

Happy Flag Day! Almost.

Leftist Violence Comes to Happy Valley

Enraged Lib Points Pistol at Flag Day Celebrants

by George Gramlich,
News and Commentary

Oh man. Last Saturday, June 14th was a wild one in Happy Valley. All kinds of events going on for families, kids, etc. The summer people were streaming in. Beautiful, warm Rocky Mountain day. National U.S. Flag Day. And then the local libs ruined it. In more ways than one.

During that week as the national bolshie NOKings event media hysteria was climaxing, the *Sentinel* decided to do something positive and celebrate our June 14 U.S. Flag Day with a little flag waving in front

of the *Sentinel* from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. There were two other things we wanted to celebrate that day, Trump's Birthday and that day was also the 250th U.S. Army Anniversary. Couldn't get any better. So we put an announcement on the front page of last Friday's *Sentinel* paper saying come on down and bring a flag and we can have a great patriotic get together for a couple of hours.

We brought our Jeep down to help celebrate the Army's Birthday. The Jeep was given to us by my ex-partner, Col. Mike Hess, Ret. It is painted to duplicate the Army Jeep he used in

Korea many moons ago and we parked it on our front lawn. Yvonne put a ton of small U.S. Flags around the yard and we hung several from our porch. Our local Republicans showed up with a tent. We were all set to wave our flags on Main Street and have a good, patriotic day.

About 50 Patriots showed up during our celebration. We had about six to 12 people waving the flags at any point in time. As usual, in Free Custer County, we got a ton of thumbs up, horns blasting and encouragement shouts from the passing motorists. Good stuff.

A Custer County Sheriff's Deputy was nearby and told us that the NOKings rally down at the west end of Main Street (at the "Bluffs", a scenic overlook of the Valley and the Sangres) were going to march down the sidewalks on Main Street and pass us. Some observers came back from there and said there was a fair amount of lefties there, maybe 60 or so. (The NOKings rally was a nationwide effort by the libs to protest Trump and his policies, normal Americans, and support the insane libs dystopian issues. It was very well organized with 100's and 100's of NOKings rallies around the country.)

So we're waving our flags and we see a block or so down toward the Bluffs a bunch of people on the sidewalk walking towards us. They were on the sidewalk on the other side of us (the south sidewalk). As they get closer, we hear this percussion type noise, it keeps getting louder and finally we see what the racket was. You can't make this up, it was a tall, fairly greasy looking bolshie pounding BONGO D R U M S ! B O N G O DRUMS! The same lame obnoxious noise that the

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Emergency Helicopter "Hot Refuels" at SilverWest Airport



by Clyde Butler
SilverWest Airport
Manager

Shortly after nine a.m. on Thursday the 12th of June, a Medical Emergency Helicopter transporting a critically ill patient found it necessary to make an unplanned fuel stop at Custer County's SilverWest Airport.

The Bell 207 Helicopter operated by Intermountain Health departed Los Alamos, NM, Thursday morning transporting a patient to Denver's Swedish Medical Center for specialized care.

En route the crew found they were unable to transfer fuel from the aircraft's auxiliary tank to the main tank which feeds the engine. They determined the best way to deal with this issue would be to make a fast fuel stop to refill the main tank. A quick search of the Air Navigation App known as Fore Flight indicated the closest airport with Jet Fuel available would be the SilverWest Airport.

The crew made a normal landing and refueled the aircraft with the engine running. A procedure commonly known as a

"Hot Refueling." Bryan Anderson Chairman of the Airport Board happened to be at the airport and was able to offer his assistance in getting the aircraft back in the air as fast possible.

After the patient was safely placed in the hands of the Medical Center in Denver, Flight Nurse and Paramedic Keith Lepsch called the airport phone number to offer his appreciation for Mr. Anderson's assistance. He went on to explain that the helicopter carries

HELICOPTER
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Hanme Clark Murder Trial Venue Changed to Fremont County

by George Gramlich

Hanme Clark, the alleged Custer County triple murderer had the venue for the trial changed to Fremont County from Custer based on a successful Motion by his defense counsel. The Motion was extensively argued against by the 11th Judicial District District Attorney Jeff Lindsey.

The defense counsel argued that his defendant couldn't get a fair trial in Custer County due to negative local, state and national publicity and the fact that Custer County is one of the smallest counties in the state (voter registration is around 4,700 people and as noted by the defense counsel, over 800 of those are below the age for jury duty) and that it would be very

difficult to find an impartial jury as the publicity generated negative attitudes in the jury pool.

District Attorney Lindsey noted that there was no evidence at all that the media coverage presented would prevent Clark from having a fair trial.

District Court Judge Lauren Swan was persuaded by the defense counsel's arguments. She also had some concern that the small Custer County courtroom can be a problem as this is a national level case and there would a lot of media interest in it.

The next Motions Hearing in the case is scheduled for June 23rd and will be held in Fremont County. The trial is scheduled for late September.

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**PATRIOT
ALERT!**

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Be ye therefore
followers of God,
as dear children;
And walk in love,
as Christ also hath
loved us,
Ephesian 5: 1-2a

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SENTINEL

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of Conservative
Colorado!**



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

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

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

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Why Has Boulder Become the Ideal Soft Target for Violence?

by Jon Caldara,
CompleteColorado.com

What is it about Boulder?

The shock of the latest pro-Palestinian violence reminded me of the magnetic field surrounding my hometown that draws in crazy assailants to make national news.

JonBenet Ramsey was murdered a stone’s throw from where I was living at the time. In 2006, surveillance video from a Boulder County bank led to the capture of serial killer Scott Kimball.

When Robert Redford’s daughter was a student at CU, her boy-friend was killed by a shotgun to the back of the head in his luxury apartment. The 1983 case is still open.

In 1990, I walked out of my Boulder apartment to see billowing smoke and flames just two blocks away. Gordon Hood drove from Denver to hire a pilot to take him for a ride in a twin-engine Cessna. In a murder-suicide, he attacked the pilot to crash the plane.

Something about Boulder

Road tripping to Boulder just to perpetrate violence is an ongoing theme.

