes
Banana
WW Bread W/Butter

Thursday, January 9

#20 California Veggie Bake

Spinach Salad w/Egg & Lite Italian
Pear and Citrus Cup
Oatmeal Raisin Cup
WW Bread w/Butter

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. colobamanana@yahoo.com

Tuesdays

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

1st Tuesday of the Month

9 a.m. - 3 p.m. Old Schoolhouse Quilters Comfort Quilters @Valley Bible
6:00 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.



Aurora Mayor Throws Down With Denver Over Venezuelan Migrant Dumping

by [ColoradoPeakPolitics.com](https://coloradopeakpolitics.com)

Dec 24, 2024

Aurora Mayor Mike Coffman is throwing down with Denver Mayor Mike Johnston now that the consequence of secretly dumping migrants on neighboring cities is getting real.

Real violent, that is.

Coffman called out Johnston the weekend before Christmas during a press conference on the home invasion of suspected Venezuelan gang members who kidnapped, tortured and robbed two illegal migrants at the now infamous apartment complexes there.

Coffman said Johnston unloaded some of Biden’s border busters onto Aurora without notice, leaving vulnerable migrants to fend for themselves and ultimately become victims of violent gang members.

Coffman called it “human dumping.”

“I’ve confronted the mayor about it. He won’t tell me how many people he sent over here. He won’t tell me what benefits he gave them, what promises he made. And so we’re going through open records requests to get that information right now, and it’s amazing that one mayor can’t get an answer from another mayor, that he has to use a legal mechanism to get the truth.”

Coffman said he approached Denver Mayor Mike Johnston early in the border crisis when that city was first overwhelmed and offered to accompany Johnston to meet with President Biden to do something about the open border and Texas

Gov. Abbott to stem the flow of border busters being directed to Sanctuary Cities.

But Johnston wasn’t interested in returning the border to an orderly immigration process.

He just wanted the federal government “to take control of dispersing the people from the border across the country, so it wouldn’t be impacting Denver so much. And so I didn’t take him up on it,” Coffman said.

Instead, Johnston decided to start dropping migrants into Aurora without informing the mayor or city services.

“He had the legal right to do it, but it was gutless politically not to let us know. Not only did it hurt us, it hurt the very people that were moved here,” Coffman said

Denver 7 News reached out to Johnston to get the party started, and he delivered this response to Coffman’s comments.

“We’re proud that Denver responded to the newcomer crisis with compassion. After more than tens of thousands of newcomers were bused to Denver by Texas Governor Greg Abbott without advanced notice, we were the only city in the metro area who stood up any type of long-term plan to manage the crisis efficiently and effectively. It was appropriate for Aurora to respond with swift action to address these heinous crimes and we agree that any person who commits a crime should be punished to the full extent of the law. But once again, Denver did not place or “dump” people in Aurora or any city for that matter. In fact,

Denver has repeatedly coordinated with Aurora, and instead of placing blame we continue to stand ready to work with them to ensure we protect public safety and quickly address any criminal activity.”

Interestingly, Coffman also called out Johnston for equivocating when denying the human dumping because Denver wasn’t driving the delivery wagon — it was the advocacy groups that were being paid by Denver doing the actual dumping in the now troubled Aurora apartment complexes.

PeakNation will recall Aurora is in legal action with Denver to obtain documents that could show the trail of Denver’s dumping.

As for Johnston’s insistence that none of the migrants who arrived in Denver were dumped on other cities, we direct readers to this report from the establishment Associated Press:

“Denver alone has spent at least \$4.3 million in city funds to send migrants to other U.S. cities, freeing up shelter beds for new arrivals while adding to the numbers in other Democratic-led cities such as Chicago and New York that are struggling to house asylum-seekers, mostly from Venezuela.”

Johnston might want to step down from his moral high ground on this issue until we know for sure whether the advocacy groups he funded arranged with the troubled management group to house illegal migrants from Venezuela at the now infamously troubled Aurora apartments.

Please see: <https://coloradopeakpolitics.com/2024/12/24/aurora-mayor-throws-down-with-denver-over-venezuelan-migrant-dumping/>

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
Pastor Steve Holcomb@gmail.com
20326 Hwy. 50, Cotopaxi

First Baptist Church of Westcliffe
9:30 a.m. Sunday School
10:30 a.m. Fellowship
10:45 a.m. Worship
4:30 p.m. Wedn. AWANAS
410 S. 6th Street, Westcliffe
Pastor Josh Olsteen
719/783-2498

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

My sheep hear My voice, and I know them, and they follow Me:
And I give unto *them* eternal life; and they shall never perish,
neither shall any man pluck them out of My hand.

My Father, which gave *them* Me, is greater than all;
and no *man* is able to pluck *them* out of my Father’s hand.

John 10:27-29 ESV



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The Voice of Conservative Colorado!

Classifieds

Community Services

Announcements

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

For Rent

40x60 Commercial Shop with 20x15 office space for rent on 2 acre lot on Lake DeWeese Road. \$2,750/month. Security deposit of \$2,750. Call 719-371-4928 or 719-371-4927 for more information.

Help Wanted

Custer County is accepting employment applications for positions Road & Bridge Equipment Operator. Employment application and job description are available on Custer County website <https://www.custercounty-co.gov/employment>.

Custer County is an equal opportunity employer.

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

Custer County School District is now hiring for the following positions:
Teaching positions include HS History Teacher.
Support staff positions include two SPED Paraprofessional positions.
Coaching positions include Head Baseball Coach, HS Assistant Baseball Coach, and HS Assistant Track Coach (Throwing).
Any Certified Teacher/ Substitute application without a CDE license is incomplete and will not be considered. Online applications only. Please visit us on the web at: <https://custercountyschools.tedk12.com/hire/index.aspx>

or South Central BOCES - Westcliffe openings for more information and to apply.

Sangre de Cristo Sentinel We Need Local people to Report on LOCAL News
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HAPPY BIRTHDAY



Diamond Jim

Happy New Year!



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

Custer County Community Sharing Food Pantry
120 N. 3rd St. Fri. (719) 783-2994
OPEN First 3 Fridays of the month
12 – 2 p.m.

An Equal Opportunity Provider

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Domestic Violence and Sexual Assault Center for Fremont and Custer Counties
(719) 275-2429 FamilyCrisisOnline.org

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www.frontrangemd.com/mobile-unit

Lighthouse Pregnancy Resources
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Friday 10 a.m. to 1 p.m.
(719) 783-4357

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1-800-273-8255 Veterans Press 1

Solvista 24/7 Crisis Line
for Fremont and Custer Counties
Regional 719-276-5488 Local Office 719-275-2351

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

West Custer County Library
209 Main Street Westcliffe, CO 81252
(719) 783-9138

Tue. – Fri.: 10 a.m. – 5:30 p.m..
Saturday: 10 a.m. – 2 p.m.

Wet Mountain Rotary Van Service
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To Place an ad, please call 719-783-3360 or email sdc.sentinel@gmail.com.

The deadline for getting your information into the Classifieds is Monday at 4 p.m. for that week's edition.

The Irish Elk

Megaloceros

by Paleontology
via Facebook
Paleontology
Dan Loke

Megaloceros or the Irish Elk is a large species of extinct deer and is perhaps the most famous prehistoric deer and is known for its large size and the huge antlers of the males.

These antlers weighed up to 40 kilograms which would be the equivalent of having to carry around an 11-year-old child on your head. The antlers measured 3 metres

across, though the largest specimens could have antlers spanning 3.5 metres across.

The Irish elk exhibited marked sexual dimorphism with males being noticeably larger than females. Males are estimated to have weighed between 460-700 kilograms and stood 2 metres tall at the shoulder and are one of the largest deer ever discovered. Females were on average 450 kilograms in weight.

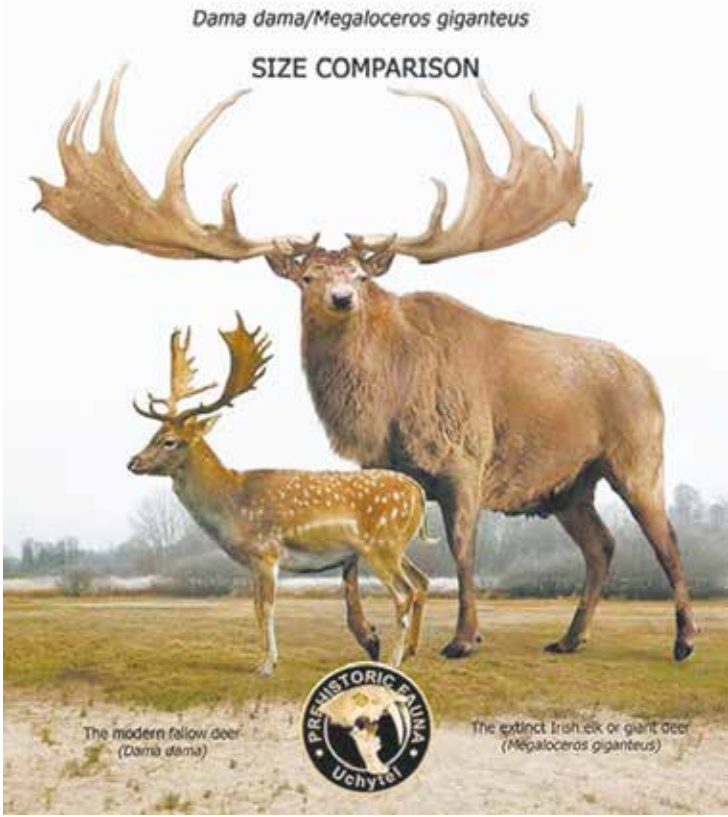
The closest living relative of the Irish elk is the Fallow deer.

The Irish elk shared its

environment with many other Ice Age megafauna including mammoths, woolly rhinos and bison as well as many predators including cave lions, cave bears, cave hyenas, wolves, Neanderthals, modern humans and Homotherium.

Art by Roman Uchytel

Please see: https://www.facebook.com/groups/2417144643/?hoisted_sectionheader_type=recently_seen&multi_permaLinks=10163376312259644



Local Mountain News & Notices

KIDS

Friday, January 3, 2025

New Year's Resolutions

New Year's Day is a national holiday celebrated on January 1st. People start celebrating on the eve, December 31st, to bring in the New Year with festivities and different traditions meant to bring luck, success and health in the coming year.

New Year's is one of the oldest holidays still celebrated. Thousands of years ago in ancient Babylon it was celebrated as an eleven-day festival on the first day of spring. At this time many cultures used the sun and moon cycles to decide the first day of the year. January 1st didn't become the recognized first day of the year until Julius Caesar implemented the Julian calendar in 45 B.C., replacing the lunar Roman calendar.

