

CCSO Leads Huge Animal Rescue Operation

Press Release from the Custer County Sheriff's Office
—February 26, 2025

Large Law Enforcement Rescue Operation Results in the Seizure of 86 Animals in Custer County Colorado

On Monday, February 24, Custer County Sheriff's Office deputies responded to a large commercial kennel in Custer County to execute a court ordered search warrant. The kennel is being operated under a "special use permit" issued by Custer County Government. Deputies initially received a citizen complaint on February 13th



Vehicles on the scene driven by the area responders.

Photos courtesy of Custer County Sherrif's Office

HUGE ANIMAL RESCUE OP
see page 14

DA Lauds Sheriff Smith for Transparency

2022 CCSO Tasing of a Minor Incident

Press Release

The Office of the District Attorney for the 11th Judicial District has completed the review of a tasing incident that occurred in Custer County on January 18, 2022.

In January 2024, Custer County Sheriff Lloyd Rich Smith was provided a copy of a civil suit regarding the tasing by a Custer County Sheriff's Office (CCSO) Deputy of a 16-year-old runaway. The incident happened in January 2022 under the administration of CCSO Sheriff Shannon Byerly.

The Sheriff's Office became aware on January 22, 2024, that a civil suit had been filed against three former deputies and one current deputy for an incident that occurred on January 18, 2022, under a previous sheriff. The Custer Sheriff's Office was not named in the state civil suit and was never served with a copy of the lawsuit. Furthermore, it does not appear that the incident was investigated at the time by any outside law enforcement agencies.

Recognizing the importance of this case, the newly elected sheriff formally requested an investigation by the Colorado Bureau of Investigation (CBI) into statements made in the civil suit. This troubling incident was thoroughly investigated by CBI. The completed investigation was sent to then District Attorney Linda Stanley in March of 2024.

This investigation sat at the District Attorney's Office until 2025 when Sheriff Smith asked newly elected

District Attorney Jeff Lindsey to review the investigation and make a charging decision. Unfortunately, at this time, no charges can be filed.

The 16-year-old runaway from a foster home in Fremont County was located in a trailer in Custer County. She was contacted by CCSO Deputies Michael Kear and Miles De Young. In attempting to transport the juvenile to CCSO, Deputy Kear "dry" stunned the juvenile and later when they arrived at CCSO fully tased the juvenile after she would not get out of the police cruiser. CCSO personnel (by this time CCSO Sgt. Scott Hinshaw was present) put the juvenile into a restraint chair and placed her in a holding area inside CCSO. Numerous personnel were inside the Sheriff's Office, including EMS personnel from Custer County Ambulance Service. The juvenile was eventually transported to Parkview Hospital in Pueblo for treatment.

Sheriff Smith's decision to notify CBI of this use of force incident was the right thing to do. The previous administration should have notified CBI at the time of the incident. Not doing so means that the 18-month statute of limitations to file ran out and no criminal charges could be filed. The statute of limitations is jurisdictional. The District Attorney's Office believes probable cause existed for the filing of misdemeanor third-degree assault and false imprisonment charges, however, charges cannot be filed based on the expiration of the statute of limitations.

BOCC: No DOGE in Happy Valley

by George Gramlich,
News and Commentary

The February 20, 2025 Custer County Board of County Commissioners (BOCC) regular meeting was held at the All Aboard Westcliffe meeting room and started at 9 a.m. All three Commissioners were present: Chair Bill Canda and members Lucas Epp and Paul Vogelsong.

In Commissioner Comments, Epp reported that he attended a housing needs assessment meeting run by the Town of Westcliffe. Vogelsong said he attended a school board meeting and that all three Commissioners attended the Liberty Rocks forum at Tony's Pizza in Silver Cliff and that it was well attended.

Elected Officials Reports were the next Agenda Item. Sheriff Rich Smith was first up with his Sheriff's Office (SO) Report. Smith noted that "serious crimes" were down for last year. For January 2025, the SO made 97 traffic stops and gave out nine tickets. He also mentioned that out of the 19 employees in the SO, most of them live in the county which is a big change from recent years.

Virginia Trujillo gave the Treasurer's Office (TO) Report. She said she had been working on "cleaning up the General Fund" and allocating money in that Fund to the actual sub funds where they should be properly recorded.

Staff Reports were next. The Director of Human Resources (HR), Bob Smith, gave his department's report. As payroll is

being transferred to HR from the Finance Department, he said that HR had taken payroll training in the CIC system last week. Smith also noted that they had been "cleaning up" the HR module in the CIC system. HR is also doing a Worker's Comp audit.

Vernon Roth delivered the Information Technology (IT) Department's Report. He reported that he had been working on increasing our IT backup/redundancy ability with regards to cyber security. Roth said that he had installed new security cameras in the SO. Vernon also requested a workshop with the Commissioners of the "future of the IT structure of the county" as statutory/reporting requirements are getting more and more onerous. (Note that Roth is still doing the IT Directors job as the search for a replacement is ongoing.)

Roth then switched hats and gave the Finance Department Report. He said it is now "audit time" and they had started the audit work much earlier this year than normal in order to meet the state deadlines more easily. He is hoping to be ready to meet our outside auditor in April.

Roth has analyzed our audits for the last 20 years identifying the issues and is addressing them. Roth has also developed new policies to cover these issues "especially with workflows". He also noted that Finance is working with the Treasurer's Office re the interplay between the TO and Finance.

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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.

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Opinion...

Savory Schadenfreude: Lib Violins Out
for Fired Bureaucrats Crying on Tik Tok

by Ben Bartee, Armageddon Prose

My normie friend recently asked me, indignantly, why I'm enthusiastically riding [the] Elon Musk and Trump train.

My response:

a.) I'm not actually fully on board with Trump/Musk's agenda in totality and I for sure don't trust Musk further than I could throw him. He seems to be playing a game wherein he purges the government of all of its useless (or worse) human resources and replaces with them equally useless (or worse) AI robots, which he will presumably get the contracts for.

b.) In my decades of information immersion, I have come to understand that the United States government is hands-down the evilest organization of its scale and scope in world history, and so anyone who does anything to degrade its capabilities or even just temporarily hamper its ability to operate at full-speed is an ally by default. Enemy of my enemy, etc.

c.) I admittedly harbor a personal grudge for these soulless, gutless cretins who do and say whatever their overlords tell them to do for their government paychecks,

implicating themselves in untold crimes in the process that they are too cowardly or too immoral to resist. Their pain is music to my ears, which is probably not very Christlike of me; perhaps the COVID-era Dancing Nurses videos blackened my heart permanently.

d.) Almost any federal worker worth a darn got fired or voluntarily quit when the Brandon regime mandated they take experimental mRNA gene therapies that it called "vaccines." The remnants are the bottom-of-the-barrel Swamp creatures with no self-respect or moral compass — not actors anybody should want executing policy with a legal monopoly on force. Their purging is our blessing.

Via Washington Post (emphasis added):

"I'd understand a strategic reduction in force if needed," said one USDA employee, who was fired over the weekend. "But this was a butchering of some of our best. Does the public know this?"

The termination letters hitting inboxes all struck the same note: Probationary workers were getting the ax for poor job performance. But many of those fired had just

received positive reviews, or had not worked in the government long enough to receive even a single rating...

In a message sent Friday to agencies, an OPM employee wrote that, because of Trump's mandated hiring freeze, probationary employees "had no right to continued employment. ... An employee's performance must be viewed through the current needs and best interest of the government, [in] light of the President's directive to dramatically reduce the size of the federal workforce." OPM also provided a form email agencies could use to terminate workers, citing "performance."

Now, I'm not really an anarchist (anymore). I have come to accept that the argument for a central governing authority of some sort is solid — although I think that nexus of power should be far more localized than a sprawling federal behemoth lording over 330 million from an armored fortress of a city (D.C.).

That caveat aside, this sh**show that we have now is so far gone so as to be beyond reform. The parts of it that theoretically legitimately serve the public interest need to be

dismantled in their entirety — in an organized fashion, if possible — and reconstituted.

Its leaders — from middle-management up — need to be purged and prosecuted with lethal mercilessness. The lower rungs of the hierarchy need to simply be eliminated from their positions.

Examples must be made for the benefit of future authoritarian scumbags, so they might think twice before running, for example, the COVID playbook again.

Heads on pikes, etc.

Continuing:

"One Transportation Department worker found out he was fired on Valentine's Day just after putting his children to bed, as he sat down to watch a movie with his wife. An Agriculture employee discovered he was terminated the morning after attending an ex-partner's funeral. A Natural Resource Conservation Service employee was cut months after the government paid \$20,000 to relocate his family to North Dakota.

SAVORY
see page 22



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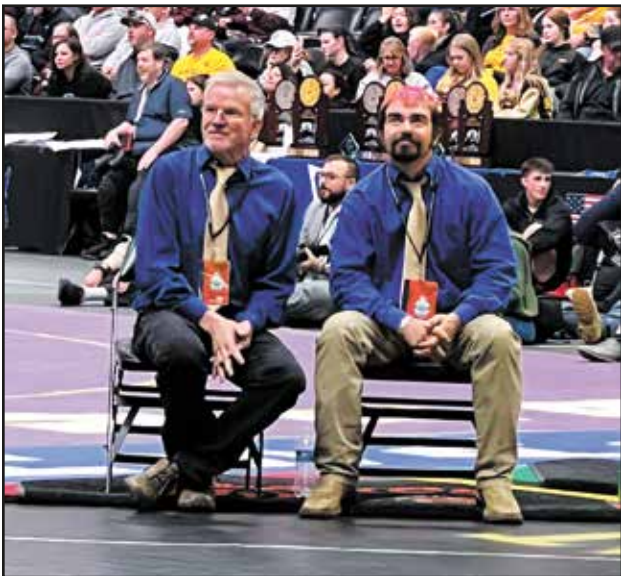
Wrestling Coach Palmer Recognized by CHSAA

Custer County Schools

Shannon Palmer’s prestigious wrestling career started at Air Academy High School where he wrestled in the 126# and 132# weight division, graduating in 1971. He went on to officiate for the sport before beginning his coaching career at Colorado Springs Christian School in 1985. He coached there until 2004. He attempted retirement briefly only to return to his love of coaching and helping kids use wrestling as a platform for gaining invaluable life skills both on and off the mat.

His coaching career also took him internationally with the “Athletes in Action” program.

Coach Shannon was recognized by CHSAA for his 30+ years of dedication and commitment to the sport at the Colorado State High School Wrestling Tournament held at Ball Arena in Denver on February 13-15 where two athletes that he previously coached took home state championships (Jack Doughty, Kate Doughty now wrestling for Cañon City) and two Custer County wrestlers made podium; Jason Hemsath - 2nd place, and



Top: Coach Shannon Palmer with Assistant: Caleb VanDeusen. Bottom R: Coaches Caleb and Shannon with Jason Hemsath at State.

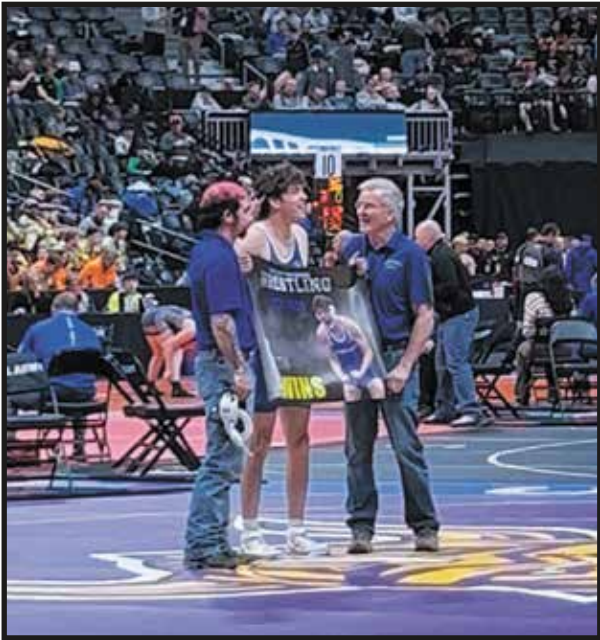
Bottom L: Plaque recognizing Coach Palmer’s Service at Colorado Christian Schools 1985-2004.

Photo courtesy of Carmen Palmer

Brylee Shy - 6th place, adding to his long list of top wrestlers in the state.

Congratulations to Coach Palmer! Thank you for

your service and support to our men’s and women’s wrestling program. We are blessed to be a part of your story!



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Obituary Eva Joyce Rathbun Colgate

Eva Joyce Adams Rathbun Colgate, the second of three girls, was born on July 9, 1929 in the Rocky Ford Hospital in Rocky Ford, Otero County, Colorado to Lea and Celesta Adams. She lived there until 1931-1932 when her parents moved their family to Custer County. A few years later the Adams bought the Willow Glen Dairy. She went to the one room Willows School House from 1-8 grades and then attended and graduated from Custer County High School in 1947. She attended Colorado A and M (now CSU) and graduated with a B.S in Vocational Home Economics in 1952.

She met William (Bill) B. Rathbun and they were married in Madison,

Wisconsin in 1954. She gave birth to a daughter, Joan, in 1955. They moved to Lauderdale, Minnesota, a suburb of St. Paul, for Bill to complete his Ph.D. at the University of Minnesota. In 1961, they adopted a toddler, Kirk.