There was a popular spot to target shoot on national forest land just outside town. Then in 1990, escaped Cañon City prisoner Michael Bell arrived there impersonating a forest ranger. He took the guns from two shooters, killed them with those guns and went on a shooting spree, killing four. I was at that spot the day before.

In 2021, Ahmad Al Aliwi Al-Issa drove from Arvada, passing other grocery stores on his way, to the very King Soopers my family and I frequent. He gunned down 10 people, including the brave cop who rushed in quickly.

Was it an act of pro-Palestinian violence? We can only speculate.

And, of course, Mohamed Sabry Soliman, the Egyptian living illegally in the U.S., drove from Colorado Springs to firebomb Zionists. There are many chapters around the nation of Run For Their Lives, the group demonstrating to free the Hamas hostages. There is a Denver chapter, but he drove an extra 30 miles to terrorize Boulder. Why?

Of course, we’ll never know why people travel

to Boulder to hurt others. Maybe it’s all just coincidence. Occam’s Razor favors that opinion.

Or maybe, just maybe, the arrogance of the place quietly pulls people to unleash their madness there. Does Boulder’s self-satisfaction and elitism lodge in the brains of the disrupted, unconsciously tickling until it’s scratched by violence?

The city pastime in Boulder is not baseball. It’s virtue signaling.

According to census data, more than 15% of Aurora’s population is “Black or African American.” Boulder’s population is only 1.02% African American. Boulder’s racist housing policies make it nearly impossible for poorer people, mostly people of color, to live there. Yet Boulder is the undisputed champion for most white households with “Black Lives Matter” yard signs.

The message is clear. Just because black lives matter, it doesn’t mean we want them living next to us. We’ll make an exception for Deion Sanders.

Boulder as ‘soft target’

As a whole, Boulderites are unaware of how people outside of their elitist

bubble perceive them. If you are off your rocker, planning to do violence, are you pulled to target the place where everyone not only knows they are better than everyone else, but must announce it?

Then there are some practicalities of violence to consider. If you are going to go on a violent rampage, the last thing you’d need is some armed citizen putting a quick end to you and your fun.

El Paso County has the highest number of concealed weapons permit holders, around 50,000, while Boulder County has about 3,000. Additionally, Boulder made carrying a gun in seemingly every place illegal.

The city specifically bans concealed carry in stores, malls, churches and theaters. So, only the places where you need them.

From a practical point of view, Boulder is the perfect “soft target.”

And let’s not forget Boulder’s not-so-subtle intolerance as they spout tolerance. Catholic churches have been vandalized for their stance on abortion.

The pro-Palestinian, anti-

Israeli message is the city’s virtue signaling de jour.

From the hallowed halls of CU academics to the near constant demonstrators on street corners, Boulder emits an odor that smells like, “you’re not really welcome here.”

Angry, unhinged violent crazy people needing a place to rage might be tempted, consciously or unconsciously, by Boulder’s aroma.

Or, maybe not. And, like you, I’m just trying to make sense out of the senseless.

Jon Caldara is a Boulder resident, and president of the Independence Institute, a free market think tank in Denver.

(Editor/GG: While this animal was tossing gas bombs at a peaceful march there were literally hundreds of locals and tourists in the immediate area. NOBODY shot the low life. Why? They didn’t have any guns due to the local laws and the libs hatred of them. You reap what you sow, libs. Roosters be coming home....)

Please see: <https://completecolorado.com/2025/06/11/boulder-soft-target-violence/>

Join us Friday, July 4th @ 10 a.m.!
Independence Day Parade
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Legislator Stephanie Luck:
Overview of the 2025 Session

Colorado State Representative Stephanie Luck will present an overview of the 2025 legislative session. The event will be held twice on June 22nd. Rep. Luck has served for five years and represents Custer, Fremont and Teller Counties with a small section of Chaffee and Pueblo Counties.

Presentations: June 22nd Cotopaxi Church at 2 p.m
June 22nd Valley Bible Church at 5 p.m.

Local Mountain News & Notices

“Winners and Losers” - Protecting Your Home and Property from Wildfire

Press Release

Insurance companies are cancelling homeowners’ policies due to wildfire risk. These decisions are being made during the underwriting process by evaluating factors such as roof types, construction features, property location, accessibility for firefighting, vegetation management, and loss history.

Colorado Forestry and Earthworks and Valor Development are sponsoring a public workshop titled “Winners and

Losers” on June 28, 2025, at Lange Hall, 312 3rd St. in Westcliffe.

If your home is located within the natural vegetation areas of the county and you are at risk of a wildfire, we encourage you to attend this workshop and learn how you can partner with your insurance provider to mitigate fire hazards on your property through Colorado’s “Are You Firewise?” program.

There is no charge for this workshop, and a light lunch will be provided afterwards.

4th of July Fireworks for Silver Cliff/Westcliffe

Press Release

A fireworks show put together by the non-profit, The Mortar Men is planned for the evening of the 4th of July. The show is free, but it is tradition to give the organization that sponsors the show cash donations to help cover the cost of the magnificent fireworks. The fireworks will start at dark. Location to be determined.

Donations are tax deductible and support the fireworks show.

If you would like to make a donation, please mail check to The Mortar Men c/o Brian Cline, 102 S 6th St,



Westcliffe, CO 81252.

You can also make a donation online via Go Fund Me or PayPal

If you have questions, contact Brian at 719-371-1990 or email briancline@msn.com

Historic Alpine Lodge to Close

Letter To The Editor:

To the countless family, staff, friends, and customers around the county, state, and across the nation - it is bittersweet to report that The Historic Alpine Lodge will be closing for business the end of June 2025. We are currently under contract to sell the property due to many reasons; first and foremost it is time for me to retire. The countless long days and hours have taken a toll on a once pretty vibrant (I hope many will agree) man who is now in his 70’s and ready to give up the endless cooking, lodging business, and the long hours that I

have been so fortunate and blessed to provide to a wonderful community, state, country, and I dare say, international customers. In addition, taxes, insurances and other rising costs are making it almost impossible for any small business in a rural area to continue to open their doors. I am not complaining just telling the facts as I have experienced them over the past 18 years.