Celebrations and traditions vary all over the world. Here in the United States people celebrate by gathering with food, toasting, noise makers, fireworks and counting down the final seconds till January 1st.

Many also start out the New Year by making New Year's resolutions. These resolutions are usually goals to improve one's life. They may include losing weight and eating healthier, quitting smoking, or starting an exercise regime.

At midnight most English-speaking countries sing "Auld Lang Syne", a song that celebrates the year's happy moments. It is an old Scottish tune literally meaning "old long ago" or "the good old days".

There are some foods considered to bring luck if eaten on New Year's; circular foods which symbolize cycles, black-eyed peas, or cabbage, just to name a few. In Spain they celebrate the New Year eating 12 grapes, one at each stroke of midnight.

So, whatever your New Years tradition is, try making it a positive instead of a negative. I think we all need to start by wanting to be healthier and that means eating healthier foods and reading labels to see what they have put in the foods you are buying.

I personally have been looking to eat healthier foods, buying fresh foods and cooking and baking at home and deleting fast foods from my diet. So, what exactly can you do for yourself in this New Year to become a better you?

New Year's is a time for reflection and new beginnings. This New Year's let's take time, among all the hubbub, to reflect on what we can do in this next year for ourselves and others.

by Audrey Slater. Sources: wilstar.com, timeanddate.com
Pic Source: https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/New_Year_Resolution



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Create in me a clean heart, O God;
and renew a right spirit within me.

Psalm 51:10 KJV

La Veta Holiday Tournament



We are thrilled to announce that our High School Boys Basketball team has emerged victorious in the La Veta Holiday Tournament, claiming the championship title! A special shoutout goes to Grant Rusk, who was named MVP of the tournament for his outstanding performance.

Our girls' team also showcased their talent, finishing in a commendable second place. We couldn't be more proud of both teams for their hard work and dedication on the court. Join us in celebrating this incredible achievement! Check out the picture of our champions above!

From Custer County Schools Facebook Page

Bobcats Scoreboard!

Saturday, December 21:

PeeWee Wrestling @ Elite Conflict Tournament, Boys Division:

4U Jaxon Montgomery 1st; 6U Hart Pedziwiatr 2nd;
8U Jeremiah Carpenter 4th; 8U Kayson VanDeusen 4th;
10U Ryker Handy 2nd; 10U Mitchell VanDeusen 6th;
12U Hesston VanDeusen 2nd; 12U Joshua Taylor 6th

Girl's Division:

Abigail Handy 2nd

Booster Club Bobcat Corner



Come out and support your
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All games and dates are subject to change without notice.

Saturday, January 4:

7 am (weigh in) / 9 am (start) HS Boys Wrestling
@ Bennett Invite
TBD HS Girls Wrestling @ Bennett Invite

Thursday, January 9:

5 pm HS Boys JV Basketball @ Sanford (away)
6 pm HS Girls Basketball @ Sanford (away)
7:30 pm HS Boys Varsity Basketball @ Sanford (away)

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Custer County School District C-1 MENU for the WEEK of January 6 thru Jan 9, 2024

BOBCATS	Breakfast	Lunch
Monday	Cereal Oatmeal Mixed Fruit Yogurt, Milk	Hamburger Deluxe Oven Fries Lettuce, Tomato, Pickle Fruit, Milk
Tuesday	Breakfast Burrito Yogurt Fruit Choice of Milk	Frito Pie Mexi Corn Beans Fruit, Choice of Milk
Wednesday	Waffles Sausage Yogurt Fruit, Choice of Milk	Lasagna Fresh Salad Garlic Roll Fruit, Choice of Milk
Thursday	Biscuits and Gravy Fruit Choice	Corn Dogs /Hot Dogs Coleslaw, Potato Salad Fruit, Choice of Milk

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“Doesn’t Fit MSM Narrative”: Latest Arctic Ice Data Shows 26% Larger Than 2012

Page last updated at 10:40 GMT, Wednesday, 12 December 2007

[E-mail this to a friend](#) [Printable version](#)

Arctic summers ice-free 'by 2013'

By Jonathan Amos
Science reporter, BBC News, San Francisco

Scientists in the US have presented one of the most dramatic forecasts yet for the disappearance of Arctic sea ice.

Their latest modelling studies indicate northern polar waters could be ice-free in summers within just 5-6 years.

Professor Wieslaw Maslowski told an American Geophysical Union meeting that previous projections had underestimated the processes now driving ice loss.

Summer melting this year reduced the ice cover to 4.13 million sq km, the smallest ever extent in modern times.



[Open](#) [More details](#)

by Tyler Durden,
ZeroHedge.com

Climate realist Tony Heller took to X to highlight the climate misinformation and disinformation campaigns waged by far-left corporate media on the global public.

Heller referenced a 2007 *BBC News* article titled “Arctic summers ice-free ‘by 2013’,” which warned readers of the supposed threat that “latest modeling studies indicate northern polar waters could be ice-free in summers within just 5-6 years.”

The *BBC* article’s baseless claim was designed to instill climate fears across the public to ram through

a radical de-growth climate agenda across the Western world.

Heller then cited NOAA Sea Ice Extent data of the Arctic from September 16, 2012, and September 7, 2024, and found:

“This year’s minimum Arctic Sea ice extent was 26% larger than 2012. @BBC-News said the Arctic would be ice-free by 2013.”

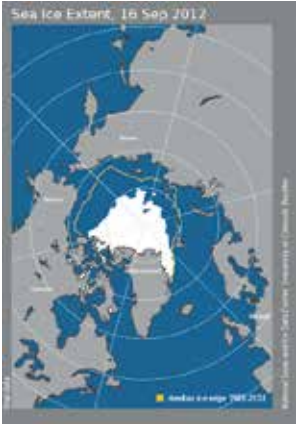
Tony Heller@TonyClimate

This year’s minimum Arctic sea ice extent was 26% larger than 2012. @BBCNews said the Arctic would be ice-free by 2013.

<http://news.bbc.co.uk/2/hi/7139797.stm...>

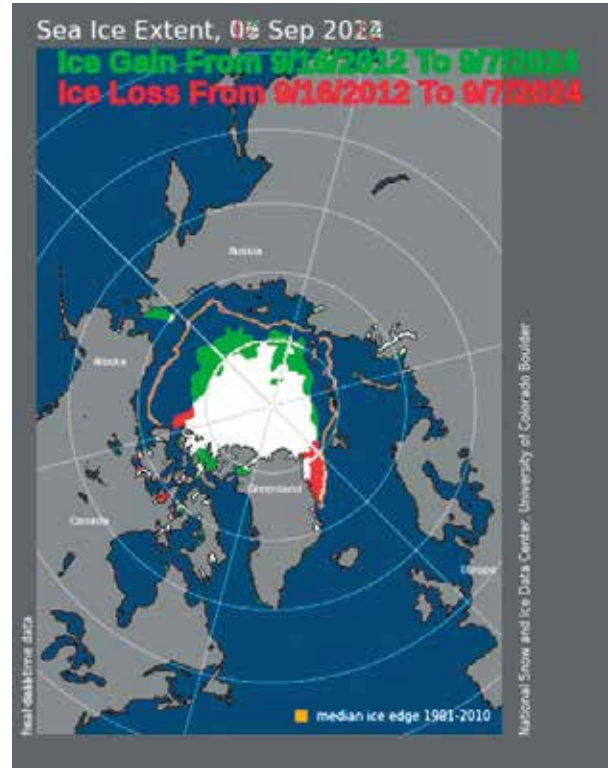
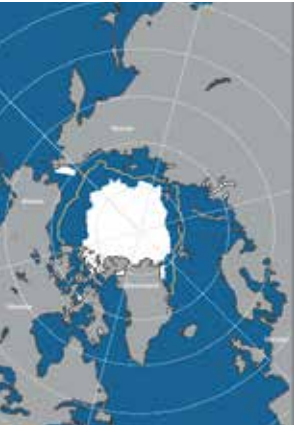
“They keep this info out of the news because it doesn’t serve the narrative...,” one X user commented.

(Editor/GG: Maybe one of our local looney lefty Kool aid drinkers here in Happy Valley can explain

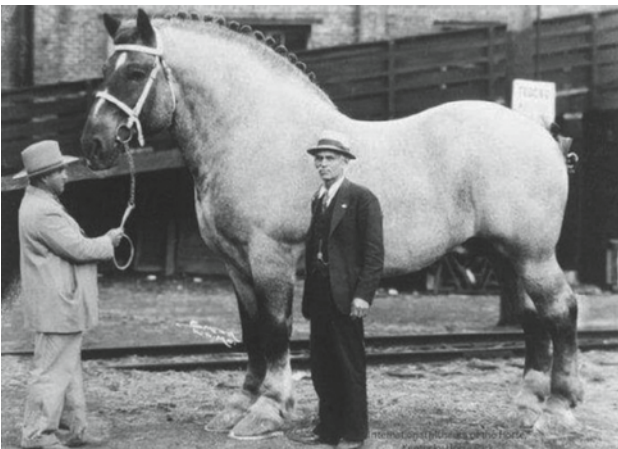


this to us peasants. Looks like they have been lying to us for decades.)

Please see: <https://www.zerohedge.com/weather/doesnt-fit-msm-narrative-latest-arctic-ice-data-shows-26-larger-2012>



Legendary Shire Horses



TOP: “Brookie” grew to 19.2 hans, 2,000 lbs. Sired in 1928, he eventually was owed by C.G. Good of Iowa and Ralph Fogelman who made money off viewings of the horse.

BOTTOM: Sampson, was a Shire horse gelding foaled in 1846 in Toddington Mills, Bedfordshire, England. He was 21.25 hands (7 ft 2.5 in) and weighed 3,360 lb. and holds the Guinness Book of Record. In the photo, Sampson is 4 years old.

I'll go ahead and say it now, I will not be getting the UFO vaccine.



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Basketball vs Swallows Charter





Colorado State News



Colorado's New GOP Congressmen Land Powerful Committee Seats

by ColoradoPeakPolitics.com

Colorado's new Republican congressmen are getting important committee assignments in the House of Representatives that will benefit voters statewide as well as their districts.

Jeff Crank will be taking over for Congressman Doug Lamborn in the Colorado Springs district and has now secured Lamborn's seats on the House Armed Services Committees as well as the Committee on Natural Resources.

"I look forward to getting sworn in on January 3rd and getting to work for CO-05," Crank said on social media.

Gabe Evans will be replacing Dem. U.S. Rep. Yadira Caraveo in the new 8th House District, and he was awarded with a seat on the powerful Energy and Commerce Committee.

Former U.S. Sen. Cory Gardner commented that it's rare for a freshman lawmaker to win a seat on such a prestigious committee.