After many decades of marriage, they divorced. Eva moved back to Custer County and reconnected with and married George T. Colgate. They lived for years on the Colgate family ranch near Hillside, Colorado. Health concerns moved them to lower altitude in Cañon City. Later as a widow, she continued to live independently in Cañon City.

Throughout her life she was an exceptional seamstress, homemaker, teacher, school



bus driver, entrepreneur, award winning quilter and dedicated community volunteer.

She died on January 31st at the age of 95. She is survived by her daughter, Joan and her two grandchildren, Gillian and Travis, and extended family throughout the area.

A private immediate family only interment is planned.



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St. Patrick’s Day Youth Essay Contest

All youth below age 18 who reside in Custer County, Colorado are eligible to participate.

Two first prizes of \$100
Two second prizes of \$50

In the early 400 a.d., a Christian youth named Patrick, who lived in Britain, was kidnapped by Irish pirates and sold into slavery as a shepherd in Ireland, where he was starved and mistreated. Still, in his loneliness, Patrick’s faith was kindled, and he heard God speak to him.

Patrick miraculously escaped and encountered many adventures. After returning home, he travelled to Europe for seminary and was eventually consecrated a bishop. He then returned to Ireland to fulfill the scriptures in Matthew 28:18-20, which Christians today call The Great Commission.

How to Participate in this essay contest

1. Read up on the story of St. Patrick’s life, and study Matthew 28:18-20 in the Bible
2. Write an essay on the topic Patrick of Ireland and the Great Commission. Apply that to today. Use your best imagination!
3. Write around 600 words but as many as you need
4. Use your best spelling, punctuation and composition
5. Email your entry to joannelcanda@gmail.com by March 17
6. Participants must be residents of Custer County, Colorado at the time of the contest
7. One first prize and second prize each for age groups 12- and up and 11 and under

Questions? Call Joanne Canda at 719-371-3277
St. Patrick’s Anglican Church Westcliffe

Local Mountain News & Notices

"A Well Informed Citizenry..."

by Rick Meckstroth,
Rural Custer County

Thomas Jefferson has a very famous quote: "A well informed citizenry is the best defense against tyranny."

At a conference this past weekend, I saw a great example of how well (or poorly) informed we are that came from a recent study conducted by the Woodrow Wilson National Fellowship Foundation. According to the report, only 39 percent of Americans can pass a multiple choice test with questions taken from the U.S. Citizenship Test (the passing score is 60% correct). Less than a quarter (24%), knew why the colonists fought the British and 2 percent thought we fought World War II over climate change. If one looks deeper into the numbers, they would see that 74% of my generation of +65 year old Americans can pass the test. Contrast that with Americans aged 45 or younger and only 19% passed. With the median age of +60 years in Custer County, perhaps that is why we have so many self-avowed patriots. But more importantly, it is clear we have failed to educate several generations of Americans on the timeless principles of liberty in America's founding and that is tragic.

If you feel we are failing today's younger generations on our founding principles, there is hope. Colorado has a very unique program that teaches the timeless principles of America's founding with the mission to preserve and celebrate the greatest free country the world has ever seen. The Leadership Program of the Rockies (or LPR for short) has trained over 2,000 Colorado citizens on America's founding principles over the last 25 years- why they were important when

Thomas Jefferson wrote the Declaration of Independence and how they apply to our challenges today. In fact, LPR alumni have become local and national elected officials, top state leaders, federal judges, and presidential cabinet members. Others have become prominent activists in the political process, policy change, business, and especially in education.

LPR is not run by a political party, nor is it a one-time seminar or conference; rather, it's a class of nine-full day sessions. Each class focuses on the preservation of the American idea and builds capabilities of the attendees to become screaming advocates for freedom. Four Custer County citizens are graduates of LPR and even includes an LPR Faculty member that is an expert on laissez-faire capitalism and Ayn Rand's writings.

If you are interested, you can learn more at leadershipprogram.org and there is no other program like it in the remaining 49 states. Each year, LPR conducts an Annual Retreat that just occurred at the Broadmoor on February 19 & 20 and included about 600 past graduates and followers- the second largest gathering of liberty-lovers in Colorado. Speakers this year included Daniel Krauthammer, Buck Sexton, Newt Gingrich, Jonathan Turley and many more.

This year's LPR Retreat focused on the preparation and an early celebration of the 250th Anniversary of the Declaration of Independence to be celebrated next year. Who will own the 250th celebration next year in Custer County? Maybe we should use this celebration to find our way to a better informed citizenry in the Wet Mountain Valley?

SAG Offers Class Monday: Mixed Media Collage

Press Release

Monday, March 3rd from 1 - 3:30 p.m., Stephanie Amos will teach a Mixed Media Collage Art Class at 3rd Street Gallery, 59000 N. 69, Westcliffe. This class, sponsored by Sangres Art Guild, is open to artists of all skill

levels and adults of all ages. The cost is \$25 for SAG members, \$30 for non-members. Art supplies are provided. In this class you'll play with color, texture and composition while combining various art media.

Stephanie Amos' love of drawing led to her expertise and joy in the variety of 2D and 3D art processes. During her early artistic years, she painted abstract art, and later studied sculpture, photography, and art history at NYU in Florence, Italy. She will inspire you with her passion for art.

WMVCF: Celebrating a Record-Breaking Year with the 20th Annual Spirit Campaign

Press Release

WESTCLIFFE, Colorado - The Wet Mountain Valley Community Foundation (WMVCF) is thrilled to extend our heartfelt gratitude to everyone who participated in the 20th Annual Spirit Campaign. Thanks to the incredible generosity of our community and the unwavering commitment of our nonprofits, we raised a groundbreaking \$492,737—a new record for this annual event. Earlier this month, we celebrated the success with the Check Distribution Event where nonprofits gathered to receive their donations.

This milestone is not just a number; it represents the collective efforts, dedication, and compassion of all involved. Every donation, every hour of hard work, and

every organization's contribution makes a significant impact on the lives of individuals and families throughout our Valley.

These funds will go directly to support local organizations that are making a difference in our communities. Through their tireless efforts, they continue to bring about real change and provide essential services to those who need them the most.

We are deeply grateful to our nonprofit organizations, volunteers, and donors for helping us achieve this remarkable achievement. We look forward to seeing the continued positive impact of these funds in the months and years ahead. Thank you for making the 20th Annual Spirit Campaign a resounding success!

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I will say of the LORD, He is my refuge and my fortress:
my God; in Him will I trust.

Psalm 91: 2 KJV

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Custer Senior Center Menu

Monday, March 3
#93 Swiss Broccoli Pasta
5-way Vegetables
Tossed Salad w/Lite Ranch
Banana
Mitzie's WW Rolls

Tuesday, March 4
#67 Pueblo Beef Stew
w/ Brown Rice
Cornbread
Coleslaw
Raisin Nut Cup Orange

Thursday, March 6
#35 Chili Relleno Casserole
Corn & Zucchini Mexicana
WW Tortilla w/Salsa
Salad w/Lemon Wedge
Plums

Served Mondays, Tuesdays & Thursdays at noon. 612 Main St. , Silver Cliff Townhall (lower level)
The following major food allergens are used as ingredients: Milk, Egg, Fish, Tree Nuts, Peanuts, Wheat, Soy and Sesame.

Please call (719) 783-9508 before 9:30 a.m. for reservations
A \$3 suggested donation per meal is appreciated, but not required. All menus subject to change.

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Events

Friday, March 7, 11 a.m. - 2 p.m. & 2:30 - 5:30 p.m.
Free Movie: "Wicked" All ages groups
 West Custer Library Community Room. FREE

March 12, 4- 5:20 p.m.
Free Legal Clinic by Appointment only
 Call (719)783-9138 @ West Custer Library

March 14, PI Day Fundrasier
(Pie donations accepted 3/13-14)
Pie available for purchase 3/14 in the Community Rm.
 West Custer CountyLibrary

**March 15, 1 p.m. Post Office Ranch Bull Sale
Chaffee County Fairgrounds, Poncha Springs**

**March 22, 12-2 p.m. \$25 to enter \$15 to Taste
Chili Cookoff Fundraiser for American Legion
To Register: Christy Schram call/text: (513) 317-7647
or email: armychic21t@gmail.com**

Community Services

Altitude Community Fitness
(719) 783-0750

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

Custer County
Community Sharing Food Pantry
120 N. 3rd St. Fri. (719) 783-2994
OPEN First 3 Fridays of the month
11 – 2 p.m.

MARCH SCHEDULE

Care and Share Distribution Dates:

March 7,14,21 from 11-2
TEFAP Distribution: March 10 from 12-2.
Everyday Eats (senior boxes) : distributed during Fridays
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Domestic Violence and Sexual Assault Center for
Fremont and Custer Counties
(719) 275-2429 FamilyCrisisOnline.org

Front Range Clinic
Medications for Addiction Treatment (MAT)
1-866-MAT-STAT
www.frontrangemd.com/mobile-unit

Lighthouse Pregnancy Resources
Monday and Thursday 11 a.m. to 4 p.m.
Friday 10 a.m. to 1 p.m.
(719) 783-4357

National Suicide HOTLINE
1-800-273-8255 Veterans Press 1

Solvista 24/7 Crisis Line
for Fremont and Custer Counties

Regional 719-276-5488 Local Office 719-275-2351

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

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

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Salary commensurate with experience. Excellent benefit package, health insurance, and retirement. Resume and five references should be mailed to the Town of Westcliffe P.O. Box 406, Westcliffe, CO. 81252 or delivered to the Town Hall at 1000 Main Street. The position will be open until filled.

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Local Mountain News & Notices

KIDS

Friday, February 28, 2025

Oarfish



United States Navy SEALs holding a 23-foot (7.0 m) giant oarfish, found washed up on the shore near San Diego, California, in September 1996

An oarfish is an eel-shaped, deep-sea marine creature also known as the “doomsday fish” in Japanese folklore. Live oarfish sightings are extremely rare, they normally wash up dead on beaches. The massive size and unique look of these creatures may make you wonder about ancient legends of sea monsters. Let’s take a look at this unusual creature.

According to Japanese folklore, seeing an oarfish in shallow water is a harbinger of doom, specifically earthquakes. This superstition was bolstered in 2011 when 20 oarfish washed ashore along the Japanese coast shortly before the nation’s infamous magnitude 9.0 earthquake. Actually, in real life if one is spotted close to the surface it’s because it is sick, dying or disoriented.

The oarfish is a ribbon-shaped fish which is very thin from side to side but can grow to a length of about 30.5 feet and weigh up to 660 pounds. Its body is shiny silver in color and is scaleless, with long, red, oarlike pelvic fins and a long, red dorsal fin that rises as a mane-like crest on top of the head. One of the primary sources of food for this fish is krill. The orange-colored krill that they eat likely may cause the bright colorations of this species’ fins.

So usually where do the oarfish live? They are found in areas spanning from temperate ocean zones to tropical ones but rarely seen. They primarily reside within the deep sea and in particular live throughout the Northern and Southeast Atlantic Ocean, and also in the South Pacific Ocean.

Current information on their behavior and conservation status is limited. This is not surprising given they survive in one of the most unexplored areas of our oceans. Scientists know very little about these fish because researchers did not record this species in its natural habitat until 2010.

They do not make good pets because there is no way to replicate the amount of pressure in the water in a home aquarium.

There’s the skinny, pun intended, on the oarfish.

by Audrey Slater. Sources: <https://www.smithsonianmag.com/smart-news/see-a-deep-sea-oarfish-caught-alive-on-video-in-a-rare-encounter-on-a-beach-in-mexico-180986100/>, <https://oceanconservancy.org/blog/2023/11/08/oarfish-known-doomsday-fish/> Photo: By Wm. Leo Smith - <https://media.defense> Open domain.

Sangre de Cristo Sentinel • Westcliffe, Colorado

CORNER

Family Night Features Real Answers for Parents March 6th

Press Release

The Bobcat Strong Family Night returns Thursday, March 6th at 5:30 p.m. with a Mac-N-Cheese dinner and program focused on the digital dilemma parents face with “how much is too much screen time”.

The evening will have four (4) different sessions for parents to choose from: Alternative Activities to Screen Time, How to Regulate Screen Time, Is Your Child Addicted to the Screen, and The Dark Side of the Web (KP Lovejoy).

KP Lovejoy is an internationally known speaker on the dangers of the internet and will return to continue sharing the powerful message of being a gatekeeper for children from the dark side of the internet. KP’s journey includes being sexually exploited as a child and understanding firsthand, the dangers that lurk online. Parents will be able to attend two (2) sessions to become more informed about the potential danger of too much screen time for children.



BOBCAT STRONG-FAMILY NIGHT

Solutions to the Digital Dilemma

Join us on Thursday, March 6th, for an enlightening evening focused on solutions for the Digital Dilemma. We are excited to welcome KP LoveJoy back to discuss **The Dark Side of the Web**. Additionally, we will offer breakout sessions that will cover topics such as **Alternative Activities to Screen Time**, **How to Regulate Screen Time**, and **Is Your Kid Addicted to the Screen?**

Before the breakout sessions, enjoy a mac & cheese family dinner filled with crafts and **LEGO** giveaways! Don't miss this opportunity for an educational and enjoyable night for the entire family!

Thursday March 6, 2025
5:30 Family Dinner
6:00 Breakout Sessions & Activities for the kids

Please use the West Parking Lot entrance.