I have been blessed beyond words to work beside, and with, numerous family members and wonderful staff members from the beginning. It has been my pleasure to work with and serve many individuals

and groups from within our community and beyond. We have always tried to provide the best experience possible for all our guests. I realize we have not always gotten everything correct and I may not always have been the easiest person to get along with, but we have always put our best foot forward and been respectful, and for that I will always be eternally grateful. Thank you to everyone from the bottom of my heart!!!

To the new prospective owners of this property, good luck and God bless.

Richard Kastendieck



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2nd Amendment March on July 4th

Join us in the Patriots Section in the Westcliffe, CO Independence Day Parade



This is the biggest Open Carry 2nd Amendment march in Colorado!!

Bring your Rifles and Holstered Handguns! It is Time to STAND UP.

Celebrate and Defend our Constitution. Use it or Lose it! March with your fellow Patriots and make a statement that WE still believe in our Constitution and we want it RESTORED in Colorado. You have to SHOW UP to make a statement. Bring the family, bring the kids, bring Grandma, bring your friends. Stand up for your rights.

Assemble at 9:15 a.m., July 4th at the east end of Main Street (Highway 96), Silver Cliff/Westcliffe, CO, at the open field just west of the Conoco convenience store and gas station). Look for the Patriots assembly area (USA Flags, Gadsden Flags, and guns, guns, guns). All vehicles welcome! Plenty of places in town for lunch. The March is about one mile long and takes about 45 minutes.

The parade begins at 10 a.m.

Firearm Protocol: Rifles: unloaded, safety on, no detachable magazines inserted in rifle, chamber flag appreciated, **MUST BE SLUNG on shoulder or back.** All rifles welcome. Handguns: Holstered, open carry. **Bring your Trump/MAGA Hats, Signs!**

NO handling of weapons during the parade. Questions? Call us at 719-783-3360 or email SDC.sentinel@gmail.com.

Local Mountain News & Notices

Zoning? We Don't Need No Stink'n Zoning

by George Gramlich,
Commentary

Take Oak Creek Grade (CR 255) to the end of the pavement where the Bull Domingo entrance is. Go about a half a mile and look left (west). About 150 yards in, there is a settlement of huts and RV's that people are living in. One has been there for three years, two for two, and the latest one (an Airstream RV) was new this year. Water tanks, solar sys-

tems, Port a Potties, dogs, tons of vehicles cover the landscape. What the heck is going on?

This small area is strangely zoned in very small lots, maybe 50x100 ft.. All the surrounding parcels in the area are large lots. (This area was originally zoned for an RV/Camping business long ago.)

Our zoning regulations require a septic tank or a vault (which must be pumped

regularly), plus a house with certain requirements and a Certificate of Occupancy to occupy. If you want to camp or stay on a lot you own, the occupancy is limited to two weeks per year. Period.

It appears that none of these occupied lots have a septic, have a house, have a Certificate of Occupancy. People living there year-round without the proper permits. Sanitation issues



anybody? The neighbors have been complaining to Zoning & Planning for YEARS about this and they say nothing has been done. The neighbors say the occupants are running generators 24/7 and the noise is obnoxious. They also have other complaints which we won't get into.

The place looks like skid row in LA or a tent city outside Portland. The question is how can these people

openly violate serious zoning for years without any repercussions? You need to get a permit for the smallest of things like a deck but somehow these people slide.

If this is Custer County's "affordable housing" enclave, then so be it. Custer County could become the Appalachia of the west. We then could get all the restaurant workers and house keeping slaves our

local rich libs want. Maybe that is the plan.

But the law applies to everybody and those apparent violations are serious. P&Z needs to prioritize their efforts. Sometimes the small stuff has to wait a bit so the big problems can be addressed. And this is a BIG problem. If us tax paying citizens have to obey the rules and pay for our permits, etc., so do these people.





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Local Mountain News & Notices

Custer County Deputies Arrest Gunman Wearing Body Armor at Flag Day Rally

Press Release
Custer County Sheriff's Office
—June 16, 2025

Case Number 2025-00002833

On Saturday, June 14 at 11:49, an emergency call was received that a man wearing body armor in a red jeep had pointed a pistol at people attending a Flag Day Rally at *Sangre De Cristo Sentinel* Newspaper 601 Main Street in Westcliffe, Colorado.

The vehicle was immediately located. A high-risk traffic stop was initiated approximately four miles south of Westcliffe. The

driver and sole occupant of the vehicle, Brett David Tuthill, age 30, of Westcliffe Colorado, was taken into custody without incident.

The charges filed against Mr. Tuthill are:

- Menacing
- Harassment
- Disorderly Conduct

The investigation is ongoing. Mr. Tuthill is presumed innocent until proven guilty in a court of law.

(Editor//llv: The Fremont County Sheriff's Office announced Monday afternoon that Mr. Tuthill was released on \$1,500 bond.)

Custer County Conservation District Election Cancelled

Press Release
Conservation District News

The Custer County Conservation District cancelled the May 6, 2025 election pursuant to

§1-13.5-513(6) C.R.S. thereby retaining the incumbent candidates with 4-year terms until May 2029: Sharon Berry (Supervisor/At-Large), Ryder Becker (Supervisor/Treasurer), and Robert Miller (Supervisor/President).

Previously, at the District's regular meeting on April 10, 2025, the Board of Supervisors appointed Bill Christie to the position of District Manager.

At the District's regular meeting on June 12, 2025, the Board of Supervisors took the following actions: 1) accepted the resignation of Sharon Berry from the Board, and 2) appointed Craig Cook to the Board to fill a vacancy.

The Custer County Conservation District holds regular meetings on the second Thursdays monthly at 2:30 pm at the USDA / Natural Resources Conservation Service office located at

10 Hermit Lane in Silver Cliff. Learn more about the District at www.custercountyconservationdistrict.org or by contacting custercountycd@gmail.com.