It's the only committee seat held by the senior member of Colorado's congressional delegation, Diana DeGette, so it's especially important for a Colorado Republican to be on that panel as well during this new Trump administration.

As a bonus, it could make for some interesting fireworks.

Caraveo held seats on the Science, Space

and Technology committee, as well as a spot on the Ag Committee.

Over on the Western Slope, newly elected Jeff Hurd also won a seat on the House Natural Resources Committee, which is an important slot for the 3rd District to hold. Hurd will also serve on the Science, Space and Technology Committee.

Spending family time launching rockets with my favorite crew. Excited to bring this same energy to my work on the Science, Space and Technology Committee. Here's to inspiring the next generation to reach for the stars! pic. twitter.com/qjBxxtqgrV

— Jeff Hurd (@jeff4colorado) December 21, 2024

Greg Lopez has been filling in for Ken Buck, who quit his job months before his term expired. Now that seat goes to Lauren Boebert.

Lopez has been holding Buck's seats on both the Budget Committee and Science, Space and Technology committee.

Boebert served on both the Oversight and Accountability as well as Natural Resources Committees.

No word on whether her committee assignments will change. Stay tuned.

Please see: <https://coloradopeakpolitics.com/2024/12/23/colorados-new-gop-congressmen-land-powerful-committee-seats/>

U.S. Rep. Lopez Did Not Say DOGE Is Cutting Social Security

by ColoradoPeakPolitics.com

This is how rumors get started, like Republicans are going to use DOGE to cut benefits to Social Security.

A leftwing group that supports Democrats in the name of Social Security posted this video on X claiming it as proof, when the video confirms nothing of the sort.

BREAKING: @RepGreg Lopez says outside the first meeting of the DOGE Caucus that "there will be some cuts" to Social Security and Medicare.

HANDS OFF OUR EARNED BENEFITS! pic.twitter.com/NFY-jA6hdEo

— Social Security Works (@SSWorks) December 17, 2024

Never mind that U.S. Rep. Greg Lopez only has a few more days left as the interim congressman from Colorado's 4th District and will never have a say or vote on the matter.

Lopez said it was just his opinion Social Security should be on the table for cuts to reduce the deficit.

He never said it was on the table at the DOGE meeting for cuts. And he's not even a member of the DOGE Caucus.

That the video does not say what the post claims it does was inconsequential to some, who simply re Xed it for the #copolitics masses.



It's laughable the guy with the mic tries to lure in Republicans to speak with him by dropping Trump's name, when the group was issuing press releases like this to blast Trump and support Harris during the presidential campaign.

The Delivering Outstanding Government Efficiency, or DOGE Caucus held an informal gathering last week on Capitol Hill but won't start hearings on government cuts until the new congressional session begins in January.

At which time, Lauren Boebert will be the congresswoman for the 4th District.

Please see: <https://coloradopeakpolitics.com/2024/12/23/u-s-rep-lopez-did-not-say-doge-is-cutting-social-security/>

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Colorado State News

Pushing Back on Anti-School Choice Misinformation

by Mike Rosen, Complete Colorado Page Two

Amendment 80, which would have enshrined school choice as a right in the Colorado Constitution, was defeated on the Colorado ballot in November, although it got 49% of the vote. Had it passed it might have paved the way for private school vouchers throughout Colorado, a movement that's being adopted by a growing number of other states. That's precisely why the teachers unions spent lavishly to defeat it here. When it comes up again in Colorado, here are some rebuttals to anti-choice misinformation.

"This will drain money from public schools." A voucher system doesn't "defund" public education, like leftists would defund the police, it just redirects the money. Taxpayer dollars earmarked for the education of children would follow the children to a school of their parents' choice through a voucher equivalent to the current per capita cost per student. Why should government schools have a monopoly on the delivery of publicly funded education? Competition breeds excellence

in a market economy and would force public schools to offer a better product to keep parents from joining the exodus. When parents select private or charter schools over poorly performing public schools, the remaining public schools will require fewer teachers, fewer buildings, fewer buses and fewer taxpayer dollars.

"Money would be diverted to religious schools." So what? Taxpayer dollars can already be used for college tuition at religious schools. You can use military benefits for college to go to Notre Dame or Yeshiva University. The U.S. Supreme Court has ruled that the Establishment Clause of the Constitution is offended only if government favors or discriminates against a particular religion. In a voucher program, the parents are making that choice, not the government.

"This is a subsidy for wealthy parents whose children already attend private schools." Wealthy parents can already afford to send their kids to private schools. A voucher system can be means-tested on a sliding scale to allow many lower- and middle-income families who can't afford private

schools to elect that option. There are plenty of non-wealthy parents who sacrifice to send their kids to private schools who will benefit from vouchers. Those parents and "wealthy" ones alike have been subsidizing public school districts for years with their taxes while relieving those districts of the cost of educating their kids.

"Some private and charter schools fail." As well they should. And some companies go out of business. That's what happens when consumers have choice and an enterprise doesn't perform to their satisfaction. Successful private and charter schools have long waiting lists. The public school monopoly treats parents as captives, not customers. That's why too many failing and poor performing public schools that should go out of business continue to squander public resources and underserve students, parents and taxpayers.

"Studies show that private schools and charter schools don't produce any better academic results than public schools, and parents might make bad choices." If you like your current public school, stay there but why

deny that choice to others? Do you suppose wealthy parents are so foolish as to send their kids to poor performing private schools? There are dueling studies about private/charter school vs. public school performance. The public school establishment, teachers unions and teachers colleges – all in bed together protecting their rice bowl – solicit biased studies to demean the competition. Voucher advocates have their own studies with opposite conclusions. Let's leave that judgment to individual parents.

In addition to academic rigor and performance, parents with school choice can make their selections on the basis of a school's values, discipline, pedagogical philosophy, curricula, textbooks, or whether phonics is used to teach reading rather than "look-say." Parents who prefer basic academics to progressive indoctrination, social engineering, DEI, and wokeness can seek out a school in line with what they want for their kids. Outrageously, two-thirds of public school students now fall short of grade proficiency in reading, and it's even worse in math.

Many teachers who love students don't like teachers unions. The unions aren't welcome in private and charter schools, and the unions hate charters and vouchers for the competition they invite. Remember how unions catered to their members and kept schools closed way too long at the expense of school kids during the pandemic? Teachers unions dominate the public school establishment in Democrat-run cities and states, and the politicians return the favor by resisting charters and flatly blocking private school vouchers. Unions, politics, bureaucracy, and a one-size-fits-all mentality are the cause of our public school quagmire. School choice and vouchers offer a market alternative, the key to rescuing public education.

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

Please see: <https://pagetwo.completecolorado.com/2024/12/22/rosen-pushing-back-on-anti-school-choice-misinformation/>



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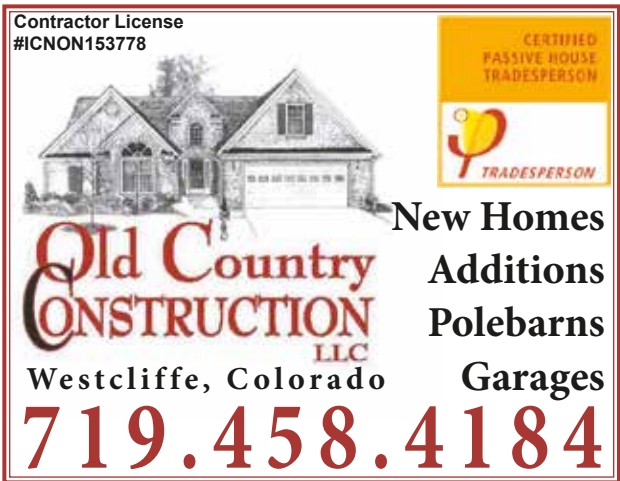


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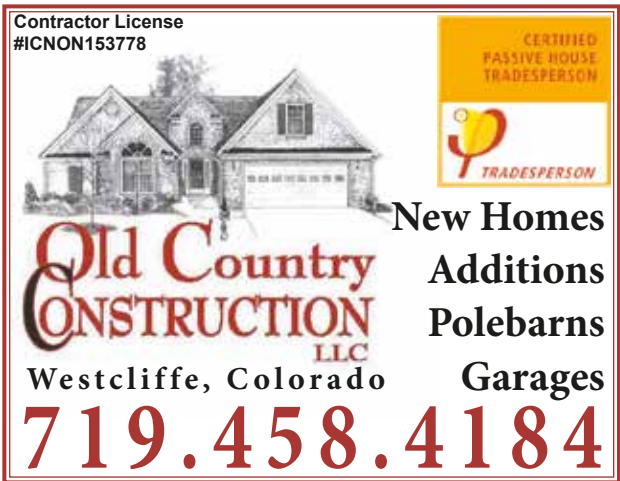


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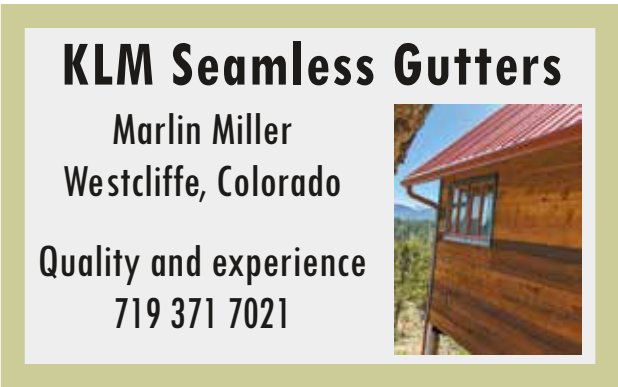
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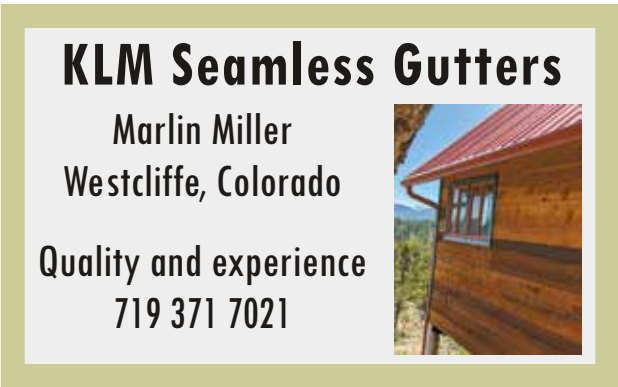


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A Cleric's Heroism

Remembering Cardinal Jozsef Mindszenty

by Lawrence W. Reed,
The Foundation for Economic Freedom

In many homes worldwide, the day after Christmas is nearly as festive as the day before. December 26th is a holiday in the UK and many Commonwealth nations. People everywhere look forward with hope to the New Year just days away.