Children are welcome and will have a LEGO activity after dinner while parents choose from the sessions. Don’t miss this opportunity to become more informed as a parent!

Dinner begins at 5:30 p.m. in the MPR and there will be drawings at the end of the evening for multiple LEGO giveaways. Enter through the WEST entrance.

Questions, please contact Troy Bomgardner at (719) 783-4927.

God said to Moses:

“Be strong and of good courage, do not fear nor be afraid of them; for the LORD your God, He is the One who goes with you. He will not leave you nor forsake you.”

Deuteronomy 31:6 NKJV

Bobcats Scoreboard!

Wednesday, February 19: SENIOR NIGHT!

HS Boys JV Basketball @ HOME vs Cotopaxi: **30-13, Win!**
HS Girls Basketball @ HOME vs Cotopaxi: **15-31, loss**
HS Boys Varsity Basketball @ HOME vs Cotopax: **48-50, loss**

Tuesday, February 25:

HS Boys Varsity Basketball SPL Tournament: **46-52, loss**
HS Girls Basketball: **Due to a forfeit by Lake County, our Lady Bobcats have advanced directly to the second round, which will be hosted here at Custer County on Thursday!**



UNDER THE STARS LITERACY NIGHT

Open your mind to the joys of reading!

AN EVENT FOR ALL SCHOOL-AGED CHILDREN OF THE VALLEY!

Thursday, March 13th
5:00-6:30

Dinner generously donated by Forging Education
Doors Open at 5:00 for dinner in the MPR

Connect with the West Custer County Library

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Tony's Players of the Week

Men's Basketball MPV
Chris Mullett -

Women's Basketball MPV
Reaghan Shank

Photos by
Jennifer Russ Photography



MOST
VALUABLE
PLAYERS

MS Girls Bobcat Champs!

Custer County Schools
Press Release

Let's celebrate this fantastic accomplishment together!
Great job, Lady Bobcats!

We are thrilled to announce that both our A Team and B Team have claimed the title of West Central League Champions! This incredible achievement reflects the hard work, dedication, and teamwork of our talented athletes.

A special shoutout to our amazing coaches, Elizabeth Lewsader and Latisha Schlabach, for their unwavering support and guidance throughout the season. Your leadership has inspired our girls to reach new heights!



Photos courtesy of CCSD-1





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Custer County School District C-1 MENU for the WEEK of March 3 thru March 6 2025		
	Breakfast	Lunch
 Monday	Cereal Oatmeal Mixed Fruit, Yogurt Milk	BBQ Rib Sandwiches Oven Fries Vegetable Pasta salad Choice of Milk
Tuesday	Omelets Sausage Yogurt, Fruit Choice of Milk	Tacos Refried beans, Rice Fruit Choice of Milk
Wednesday	Bagel Toppers Yogurt, Fruit Choice of Milk	Cheese Pizza Salad Choice of Milk
Thursday	Biscuits and Gravy Fruit Choice of Milk	Chicken and Dumplings Green Beans Biscuits Fruit, Choice of Milk

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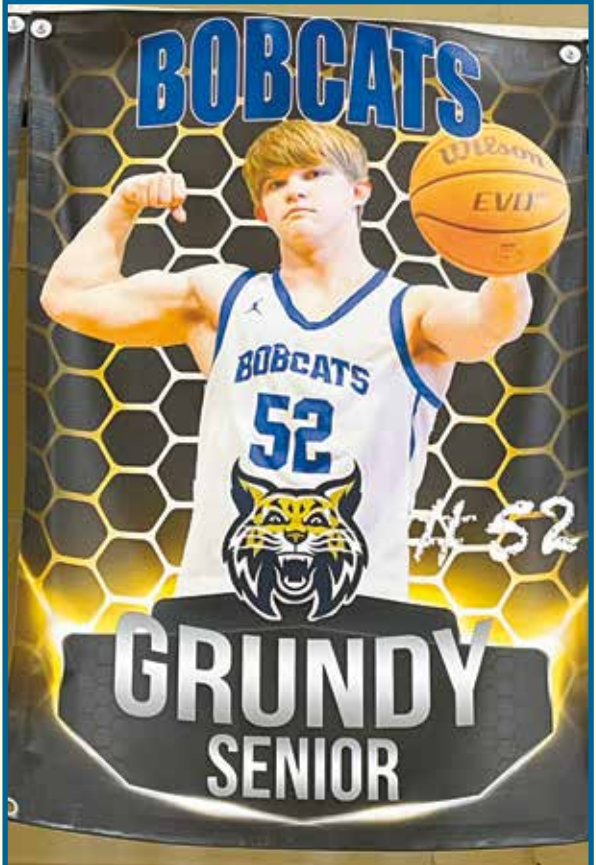
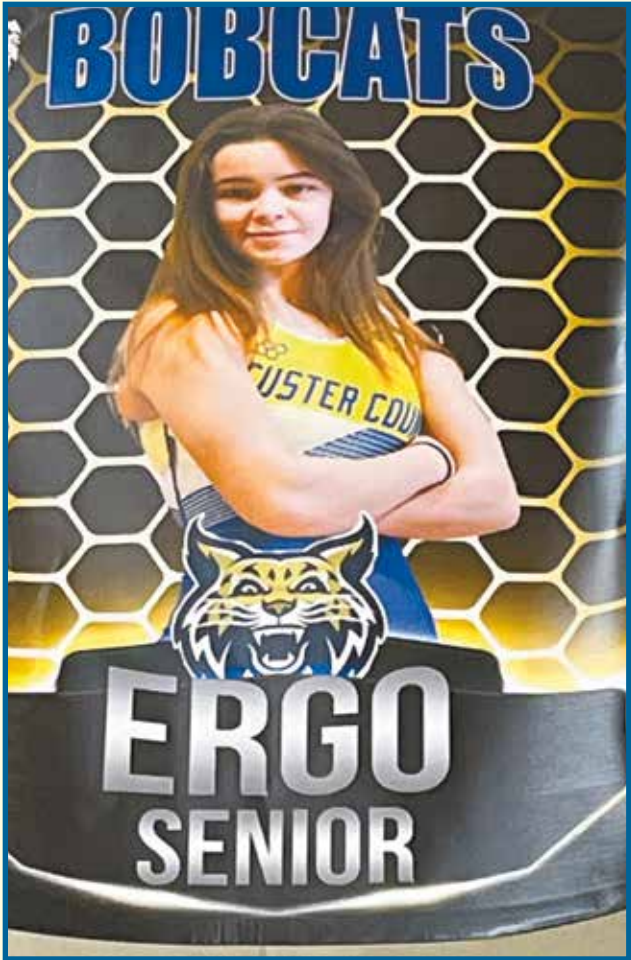
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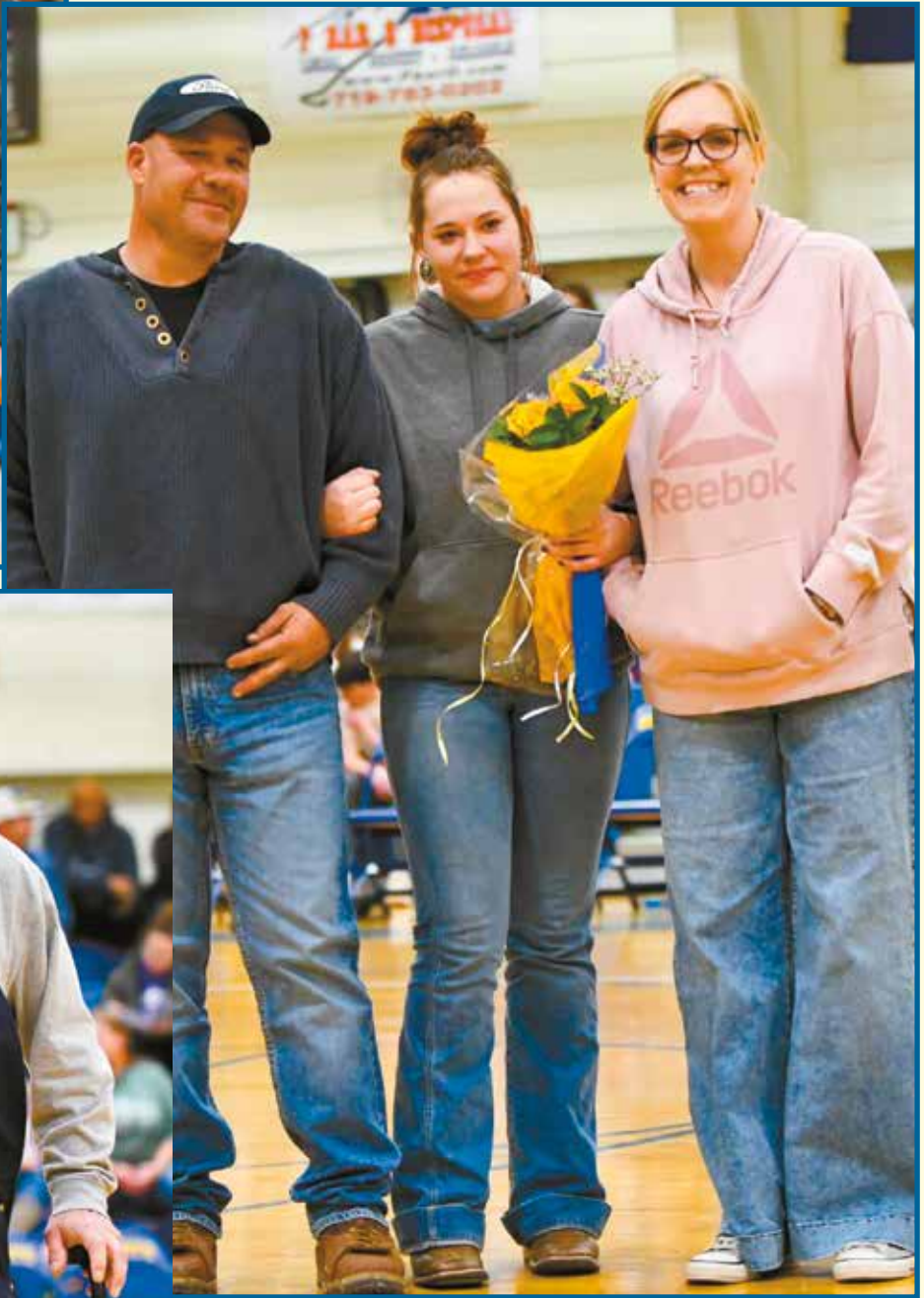
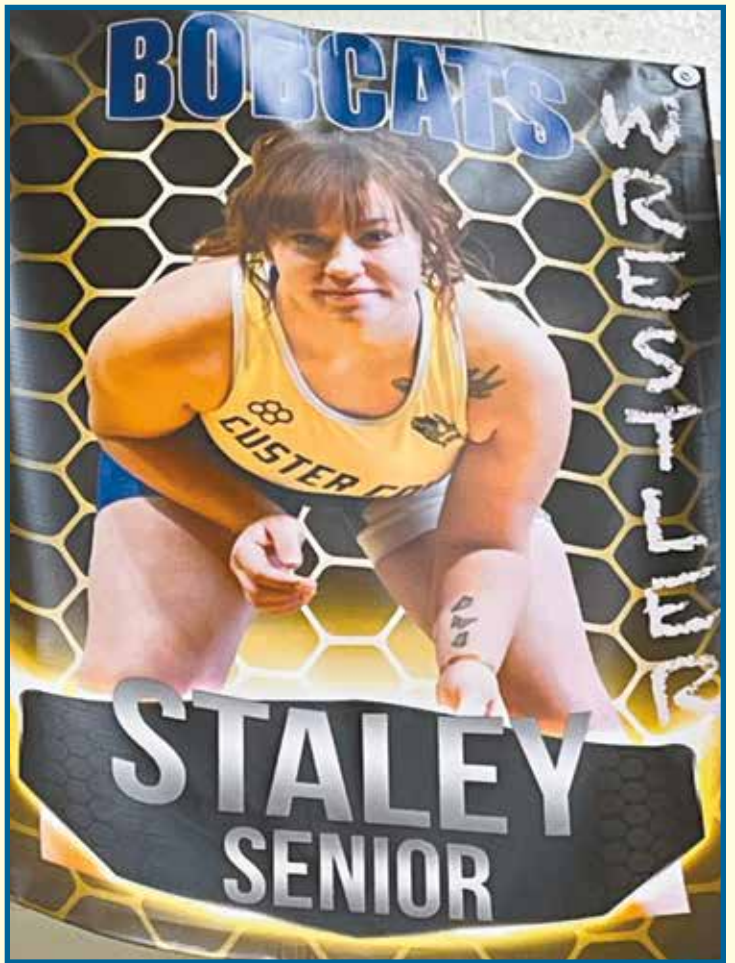
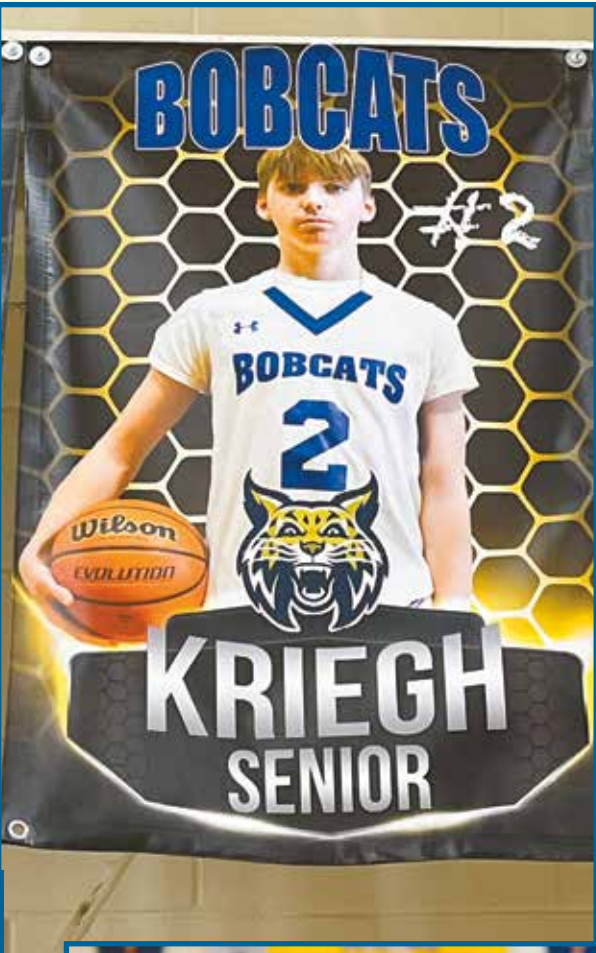
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Custer County Bobcats



Bobcats: Senior Night!