HELICOPTER from page 1

a crew of three, a Pilot, a Trauma Nurse and a Flight Nurse. Any time it is necessary to refuel the aircraft while a patient is onboard the engine must be left running in order to keep the onboard life support systems functioning. This requires the Pilot to stay in his seat. The Flight Nurse is cross trained to refuel the aircraft.

SilverWest Airport's long-awaited Jet refueling system went into service on the 20th of May, 2025. It fills the critical need for Jet Fuel in Custer County. Nearly all emergency aircraft used for medical

transport, Search and Rescue or firefighting require jet fuel. Prior to the availability of jet fuel emergency aircraft flying in Custer County were often required to cut missions short in order to refuel at Cañon City or Pueblo.

When reached for comment Robyn Knappe Custer County's Director of Emergency Management stated, "having Jet Fuel available will save time and lives."

Custer County Sheriff Rich Smith stated:

The Sheriff's Office is pleased that jet fuel is now available to support local critical public safety needs. The helicopter is

an essential tool for both critical medical calls and search and rescue missions.

Just this weekend we requested a total of three medical helicopters to support a motorcycle crash on Highway 165.

Many search and rescue operations require multiple helicopter lifts to place team members in the field. These lifts burn a lot of fuel. We often have to pause mid mission for the helicopter to refuel in Cañon or Alamosa before returning to our SAR barn to continue the mission. We've even had DFPC bring a jet fuel tanker truck up to the SAR barn to speed up the fueling process which now can be fulfilled locally.

HEART SAVER CLASS

The Sangre Shooting Sports Club (SSSC), in cooperation with the Custer County Health Agency, is sponsoring a Heart Saver class (CPR, First Aid, Trauma first aid) with an emphasis on dealing with burns and eye injuries before the July 4 weekend. The class will be held at the Custer County Search and Rescue (SAR) building on 6/25, starting at 1200 (12 PM MDT) and last until approximately 1700 (5 PM MDT). Completion of this class will qualify the participant for a CPR certification from the American Heart Association (AHA). Participation by school age children is highly encouraged to develop or enhance this valuable, potentially life-saving skill. Register with Patrick Fiore at patrick@custercounty-co.gov. Cost is \$22 payable to the instructor.

Town Attorney Position

The Town of Westcliffe is currently seeking the services of a municipal attorney to serve as the Town Attorney for the Town. The deadline for submission of proposals is July 1, 2025. The Town expects to appoint the Town Attorney no later than July 25, 2025. The complete Request for Proposal is available on the Town's website: www.townofwestcliffe.com or directly from the Town: 1000 Main Street, Westcliffe, CO 81252; or by calling (719)783-2282 Ext 10.



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Certified Passive House Tradesperson

Cabs & Transport

RANDY CAB
Randy Schiro Owner /Driver
719-210-5908
randolf.schiro@icloud.com

Computer/Cell Phone Repair

Electron Wizard
sleuth1@sleuth1.com 719-431-9442
615 Main St, Westcliffe
Computer Repairs, Sales, Cell Phones, and More!

Clothing & Footwear

Custer County Supply Co
206 Main St. Westcliffe | 719-659-8743
Open Tues-Sat: 10am-5pm
Guns, dog supplies, clothing, & much more!

Salty Pine Floral & Boutique
411 Main St, Westcliffe
719-783-9393
www.westcliffeflowershop.com

Yoder’s Home Furnishings
57965 Hwy 69, Westcliffe
Home & Patio Furniture, Footwear, Outdoor Wear
Mon - Sat 9am-5pm

Construction Services

Beach Redi-Mix & Concrete Pumping
Precast septic tanks &
decorative blocks
719-783-3558 | info@SBCompanies.com

Colorado Forestry & Earthworks, LLC
Gravel: Landscape Rock, Topsoil & More
Excavation: Septic Installs, Driveways, Foundations
719-429-1676 | coforearth.com

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Full Service Interior Design Store
318 Main Street
(719)-783-9225

**Harald Frank Skid Steer Services
and H & L Trucking**
HaraldFrank7@gmail.com 719-371-1570
Driveways Build/Repair - Gravel & Road Base Hauling

KLM Seamless Gutters
Marlin Miller
Quality and Experience
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No Job Too Small
Tony 719-783-2883 INSURED
Interior Painting, Repairs
For your small Construction Needs

Sapiah Woodworks, LLC.
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Custom & Fine Carpentry, Restoration, Consulting
720.309.4262 sapiahwoodworks@gmail.com

Seifert Enterprises
Excavation, Septic Systems, Culverts,
Driveways, Rock Sales & Delivery
719-783-2757 info@SBCompanies.com

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

Spray Foam Insulation
Average is No Option
719-239-4739
lmiller.millersroofcoatings@gmail.com

Valley View Windows & Doors
Call Marty Byler at 719-220-4151
or Email Will@valleyviewwindows.net
Free Estimates, Replacements, New construction

Don’t see Your Business?
Call us for Great Rates! 719-783-3360

Construction Services Cont’d

Daryl CUSTOM Home Builders
WKM Construction, LLC
New Homes, Renovations
719-371-5231

Westcliffe Concrete
Flatwork & Stamped Concrete, ICFs
Lee Hostetler: 719-371-6193
Matt Troyer: 719-221-8940

Countertops

SOL Granite & Natural Stone
4804 Dillon Dr. Pueblo - 719-544-3085
solgranite.com
Inventory, Custom Design, Fabrication & Installation

Dentist

Jared Smith, DMD
618 Main St, Cañon City
719-275-0661
www.jaredsmithdmd.com

Electricians

Boneyard Electric LLC
Steven Hardin
719-371-1221 - boneyardelectric@gmail.com
Industrial - Residential - Commercial

J.R.B. Electric, LLC
Residential & Commercial
Serving Fremont, Custer, Chaffee & Pueblo Counties
719-320-0913 · JRBElectricLLC.com

Firewood

Westcliffe Firewood
Ryan Stover
719-371-6074
westcliffefirewood@gmail.com

Florist

Salty Pine Floral & Boutique
411 Main St, Westcliffe
719-783-9393
www.westcliffeflowershop.com