That may not have been true on December 26, 1948, for a Catholic prelate in Hungary named Cardinal József Mindszenty (1892–1975). Arrested that day by communist authorities, he was sentenced to life in prison on concocted charges of “treason and conspiracy.” Beatings and torture followed.

This was not Mindszenty’s first arrest. He was just 27 when, in 1919, he spoke out against the “socialist policies” of the Hungarian government and found himself behind bars as a result. A few months later, for expressing similar sentiments, he was re-arrested by the next government, a short-lived communist one. Then in 1944, Mindszenty was arrested by the Nazi puppet regime when he opposed the government’s plan to quarter its troops on Church property. When he was grabbed and jailed in the waning days of

1948, “here we go again” might have sprung to his mind.

When the bad guys hate you, you’re probably doing something right. Every time the authorities busted Mindszenty, it was for the same “crime,” namely, speaking truth to power. His story recalls an inspiring statement, in a slightly different context, from Winston Churchill. During a visit to Harrow School near London in 1941, the Prime Minister declared:

“Never give in, never give in, never, never, never—in nothing, great or small, large or petty—never give in except to convictions of honor and good sense. Never yield to force. Never yield to the apparently overwhelming might of the enemy.”

Cardinal Mindszenty personified the courage and defiance to which Churchill alluded. As head of the Roman Catholic Church in Hungary, he despised tyranny and believed it his Christian duty to oppose it. He should be remembered, in the words of Claremont Institute scholar Daniel Mahoney in his Introduction to the Cardinal’s *Memoirs*, “as one of the antitotalitarian titans of the twentieth century.”

In 1947, as the post-war Soviet occupation tightened communism’s grip on Hungary, the

Cardinal repeatedly and publicly condemned the oppressors. He issued statements that angered the authorities, such as one in April that warned:



Cardinal Mindszenty 1956
By Jack Metzger php?curid=95617903, Wiki Commons

“The government has assumed complete control of the publication of textbooks to be used in our schools. Thus the ruling political party in this land will now have

the power to indoctrinate our youth.”

Ahead of sham elections that same year, Mindszenty chastised his fellow Hungarians who naively believed that the communists had mellowed and embraced democracy:

“We trusted those who had taken over the reins of government. We overlooked their abuses of authority, believing such abuses were the inevitable accompaniment of change and hoping they would cease with the passage of time. Now the time has come for elections, we can no longer keep silent. We must publicly declare that no Christian voter can support a party that rules by violence and oppression and tramples underfoot all natural laws and human rights.”

By December of the following year, the regime viewed the Cardinal as an implacable foe who had to be silenced and discredited.

I, for one, am thankful that humanity often produces such remarkable people. Mindszenty’s resolve helped stiffen the spines of others when circumstances called for courage and defiance.

A CLERIC
see page 17

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VENEZUELA GANGS from page 1

Utah are sex offenders and murderers, according to state data.

In Wyoming, a suspected TdA member was arrested in Laramie County and charged with felony theft for allegedly stealing a 2005 Toyota Highlander from a Colorado Springs resident. The Laramie County Sheriff’s Office is regularly arresting illegal foreign nationals and cooperating with ICE requests for detainees.

Sheriff Brian Kozak has criticized the so-called sanctuary city policies of Denver, and Colorado, which critics argue have contributed to increased crime in other states like Wyoming. Laramie [County] is roughly a two-hour drive from Denver.



Earlier this year, during National Police Week, Kozak’s office paid for a billboard in downtown Denver “to let those frustrated officers know they can ‘Work in Wyoming where breaking the law is still illegal and cops are funded!’”

National Police Week was created “to honor those cops who have paid the ultimate sacrifice and to thank those who serve their

communities,” Kozak said in a Facebook post after the city of Denver defunded its police department by several million dollars, allocated funding for migrant shelters and restricted officers’ ability “to enforce traffic laws, such as expired plates or safety equipment violations.”

Kozak also thanked Wyoming residents for supporting law enforcement and “welcomes those who have a desire to do their job to join LCSOwy.org.” County jail and highway patrol positions are available, the sheriff’s office says.

Last year, Kozak’s office hired a record 72 people, many from Colorado, he told *Denver 7 News*. “Our community really values law enforcement and they want their law enforcement officers enforcing the law that we have.”

While some officials claim Denver hasn’t defunded its police, in April, its mayor announced \$5.3 million worth of budget cuts to the Denver Police Department and \$90 million for migrant services. The city also received millions in federal grant money for migrant services, *The Center Square* reported.

As illegal border crime increased in Colorado, Laramie-based Clipper Properties LLC paid for a billboard at the Wyoming-Colorado state line heading south. The billboard depicts the Venezuelan flag’s stripes of yellow, blue and red and states, “Venezuela Ahead. Be Prepared!”

A record more than one million Venezuelans illegally entered the U.S. under the Biden administration, roughly double the size of Wyoming’s population, *The Center Square* reported.

Please see: https://www.thecentersquare.com/national/article_9134dcce-c460-11ef-946f-6bdf154af80.html?a

MOST POLITICAL from page 2

that people of faith tend to vote for Republican or conservative candidates, while secularists favor liberals. “Democrats are making gains in areas where religion is fading,” writes Burge, “and Republicans are increasing their vote share in places where houses of worship are gaining new members.”

Kamala Harris won 69% of voters who identify as Nones, keeping with a trend from the midterms. CNN exit polls showed that two-thirds of Democratic voters in 2022 said they “never” attend religious services, while two out of three Republicans attend church “weekly or more.”

Yet the Democrats’ good news may be coming to an end, said Burge. “The rise of the Nones may be largely over now. At least it won’t be increasing in the same way that it did in the prior thirty years,” wrote Burge.

A CLERIC from page 16

That spirit ultimately prevailed and brought down one European communist despotism after another in 1989–91.

Two months after his fourth arrest—on the day after Christmas in 1948—Mindszenty was put on trial by Hungary’s Stalinist dictatorship. His conviction and life sentence in early 1949 produced an international uproar. Even the United Nations issued a resolution condemning it. The regime claimed he confessed to his “crimes,” but the Hungarian people knew better. The Cardinal had warned before his incarceration that any confession should be regarded as fabricated or induced under duress and, therefore, meaningless.

When Hungarian patriots briefly liberated Budapest in a 1956 uprising, Mindszenty was set free. He immediately endorsed the movement and spoke to the nation by radio as armed forces from Moscow invaded

Hungary to put the communists back in power. “Let everyone in the country know,” he said, “that this fight was not a revolution but a fight for freedom.”

The Soviet invasion sadly succeeded, prompting Mindszenty to seek asylum in the U.S. embassy in the Hungarian capital. He remained inside for the next 15 years until a diplomatic arrangement allowed him to leave the country safely. He lived in exile in Austria until he died in 1975.

For two reasons, we must not forget brave men and women like Cardinal Mindszenty. One is that we must know history as it was lived, not as someone might choose to rewrite it or erase its lessons. Another is that the wisdom and warnings of people like Mindszenty may apply to circumstances yet to be lived.

(Editor/GG: Local pastors please note the above man. He spoke up.)

Please see: <https://fee.org/articles/a-clerics-heroism/>



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“DOUBLE L”

ACROSS

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5 Raised, as an ante
10 A disaster agcy.
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17 Vietnam’s neighbor
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19 Latvian capital
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21 Five-time Yankees manager
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35 Roofing sealant
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37 Vestibule
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40 Connery and Penn
41 Some people make these
42 Fish story
44Yawn producer
45 Nosh

- 46 Chimpanzee researcher Jane
49 Goldie Hawn’s beloved
54 Grazing area
55 “___ this moment . . .” (2 wds.)
56 Itinerary
57 Blueprint
58 Actress Patricia
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60 Group at home on the range
61 Whirlpool
62 Shorthand writer, for short
63 Bed and breakfasts

DOWN

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2 Saying
3 A political writer
4 Dolt
5 Inadvisable
6 Buckets
7 Politician’s probe
8 TV award
9 Circle measurement
10 Memorable actor José
11 Sign over a door
12 First Christmas visitors

by Neil R. Manausa

- 13 To ___: unanimous (2 wds.)
21 Flock of quail
22 Thunderstruck
24 Leaf gathering tool
27 Late actor John
28 High cards
29 A TV pioneer
30 “Kiss Me, ___”
31 Gershwin and Levin
32 Bloke
33 Diva showstopper
34Y ounge horse
37 Eyes, nose, et al.
38 The ___ of Avon
40 Constellation component
41 Sheep are sheared for this
43 Lash out (2 wds.)
44 Ravel opus
46 Board (2 wds.)
47 Memorize
48Comes to earth
49 Role for Orson Welles
50 Second-hand
51 “On the ___ again . . .”
52 Genre
53 Of course!
57 ___ Beta Kappa

Puzzle Key on page 7

Liberalizing concealed carry laws won’t lead to a return to the Wild West- though it wouldn’t be bad if it did.... in 19th century cattle towns, homicide was confined to transient males who shot each other in saloon disturbances. The per capita robbery rate was 7% of modern New York City’s. The burglary rate was 1%. Rape was unknown. - David Kopel, author

The Liberty Tree

Religion, The Constitution & Culture

State, National, & World

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

The Daily Jot

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

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

Never Let Go

We have all experienced times where our situation seemed impossible. The lesson I have learned through many such trials is to press into the Lord and never let go. This lesson is informed by the story of Jacob in Genesis 32-36. We pick it up where Jacob spent the night alone in an unspecified place fearing an attack by his brother Esau. The text tells us that a “man” wrestled with Jacob until day break. Jacob called the place Peni’el, (face of God), “Because I have seen God face to face, yet my life was spared (32:30).” His



adversary says as much, The man said, “From now on, you will no longer be called Ya’akov, but Isra’el because you have shown your strength to both God and men, and have prevailed” (32:29(28).

The interpretation of these verses is key to understanding the Jewish people. Jacob was given the name that his descendants would carry throughout eternity. The people of the covenant are called “the children of Israel,” it was only after the Assyrian defeat of the Northern Kingdom that those that remained were called Judah (the Southern Kingdom), and Yehudim or Jews, in English. Names in the Torah, or those given by God, are meant to convey a person’s character or calling. Jacob’s new name also contains the clue to who his descendants would be—the people who struggled with God and with men, yet prevailed. And so it is today still! Jacob’s breakthrough occurred after the struggle when the Angel touched his hip and dislocated it, then Jacob refused to let go until the “man” blessed him.