Local Mountain News & Notices

The Salida Dollar

From the Heart of the Rockies Radio News
Facebook Page, January 20, 2025

Heart of the Rockies Radio News

The “S” on Tenderfoot Mountain was changed overnight to a dollar sign. The person or persons responsible left a note saying, “In a time of ever increasing price gouging, greed, and wealth, we’ve corrected the S to better reflect what Salida has become. Behold. Money Mountain. Dedicated to those of us struggling to make a living in this overpriced town”

Jesse Ogden



Evacuaton Day in Massachusetts Remembers A Turning Point in the Revolutionary War

Hope is the strength in your moment of weakness, the light in the dark, the fire when it’s cold. Hope is more powerful than fear and is the only antidote to despair. For when we have hope, we can face even the most difficult challenges in our path. Like courage, hope offers us the belief that failure is not fatal, but the strength to carry on when it is almost certain.

from Eugene Ferraro

The war was not going well. After having spent the winter holed up in Cambridge, General George Washington was anxious to drive the British from Boston. His forces battered after their losses at Bunker Hill, were eager to fight and expel the British once and for all. Washington was no less anxious and was hoping for a decisive solution. That solution was delivered to him by a 25-year-old bookseller-turned-soldier, named Henry Knox.

Months earlier in November 1775, Washington had sent the young Knox to bring to Boston the heavy artillery that had been captured during battle at Fort Ticonderoga. In a technically complex and demanding operation, Knox brought the valuable cannons

to Boston and delivered them to Washington in late January 1776. In March 1776, the artillery had been secretly positioned and now fortified Dorchester Heights (which overlooked Boston and its harbor), thereby threatening the British remaining one and only supply line, the sea.

Upon waking up on a frigid morning of March 17, 1776, the British commander, Sir William Howe saw the hills surrounding him brisling with cannon. At once he knew, Washington had thrown down the gauntlet and was prepared to destroy him and his army. Howe knew the British position at the foot of the hills surrounding him was indefensible and if he chose to fight, he and army faced certain destruction. What Howe did not know was that

Washington’s display of force was just that, a display. Washington’s men and weapons were more than ready to destroy the British but lacked enough gunpowder to fire a single shot!

Having concluded surrender was not an option, Howe ordered the withdrawal of all forces in Boston and hastily sent them to the British stronghold at Halifax, Nova Scotia. Following Washington’s siege, the port-city of Boston effectively ceased to be a military target, but became a center of revolutionary activities, including the fitting ships of war and privateers. Many of its leading citizens would eventually play an important role in the development of the future United States. To this day, Bostonians celebrate March 17th as Evacuation Day.

Be a Voice Write and Call

CONTACT YOUR REPRESENTATIVES

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Lauren Boebert (R)
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Washington DC Phone: (202) 225-4761

Brittany Pettersen (D)
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Washington, DC Phone: (202) 225-2645

Nick Hinrichsen (D)
Senate District 3 Pueblo County
E-mail: nick.hinrichsen.senate@coleg.gov
200 E Colfax RM 346, Denver, CO 80203
Capitol Phone 303-866-4878

Senator Mark Baisley (R)
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Chaffee, Custer, Douglas, Fremont Jefferson, Lake, Park, Teller
E-mail: mark.baisley.senate@coleg.gov
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Chaffee, Grand, Jackson, Lake, Park, Summit
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Capitol Phone 303-866-2952

Representative Stephanie Luck (R)
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Capitol Phone 303-866-2905

Representative Tisha Mauro (D)
House District 46 (Partial Pueblo)
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200 E Colfax RM 307, Denver, CO 80203
Capitol Phone 303-866-2968

Representative Ty Winter (R)
House District 47
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E-mail: ty.winter.house@coleg.gov
200 E Colfax RM 307, Denver, CO 80203
Capitol Phone 303-866-2747

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SECRETARY	TREASURER
Joanie Wilcox	Nancy Drummond

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ANIMAL RESCUE OP from page 1

regarding this facility. During the subsequent investigation probable cause was identified leading to a judge issuing a search warrant.

Custer SO Deputies Evan Johnson and David Binkowski worked the investigation as a team and to plan the operation with special assistance from the Colorado Department of Agriculture. CCSO Evidence Technician Erin McCarthy also assisted in pre planning and obtaining live stock trailers from local ranchers to use to transport the large animals.

Two veterinarians and one veterinary technician were brought to the facility to examine every animal on the grounds and in the facility. Following these examinations, the following at risk animals were seized and transported to care facilities around the region:

- 77 Dogs
- 2 Horses
- 1 Donkey
- 3 Hens
- 3 Cats

A total of 24 responders participated in the rescue and investigation. We are grateful for their support in helping this operation be conducted in a safe and effective manner. These agencies will also be assisting with housing the animals. The assisting organizations are:



Custer SO Pickup with horse trailer on the scene.

- National Mill Dog Rescue
- 11 Judicial District Attorney’s Office
- Colorado Department of Agriculture (CDA)
- CDA Division of Animal Welfare
- Teller County Sheriff’s Office Animal Control
- Park County Sheriff’s Office Animal Control
- Colorado Brand Inspector
- Custer County SO deputies
- Custer EMS
- Bureau of Land Management
- Custer County Planning and Zoning Office

After working all day at the incident scene, the deputies worked into the evening cleaning their vehicles, trailers and uniforms to prevent the spread of sickness and disease.

The investigation is ongoing and our report will be presented to the 11th Judicial District Attorney’s Office

for formal charging. As no charges have been filed, we are not naming the kennel or owners/operators at this time. We ask that you do the same. They are considered innocent until proven guilty in a court. No photo of an evidentiary purpose can be shared.

This post will be updated when formal charges are filed.

It is unusual to mention a charity in a law enforcement press release, but the National Mill Dog Rescue in Peyton, Colorado, certainly deserves a shout out. They provided pre-incident support. They provided one of the on-scene veterinarians as well as a transport vehicle with two additional personnel. They will be housing most of the dogs and providing much needed medical care. We understand that the same transport vehicle is being used today in Oklahoma to help rescue 200 dogs.

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Local Mountain News & Notices

Town of Westcliffe: No More Open Carry in Buildings?

by Laura Vass,
News and Commentary

The February 18, 2025 Town of Westcliffe Board of Trustees meeting was called to order with a quorum, all five members being present.

After Consent Agenda items were approved, the board considered the latest draft of proposed Ordinance 2-2025, which if/when passed, will regulate firearms in public buildings in the municipality of Westcliffe, and be added to municipal code. This is in response to the State passed bill, SB24-131, Prohibiting Carrying Firearms in Sensitive Spaces which allows for an opt out or different ordinance for local government, including municipalities.

(This was tossed around last month, but due to several versions being in the packet, none of which the town lawyer, Clay Buchner recognized as the latest draft, further consideration was postponed to the February meeting. There was also a lot of discussion without a definitive plan on how the ordinance would read.)

The current Town of Westcliffe (TOW) version discussed, allows concealed carry in the municipal building except when court is in session (State law.) The take-

away is that Open Carry will no longer be allowed in Westcliffe municipal buildings if the current version is passed. The Trustees discussed the idea of putting up a sign to that effect.

The question was asked by a TOW Trustee during discussion if someone carrying has to put their gun back in their car/truck, because of a court session, for example, if they would be in violation of the ordinance since it includes the parking lot. Attorney Buchner said the state statute allows for secured storage in the vehicle. (Note that town court is held a couple of times a year.)

Voting on the ordinance was again postponed to the next regular meeting in order to confer with the Custer County Sheriff on the enforceability of the ordinance as worded.

(Editor's Note: TOW's ordinance does not align with the County's ordinance which allows open carry in their public spaces with a few exceptions. This is all further complicated if the Colorado Legislature passes SB25-003, which limits certain guns, and would require more classes and certifications to Conceal Carry or Open Carry. We are not sure if Epp is misquoted in the January TOW minutes or misunderstood. But the County DOES allow

open carry in the Courthouse building with some exceptions and Epp worked on that ordinance.

From TOW's January Minutes:

"Mayor Wenke brought up the issue of how the Town enforces the House Bill. County Commissioner Lucas Epp reported that the County allows concealed carry (except during elections), but not open carry of firearms. The only way to enforce it is if you see a person open carrying, call the Sheriff. At the County building there is a guard sitting outside of the court room, unlike at Westcliffe Town Hall."

From the Sentinel's BOCC report on the June 19, 2024 meeting:

"Commissioner Epp put the Resolution on the Agenda and had County Attorney Slater modify Fremont County's Resolution for Custer County."

Custer County Resolution 24-08 allows for the Open and Concealed Carry of firearms in all county buildings except for the court-room and adjacent court clerk's area. Note that there is a prior county resolution that prohibits the open carrying of firearms in certain designated areas (such as Human Services). Resolution 24-08 keeps those restrictions in place."

(The Sentinel confirmed this in-

terpretation of County Resolution 24-08 with Sherrif Smith.)

Under New Business, the TOW Trustees considered application(s) for the open trustee position and voted on Christie Patterson to fill the slot. (She was sworn in later in the meeting.)

Also under New Business, consideration of a request to approve Town Attorney Buchner's employment contract. Clay has accepted a position as Deputy District Attorney which is full time exempt (FTE) and he can no longer practice private law. He can work for a municipality but not as contract Attorney. He needs the contract employee status to change to a part-time employee. Clay suggested a salary based on historical data to determine an average amount. He would agree to exempt status, waving all benefits. (He currently represents five municipalities.)

The board will have a workshop to craft a new employee agreement and then have an Executive Session at the next regular meeting to work out any new particulars and approve it.

Mr. Wenke asked how the new position would affect his availability. Clay said that he would quit the DA position if it interfered with his ability to serve the municipalities.

Under Consideration of a request to re-activate the Westcliffe Parks Advisory Committee, the Mayor decided that it's a standing committee with no need for reactivation. They appointed another member, Neal Marrs, to the committee.

Under Additions to the Agenda, Christie Patterson was sworn in as an appointed board trustee to fill the vacancy. This will leave a vacancy on the planning committee.

A vacancy open on the Façade grant committee was filled by Trustee Bob Fulton, who volunteered.

Holding a workshop to discuss grant applications was discussed. There was a recap of the County's Affordable Housing committee meeting which was highly attended and included town representatives. Of note was that CAI is still working on the new needs assessment for the towns and the county. (The update is needed for any future grant aps for "Workforce" housing.)

The board discussed needing to move forward with the proposed Lodging Ordinance, which was updated after a workshop last year. It still needs to be approved. They will add consideration of the current version to next month's agenda.



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Colorado State News



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Bill Restricting Ammo Sales Passes House, Moves to Senate

by Elyse Apel,
The Center Square

-- February 26, 2025

Legislation restricting firearm ammunition sales in Colorado successfully passed the state House on Tuesday.

It now moves to the Senate for consideration.

House Bill 25-1133, "Requirements for Sale of Firearms Ammunition," passed on a vote of 38-27, with a few Democrats joining Republicans in opposition to the bill.

"Colorado is facing a crime wave, but instead of going after criminals, Democrats are making it harder for law-abiding citizens to protect themselves," said Colorado House Republicans in a statement. "HB 25-1133 lacks common sense!"

Set to go into effect July 1, 2026, the bill would prohibit the retail sale of ammunition to a person who is younger than 21. The House added a number of exceptions to that age restriction for those who are over 18 and meet one of the following requirements:

- U.S. military or Colorado National Guard member.
- Anyone who has a protective order out against someone.
- Anyone who has obtained a hunter education certification.

The bill would also require that ammunition sold in retail stores be "not accessible" without the assistance of an employee, practically requiring its storage in an enclosed display case or behind a counter.

Bill sponsors argued in committee that the later requirement would help prevent theft of ammunition from retail stores.

"It is far too easy for someone to simply walk out of the store with hundreds of rounds of ammunition," said Democratic Rep. Monica Duran, a bill sponsor, during committee testimony. "This bill establish-

es basic security standards for ammunition sellers to prevent theft."