Funeral Homes

Holt Family Funeral Home
806 Macon Ave, Cañon City
719-275-4113
www.holtfamilyfuneralhomes.com

Furniture & Home Goods

Yoder’s Home Furnishings
57965 Hwy 69, Westcliffe
Home & Patio Furniture, Footwear, Outdoor Wear
Mon - Sat 9am-5pm

Grocery & Health Foods

DUTCH PANTRY & DELI
404 E. Main St., Silver Cliff
719-298-6689 Call for store hours
DELI HOURS: Mon-Friday 11 - 4 , Sat: 11- 2:30

Lowe’s Market
50 Main St, Westcliffe
719-783-0550
www.lowesmarket.com

Shopping Local Helps Local Economy & Creates Local Jobs

Grocery & Health Foods Cont'd

Sunflower Natural Foods

405 Main St., Westcliffe
719-783-9266
Mon-Fri 10am-7 pm, Sat 9am-4pm

Guns , Ammo, Knives

Custer County Supply Co

206 Main St. Westcliffe | 719-659-8743
Open Tues-Sat: 10am-5pm
Guns, dog supplies, clothing, & much more!

Salida Cutlery & Smoke Shop

132 W Hwy 50 Salida
719-539-2884 Monday-Friday 9-6
Where you'll find sharp gifts & smokin' deals!

Salida Gunshop

7345 W Hwy 50, Salida
salidagunshop.com | 719-207-4285
please see ad on page 20 -21 for hours

Gun Clubs

Royal Gorge Gun Club & Lincoln Park Pawn

1345 Elm Ave, Cañon City 719-276-3030
Lincolnparkpawn@hotmail.com
1 foot to over 1 mile, 75 different powders

Sangre Shooting Sports Club

P.O. Box 1554, Westcliffe
http://sangreshooting.com

Heating & Spas

Salida Stove & Spa

11130 W Hwy 50, Poncha Springs
719-539-2125
salidastove.com

Heating & Air Conditioning

Greenstreet Plumbing

Licensed, Bonded and Insured Master Plumber
Infloor Heat Systems - Plumbing
719-783-2800 - greenstreetplumbing@gmail.com

Piñon Plumbing, LLC

All Service Heating · Residential & Commercial
Boilers, Furnaces & Propane Heaters
Licensed & Insured · Jeff Ray 719-783-0379

White Bros Custom Plumbing & Heating, Inc.

www.whitebrosplumbing.com
P.O. Box 957, Westcliffe ~ 719-217-7202
Locally Owned & Family Operated

Insurance

State Farm Dennis Podzemny

1004 S 9th St, Cañon City
719-275-1548
https://www.canoncityinsurance.com

Landscaping

Yardcrafters

Full Landscapes, Xeriscaping, Retaining Walls
719-275-5091
yardcrafterscolo@outlook.com

Lodging

Darksbies Vacations

Enter WMV-LOCAL for 10% off vacation home rentals.
Visit Darksbies.vacations or call
719-783-0648

Mitigation/ Pest Control

Premier Pest Control LLC

719-371-7404 ~ ppc16@privategarden.org
inspections, estimates, professional pest management
residential, commercial, licensed and insured

Mitigation/ Tree Removal

Swota Enterprises

Wildfire Mitigation and Excavation
719-783-4477
rswota@gmail.com

Wise Tree Service

719-429-2866 Local, Insured, Experienced
Complete tree service-difficult removals, trimming/
shaping, stump grinding and fire mitigation

Pharmacy

Palace Drug - Silver Cliff

Get your prescriptions filled while you wait!
94 E Main St., Silver Cliff
Palacedrugco.com | 719-371-9402

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Greenstreet Plumbing

Licensed, Bonded and Insured Master Plumber
Infloor Heat Systems - Plumbing
719-783-2800 - greenstreetplumbing@gmail.com

Piñon Plumbing, LLC

All Service Heating · Residential & Commercial
Boilers, Furnaces & Propane Heaters
Licensed & Insured · Jeff Ray 719-783-0379

River Valley Plumbing and Heating

250 Moore Dr, Florence
719-784-3876
www.rivervalleyplumbingandheat.com

White Bros Custom Plumbing & Heating, Inc.

www.whitebrosplumbing.com
P.O. Box 957, Westcliffe ~ 719-217-7202
Locally Owned & Family Operated

Propane

Norup Gas

28 Range View Loop, Westcliffe
719-783-9338

Real Estate Services

Brenda Bosse HomeSmart Preferred Real Estate

9 Bassick Place, Westcliffe, CO 81252
719-371-3270, brenda@brendabosse.com
Selling locally for 24 years.

Custer County Realty

902 Main St, Westcliffe
719-783-9221
www.custerrealty.com

Lori Kastendieck

Independent Broker
719-269-0653
WestcliffeBroker.com

Restaurants & Dining

ALPINE LODGE

RESTAURANT, LOUNGE, CABINS, CATERING, SPECIAL EVENTS
719-783-2660 • 6848 COUNTY ROAD 140, WESTCLIFFE
facebook.com/TheHistoricAlpineLodge

DUTCH PANTRY & DELI

404 E. Main St., Silver Cliff
719-298-6689 Call for store hours
DELI HOURS: Mon-Friday 11 - 4 , Sat: 11- 2:30

Restaurants & Dining Cont'd

Stage Stop Gourmet Sundaes & Espresso

3rd and Main Street, Westcliffe
Follow Us: Facebook.com/inthesangres

Tony's Mountain Pizza

719-783-9300 • tonysmountainpizza.com
Tues, Wed, Thursday &Sun 11-8.
Fri-Sat 11-9 closed Mon
630 Main Street, Silver Cliff

Tony's Steak & Tavern

719-783-9300 • tonyssteakandtavern.com
Wedn-Thurs 11-8, Friday-Sat 11-9
Sunday 10 -8, closed Mon-Tues

Zita's Mountain Bistro

109 N 3rd, Westcliffe
https://www.zitasmtnbistro.com/

Septic Installation

Colorado Forestry & Earthworks, LLC

Gravel: Landscape Rock, Topsoil & More
Excavation: Septic Installs, Driveways, Foundations
719-429-1676 | coforearth.com