It was as if the man was saying that Jacob had struggled to take the place of Esau, he held onto Esau’s heel. In the future, Jacob will let go of Esau and hold onto God— he will hold onto God, and God will never let go of Jacob. The next day, a whole new Jacob emerges. Jacob returned the blessing he took from Esau by giving Esau the wealth of his flocks, and also the power by bowing seven times and repeatedly calling Esau “my lord” (Genesis 27:29). This was the blessing Isaac had originally meant for Esau when he was blind and couldn’t see Jacob’s face. Jacob’s true blessing that Isaac gave him before he left to go to Mesopotamia, however, had nothing to do with wealth or power. It was about land and descendants of the covenant (Genesis 28:3-4). Jacob did not have to become Esau to receive that blessing. Jacob just had to be himself.

Though Jacob limped from his encounter with God, he learned that his was an alternate, and more glorious destiny, another face so to speak—the face he saw reflected in the Face of God when he wrestled with Him and refused to let go. And so it is with us as followers of Messiah as stated in 2 Corinthians 3:18, “So all of us, with faces unveiled, see as in a mirror the glory of the Lord; and we are being changed into His very image, from one degree of glory to the next, by ADONAI the Spirit.” Whenever you face difficulty, or need wisdom, or clarity, call on the name of the LORD. And keep calling until you have your answer. Know who you are and who’s you are. Never doubt God’s love and blessings for you. Hold fast, and never let go!

Bill Wilson

Dailyjot.com Printed with permission.

Mass Deportations Would Save Americans \$62 Billion a Year

The only thing more expensive than deporting illegals... is not deporting them.

by Daniel Greenfield,
FrontPageMag.com

“It would cost hundreds of billions of dollars to deport every undocumented immigrant in our country,” Senator Dick Durbin warned.

After losing the open borders debate and the election, Democrats and their media stopped arguing that mass migration is a right and that mass deportations violate human rights.

Six out of 10 registered voters were polled in favor of deporting illegal aliens. The American people had spoken.

So Democrats and their media instead argued that mass deportations would be too expensive. The American Immigration Council (AIC), an immigration lawyers lobby group funded by the Ford Foundation, Soros and other open borders groups, was quoted in the media as warning that mass deportations might cost \$88 billion a year. None of the media outlets citing the AIC have reported what it is and who it represents, but have taken its \$88 billion figure as fact.

This would still make a year of mass deportations cheaper than California’s \$128 billion light rail to nowhere. And unlike the light rail to nowhere, the deportations would actually go somewhere.

Mass deportations would end cartel violence and restore national security making it a far better investment than the California train that the Biden administration had decided to fund again.

There’s no reason to take the AIC’s figure as fact. Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE) has an \$8 billion annual budget. It already ‘expels’ around a quarter of a million illegals and foreign criminals a year. ICE does more than just detain and deport illegals which our current deportation system often does in about the most expensive way possible. Illegals are currently deported on charter flights also used to fly executives around the country. There’s no reason for the ‘rock star’ treatment.

But let’s for a moment assume that the wildest estimates of open borders supporters are right.

One estimate of the costs of the border crisis ran to \$150 billion in 2023. Even assuming that the \$88 billion figure is correct, mass deportations would still provide a \$62 billion net benefit.

But the \$150 billion is likely only a part of the larger cost. Consider the story of one just city.

New York City alone has spent \$5 billion in two years on the illegal alien invaders. Next year the city expects costs to double. And that’s just the

cost of social services. The costs of the illegal alien crime wave can’t even be calculated, but the annual cost of incarceration is over half a million per criminal. The costs of the legal system are difficult to factor, but they are in the high millions. Illegal alien migrants already account for 75% of the arrests in Midtown Manhattan. Over 58,000 illegals in the city have been convicted of a crime or face charges.

New York City would have spent tens of billions of dollars on illegal criminals. That’s one city.

But those tens of billions of dollars are only the most direct costs. Illegal alien crime has forced residents and companies to leave the city. The number of vacant storefronts has doubled. The city’s economic growth has slowed and its future is being held back by the migrant invasion at a cost of further untold billions. Those are losses that easily overshadow the costs of removing the city’s massive illegal alien population beginning with its violent and corrupt criminal elements.

Deporting illegal aliens is expensive. Keeping them here is staggeringly far more expensive.

Education is just one example. Among the illegal alien invaders are over 700,000 school age minors. The cost of educating them starts at \$13 billion a year and goes up from there.

NYC alone has enrolled an estimated 40,000 migrant minors. The city’s schools spend an estimated \$36,000 per student. That comes to around \$1.5 billion in costs. And the costs for non-English speaking students with social problems would be even higher. Chicago has an estimated 17,000 migrant minors enrolled in schools. The city’s per pupil spending is over \$34,000 making for total costs of well over \$500 million. (While Chicago claims to have spent only \$400 million on the migrant invaders in total, the actual numbers are obviously far higher.)

Illegal alien inmates in federal prisons already cost us over \$1 billion annually just to incarcerate them. While California bars reporting the legal status of criminals, it was estimated in the past that at least 15% of the state’s prisoner population were illegal aliens. Assuming these numbers still hold true, that would result in over \$2 billion in annual costs from illegal alien prison inmates.

317,000 illegal aliens have passed through Texas jails over the years which potentially comes out to \$7 billion. But that only tells part of the story. The illegal aliens in Texas jails committed over 1,000 murders. The cost of a single murder, the police response, investigation, trial, and imprisonment runs in the millions.

The 1,000 illegal alien murderers in Texas prisons represent a loss of billions of dollars alone.

While all government spending ultimately comes from taxpayers, mass deportations would be a primarily federal expenditure while much of the spending on illegal aliens is local. Cities have had to close parks and reduce other services to make ends meet. Property taxes have been raised which means that senior citizens are being forced out of their homes to pay for illegals.

Federal spending on mass deportations will have much less of a devastating impact on local communities than the cost of housing, feed, policing, educating and dealing with them.

Finally there is no price that can be put on the cost to the families who have lost a member to illegal alien crime, drunk driving and drug trafficking. No price that can be put on communities and a nation torn apart by open borders. No price that can be put on the existence of America.

Without secure borders and mass deportations, the United States of America has no future.

Democrats who have never shied away from record budgets only bridle at one form of government spending: national defense. Biden’s last pro-proposed budget was a massive \$7.3 trillion. The Biden administration allocated \$7.5 billion to building electric car chargers. Almost none of the chargers from this subsidy for wealthy electric car owners were ever built.

Imagine how many illegal alien criminals we could have deported for that \$7.5 billion.

Some open borders advocates argue that illegal aliens provide economic benefits through cheap labor. But the labor is only ‘cheap’ for their employers. It’s hideously expensive for the taxpayers who pay to house, feed and educate every single member of their large families.

Open borders cost us tenfold for every supposed benefit that some special interest gains.

The likelihood is that the illegal alien population is already a burden that costs us far more than \$88 billion or even \$150 billion a year. And while a year of mass deportations would not cost us \$88 billion (unless we insist on flying them out on Bono’s plane) it will be a bargain at any price.

Mass deportations may be expensive, but the only thing more expensive than mass deportations is not deporting them.

Please see: <https://www.frontpagemag.com/mass-deportations-would-save-americans-62-billion-a-year/>

Report: \$1,000,000,000,000 in Government Waste!

by Ireland Owens, The Daily Caller News Foundation



Republican Kentucky Sen. Rand Paul released a report on Monday outlining more than \$1 trillion in government waste from the past year.

The 2024 “Festivus” report highlighted various instances of wasteful government spending from the federal government, including a pickleball complex in Las Vegas and a cabaret show on ice. This year marks Paul’s 10th annual report.

“This year, I am highlighting a whopping\$1,008,313,329,626.12,” Paul wrote in the report. “That’s over \$1 trillion in government waste, including things like ice-skating drag queens, a \$12M Las Vegas pickleball complex,

\$4,840,082 on Ukrainian influencers, and more! No matter how much money the government has wasted, politicians keep demanding even more.”

The Department of the Interior (DOI) spent \$12 million on a Las Vegas pickleball complex, according to the report. The DOI also spent \$720,479 on wetland conservation projects for ducks in Mexico.

“I have a lot of problems with federal spending, and now it’s time to hear all about them,” Paul wrote in the report.

The National Endowment for the Arts (NEA) awarded the Bearded Ladies Cabaret a \$10,000 grant to support a cabaret show on ice skates focused on climate change, according to the report. The NEA also spent \$365,000 to promote circuses in city parks, the report states.

The State Department spent

\$500,000 to expand the U.S. Embassy in Ethiopia’s #USInvestsInEthiopians social media campaign to a larger national public relations campaign, according to the report. The State Department also sent \$253,653 to Bosnia to fight “misinformation,” spent \$2.1 million for Paraguayan Border Security, and spent \$3 million for ‘Girl-Centered Climate Action’ in Brazil, according to the report.

The Department of Health and Human Services spent \$419,470 to determine if lonely rats seek cocaine more than happy rats, the report states.

The National Science Foundation spent \$288,563 to ensure bird watching groups have safe spaces, also known as “Affinity Groups,” according to the report.

President-elect Donald Trump announced on November 12th that he had picked Vivek Ramaswamy and Elon Musk to co-chair a

new Department of Government Efficiency (DOGE), aimed at cutting down on wasteful government spending.

“As always, taking the path to fiscal responsibility is often a lonely journey, but I’ve been fighting government waste like DOGE before DOGE was cool, Paul wrote in the report. “And I will continue my fight against government waste this holiday season.”

Many Americans have faced steep costs amid high inflation throughout President Joe Biden’s term, with inflation hitting a peak of 9.1% in June 2022. While inflation rates have eased some since June 2022, prices still remain high, with the consumer price index (CPI), a measure of the price of everyday goods, experiencing a year-over-year increase of 2.7% in November, according to a December 11th report from the Bureau of Labor Statistics.

Some experts have attributed massive government spending under the Biden-Harris administration to fueling inflation rates. The national debt was at \$36.16 trillion as of [Dec. 17] Tuesday, according to U.S. Treasury Fiscal Data.

A spokesperson for Paul did not immediately respond to a request for comment from the Daily Caller News Foundation.

(Editor/GG: Did I see \$50k for a chipper for Custer County in there? Maybe. The absolute definition of “waste”.)

For the whole report see: <https://www.hsgac.senate.gov/wp-content/uploads/FESTIVUS-REPORT-2024.pdf>)

Please see: <https://dailycaller.com/2024/12/24/rand-paul-releases-report-detailing-1000000000000-in-govt-waste-here-are-the-worst-offenders/>

They Fought Back: Cases of American Women Murdered by Men Illegally in Country

by Bethany Blankley, The Center Square

(The Center Square) – Through painstaking work of police investigators and prosecutors and voicemail recordings used as evidence, recent cases reveal that American women and girls raped and murdered by foreign nationals illegally in the U.S. fought back against their attackers, struggling for their lives before they were overpowered, violently assaulted and killed.