The bill narrowly made it out of the House Business Affairs and Labor Committee last week with a vote of 7-6. During the committee, dozens testified both in opposition and support of the legislation.

The Colorado State Shooting Association told *The Center Square* that they plan to take the bill to court if it successfully passes the Senate.

"I do think it has a high likelihood of passing through both chambers and being signed into law by Gov. (Jared) Polis," Huey Laugesen, executive director of the association, told *The Center Square*. "It could still be defeated in the courts if it is signed into law, and that's certainly something that our organization will explore."

The bill would also change restrictions on shipping ammunition to the state. It would require a person shipping ammunition to give written notice to the ammunition deliverer that the package contains ammunition.

In addition, delivery drivers delivering ammunition would be required to verify that the person receiving the delivery is 21 or older and obtain written acknowledgment of receipt from the recipient. Failure to do so could result in a class 1 misdemeanor for the driver.

"Colorado Ceasefire strongly believes that sales of both guns and ammunition should be strongly controlled — these are not like other consumer products," Eileen McCarron, Colorado Ceasefire legislative director, told *The Center Square*.

Elyse Apel is a reporter for *The Center Square* covering Colorado and Michigan. A graduate of Hillsdale College, Elyse's writing has been published in a wide variety of national publications from the *Washington Examiner* to *The American Spectator* and *The Daily Wire*.

Please see: https://www.thecentersquare.com/colorado/article_e8536716-f389-11ef-9568-1705c6368ddf.html

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Colorado State News



Colorado Title Board Green Lights ‘Right to Work’ Ballot Initiative

by Mike Krause,
CompleteColorado.com

DENVER—An effort to enact a citizens’ initiative establishing Colorado as what’s called a ‘right to work’ state got a big boost Wednesday, with the state’s Title Board giving a green light to the language voters would decide should the measure make the Colorado ballot.

The initiative is being pushed by Jon Caldara, president of the Independence Institute*, a free market think tank in Denver. According to Caldara, the measure is in response to a bill unwinding the more than 80-year-old Labor Peace Act in Colorado, which recently passed out of the Democrat-dominated Colorado Senate.

Senate Bill 5 removes a provision in the law requiring, after an initial simple majority vote by workers to form a union, a second, 75% supermajority vote for that union to take so-called “agency” fees from all employees’ paychecks. Should the bill become law, the initial majority vote would obligate workers to pay the union fees, whether they want to or not. That’s a step too far for Caldara.

“While not perfect, the 75% vote requirement acts as a proxy to protect those employees who don’t want to unionize,” wrote Caldara in a recent Complete Colorado opinion piece. “Believe it or not, some workers don’t want to be forced to join an organization against their will; some don’t want to hand over their hard-earned money to a political group they might disagree with.”

According to an Independence Institute media release, the proposed ballot measure, titled the “Colorado Workers’ Rights Amendment,” seeks to “protect employees from being

forced into union membership or paying union dues as a condition of employment.”

Key provisions of the initiative include:

- Ensures that no employee, including part-time and seasonal workers, can be required to join a labor union or pay union dues as a condition of employment.
- Prohibits any deductions from an employee’s paycheck for union fees or political contributions unless explicitly authorized in writing by the employee.
- Guarantees that workers have the right to voluntarily join or financially support a labor organization without employer interference.
- It applies to all new and amended employment contracts entered into after the measure’s effective date.

This is not Caldara’s first rodeo at the ballot, having previously put measures reducing the state income tax in front of voters in 2020 and again in 2022, both of which passed easily. Caldara was also behind Proposition 104, which opened up teachers’ union negotiations with schools districts to the public, and which passed by 70%.

The question that would appear before voters, as approved by the Title Board, reads as follows:

“Shall there be an amendment to the Colorado Constitution concerning labor organization affiliation, and, in connection therewith, prohibiting an employer from requiring any employee to join, resign, or refrain from joining a labor organization, or paying dues or any financial support to a labor organization or its affiliates unless authorized by the employee; and creating a new definition of

labor organization for the purposes of this section?”

Constitutional changes require approval by a supermajority 55% plus-one of voters.

*Independence Institute is the publisher of Complete Colorado.

Please see: <https://completecolorado.com/2025/02/20/title-board-green-lights-right-to-work-ballot-initiative/>

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CUSTER COUNTY LEGAL NOTICES

NOTICE

NOTICE TO CREDITORS

Custer County District Court, Colorado
205 S. 6th St.
Westcliffe, CO 81252

In the Matter of the Estate of

Verna Grace Diller, Deceased
11-20-2020

Attorney or Party Without Attorney (Name and Address):
David Schlabach
P.O. Box 893
Westcliffe, CO 81252
Phone number: 719-371-4421
E-mail: Joannsch01@icloud.com
Case Number: 23PR10 Division 1

NOTICE TO CREDITORS BY PUBLICATION PURSUANT TO 15-12-801, C.R.S.

NOTICE TO CREDITORS
Estate of Verna Grace Diller, Deceased
Case Number 23PR10

All persons having claims against the above named estate are required to present them to the personal representative or to

District Court of Custer County, Colorado
On or before March 17, 2025, or the claims may be forever barred.

David Schlabach
P.O. Box 893
Westcliffe, CO 81252

Published February 21, February 28, March 7, 2025
Sangre de Cristo Sentinel
Westcliffe, Colorado

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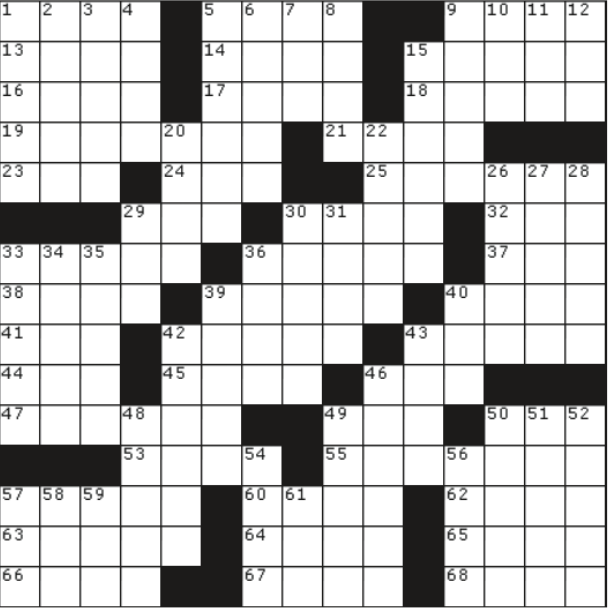


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ACROSS

- 1 Hook
5 Essence
9 Scoff
13 Dinner bread
14 Son of Seth
15 More angry
16 Opera solo
17 Zilch
18 Minor Jewish prophet
19 First Christian martyr

DOWN

- 21 Scarce
23 Pops
24 Adam and ____
25 Capital of Saudi Arabia
29 Wing
30 Fun
32 Utter
33 Satan
36 ____ out (panic)
37 Sing
38 Foray

- 39 Animals from Daniel
40 Pennsylvania (abbr.)
41 Pride
42 Sandwich meats
43 Wheeled tables
44 Entire
45 Economics abbr.
46 Youngest son of Noah
47 Less nice
49 Caesar’s seven
50 Accountant
53 Fresh
55 Brilliant
57 Sandwich cookies brand
60 Talk about, with “over”
62 Juice solids
63 Card game
64 Graven image
65 Otherwise
66 Decorative needle case
67 Right-winger
68 Garden of ____

DOWN

- 1 Have in one’s hands
2 Main artery
3 Plague of Egypt
4 What birds’ wings do
5 Swiss city
6 Silly
7 Turf
8 Russian ruler
9 Sticky
10 Internal Revenue Service

- 11 Spelling contest
12 Time period
15 Yell
20 Place for the wicked
22 Regions
26 Tribe of Israel
27 Scare
28 Religious songs
29 Assist
30 Moan
31 Optical device
33 Had by Joseph, Joseph and magi
34 Cliff dwelling bird
35 Stringed instrument
36 Pale sherry
39 Filthy ____
40 ____ Bondi
42 Little
43 Adam’s son
46 “I think ____ of him”
48 Mother-in-law of Ruth
49 Eyeshade
50 Might
51 Heartbeat
52 Birch-like tree
54 Bit
56 Fencing sword
57 Unrefined metal
58 Furrow
59 Flightless bird
61 Hoopla

Puzzle key on page 7

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.

Stupidocrisy:
“Constitutional Crisis”

Since when is identifying government waste, graft and corruption a constitutional crisis? It is when the Democratic Party and their propaganda arms don’t want Americans to see what they have been doing with tax money. First, identifying government waste and corruption was a threat to democracy. That was the main talking point—that, and the idea that a Department of Government Efficiency (DOGE) under the direction of a legitimate presidential appointee, Elon Musk, were somehow a threat to everything that America stands for, and in New York Democratic Senator Chuck Schumer’s words, “taking away everything we have.” Now the Democrat and propaganda machine talking points are “Constitutional crisis.”

Identifying government waste, graft and corruption is not only a threat to democracy, but also a Constitutional crisis, according to most every elected Democrat and mainstream news media. It perhaps is a threat to their brand of Marxism labeled “democracy” and the Communist Manifesto that they dearly hold as their own private constitution. But it is not a threat to the American Republic. A government for the people, by the people, and of the people requires good stewardship and accountability. The Democratic Party deep state/ administrative state is all about transfer of your wealth into the hands of those who will continue in power and enrich themselves with the graft system they have perfected.

Think about this: According to an analysis of improper payments by the Office of Management and Budget, Joe Biden’s four years in office resulted in over \$925.7 billion in waste, fraud, and duplicative payments. That’s almost a trillion dollars. And that’s a tally BEFORE any findings of the DOGE. That’s what the Federal Government is admitting. Yet, Democrats and the media are trying to sell Americans on the idea that identifying this malfeasance is a threat to democracy and is a Constitutional crisis. Democrat Senators Chris Van Hollen (MD) and Brian Schatz (HI) said they were putting a blanket hold on Trump nominees for the State Department until Trump calls off DOGE’s hunt for graft and corruption.

ABC News reported that Democrats gathered outside of USAID demanding an end to DOGE. Among them were Reps. Don Beyer, Gerry Connolly, Eugene Vindman and Suhas Subramanyam of Virginia; Jamie Raskin, Johnny Olszewski and Sarah Elfreth of Maryland; and Ilhan Omar of Minnesota, Jim McGovern of Massachusetts and Yassamin Ansari of Arizona. They were joined by Sens. Chris Van Hollen of Maryland, Brian Schatz of Hawaii and Chris Murphy of Connecticut. These people want to shut down the government rather than have the graft and corruption exposed. This is not about the Constitution or ending democracy. It is about exposing horrible waste, graft and corruption. 1 Corinthians 4:2 says, Moreover it is required in stewards, that a man be found faithful.” They are not. It’s not a constitutional crisis, it’s say it with me...Stupidocrisy.

Sources:

https://www.paymentaccuracy.gov/payment-accuracy-the-numbers/

https://abcnews.go.com/Politics/constitutional-crisis-democrats-blast-musk-trump-usaid/story?id=118413317

Bill Wilson

Dailyjot.com Printed with permission.

“The Threat from Within”:
J.D. Vance Delivers a Historic
Defense of Free Speech

by Jonathan Turley,
JonathanTurley.org

In “*Hillbilly Elegy: A Memoir of a Family and Culture in Crisis*,” J.D. Vance wrote, “I don’t believe in transformative moments, as transformation is harder than a moment.”

Despite that profound point, on February 14th, Vance found that transformative moment.

Speaking to European leaders at the Munich Security Conference, he shocked his audience by confronting them over their attacks on free speech in the West.

For the free speech community, it was truly Churchillian — no less than the famous Iron Curtain speech in which Churchill dared the West to confront the existential dangers of communism.

Roughly 80 years after Churchill’s speech, Vance called our allies to account not for the growing threat from countries like Russia or China, but from themselves. To a clearly shocked audience, Vance declared that he was not worried about “external actors” but “the threat from within the retreat of Europe from some of its most fundamental values, values shared with the United States of America.”

Vance then pulled back the curtain on the censorship and anti-free-speech policies of the European Union and close allies ranging from the United Kingdom to Sweden. He also chastised one of the most vehemently anti-free speech figures in Europe, Thierry Breton, who led the EU efforts to control speech with draconian measures under the infamous Digital Services Act.

Vance called out the hypocrisy of these nations asking for greater and greater military assistance “in the name of our shared democratic values” even as they eviscerate free speech, the very right that once defined Western Civilization.

The point was crushing.

Before we further commit to the defense of Europe, he argued, we should agree on what we are defending. These European nations are erasing the very distinctions between us and our adversaries.

In my recent book, I discussed many of the examples cited by the vice president. One of the most telling came from Canada last year, when the government of Prime Minister Justin Trudeau temporarily blocked the citizenship of Russian dissident Maria Kartasheva. The reason was

that she had a conviction (after a trial in absentia) in Russia for condemning the Ukrainian war. The Canadian government declared that Kartasheva’s conviction in Russia aligns with a Criminal Code offense relating to false information in Canada.

In other words, her use of free speech could be prosecuted in Canada under its abusive Section 372(1) of the Criminal Code, punishing speech deemed to be “convey[ing] false information with the intent to alarm or injure anyone.”