Finney Drilling

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

Seifert Enterprises

Excavation, Septic Systems, Culverts,
Driveways, Rock Sales & Delivery
719-783-2757 info@SBCompanies.com

Solar / Renewable Energy

Solar Solutions Ltd

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

Storage

Wet Mountain Storage

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

Tractor/Trailer Sales

True Value Hardware and Trailers

635 Shoop Dr, Penrose
719-784-0123
https://www.truevaluetrailers.com

Vacation / Accommodations

Darksbies Vacations

Enter WMV-LOCAL for 10% off vacation home rentals
Visit Darksbies.vacations or call
719-783-0648

Veterinary

High Peaks Animal Hospital

1200 Broadway St, Silver Cliff
719-783-3770
www.highpeaksanimal.com

Well Drilling and Pump Services

Finney Drilling

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

Recurring Events

Mondays

10 a.m. Pickle Ball Silver Cliff Mem.Park (SCMP)
More info: lizbrannen@gmail.com
6 -7:30 p.m. Men’s Bible Meeting at First Baptist Church.
6 p.m. Alcoholics Anonymous (CLSD) 12 Step study, at St. Luke’s, 3rd & Rosita, Westcliffe. Martha at 719-371-1853.

1st Monday of the Month

10 - 11 a.m. Women’s Veteran Coffee Social
West Custer County Library Library Community Rm.,
209 Main St. Westcliffe
5 p.m. Post 170 Auxiliary mo. mtg (year-round) Cliffe Lanes
2nd and 4th Monday
6 – 7 p.m. Narcotics Anonymous
Community United Methodist Church Fellowship Hall.
Children Welcome. colobamanana@yahoo.com

Tuesdays

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

1st Tuesday of the Month

9 a.m. - 3 p.m. Old Schoolhouse Quilters Comfort
Quilters @Valley Bible
6:00 p.m. American Legion Post 170 monthly meeting
at Cliff Lanes meeting room.
4-6 p.m. Christian Music on KLZR 91.7 FM
2nd Tuesday of the Month
9 a.m. Old Schoolhouse Quilters Guild Mtg @Valley
Bible

3rd Tuesday of the Month

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

Wednesdays

8 -9 a.m. Veterans Coffee Social, Veterans and Caregivers
welcome. West Custer County Library Community Rm.,
209 Main St. Westcliffe
9:30 – 11 a.m. Line Dancers meet at United Methodist
Church, 204 S 6th St. Call Debbie Underwood at
(432) 553-7483.
9:45-11:45 a.m. The Posse Ladies Bible Study SUMMER
3 meets - June 18, July 23, August 20 @
305 County Road 159, Holly 703-338-4100 or Rene at
719-371-7076

10 a.m. Pickle Ball (SCMP) info: lizbrannen@gmail.com
6 p.m. Alcoholics Anonymous (CLSD) Big Book Study at
St. Luke’s, 3rd & Rosita, Westcliffe. Martha at
719-371-1853.
6 p.m. Prayer Group Meeting. First Baptist Church
of Westcliffe. Call 719-783-2498.

First Thursday of the Month

9 a.m. - 3 p.m. Comfort Quilters, FBC (log bldg next to the
church) 417 S. 6th St. Contact Delores at 719-371-1451.

2nd Thursday of the Month

6 p.m. Custer County Republican Central Committee
meeting. Ranchers Roost. Public welcome See www.
CusterGOP.com or FB https://m.facebook.com/custergop

3rd Thursday of the Month

2 p.m. Round Mt.Water District Meeting.

Fridays

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

2nd Friday of the Month

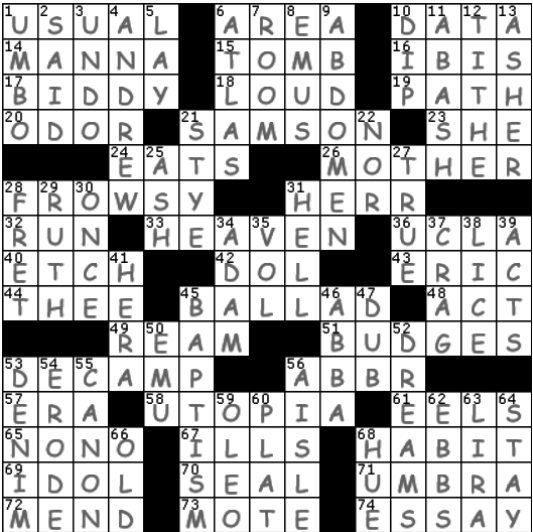
8 a.m. Mens’ Prayer Breakfast at First Baptist Church

Saturdays

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

3rd Saturday of Month

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



CCSO CO-RESPONDERS' CORNER
Sheriff's Office Adds New
Training Program

by Jaclyn & Tom Manzione

For over fifty years, law enforce-
ment has pursued a culture of
ongoing growth and improvement.
The profession has actively sought to
engage external experts in enhancing
public safety efforts. Programs like
community policing, foot patrols, and
crisis intervention teams started as
innovative ideas, inspired by aca-
demic research, strategic thinking,
and collaborative discussions.
Agencies have routinely sought guid-
ance from specialists in strategy,
tactics, and technology to refine
their approaches and stay ahead of
emerging challenges. The Custer
County Sheriff’s Office (CCSO)
continues to work closely with its
mental health professionals and
community members to improve
training, address new issues, and
adapt to the changing needs of those
we serve.

The CCSO actively partners with
other agencies to strengthen its
crisis response efforts. This includes
integrating co-responders into their
teams and relying on emergency
medical technicians (EMTs) during
medical emergencies.

Our department’s leaders continue to
innovate by emphasizing professional
development and refining training

programs. These efforts are firmly
aligned with the core goal of serving
and protecting the community with
competence and integrity, making
sure that reforms are meaningful and
rooted in our mission.

Sheriff Smith is currently considering
a new approach to utilizing the
expertise of the mental health
professionals within his team. He’s
looking to incorporate the ‘Johari
Window’ model into the department’s
training programs. This is a familiar
concept to the co-responders, based
on solid scientific principles, empha-
sizing that certain personal traits
and behaviors may stay hidden
unless observed in new or stressful
situations, especially during intense
encounters.