They did not die peacefully. They were terrified, evidence shows. They clawed, scratched and bit their attackers. Some called for help. And for those who left a voicemail, their struggle and last breath were forever captured on a recording.

They were attacked when they were alone. They suffered and gasped for air as they were strangled. They struggled against the man or men who eventually overpowered and

brutally assaulted them. Their bodies were left like garbage, their mothers have said.

They were attacked in their homes or along trails familiar to them that were part of their daily lives. They were given no warning that a criminal had traveled thousands of miles from a foreign land, was released into their country by their own government or evaded capture, and came to their neighborhood and weren’t supposed to be anywhere near them.

July 27, 2022, Kayla Hamilton’s boyfriend found her body in her Aberdeen, MD, mobile home. Twenty years old and autistic, she was raped, tied up and strangled with a phone cord. Before she died, she fought back and called her boyfriend, leaving a voicemail on his phone.

The recording of her attack and last breath was played in court as evidence in a trial against her killer, an El Salvadoran MS-13

gang member who illegally entered the U.S. in March 2022. He illegally entered claiming to be an unaccompanied alien child (UAC) and was released into the U.S. by the U.S. Departments of Homeland Security and Health and Human Services, which oversee the UAC program. Four months later, he brutally murdered Kayla.

In August, he was found guilty and sentenced to 70 years in prison. He also confessed to committing four murders, two rapes and additional crimes in El Salvador prior to illegally entering the U.S.

Kayla’s mother, who’s repeatedly testified before Congress, filed a \$100 million wrongful death lawsuit against DHS and HHS, alleging agents were negligent when they released the UAC with MS-13 tattoos into the country.

On August 6, 2023, 37-year-old Rachel Morin, a mother of five,

of Bel Air, MD, was allegedly attacked and pulled through a wooded area along a trail before she was raped and murdered, her body left in a drainage culvert. Her alleged murderer, a Salvadoran national and MS-13 gang member, illegally entered the U.S. multiple times. After a 10-month investigation, DNA evidence from the scene was connected to another crime in California, where a 9-year-old girl had been assaulted. DNA evidence enabled law enforcement to identify her alleged killer and track him down in Oklahoma, where he was arrested.

Prior to illegally entering the U.S., he allegedly murdered a young woman in El Salvador, *The Center Square* reported. The trial is scheduled for April 1, 2025, where the prosecution is seeking life in prison without parole.

On February 22, 2024, 22-year-old Laken Riley was jogging on

her university campus when she was attacked. She called 911, unable to speak, but the recording captured her attack. The recording was played in court, where jurors heard a struggle for 18 minutes. Riley fought for her life, was struck on the head, and [she] was eventually suffocated. She was murdered by a Venezuelan man who illegally entered the country in 2022, and instead of being deported, was released into the country by the Biden administration through a parole program.

Last month, a jury found him guilty on 10 charges, including murder, kidnapping with bodily injury, aggravated assault with intent to rape, among others, and sentenced him to life in prison without parole.

On June 17, 2024, 12-year-old Jocelyn Nungaray’s body was

THEY FOUGHT BACK
see page 24

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1776

The Second Amendment Corner

Liberty's Line in the Sand

2025



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

Red Dot vs. Scope

Which Optic Is Best for Your AR-15 Set Up?

by Scott Witner, [ammoland.com](#)

Choosing the right optic for your AR-15 is crucial to maximizing its performance in any shooting scenario. With options like red dots, LPVOs, magnifiers, and scopes, each setup brings unique advantages, but selecting the best fit can be overwhelming.

This guide will break down the pros, cons, and ideal use cases for each optic type, arming you with expert insights to confidently choose the right setup.

Whether you're looking for quick target acquisition in close quarters or precision at long range, this article will help you make an informed decision tailored to your shooting style and needs.

Understanding Your Optics Options

Before comparing the benefits of each setup, it's essential to understand what each optic offers and how it's typically used on an AR-15. Let's break down the main contenders:

Red Dot Sights

Red dot sights are compact optics that project a dot onto a single plane, allowing for quick target acquisition. Known for their simplicity and ease of use, they are ideal for close-range engagements. Red dots typically offer a wide field of view, making target acquisition quick and easy.

Pros of Red Dots

- Lightweight and compact
- Easy to use, with no magnification to adjust
- Ideal for close-quarters shooting and fast target acquisition

Cons of Red Dots

- Limited to close-range engagements without additional magnification
- May lack versatility for mid-to-long-range shooting

Red Dot with Magnifier

Adding a magnifier behind a red dot sight can extend its effective range, providing a more versatile solution. A flip-to-side magnifier lets you switch between a magnified and unmagnified view, offering flexibility without changing optics.

Pros of Red Dot with Magnifier

- Enhanced versatility with the ability to switch between 1x and magnified views
- Simple, quick adjustments in the field

Cons of Red Dot with Magnifier

- Additional weight and bulk
- Limited magnification (usually around 3x)
- May not be as clear or accurate as a dedicated magnified scope

Low-Power Variable Optics (LPVOs)

Low-Power Variable Optics, or LPVOs, offer a range of magnification, usually between 1x and 6x or 8x, allowing users to toggle between close-range and mid-range distances. LPVOs have become a popular option for AR-15 setups because they combine the benefits of a red dot with a bit of zoom for more distance.

Pros of LPVOs

- Provides a true 1x magnification for close-range engagements
- Offers zoom options for mid-range versatility
- Durable and versatile

Cons of LPVOs

- Heavier and bulkier than red dots and red dots with magnifiers
- Can be pricier depending on quality and magnification range
- Requires some adjustment to quickly switch between zoom levels

Magnified Scopes

Traditional magnified scopes, usually starting at 4x and higher, are suited for long-range shooting and precision. For AR-15 setups, these scopes can be beneficial if you primarily use your rifle for hunting or shooting at extended distances.

Pros of Magnified Scopes

- Ideal for long-range accuracy
- Provides high levels of magnification
- Clearer sight picture at distance

Cons of Magnified Scopes

- Not practical for close-quarters engagements

- Heavier and often more expensive
- Slower target acquisition in fast-paced shooting

Comparing Red Dots, Magnifiers, LPVOs and Scopes in Real-World Scenarios

Choosing the right optic for your AR-15 setup depends on how you plan to use it. Here's a breakdown of how red dots, magnifiers, LPVOs, and scopes fare across common shooting scenarios to help you determine the best fit for your needs.

Close-Quarters Combat (CQC) and Home Defense

Speed and accuracy at short distances are crucial for close-quarters engagements or home defense. In these situations, red dot sights truly shine.

- **Red Dots:** The clear winner here, red dots offer fast target acquisition, making it easy to acquire a sight picture under high-stress conditions quickly. Their wide field of view also enables you to maintain situational awareness, essential in close-quarter scenarios.
- **Red Dot with Magnifier:** While a magnifier can be added, it's generally unnecessary for CQC. The added weight and bulk might even hinder performance in confined spaces.
- **LPVO:** An LPVO with true 1x magnification can work, but due to its slightly larger and more complex design, it may be a bit slower to acquire a target compared to a red dot.
- **Magnified Scopes:** Magnified scopes are not practical for close-range engagements; they are best suited for precise, long-distance shots and would be too slow for CQC.

Red dots are the optimal choice for close-quarters and home defense setups due to their simplicity and speed.

Mid-Range Versatility (50-200 Yards)

For those who want a versatile AR-15 capable of performing at mid-range distances, a red dot with a magnifier or an LPVO offers the best balance.

- **Red Dots:** While a red dot can hit targets at 100 yards, target identification can be a challenge beyond this range due to the lack of magnification.

- **Red Dot with Magnifier:** This combination provides a decent solution for mid-range engagements. The magnifier typically offers 3x magnification, allowing you to see targets at further distances without sacrificing the speed of a red dot for closer encounters.

- **LPVO:** An LPVO's 1x to 6x (or 8x) range makes it ideal for mid-range shooting. You can quickly transition from a no-magnification setting for close targets to a higher magnification for further distances, making it one of the most versatile choices for shooters looking to cover both close and mid-range distances.

- **Magnified Scopes:** While they can reach mid-range distances, magnified scopes lack the flexibility of a red dot or LPVO and are slower for target acquisition at closer ranges.

For mid-range versatility, the red dot with magnifier setup or an LPVO provides the best balance, with the LPVO offering a bit more flexibility.

Long-Range Precision (200+ Yards)

Precision optics are a must if you plan to use your AR-15 for longer-range shooting. Here, magnified scopes and LPVOs are the top choices.

- **Red Dots:** Red dots are generally unsuitable for long-range precision, as they lack magnification and reticle clarity for pinpoint accuracy at extended distances.
- **Red Dot with Magnifier:** While adding a magnifier helps, most only offer up to 3x magnification, which falls short for long-range shooting. A 3x magnifier is fine for up to 200 yards, but higher magnification is ideal for more precision.
- **LPVO:** With a 6x or 8x magnification range, LPVOs offer a more suitable solution for long-range precision. They enable you to engage targets at 200+ yards while providing the option for close-range engagements when needed.
- **Magnified Scopes:** These are built for precision at a distance. Scopes starting at 4x magnification are ideal for longer shots, providing crystal-clear optics and finer adjustments for accuracy. However, they lack versatility at shorter ranges.

Magnified scopes and LPVOs are ideal for long-range precision. Choose a magnified

RED DOT vs SCOPE
see page 22



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Smith & Wesson M642 Performance Center Revolver: Why Not Carry a Spiffy Snubbie?

by Tom McHale, ammoland.com

When it comes to clothes, cars, and even a cup of coffee, we tend to think nothing of paying extra for an upgraded model. Heck, we even pay extra for water that some guy pours into a fancy plastic bottle.

Accordingly, if you choose to carry a gun for self-defense, is there any reason you can't choose a stylish one? Of course, that's assuming that function and performance aren't compromised.

Better yet, why not consider a handgun that offers custom premium operational features and looks snazzy?

Smith & Wesson M642 Performance Center Revolver

That's just what the folks at Smith & Wesson have done with the new Smith & Wesson Performance Center 642 .38 Special +P revolvers.

In case you're not familiar, the Performance Center is a custom shop within the confines of the Smith & Wesson factory, and I mean that literally. Buried in the very center of thousands of computer-controlled milling machines, giant forges, and barrel making equipment is a fenced in area where Performance Center guns are made. These folks operate like a business within a business. They'll "shop" the standard Smith & Wesson factory production models and dream up custom improvements that they can make for special Performance Center guns. Some might have finely-tuned actions, or recoil-reducing ported barrels. Others might have custom grips, stocks or hand guards. You may find Performance Center products with custom finishes. The Performance Center 642 has many of these features. Let's take a closer look.