Vance ran through just a fraction of the parade of horrors, from Britain arresting people for silent prayers near abortion clinics to Sweden prosecuting a religious protester who burned a Koran, with Judge Göran Lundahl insisting that freedom of expression does not constitute a “free pass to do or say anything.” Apparently, it does not include acts once called blasphemy or insulting religion.

Vance also mocked the underlying premise for speech crackdowns to combat “disinformation,” pointing out that these measures constitute a far greater threat to citizens in the West than any external threat. He had the courage to say what has long been verboten on the restriction of speech to combat foreign influence: “if your democracy can be destroyed with a few hundred thousand dollars of digital advertising from a foreign country, then it wasn’t very strong to begin with.”

In perhaps the greatest single declaration uttered by an American leader since John F. Kennedy in Germany declared “*Ich bin ein Berliner*,” he added: “If you are running in fear of your own voters, there is nothing America can do for you. Nor, for that matter, is there anything that you can do for the American people that elected me and elected President Trump.”

The reaction of the European diplomats was one of astonishment. Few even offered the usual polite applause. Instead, rows of smug leaders looked straight ahead with the same level of disgust as if Vance were the second coming of the Visigoths threatening the Pax Romana, or Roman Peace.

In a single speech, Vance shattered the hypocrisy of our allies’ calling for a defense of the West while abandoning Western values. They did not like it, and many in the American press joined in dismissing his address.

He was called a “wrecking ball”

for bringing up the anti-free speech movement that has swept over Europe. One German official declared “This is all so insane and worrying.” This is a diplomat from a nation that shredded free speech for decades, to the point of arresting people over their ringtones.

Of course, our own anti-free speech voices were in attendance, too. Politico quoted one “former House Democratic staffer” who bravely attacked Vance anonymously: “I was aghast ... He was blaming the victim. What the f— was that? I had my mouth open in a room full of people with their mouth open. That was bad.”

No, it was not bad. It was glorious.

After Elon Musk purchased Twitter with the pledge to dismantle the company’s censorship system, former Secretary of State Hillary Clinton turned to the EU, calling on it to use its Digital Service Act to force the censorship of her fellow American citizens. That did not leave many people agape. But Vance’s defense of free speech is considered a breathtaking outrage.

In “*Hillbilly Elegy*,” Vance explained his lack of faith in transformative moments.

“I’ve seen far too many people awash in a genuine desire to change, only to lose their mettle when they realized just how difficult change actually is,” he wrote.

And there is no “genuine desire to change” in Europe. The appetite for censorship is now insatiable, and free speech is in a free fall.

In the midst of this crackdown, Vance spoke with a quintessentially American voice. It was clear, honest and unafraid. There was no pretense or evasion. It was a speech about who we are as a nation and the values that still define us — and no longer define our allies.

They saw him as a virtual hillbilly, an American hayseed who does not understand transnational values.

For the rest of us, it was a true elegy — part lament and part liberating.

Bravo, Mr. Vice President, Bravo.

Jonathan Turley is the Shapiro professor of public interest law at George Washington University and the author of “*The Indispensable Right: Free Speech in an Age of Rage*.”

Please see: <https://jonathanturley.org/2025/02/17/the-threat-from-within-j-d-vance-delivers-a-historic-defense-of-free-speech/#more-228836>

Amendment 14

by Karl Menninger,
Market-Ticker.Org

Pretty simple Amendment by text (only Sections 1 and 5 bear on this):

Section 1.

All persons born or naturalized in the United States, and subject to the jurisdiction thereof, are citizens of the United States and of the State wherein they reside. No State shall make or enforce any law which shall abridge the privileges or immunities of citizens of the United States; nor shall any State deprive any person of life, liberty, or property, without due process of law; nor deny to any person within its jurisdiction the equal protection of the laws.

and

Section 5.

The Congress shall have power to enforce, by appropriate legislation, the provisions of this article.

Now let's look at the actual history of this act.

Mr. HOWARD. The first amendment is to section one, declaring that "all persons born in the United States, and subject to the jurisdiction thereof, are citizens of the United States and of the States wherein they reside." I do not propose to say anything on that subject except that the question of citizenship has been so fully discussed in this body as not to need any further elucidation, in my opinion. This amendment which I have offered is simply declaratory of what I regard as the law of the land already, that every person born within the limits of the United States, and subject to their jurisdiction, is by virtue of natural law and national law a citizen of the United States. This will not, of course, include persons born in the United States who are foreigners, aliens, who belong to the families of ambassadors or foreign ministers accredited to the Government of the United States, but will include every other class of persons. It settles the great question of citizenship and removes all doubt as to what persons are or are not citizens of the United States. This has long been a great desideratum in the jurisprudence and legislation of this country.

First Senator Howard, *one of the authors*, at the time of its debate and passage:

See clipping (LEFT)

So the Senator explicitly stated that the intent excluded those born to foreigners -- aliens -- along with those born to Ambassadors, Consulate officials and similar.

You'd think that would be the end of it. But it isn't, because we don't read history anymore. The logic here is quite-clear; a person born to parents who are not Americans are in fact subject to the jurisdiction of a foreign nation. It belies reason to believe that one is *subject to the jurisdiction* simply by being *present* without lineage or other attachment-- I am *not* subject to the *jurisdiction* of Canada should I travel there, *but I am still required to follow their laws*.

Or am I?

Well, that got examined in Wong Kim Ark (*United States v. Wong Kim Ark March 28, 1898*) by the Supreme Court.

He was born to parents of Chinese descent who at the time were here legally with permanent residence but due to the laws of the time could not be naturalized. He traveled with them to China at age 21 and on attempted return to the United States was denied entry as a non-citizen.

Here are the admitted facts by both sides of the case:

‘That the said Wong Kim Ark was born in the year 1873, at No. 751 Sacramento street, in the city and county of San Francisco, state of California, United States of America, and that his mother and father were persons of Chinese descent, and subjects of the emperor of China, and that said Wong Kim Ark was and is a laborer.

‘That at the time of his said birth his mother and father were domiciled residents of the United States, and had

AMENDMENT 14
see page 22

Kennedy Had a Cult Like Following. So Did Obama. Personally, I'll Take Trump.

by Glenn K. Beaton,
The Aspen Beat

The Trump-is-Hitler crowd dismisses the 77 million Americans who elected Donald Trump to the Presidency, for the second time, as a cult.

They aren't suggesting that these 77 million people are a cult because they were opposed to another four years of Joe Biden's drooling corruption. Rather, they're suggesting that these people are card-carrying, Kool Aid-drinking Trump worshippers.

Let's put this in context. One of the defining characteristics of cults is that they idolize a charismatic, authoritarian leader. Such leaders get away with a lot. Think about a leader who says such things as:

"Ask not what your country can do for you, ask what you can do for your country."

That's a catchy slogan, but there's a sinister side. The charismatic speaker was sloganeering people to subordinate their own needs to the needs (and wants) of a geopolitical entity – namely, their country.

Not coincidentally, the needs and wants of that country to which the speaker urged the people to subordinate their own needs, were defined by that very same speaker.

How convenient for the speaker, who happened to be the President of the most powerful country in the history of the world. In less flowery language, he could have said, "Just do what I tell you."

Such sentiments have prevailed for thousands of years, but

the Founders of the country that speaker was leading had something new in mind. They imagined a nation that, in the words of Abraham Lincoln, was "of the people, by the people, and for the people."

In the course of a great civil war, Lincoln with those words reminded the people that the purpose of this nation so conceived and dedicated – this nation Lincoln wanted not to perish from the earth – was to serve its people, not to be served by them.

Or think about a leader about whom it is declared:

"He is the one." [--Oprah]

If such a declaration conjures up the Gospels, that's because it's supposed to.

As if atheists comparing a

politician to a messiah is not bad enough, consider that this "one" (or is it this "One"?) was worshipped (by the stupid media anyway) as the "smartest President ever."

Their IQ evidence was as thin as their messiah evidence.

Which brings us to the so-called Cult of Trump, some 77-million strong and counting.

But alas, no one suggests that Trump is the messiah. No one suggests that our personal needs and wants should be Trumped.

Trump never uses the phrase "Ask not . . ."

He's not known for flowery language at all. His best and most persuasive speech was to repeat a single word three times. Blood flowed down his face as he stumbled to his feet and shouted:

"FIGHT, FIGHT, FIGHT!"

I don't worship Trump. His human flaws are painfully obvious at times. He's certainly no messiah, and his White House is no Camelot. But this is not the time for a messiah, and Camelot never actually existed in either medieval England or 60s America.

What America needs is a course correction. We need to get government back on a path that serves us.

I believe that, with the help of talented people, a bit of luck, and Providence, Trump might be able to make that correction. That makes me an optimist, not a cultist.

Please see: <https://glennkbeaton.substack.com/p/kennedy-had-a-cult-like-following>

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for your information...

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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

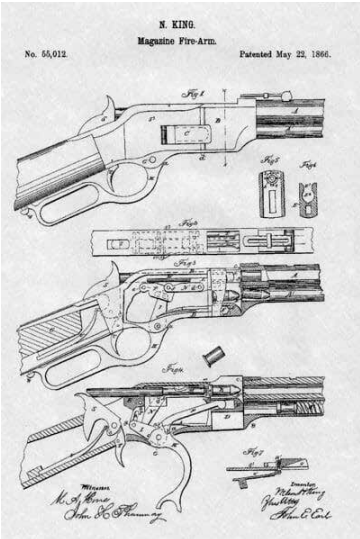
Henry Repeating Arms Side Loading 45-70 Rifle Review

by Mike Searson, ammoland.com

Almost 160 years after the fact, Henry Repeating Arms finally added a side loading gate to their line of rifles which for the longest time had only been front-loading tubular magazine rifles.

A few months back I was lucky enough to try out one of the first of these rifles chambered in 35 Remington, but all it did was make me long for other calibers in the same platform! So when I was offered their ultimate big bore rifle in 45-70, I had to say "Yes!"

Henry Repeating Arms and the Loading Gate



Nelson King's patent drawing for the side loading gate

The earliest rifles with the Henry name were built at the New Haven Arms Company based on Benjamin Tyler Henry's design back in 1860. As successful as the design was, shooters and soldiers complained about dirt entering the magazine tube and gumming up the works or damaging the magazine tube while carried on horseback.

In 1865, Oliver Winchester renamed New Haven Arms the Winchester Repeating Arms Co. and a plant superintendent named Nelson King redesigned the magazine tube which incorporated a side loading gate.

While I am in my fourth decade of shooting, I am a relative newcomer to Henry Repeating Arms. Even though the company has been around for 20 + years they only jumped on my radar two years ago. Some firearm, Civil War and Old West historians balked at the use of the Henry name, but I think they need to get over it.

Henry Repeating Arms is building the rifles that Benjamin Tyler Henry and Oliver Winchester wish they could have built.

Henry Side Loading Gate 45-70

Every time I take one of their rifles out of the box I am blown



Henry Side Loading Gate 45-70

away by their appearance. Pictures do not do this rifle justice. I have said it before and I will say it again, their brass receivers take my breath away every time as does the wood, checkering and the slickness of their actions.

The genius of these new rifles is retaining the front-loading capability while incorporating the side loading gate. This beats having to manually cycle your unfired rounds through the chamber. On these new rifles, all you need to do is pull the front of the tube out and safely unload the rifle.



Henry Side Gate

45-70: A little bit about the cartridge

I consider 45-70 to be the "King of the Beasts", the history of the cartridge is quite impressive.

In 1866 the US Military began a search for a rifle cartridge with a .45 caliber bullet that would give increased range, penetration and accuracy. They found it in the "45-70-405". This three-part naming convention referred to the diameter of the bullet (0.45"), the weight of the black powder charge (70 grains) and the weight of the projectile (405 grains). It was loaded in a centerfire copper case and christened the "[45-70 Government](#)" cartridge in commercial catalogs.



Various 45-70 Ammo

Various 45-70 Ammo

Muzzle velocity was 1,350 feet per second and the accuracy standard was 4 MOA (Minute of Angle), translating to 4" at 100 yards. Trials were held in 1872 for a rifle capable of firing this round and was awarded to the Springfield Trapdoor rifle of 1873.

The round was used in various Gatling gun models from 1873 until 1893, about the same lifespan of the Trapdoor Springfield rifles and carbines. However, at the dawn of the 20th century, the single-shot black powder rifle

concept was rapidly becoming obsolete. Thankfully, hunters and sportsmen saved the round from fading into oblivion.

After all, it is a large-diameter bullet seated in a case with a huge powder capacity!

It became a favorite round of buffalo hunters because the large dense bullet moves at a relatively slow pace and penetrates without destroying the meat. I believe most hunters in the 19th century used a 500 grain bullet as opposed to the 405 grain type.

Modern 45-70 ammunition is more than adequate for any North American big game animals within appropriate distances. It has even been used successfully in Africa on the Big Five.

Luckily, we are not at the mercy of single-shot trapdoor, falling block, or rolling block rifles anymore for this round. Winchester offered its Model of 1886 in chambering, and that tradition continues today with other manufacturers, such as Henry Repeating Arms.

Modern firearms such as the Henry can pretty much ignore the anemic black powder loadings, and several companies produce ammunition appropriate for use in modern rifles. Just don't shoot them out of your old Trapdoor Springfield!