The Johari Window is a psychological
model created by Joseph Luft and
Harrington Ingham in 1955, that
enhances self-awareness and mutual
understanding in relationships. It
consists of four quadrants: The Open
Area, where information known to
both the individual and others,
fostering transparency and trust, is
essential for strong relationships.
The Blind Spot is where information
others know about the individual
that they are unaware of. Feedback
is crucial for addressing this area to

avoid misunderstandings. The Hidden
Area (Facade) is the information the
individual knows but keeps private,
such as fears and experiences. While
some privacy is normal, sharing
can deepen connections. And the
Unknown Area, where information is
unknown to both the individual and
others, highlighting potential for self-
discovery through introspection and
new experiences.

Overall, the Johari Window helps
individuals enhance self-awareness,
improve communication, and strength-
en relationships by exploring these
four areas.

The ‘Johari Window’ is a valuable tool
that helps improve self-awareness
and communication skills that are
especially important in police training.
It enables officers to understand
their personality traits while gaining
insight into how others perceive them.
By incorporating the ‘Johari Window’
into our training programs, the CCSO
can strengthen our deputies’ emotional
intelligence, communication skills,
and self-awareness. These qualities
are essential for building trust, acting
ethically, and functioning effectively
in law enforcement roles. Stay tuned!

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

Custer Senior Center Menu

Monday, June 23
#34 Chili con Carne
Cornbread
Spinach Salad
w/Mandarin Orange
Apricot Pineapple Compote

Tuesday, June 24
#44 Ham and Beans
Collard Greens
Cornbread
Orange Juice

Thursday, June 26
#51 Hot Turkey Sandwich
Whipped Potatoes
Asparagus Amandine
Pineapple Mandarin Compote
Banana

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 \$4 suggested donation per meal is appreciated, but not required. All menus subject to change.

Come and Worship

Christian Science 9:30 a.m. Worship 8 Bassick Place, Westcliffe Church of Christ 9:30 a.m. Bible Study 10:30 a.m. Worship 818 Ohio Street, Silver Cliff 719/783-4601 Church of Jesus Christ of Latter Day Saints 240 Ridgeline Dr, Westcliffe Pres: 719/214-4589 Cody Park Community Church 9:30 a.m. Sunday School ? 10:30 a.m. Worship Tues. 8:30 a.m., Prayer Mtg. Wedn. 7 p.m. Bible Study 0157 County Rd. 27A Cotopaxi 719/942-3526 (719) 942-3462 Community United Methodist Church 10 a.m. Worship 202 S. 6th Street, Westcliffe 719/783-2511 Cotopaxi Community Church 9:30 a.m. Sunday School 11 a.m. Worship 6 p.m. Wedn. Bible Study PastorSteveHolcomb@gmail.com 20326 Hwy. 50, Cotopaxi	First Baptist Church of Westcliffe 9:30 a.m. Sunday School 10:30 a.m. Fellowship 10:45 a.m. Worship 410 S. 6th Street, Westcliffe Pastor Josh Olsteen 719/783-2498 High Country Mennonite Church 9:30 a.m. Worship 10:45 a.m. Sunday School 103 N. Adams St, Westcliffe 719/783-9045 Call Pastor Errv @ 719.429.0556 or Pastor Davie @ 719.371.3861 Huerfano Community Bible Church 10:30 a.m. Sunday Worship 7 p.m.: Thursday Bible Study 603 Leon Street, Walsenburg (719) 251-9053 Hope Lutheran Church 2 p.m. Worship 3:15 p.m. Bible Study 3rd & Powell Streets, Westcliffe Pastor Dan Kletke 719/783-2323 Lange Hall 719/783-2561 Living Stone Calvary Chapel Saturday evenings: 5:30 p.m. Sunday Mornings: 9 30 a.m. Outdoors Bring a lawn chair! 830 Bridge St., Canon City, CO Pastor Sean Meagher 719/276-0863	Our Lady of the Assumption Roman Catholic Church Diocese of Pueblo 11 a.m. Sunday Mass 10 a.m. (2nd Tuesday of month) Mass 10 a.m. Wednesday Mass 5:30 p.m. Thursday Mass 109 S. 5th Street, Westcliffe 719/783-3507 Our Lady of Mt. Zion Catholic Church 11 a.m. Mass, 2nd & 3rd Sunday of month 210 S. 2nd St, Westcliffe 719/783-2491 Praise Community Church Sunday School 9:30 a.m. Praise & Worship 10:45 a.m. 215 N Pikes Peak Ave., Florence 719/784-1184 St. Luke's Episcopal Church 10:30 a.m. Worship & Eucharist 11:30 a.m. Fellowship 8:30 a.m. Prayer Service, Thursdays 3rd & Rosita Streets, Westcliffe 719/783-2477 St. Patrick's Anglican Church 11 a.m. Worship 403 S. 2nd S., Westcliffe 925/339-0175 or 719/783-2500 Sacred Heart Catholic Church Diocese of Pueblo Saturday Mass 4 p.m. Highway 69, Gardner Bldg. Mickey, 719/746-2037	Sangre de Cristo Cowboy Church Pastor: Mike Shields 10 a.m. Sunday School 11 a.m. Worship Last Sunday of Month: Potluck at Noon sangredecristocowboychurch.com also on Facebook 60260 Hwy 69, Westcliffe 719/232-5372 Sangre de Cristo Fellowship 9 a.m. Meet & Greet 9:30 a.m. Service 120 Jerry Drive, Westcliffe 719/783-0903 Sangre de Cristo Seminary Chapel 10 a.m. Worship 6160 County Rd. 130, Westcliffe 719/ 371-1822 Valley Bible Fellowship 10 a.m. Worship 116 Hermit Lane, Silver Cliff 719/581-7572 Wetmore Baptist Church 9:45 a.m. Sunday School 10:45 a.m. Worship 1 p.m. Worship Junction of Hwy 96 & 67, Wetmore 719/371-1230 Wetmore Community Church 9 a.m. Sunday School 10 a.m. Worship 699 County Rd. 395, Wetmore 719/784-0596
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May the God of hope fill you with all joy and peace in believing,
so that by the power of the Holy Spirit you may abound in hope.
Romans 15: 13 ESV

Kids Activities In Custer County

June 25 @ 9 a.m. - 3 p.m. Silver Cliff Community Fun Day @ Silver Cliff Community Park
1011 Butler St., Silver Cliff

June 24 @ 4 - 5 p.m. WCCL Petting Zoo @ Custer County Fairgrounds Custer County Fairgrounds, Westcliffe

West Custer County Library is partnering with Custer County 4-H Hermits in bringing you a petting zoo experience at the Custer County Fairgrounds. Come and see all the fun animals. We will have a llama, bunnies, goats, kittens, and snakes to see and learn about.