Affectionately called a "snubbie" revolver, this one has a 1.88-inch barrel and a five-shot cylinder. These ideal carry characteristics have been offered by the Smith & Wesson folks for just about 67 years now in some variant of the "J-frame" package. As the "snubbie" nickname implies, it's small. Overall length is just 6.3 inches and unloaded weight is 15 ounces. That's the same length as a Springfield Armory XD-S, but somewhat lighter as the XD-S weighs 23 ounces unloaded. But with a snubbie, you can't really judge size and portability by the



Photo: Smith & Wesson M642 Performance Center Revolver features both cosmetic and functional upgrades.



Photo: The Performance Center Model 642 has moon clip cutouts in the cylinder.

paper dimensions. The shape is what makes it feel much smaller than the specs imply. There's something about the arc shape that makes it disappear in a pocket.

This Smith & Wesson M642 Performance Center Revolver model is chambered for .38 Special +P and includes an internal hammer. That means that you can't see, or touch, the hammer. There are a couple of reasons for that. First, the 642 makes a great ankle holster or pocket carry gun. The lack of exposed hammer means there is nothing to snag clothing when you need to draw. The other reason is to prevent manual cocking. In a double-action revolver with an exposed hammer, you can either fire by pulling the trigger with a lot of force, usually 10-12 pounds, or you can cock the hammer with your thumb and break the shot in single-action mode. A single-action shot requires far less trigger press, usually somewhere in the three or four-pound range. With an "up close and personal" defensive gun like this, you generally don't want a light trigger, so hiding the hammer prevents the gun from being used in the single-action mode.

The long story made short is this: the Smith & Wesson M642 Performance Center Revolver has no exposed hammer on purpose.

The S&W Performance Center gunsmiths have made quite a few improvements to the standard Smith 642 revolvers, both cosmetic and functional. The action has been finely tuned, improving the quality and consistency of the trigger press feel. This one is smooth, smooth, and more smooth. The result of a quality trigger is improved accuracy, not because it does anything mechanical to make the gun shoot straighter, but because it helps the shooter to operate the trigger without pulling the gun off target. In a related improvement, you'll notice that the trigger itself is jazzed up. It's polished to a smooth, rounded surface for comfort and buffed to a bright shine. *It looks and feels great.*

Smith & Wesson M642 Revolver ... Performance

Also on the functional side, the Performance Center model features a chamber cut for moon clip use. Let's stop and explain what that means. A Moon Clip

is a thin, round wafer of metal or polymer that holds cartridges in the exact orientation that they fit into a revolver cylinder. The idea is that you can drop a moon clip right into the cylinder and load all the chambers at once. In this case, the moon clip for the M642 Performance Center Revolver would hold five cartridges. The gotcha is that the moon clip has a thickness, so you can't use one on a standard revolver – *there has to be a cutout in the cylinder to accommodate the moon clip itself.*

The benefits of using a moon clip are extraction reliability and speed. If all the cartridge cases are held together, it's faster to pop them out when spent, and unlikely that one or two will get caught up in the process. The second benefit is reloading speed. Dropping a self-contained cylinder of cartridges into place is fast, much like inserting a magazine in a semi-automatic pistol. *However, you can still load and fire cartridges without using a moon clip, so it works either way.*

The grips on this S&W 642 gun not only look great but do an admirable job of reducing felt recoil. Super small and light guns aren't always much fun to shoot because the light weight doesn't do much to dampen recoil, and the small size gives you less to hold. The result is usually a jumpy, snappy gun. Not so with this one. The synthetic grip material is comfortable and reduces the shock, even when shooting full-power defensive ammo. Oh, and the look-good part? You'll notice wood inserts on both sides of the grip. They're placed in such a way as not to interfere with the recoil-reducing benefits of the synthetic grip material. While we're talking about the grips, the frame is standard, so if you want to add aftermarket or laser grips, you can do so. I tried out the Crimson Trace LG-350G Lasergrips, and they worked like a champ. The Lasergrip is a little taller than the factory stock, but that gives you a little more finger space.

If you look closely at the cylinder itself, you'll see that the cylinder flute areas have been polished to a high stainless gloss. The flutes are the cutouts surrounding the exterior of the cylinder, and they exist to remove unnecessary weight. While we're talking pure cosmetics, check out the thumb piece and side plate screws, they're polished to a bright shine too.

I shot the Smith & Wesson 642 M642 Performance Center Revolver with a variety of premium ammunition to test real-world velocity, subjective feel, and practical accuracy. With all loads tested, the feel was surprisingly controllable. That decorative synthetic grip really does its job. The material dampens shock while the grip shape fits into the meat of your hand in such a way as to maximize contact and thereby increase control.

I tested velocity by setting up a Shooting Chrony Beta Master Chronograph 15 feet down range. Here's what I measured.

- Sig Sauer V-Crown .38 Special 125 grain: 891.7 fps
- Sig Sauer FMJ .38 Special 125 grain: 721.0 fps
- American Eagle .38 Special 158 grain: 660.0 fps
- Federal Hydra-Shok .38 Special 110 grain: 858.0 fps

As for accuracy, I shot the same four ammo varieties using a casual beanbag rest at a target 15 yards down range. Given the intended use of a gun like this, I didn't bother trying to shoot meticulous groups. Rather, I wanted to see how the point of impact and point of aim related. All four ammo types easily generated five-shot groups in the three-inch range. More importantly, the 110 Federal HST and both Sig Sauer 125-grain loads shot right through the front sight. The heavier American Eagle 158-grain bullets grouped dead center laterally but placed just over the front sight, so they preferred a six o'clock aiming position.

Here's the thing. You can buy a standard Smith & Wesson Model 442 or 642 (the difference is only the finish and the stainless cylinder rather than carbon steel on the 442) for a manufacturer-suggested retail price of \$540. This M642 Performance Center Revolver has an MSRP of \$640. While many of the differences are cosmetic, you'll notice a big functional difference with the trigger. A small gun like this requires some skill to run well, and that's a big deal.

Please see: <https://www.ammoland.com/2024/12/smith-wesson-m642-performance-center-revolver/>

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15 Facts About the Growth of Crime in the U.S.

by Michael Snyder,
EndOfTheAmericanDream.com

(Editor/GG: Check out the Colorado items. Thanks to our lib criminal laws....)

We live in a high crime society. Nobody can dispute that fact, and it has been this way for a long time. But the crime wave that we have witnessed in recent years has been truly breathtaking. Tens of thousands of gangs are running wild in our major urban areas, and the growth of those gangs has been supercharged during the past four years thanks to the reckless border policies of the Biden administration. Now we have rampant lawlessness in our streets, and it certainly isn't going to be easy to clean up this mess. The following are 15 facts about the growth of crime in the United States that will blow your mind...

#1 The number of shoplifting incidents per year in the United States is up 93 percent compared to pre-pandemic levels...

The average number of shoplifting incidents jumped 93% in 2023 compared with pre-pandemic times and monetary losses for retailers have risen 90%, according to the nation's largest retail trade group.

With its "Impact of Retail Theft & Violence 2024" study, the National Retail Federation (NRF) is highlighting the severity of this issue. For instance, despite the continuous efforts by retailers to combat such crimes and a growing number of states that have updated their laws to prosecute organized retail crime as felonies, the number of retail theft incidents continues to climb.

#2 Bakersfield, California is **the car theft capital of the country**...

Bakersfield is a city with less than half a million people, making it the 9th most populous city in California. It also has the

distinction of having the most car thefts of any U.S. city.

#3 Denver, Colorado is closing in on Bakersfield very quickly. In fact, the car theft rate in Denver increased by 37 percent in just one year...

Denver is the capital and most populous city in Colorado which incidentally made the NICB's hot spot list for the top state by number of auto thefts. Not only did Denver experience 964 thefts per 100,000 residents, but the theft rate increased by 37%. As with most places, Kia and Hyundai vehicles make up a large percentage of those cars stolen.

#4 When it comes to car theft, Pueblo, Colorado only ranks third, but a 47 percent increase in just one year has it climbing the chart fast...

Well south of Denver and with a much smaller population, the city of Pueblo takes the third spot on our list. The city experienced auto theft at a rate of 891 per 100,000 residents. Additionally, the theft rate increased by a whopping 47% in one year. Pueblo police cite driver apathy as a reason behind the record levels of theft.

#5 According to the FBI, more than 14 million crimes are reported in the United States each year...

The FBI released detailed data on over 14 million criminal offenses for 2023 reported to the Uniform Crime Reporting (UCR) Program by participating law enforcement agencies. More than 16,000 state, county, city, university and college, and tribal agencies, covering a combined population of 94.3% inhabitants, submitted data to the UCR Program through the National Incident-Based Reporting System (NIBRS) and the Summary Reporting System.

#6 There are **more than 1.9 million people** sitting in our prisons...

Further complicating matters is the fact that the U.S. doesn't have one criminal legal system; instead, we have thousands of federal, state, local, and tribal systems. Together, these systems hold over 1.9 million people in 1,566 state prisons, 98 federal prisons, 3,116 local jails, 1,323 juvenile correctional facilities, 142 immigration detention facilities, and 80 Indian country jails, as well as in military prisons, civil commitment centers, state psychiatric hospitals, and prisons in the U.S. territories — at a system-wide cost of at least \$182 billion each year.

#7 The U.S. has the largest prison population in the world by a very wide margin. We have approximately 5 percent of the world's population, but we have approximately 25 percent of the world's incarcerated population.

#8 According to the FBI, 33,000 criminal gangs are operating inside the United States today...

Some 33,000 violent street gangs, motorcycle gangs, and prison gangs are criminally active in the U.S. today. Many are sophisticated and well organized; all use violence to control neighborhoods and boost their illegal money-making activities, which include robbery, drug and gun trafficking, prostitution and human trafficking, and fraud. Many gang members continue to commit crimes even after being sent to jail.

#9 Collectively, it has been estimated that those gangs have about a million members.

#10 Gangs account for about 80 percent of the violent crimes that are committed in the U.S. each year.

#11 In 2023, there were 127,436 rapes reported in the United States.

#12 For the most recent year that we have data, it was being estimated that more than 550,000 U.S. children "were victims of abuse and neglect"...

An estimated 558,899 children (unique incidents) were victims of abuse and neglect in the U.S. in 2022, the most recent year for which there is national data.

#13 If you can believe it, there are 795,000 registered sex offenders in this country.

More than 795,000 people were listed on state sex offender registries as of August 2024. This is about 8,000 more people than in 2023.

#14 There are 75,710 registered sex offenders in the state of Texas.

#15 There are 60,615 registered sex offenders in the state of California.

What in the world is wrong with us?

What would cause people to behave this way?