The Rest of the Henry Repeating Arms Side Loading 45-70 Rifle

Beyond the gorgeous exterior, lever-action rifles built by Henry Arms have buttery smooth action and rock-solid lockup. The semi-buckhorn-style sight has a highly visible diamond, and the front sight is an ivory bead. If you want to add an optic, the receiver is drilled and tapped for scope mounts.

At the Range

I set my target up at 100 yards with the rifle supported by sandbags.

Being that I have a few rifles and even a pistol chambered in 45-70, I had a few varieties of ammunition on hand. I took a 20-box of HSM Cowboy Action Lead RNFP 405 Grains and a 20-round box of 325-grain Hornady LEVERevolution.

I have to say the trigger is a thing of beauty, too, and breaks at a crisp 4 pounds.

Using the HSM ammunition first, my best 4-shot group was at 2.05". The Hornady ammunition felt a bit stouter but performed much better at 1.5". I was impressed but thought I could do better.

I engaged some steel targets at various distances while standing and rang steel all day. The big lead 405-grain slugs leave a nice big mark, too.

Skinner Sights

I know that most rifles are more accurate than the shooter behind

the trigger. For years I was a die-hard iron sight guy. That was how I learned and unless I am shooting at longer ranges, I tend to prefer irons.

However, I'm approaching my half-century mark on this earth and on some days things can get a little blurry. Even though the Henry is drilled and tapped for a scope and I do have a lever gun with an optic, I wanted something to keep this rifle a bit more traditional for now.

I have two other lever-action rifles equipped with receiver-mounted peep sights made by Skinner Sights. I have tried tang sights and veneers and considered them for a minute until I talked to Andy Larsson.

We met in person at a Blue August Media event in Las Vegas. He was demonstrating his sights and a few other projects that they have in the works. I asked him if he made a tang sight.

"No, those things are up when you want them down and down when you want them up."

I agreed and told him how I had his sights on two of my other rifles and loved them but that I wanted to add one to a Henry and keep the old-timey look. He had the perfect solution.

Skinner Sights offers a brass peep sight that fits in the scope mounting holes on the top of the receiver. It is very reminiscent of the M16/AR-15 type sight, and the aperture can be changed. It is completely adjustable for windage and elevation. They offer a black version, too, but the gold one looks like it was made for the brass-framed Henry.

While you do not have to remove the rear buckhorn sight, it kept throwing me off, so it had to go. Skinner makes an easy-to-install dovetail slot filler that completes the look of the rifle.

I returned to the range and with the HSM ammunition was able to shrink my group size down to just over 1 inch.

It works on the principle of a scope by allowing you to see better.



Skinner Peep Sight mounted on a Henry rifle.

Gun Owners Need More Rules? In This Case, Yes!

By David Codrea, [ammoland.com](#)

“Sometimes, the first step in getting involved in grassroots advocacy can be the most daunting one, but the fact remains: There is no one in your life more important to protecting your rights than you.” That’s the first sentence in my endorsement of freedom advocate and [Grassroots North Carolina](#) President F. Paul Valone’s *Rules for ANTI-Radicals: A Practical Handbook for Defeating Leftism*.

Rules for ANTI-Radicals: A Practical Handbook for Defeating Leftism

Valone shows how to use the tactics of the left against them and does it in an instructive and engaging way. Most readers here will get the title’s nod to “community organizer” Saul Alinsky’s *Rules for Radicals*. The book was the subject of Hillary Clinton’s senior thesis at Wellesley College and acknowledges “Lucifer” as “the first radical known to man who rebelled against the establishment and did it so effectively that he at least won his own kingdom.”

Suffice it to say Valone’s *Rules for ANTI-Radicals* pursues the different goals of advancing truth and freedom instead of the collectivist descent into hell on earth.

Endorsements aren’t things I give out lightly and I never offer insincere praise. So, I mean it when I say:

“Paul Valone has written a very important primer that helps all of us recognize where we can best fit our talents and goals to beat the control freaks and prohibitionists at their own game, and that makes that first step a lot easier: Read this book. You’ll know what to do next.”

AmmoLand has already published [a publicity release for the book](#), including an enthusiastic interview on *Tom Gresham’s Gun Talk*, so I’m not alone in thinking this “user manual”

is something special. Rather than repeat what’s already been said there, let’s instead look at some of the topics Valone explores and explains.

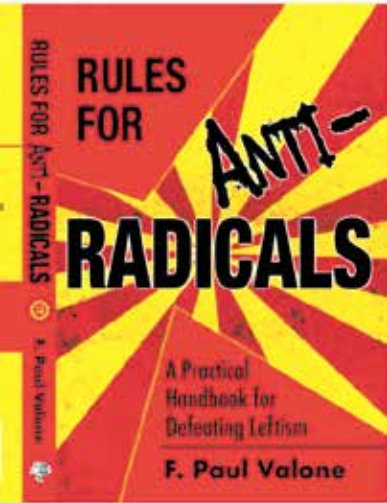
He starts out with a “Boot Camp for Conservative Activists,” introducing the reader to what Alinsky was about and then dissecting what “liberals” are – and aren’t, how they “bludgeon you into submission,” and how to “beat [them] at their own game.”

Valone then defines “the basics,” the “tools and tactics” activists have at their disposal to engage in grassroots economic, political/electoral, legislative, and legal actions. He explains how to organize and mobilize, two essential functions the left has mastered, and which “conservatives” had better learn how to emulate, followed by two more necessary capabilities, fundraising and media management.

All are comprehensively covered by someone who has spent decades learning and perfecting all the disciplines and methods that he shares. Think of what it has taken for him to lead a statewide group, the knowledge, the discipline, and the force of will needed to keep the leftists at bay and then to make advances against subversion that metastasizes through corrupted media and establishment agendas.

This is a college-level class on how to fight, and taking it makes us all the more knowledgeable and prepared to win. Valone knows what he’s talking about and explains it all in a way that’s easy to follow and interesting. He supplements it throughout with graphics, charts, and appendices, making this not just an instruction manual, but an authoritative reference that activists will want to keep nearby for when the innumerable questions arise that *Rules for ANTI-Radicals* has ready answers to.

Where should you best apply your



Some rules can be used against freedom prohibitionists.

—F. Paul Valone

skills and efforts? That’s up to you. If you haven’t already found a personally rewarding way to advance your interests and the rights of those you love, there’s no better way to identify how to get involved than by learning what the tactics that work are.

Maybe you already know where you fit in, find it fulfilling, and are good at it. As I ended my endorsement, “for those of us already along the path, this book is an invaluable resource to help guide our efforts for maximum effect.”

You can get a copy either from [Amazon](#) or, an autographed copy through the *Rules for ANTI-Radicals website*. (Editor/GG: see <https://rulesforantiradicals.com>)

(Editor/GG: Fellow peasants and serfs: BUY this book. Read it and implement it locally. All politics is local. If you want Happy Valley to look like Denver, then keep sitting on your rump. If not, get involved. Do something!)

Please see: <https://www.ammoland.com/2025/02/gun-owners-need-more-rules-in-this-case-yes/>

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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.



HENRY SIDE LEVER from page 20

Small apertures improve your ability to focus just like when you aim a camera or a rifle scope. It’s an assist for your vision and the increased distance by moving the rear sight from the barrel to the rear of the receiver gives you a longer sight radius. It may not give you as fast a sight picture as the factory sights, but you’re not exactly going to be protecting your covered wagon from Paiutes or Comanche anytime soon.

If you are looking for a sight like this for your Henry, Marlin, Winchester, Thompson Center or Ruger check them out at www.skinnersights.com

Downsides

If there is a downside to brass-framed Henry rifles, it is that they look too good. I shoot a few old commemorative rifles, so that has never been a problem for me, but I could see truly dedicated hunters and outdoorsmen craving a more subdued or subtle finish and reduced checkering on these rifles, or else they may be hesitant to go afield with them. Maybe as time goes by, we will see these rifles offered in blued steel with plain walnut furniture.



I do think adding the side loading gate to rifles with Henry’s Brass receiver flagship look was an incredibly smart idea, though.

The only other thing that will be an issue on this model is the brass butt plate. I didn’t find it bad on the 35 Remington version or too much with the 405-grain bullets. I definitely knew I was shooting a big bore with the Hornady, though. A nice rubber recoil pad will be a welcome addition to a field model if they ever roll out.

Final Thoughts

As a lever-action fan, I was always partial to other brands, but Henry is quickly making me a believer in their products. This is the second Henry Rifle I tried out with the side-loading gate and all I can say is that I hope more calibers and configurations are offered down the line.

I see the demand there already for 357 Magnum, 44 Magnum and I think my personal dream gun would be a side-loading gate on a 41 Magnum Mare’s

Leg for an SBR project. The other benefit of the side gate is that threaded barrels can be incorporated with close to full-length magazine tubes.

- o **Model Number:** H024-4570
- o **Action Type:** Lever Action Rifle
- o **Caliber:** 45-70
- o **Capacity:** 4 Rounds
- o **Barrel Length:** 19.8”
- o **Barrel Type:** Round Blued Steel
- o **Rate of Twist:** 1:20”
- o **Overall Length:** 38.1”
- o **Weight:** 7.09 lbs.
- o **Receiver Finish:** Polished Brass
- o **Rear Sight:** Fully Adj. Semi-Buckhorn w/ Diamond Insert
- o **Front Sight:** Ramp w/ .062” Ivory Bead
- o **Scope Mount Type:** Weaver 63B
- o **Stock Material:** American Walnut
- o **Buttplate/Pad:** Brass
- o **Length of Pull:** 14”
- o **Safety:** Transfer Bar
- o **MSRP:** \$1,045
- o **Website:** www.henryusa.com

Please see: <https://www.ammoland.com/2025/02/henry-repeating-arms-side-loading-45-70-rifle-review/>

Canada begins construction on a wall at the Canada US border 



There are six things that the LORD hates, seven that are an abomination to Him:

haughty eyes, a lying tongue,

and hands that shed innocent blood,

a heart that devises wicked plans,

feet that make haste to run to evil,

a false witness who breathes out lies,

and one who sows discord among brothers.

Proverbs 6:16-19

AMENDMENT 14
from page 19

established and enjoyed a permanent domicile and residence therein, at said city and county of San Francisco, state aforesaid.

‘That said mother and father of said Wong Kim Ark continued to reside and remain in the United States until the year 1890, when they departed for China.

‘That during all the time of their said residence in the United States, as domiciled residents therein, the said mother and father of said Wong Kim Ark were engaged in the prosecution of business, and were never engaged in any diplomatic or official capacity under the emperor of China.

‘That ever since the birth of said Wong Kim Ark, at the time and place hereinbefore stated and stipulated, he has had but one residence, to wit, a residence in said state of California, in the United States of America, and that he has never changed or lost said residence or gained or acquired another residence, and there resided claiming to be a citizen of the United States.

‘That in the year 1890 the said Wong Kim Ark departed for China, upon a temporary visit, and with the intention of returning to the United States, and did return thereto on July 26, 1890, on the steamship Gaelic, and was permitted to enter the United States by the collector of customs, upon the sole

ground that he was a native-born citizen of the United States.

‘That, after his said return, the said Wong Kim Ark remained in the United States, claiming to be a citizen thereof, until the year 1894, when he again departed for China upon a temporary visit, and with the intention of returning to the United States, and did return thereto in the month of August, 1895, and applied to the collector of customs to be permitted to land; and that such application was denied upon the sole ground that said Wong Kim Ark was not a citizen of the United States.

‘That said Wong Kim Ark has not, either by himself or his parents acting for him, ever renounced his allegiance to the United States, and that he has never done or committed any act or thing to exclude him therefrom.’

The court held that, under the 14th Amendment, he was a citizen.

Note the distinctions.

- His parents were both domiciled residents. Under the law of the time they could not be naturalized and while they had not renounced their Chinese citizenship (which would not have been recognized, as generally, nations will not allow you to be “stateless”) they were lawful permanent residents in the United States at all times relevant including prior to Wong’s conception and birth.
- Neither his parents or he committed any act of offense against the United States that would exclude any of them

upon legal grounds from said presence in the United States.

Note the actual decision and holding cites history prior to America:

“II. The fundamental principle of the common law with regard to English nationality was birth within the allegiance—also called ‘ligealty,’ ‘obedience,’ ‘faith,’ or ‘power’—of the king. The principle embraced all persons born within the king’s allegiance, and subject to his protection. Such allegiance and protection were mutual,—as expressed in the maxim, ‘Protectio trahit subjectionem, et subjectio protectionem,’—and were not restricted to natural-born subjects and naturalized subjects, or to those who had taken an oath of allegiance; but were predicable of aliens in amity, so long as they were within the kingdom. Children, born in England, of such aliens, were therefore natural-born subjects. But the children, born within the realm, of foreign ambassadors, or the children of alien enemies, born during and within their hostile occupation of part of the king’s dominions, were not natural-born subjects, because not born within the allegiance, the obedience, or the power, or, as would be said at this day, within the jurisdiction, of the king.

and....

Mr. Dicey, in his careful and thoughtful Digest of the Law of England with Reference to the Conflict of Laws, published in 1896, states the following propositions, his principal rules being

printed below in italics: “British subject’ means any person who owes permanent allegiance to the crown. ‘Permanent’ allegiance is used to distinguish the allegiance of a British subject from the allegiance of an alien, who, because he is within the British dominions, owes ‘temporary’ allegiance to the crown.

There are several other examples cited, all along the same premise and all reaching the same conclusion.

Here is the problem: A person here unlawfully is by definition not within obedience or allegiance to the government, as their presence here is not legal in the first instance. In other words, by their own deliberate acts they claim to be beyond the jurisdiction of the United States!

They are exactly equivalent in law to an invading army member who has crossed into the nation in violation of the border with intent to break the laws of the nation. Such a person is not “subject to the jurisdiction thereof” that a tourist or other lawful entrant is, since by their own hand they have acted to deny the right of the government to exert jurisdiction over them and thus DENY said jurisdiction exists.

A lawful permanent resident, on the other hand, has accepted jurisdiction over their person.

(Editor/GG: Show this article to your lib friends and watch their little heads explode.)

Please see: <https://market-ticker.org/akcs-www?post=252726>

SAVORY
from page 2

Others targeted in the wave of firings fixated on the emails explaining why, struggling to understand...

A veteran of the National Park Service, who had worked at parks including Yosemite, Shenandoah and the Great Smoky Mountains, last year left a permanent position to accept a promotion in a new park. There, she was told she’d have to serve one year of probation. On Valentine’s Day, she was fired for “performance,” ending a quarter-century of service.

“It is very brutal,” she said. “Especially after working and dedicating most of my life to the NPS.””

Ready your tiny violins and tissues, boys and girls.

Things are about to get emotional.

Let’s try to be supportive.

- “Never trust a woman named after a season,” my Midwestern Irish-Catholic grandmammy used to say. A chubby “researcher” named Summer whose job was “to explore how to safely collect sexual orientation and gender identity and cancer care practices” is tragically out of a job now. She now has more than enough time to research “low-carb diet.”
- A harrowing tale of woe, from a fired childless soon-to-be-unhoused cat lady
- Another probably childless cat lady mad about what MSNBC told her to be mad about: ‘It’s not okay!’

Meanwhile, housing prices in Satan’s Little Playground have collapsed in the last month amid an explosion of market offerings.

Via Newsweek (emphasis added):

“Trump’s return to the White House is directly affecting the Washington, D.C, housing market. The president’s executive order calling for federal workers to return to the office or lose their job spurred an increase in demand for homes in the city. At the same time, mass layoffs advised by the Musk-led Department of Government Efficiency (DOGE) have left federal workers uncertain about their future and whether they would be needing a home in the area at all...

As of Monday early morning, there were a total of 2,400 homes listed for sale on Zillow in Washington, D.C, 253 of which

had been put on the market in the last seven days and 461 in the last 14 days. More than half the homes currently listed for sale on the real estate platform, 1,489, have been added in the past 90 days.

Some homeowners in Washington, D.C, are not only apparently rushing to sell their properties in the city, but they are also willing to slash prices to attract reluctant buyers. Of the 2,400 homes currently listed for sale on Zillow, 426 have seen a price reduction.”

Yum-yum for my tum-tum.

Ben Bartee is an independent Bangkok-based American journalist with opposable thumbs.

Please see: <https://armageddonprose.substack.com/p/savory-schadenfreude-lib-violins>

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LIBERTY ROCKS REPORT
from page 3

we will be reporting only on the salient points as each subject discussed included opinions and comments from multiple speakers both from the dias where the three commissioners sat in front of an audience of over forty people.

Opportunity for the county in the next five years was the first question hoisted at the commissioners. After several comments from the others the best response came from Commissioner Canda who outlined the three top opportunities:

One; Ranching. with no permits needed it simply entails the purchase of land and raising cattle or other farm animals. Two; Tourism; with the spectacular mountain views and beautiful terrain there is much to offer tourists in terms all types of healthy outdoor activities. Three; Custer is a mineral rich county and it should be exploited in the future.

How about the hurdles, the difficulties? One of them is the shortage of workers and the difficulty of recruiting them. The commissioners are going to focus on this in the coming months.

The enforcement of the 2nd Amendment was a concern in the light of the laws being passed. It is all a matter of waiting and seeing what happens at the federal level. In the meantime, the commissioners will always uphold the Constitution of the United States as will the Sheriff.

Regarding illegal aliens coming into the county Mr. Canda received a hearty round of applause from the audience with the response: "We will give them a free, one-way ticket to ICE."

One of the main efforts the commissioners will focus on is the admittedly difficult problem of pornography affecting the youth of the community. There were no specifics, but it was mentioned that they will work on a resolution to make an attempt for a state law to protect the youth from the negative effects of this social scourge. There was a



discussion about making the county a home rule county, a subject which has been brought up before but with no conclusion. Within this conversation Mr. Canda stated that there is "a light at the end of the tunnel" with the election of President Trump. That light is even evident in our own state and Pueblo is the best example having turned red in the last election cycle.

There was a suggestion to bring DOGE into the county and the commissioners readily accepted the challenge.

Another question was about the relationship between the Commissioners and the Sheriff's Department. The commissioners clarified that their relationship and interaction with the SO is simply as a "check and balance". The Sheriff runs that office independently with the commissioners supplying the needed budget to operate. That amount is dependent on what is available. "We cannot tell the Sheriff how to do his job but we can tell him how much we can afford".

The commissioners also mentioned that they cannot tell him how to spend his budget as long as he completes his mission.

On the question of checks and balances as it pertains to bills, the audience was invited to attend and participate in more meetings so as to be well informed of how exactly the commissioners do their work.

The question came up about the county attorney. Why was he being considered to remain without the commissioners having done a wider search? Mr. Canda started with an explanation that a county attorney is retained with a contract. Most of the attorneys these days command

a fee of \$500 an hour. In this case, the attorney had contracts with the Human Resources Department and contracts with the other departments of the county. The problem that arose with the attorney was resolved when his contract with Human Resources was rescinded. However, he still has contracts with the other departments that he serves. Commissioner Epp then went on to explain that the county has multiple cases pending either under current litigation or preparing for court hearings. The county attorney is intimately familiar with each one of these cases and for him to drop off now could be a devastating situation for the county. Besides there are no problems with the other departments that are clients of the attorney. There are times that it is more prudent to reverse course in the best interests of the county. A county lawyer needs to be very well versed in municipal law, an expertise not readily available among lawyers in general. Besides, as pointed out by the commissioners, the county lawyer does not manage the county, the commissioners do. To put this matter to rest a final decision will be made very soon.

In closing, the commissioners all agree with the statements of their Chairman. They have nothing to hide from the public and once again they invite everyone to attend the meetings now usually held on Thursdays at All Aboard Westcliffe. Most of the people they are working with are people of well established integrity who are doing their best to serve the county to the utmost of their abilities. He went on to say that we are better off than many other counties. In the end the message was clear: Let's keep this county RED.

Bye Bye ATF Legal Goon

Rally for Our Rights Facebook Page

February 20, 2025

Mycroft Holmes

They frog marched the Chief Council for the ATF out of the building today..



Pamela Hicks · 3rd+
Chief Counsel, ATF
1h · 🌐

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Earlier today, I was served official notice from the Attorney General of the United States that I was being removed from my position as the Chief Counsel of ATF and my employment with the Department of Justice terminated. I have had the privilege of serving in the federal civil service for almost 28 years, including 23 as an attorney for the Department of Justice. Serving as ATF Chief Counsel has been the highest honor of my career and working with the people at ATF and throughout the Department has been a pleasure. I thank my colleagues for their friendship and partnership over the years.



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The Kimber K6s Revolver: Sophisticated .357 Magnum Pocket Rocket

by Brian (Rev) Norris,
ammoland.com

Years ago I began carrying a backup gun not totally dissimilar to the Kimber K6s. I've found the practice beneficial for a number of reasons. Primarily it allows me to be able to arm my wife or another loved one should they find themselves in harm's way without their own defensive tool present with them.

I carry a Smith & Wesson Shield or (most often) a Smith & Wesson J frame revolver in this role. The 340 Pro (no lock) is my favorite J frame for this task, but alas, I don't own one at this time so the 642 goes with me and serves me well.

Kimber K6s .357 Magnum Revolver

Several friends have raved over their Kimber K6. After much encouragement from friends and family, I reached out to Kimber asking if they'd be interested in yours truly writing about their revolver. They kindly acquiesced, and here we are.

The sophisticated black revolver that arrived at Gun King (my partner FFL) had a cylinder release reminiscent of a Ruger SP101, but this little pocket rocket was 3 ounces lighter and held one more round.

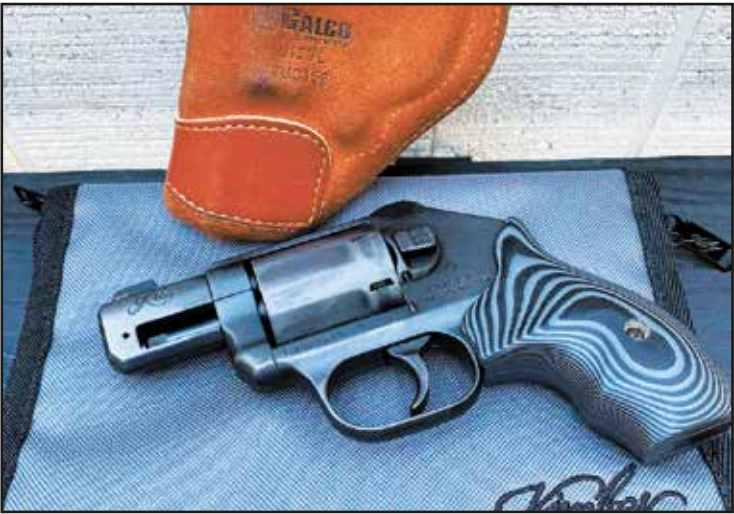
Over the past several months, it's taken lots of trips to my home range— Take Aim in Pageland, SC, and to the Prepared Patriot

Pit. I've had friends and family members shoot the gun, and I've observed its strengths as a number of shooters from various skill levels operated the pistol with ease and were able to achieve good results. Most of the shooting was done from 7 to 15 yards.

The Kimber comes in at 23 ounces and is purported to be the lightest production 6 shot revolver on the market today. That tracks; my favorite revolver, the S&W 340 is a 5-shot gun that weighs right under 14 ounces. However, heavier is not always worse. Heavier helps when it comes to shooting characteristics and .357 Magnum rounds shot through this K6s are much more enjoyable than the same rounds through the model 340.

The 3 dot sights on my example were outstanding. They are tritium night sights and are replaceable on both the front and rear— which is a big bonus in this category of firearm. The cylinder has no wasted metal. It's refined and as slim as it can be while retaining its capacity of six rounds. The frame opens up with an Allen key which makes more sense than standard revolver designs from other manufacturers. It's one of the first indicators communicating to the user that this is a modern revolver.

The question is sometimes asked if there's a place for revolvers in the modern world. I believe there is. If you don't care about my opinion, go sit at the feet of teachers like Clint Smith and John Farnam and



The Kimber K6 with a Galco IWB holster.

IMG Rev Norris

listen to what they have to say. If you don't care what they have to say, you're as wrong as your girlfriend's mustache. Revolvers make great get-off-me guns, but their advantages over semi-autos are not limited to that singular category. In addition, They make good backcountry guns and offer a wider range of use within each caliber per your selected load. A .357 or .44 Magnum are very useful tools indeed.

My friend James Yeager says that shotguns and revolvers are experts' weapons. If you haven't yet seen his "A Revolver is NOT the Answer" and "[A Revolver is the Answer](#)" videos on YouTube or LiberTV you should go check them out.

The K6s is one of the most refined, shootable, and overall capable pocket revolvers I've ever

encountered. This pistol doesn't just look nice; its 2-inch barrel and silky smooth, non-stacking, 9 lbs trigger come together to make it an unexpectedly accurate tack driver. My best groups came from Hornady 110 grain Critical Defense .38+p ammunition.

The 6.62-inch length, 1.39-inch width, and nearly 4.5-inch height make this gun perfect for a jacket pocket, ankle, or inside the waistband carry in my book. If you carry a backup gun on the ankle (as I do) it's similar to carrying a Shield or a G26. For reference, a Loaded S&W Shield weighs 23.7 ounces and the K6s loaded weighs 25.9 ounces. The hammerless non-snag DAO variety is what I selected and what I'd recommend to those considering this gun in a defensive role— particularly if as a backup gun. If you're thinking

about purchasing a Kimber K6 as a primary handgun, a backcountry candidate, or a target gun, Kimber offers 3 and 4-inch models that are worth looking into.

I like to take guns through a 500-1500 round course of fire before writing about them, but there's an ammo shortage out there, folks. You'll have to be ok with just north of 250 rounds through this little fella. I shot a mix of .357 and .38. hot + all the way down to light recoiling .38s that almost felt downloaded for competition. Everything I shot was factory loaded. I cannot tell you how much it pained me to conserve ammo on this project. This gun is a shooter, and I would have enjoyed shooting many more rounds. In fact, I may have to own one of these pistols down the line.

In summary, I would recommend putting the [Kimber K6s revolver](#) toward the top of the list for those looking for their next revolver, especially if you're looking for a backup gun or pocket pistol for defensive purposes. It's a little heavy for ankle carry, but with a good ankle holster like the Galco Ankle glove or Ankle Lite, you'll be just fine. This fine weapon would be as appropriate for a Wall Street Banker as a Wyoming woodsman. That's sophistication at its best!

Please see: <https://www.ammoland.com/2025/02/the-kimber-k6s-sophisticated-357-magnum-pocket-rocket/>