At this point, our society is literally teeming with evil. In my brand-new book entitled "Why", I take a look at the root causes that motivate people to do what they do. It isn't an accident that our society has gone completely and utterly nuts. It is simply a result of cause and effect.

As a society, we have been doing the wrong things for a very long time, and so now we have a giant mess on our hands.

Let us hope for better things in 2025, because right now lawlessness is thriving all around us.

Please see: <http://endoftheamerican-dream.com/15-facts-about-the-growth-of-crime-in-the-united-states-that-will-blow-your-mind/>

RED DOT vs SCOPE from page 20

scope for dedicated long-range shooting or an LPVO if you need versatility for mid-range and longer distances.

My Optic Choices for AR-15 Builds

When setting up my AR-15 builds, I choose optics based on the roles I want them to play. These picks are just what I personally use and love—what works for me might not work for everyone, but if any of these hit the mark for you, then rock on!

Red Dot: Sig Sauer Romeo 5

For a reliable red dot sight, I've been using the Sig Sauer Romeo 5. This optic is affordable yet built to take a beating, with a battery life that seems to last forever. For close-quarters shooting, it's quick, intuitive, and makes target acquisition a breeze.



Photo: Sig Sauer

Holographic Sight: EOTech 512

On one of my AR-15 builds, I run an EOTech 512 holographic sight—a true powerhouse in durability. Known for its near-indestructible build, the EOTech 512 is trusted by military units worldwide,

having proven itself in some of the toughest environments imaginable. This optic can handle almost any condition you throw at it, making it a solid choice for those who want a robust, battle-tested sight.



Photo: EOTech

LPVO: Vortex Strike Eagle 1-8x24

Moving into the LPVO category, I highly recommend the Vortex Strike Eagle 1-8x24. With its impressive glass quality and very affordable price, the Strike Eagle is perfect for those who need versatility. It excels in close-quarters scenarios, but the 8x magnification lets you confidently stretch out to a few hundred yards, giving you the best of both worlds.



Photo: Vortex Optics

Magnified Scope: Steiner Predator 4

I'd go with the Steiner Predator 4 for a designated marksman build. This lightweight, rugged scope offers exceptional clarity and an illuminated E3 reticle with

windage and BDC holdovers. With 11 brightness settings and excellent low-light performance, this scope adapts to any environment and helps you make precise shots at longer ranges.



Photo: Steiner Optics

Fixed Magnification: Primary Arms SLx 3x Micro Prism

If you want something with more range than a red dot or holographic sight but aren't looking to dive into variable optics, check out the Primary Arms SLx 3x Micro Prism.



Photo: Primary Arms

This fixed 3-power optic is perfect for target identification up to 200 yards,

offering clear and dependable magnification. Its illuminated etched reticle ensures that you'll still have a reliable sight picture even if the battery dies. Built tough, this compact optic is designed to withstand serious use and might just outlast you in the field.

Each of these optics has its strengths, and for my purposes, they cover all the bases. Whatever setup you choose, make sure it aligns with your needs—and enjoy dialing in your AR-15 for whatever your mission is!

Conclusion

In summary, selecting the right optic for your AR-15 is all about matching your setup to your mission.

A red dot is unbeatable for rapid close-quarters targeting. If you need a balance between close and mid-range, a red dot with a magnifier or an LPVO provides flexibility. For long-range precision, a dedicated magnified scope delivers the accuracy you need.

With the right optic, your AR-15 becomes a more effective, versatile tool, tailored to your needs. Equip yourself with the optic that matches your mission, and confidently hit the range!

(Editor/GG: Another option is to run a scope/LPVO and ALSO a red dot. There are mounts that cant the red dot 45* off of your top mounting rail. All you have to do is rotate the rifle 45* to access the red dot. Con: more weight and more training needed.)

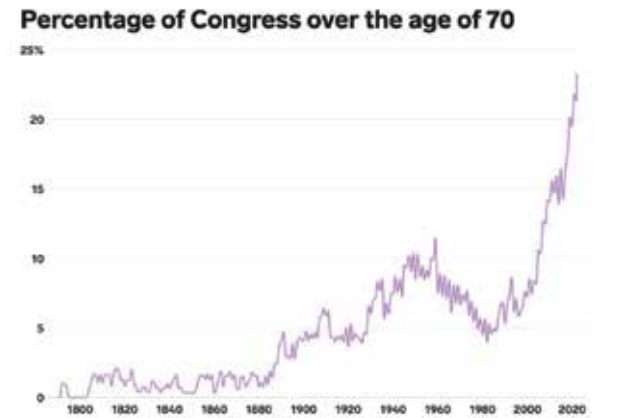
Please see: <https://www.ammoland.com/2024/12/red-dot-vs-scope-which-optic-is-best-for-your-ar-15-setup/>

U.S. Congresswoman Missing for Six Months Found at Dementia Care Home

by Tyler Durden,
zerohedge.com

Term limits for U.S. politicians on Capitol Hill were clearly on Elon Musk’s mind Saturday night. A post from X user “The Rabbit Hole” showed that the number of members of Congress over 70 has skyrocketed, nearing 25%—as the baby boomer generation clings to power.

The Rabbit Hole
@TheRabbitHole84
Term limits when?



6:32 PM · Dec 21, 2024

Just days ago, a baby boomer swamp creature emerged from the shadows.

When they said “DC swamp creatures”, I thought it was just a metaphor

Hassan Sajwani
@HSajwanization
Quick ! Find her broomstick !! Must be there ..

Who the he👉 elects these clowns to U.S. Congress??

No, seriously ...

7:20 AM · Dec 20, 2024

Now, another baby boomer politician, missing for



six months, has finally been found—this time at a dementia care home—

reigniting the conversation about term limits.

These are the same boomers who are trying to start World War III, but younger generations are firmly saying ‘he👉 no’.

Local paper *Dallas Express* recently launched an investigation into the whereabouts of Republican Congresswoman Kay Granger, who has represented Texas’s 12th Congressional District since 1997. The investigation followed reports that she had been absent from office for months.

Dallas Express found out from a local resident that Granger was not missing but instead residing at an assisted living facility specializing in memory care.

Here’s more from the reporting:

We then received a tip from a Granger constituent who shared that the Congresswoman has been residing at a local memory care and assisted living home for some time after having been found wandering lost and confused in her former Cultural District/West 7th neighborhood.

The *Dallas Express* team visited the facility to confirm whether Granger was residing there and to inquire about how she planned to vote on the spending bill. Upon arrival, two employees confirmed that Granger is indeed living at the facility. However, we were not permitted to conduct an interview regarding the current spending debate in the House of Representatives and how or if Ms. Granger planned to vote.

Taylor Manziel, who is the Asst. Executive Director for the senior living facility, acknowledged to *The Dallas Express* that “This is her home.”

It remains unclear why Granger’s staff declined to disclose her condition to the public, especially given the lack of representation during a crucial voting period in Congress.

And, of course, the term limits conversation on X reignited...

Paul A. Szypula
@ (@Bubblebathgirl)

81-year-old Rep. Kay Granger (R-TX), who hasn’t been seen for 6 months, found living in a dementia care facility.

Being a politician shouldn’t be a lifelong career. It should be something one reluctantly does for the betterment of society.

It’s time Congress gets term limits.

7:22 PM · Dec 21, 2024

Shawn Farash
@Shawn_Farash

The case for term limits has never been clearer:

So Mitch McConnell fell down on Capitol Hill

Nancy Pelosi fell down on a trip overseas

TX Rep Kay Granger was found living in a senior care facility

And Joe Biden, the President of the United States, is severely cognitively impaired.

The people who are running our country are literally FALLING APART.

7:54 PM · Dec 21, 2024

Ro Khanna@RoKhanna

Kay Granger’s long absence reveals the problem with a Congress that rewards seniority and relationships more than merit and ideas. We have a sclerotic gerontocracy.

Libs of TikTok
@libsoftiktok



‘Missing’ GOP Congresswoman Not Seen For Six Months Finally Found Living at Dementia Care Home

SHARE THIS POST

A Republican Congresswoman who has been “missing” for the past six months has finally been found.

Rep. Kay Granger has served as the representative for Texas’s 12th Congressional District since 1997.

However, she suddenly disappeared from the public eye around July this year, when she cast her final vote against an amendment to reduce the salary of Deputy Assistant Administrator for Pesticide Programs to \$1.

A curious reporter at the local *Dallas Express* newspaper did some digging on Granger’s whereabouts and has finally been able to give her constituents some answers.

The reporter, Carlos Turcios, began by contacting her offices, from which they went directly to voicemail.

“I am sorry we are unable to answer your phone right now,” Granger said. “We are really glad you called us.

JUST IN: “Missing” Congresswoman Kay Granger (R-TX) who hasn’t been seen for 6 months, was found living in a dementia care facility. She’s been in office since 1997. She’s 81 years old.

and the alleged cover-up surrounding it.

(Editor/GG: This congresswoman was MIA for SIX MONTHS and nobody tried to find her? If you don’t think the system is broken you are living in la la land.)

TERM LIMITS.

6:18 PM · Dec 21, 2024

The biggest scandal of all may be the investigation into Biden’s mental health

Please see: <https://www.zerohedge.com/political/missing-congresswoman-missing-six-months-found-dementia-care-home>

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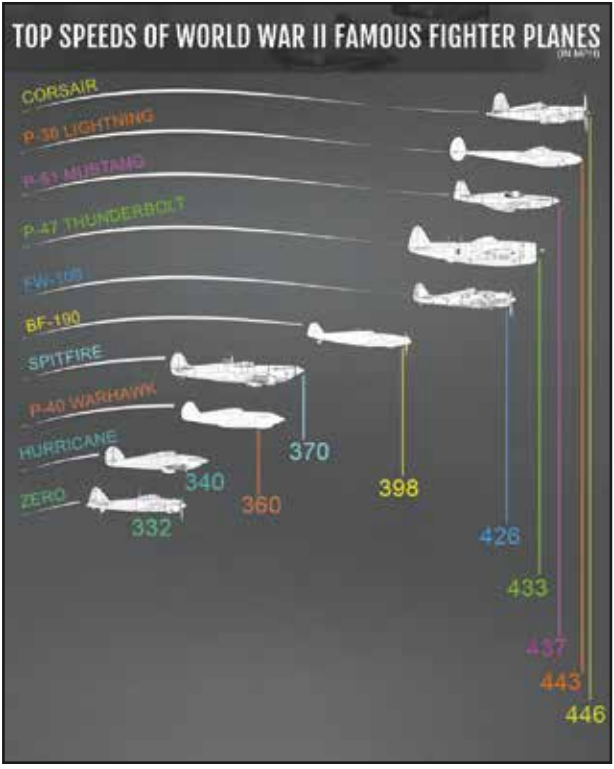
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