June 25 @ 12 - 1 p.m. WCCL Kickoff to Summer Reading ~ Foam Party @Hermit Park (Roundtree) Pavilion 4th and Hermit Road, Westcliffe Kick off summer reading with a Foam Party for all youth ages. Bring your swimsuit and towel for a fun and exciting time..

June 27 @ 10 a.m. – 12 p.m. WCCL Archery w/ Justin Krall @Hermit Park (Roundtree) Pavilion 4th and Hermit Rd, Westcliffe

West Custer County Library partners w/ Colorado Parks & Wildlife Ranger Justin Krall for an exciting archery experience. Learn all about archery and the safety of learning how to shoot a bow and arrow. This event is for 9-18 yr olds only! Make sure to go to www.westcusterlibrary.org/events to sign up now. We hope to see you at the Hermit Park Pavilion!

June 27 Hayseeds Jam Session @ West Custer County Library

Kids session 3-3:45 p.m.
Adults 4-4:45 p.m.

Spectators welcome. If you want to jam, email hayseedslibrary@gmail.com

Events

June 5 -28, Sangres Art Guild ~ “Colorful Colorado” Art Show, 3rd Street Gallery, 59000 N. Hwy 69

Friday, June 20, 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. Local Farmer’s Market, at Jesse Park on Main Street

Friday-Sunday June 20-22 \$5Friday & Saturday at 6:30 p.m. Sunday 2 p.m. WCPA Shakespeare in the Sangres ~ *A Midsummer Night’s Dream*, Historic Jones Theater, 119 Main St.,Westcliffe.

Saturday, June 21, 9:45 - 11:45 p.m. FREE SJO Star Party on the Bluff

Saturday, June 21, 9 a.m. - 3 p.m. Silver Cliff Community Fun Day, Silver Cliff 5K Run: Registration 8:30 a.m., Starts at 9 a.m. @ 1011 Butler St.

June 21, 22 – Saturday 11 a.m., Sunday 10 a.m. Silver Cliff Tractor Pull @Silver Cliff Community Park, 1011 Butler St., Silver Cliff. Free for spectators. Point of contact Kathy Reis 719-371-2154

Sunday, June 22, (Two locations) Overview of the 2025 legislative session w/ Rep. Stephanie Luck. See page 10 for more info.

June 28th, 10 a.m. to noon Come & Learn -- Make Your Property Safe Mitigation Info @ Lange Hall, Lunch provided

July 4 @ 7 - 10 a.m. AAW Pancake Breakfast , All Aboard Westcliffe Depot 102 Main St., Westcliffe

July 4 &5 @ 9 a.m. – 3 p.m. AAW Flea Market, Craft Fair and Yard Sale, 110 Rosita Ave., Westcliffe

July 4 @ 10 - 11 a.m. Independence Day Parade , Main Streets Westcliffe & Silver Cliff, Sponsored by the American Legion Post 170. To participate contact Parade Co-Chairs Ted Ballard, 719-371-5395 capttedballard@gmail.com or Mike Benetti, 480-747-8627 SMBenetti@msn.com

July 4 after dusk Location Tba (but local) Fireworks Display by “The Mortor Men”

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.

JUNE SCHEDULE
Care & Share-June 13 & 27 from 11-2
TEFAP- June 9 from 12-2
Everyday Eats boxes are available during any regular distribution from 11-2
An Equal Opportunity Provider

Family Crisis Services
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 11a.m. to 4 p.m.
Friday 10 a.m. to 1 p.m.
(719) 783-4357

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

West Custer County Library
209 Main Street Westcliffe, CO 81252
(719) 783-9138
Tue. – Fri.: 10 a.m. – 5:30 p.m..
Saturday: 10 a.m. – 2 p.m.

Wet Mountain Rotary Van Service
Limited Dispatch 719-783-2343

Classifieds

Announcements

OUTDOORSMANS DAYS
August 8th & 9th 2025
Pathfinder Regional Park
Florence, CO
VENDORS WELCOME
for more information go to
coloradooutdoorsmansdays.com
or call
719 275-4077

FREE BOOKS

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

For Sale

ORGANIC EGGS and Meat
Call the Egg Lady
(719) 371-5497

Garage Sale

Planning a Sale?
Let us help you get the word out



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Local Mountain News & Notices

Farmers Markets

- *WEDNESDAY** 4 p.m. to 6 p.m.
COALDALE Schoolhouse Mtn. Market
287 Hayden Creek Rd, Coaldale
County Rd 6 & County Rd 45

***THURSDAY** 8 a.m. to 1 p.m.
Florence Farmers Market
Pioneer Park E 3rd & E 4th,
Florence
- *FRIDAY** 9 a.m. to 1 p.m.
Westcliffe Farmers Market
(at Jess Price Park)
Main Street of Westcliffe

SATURDAY 8 a.m. to 1 p.m.
(July 5- Oct. 4)
Royal Gorge Farmers Market
9th St & Hwy 50 in Cañon City

***OPEN THIS WEEK**

Hedberg vs District Suit, New School Counselor, MS/HS Principal Announced Superintendent Search Begins

by Laura Vass

The June 3 Custer County School District C-1 Regular School Board Meeting began on time. After the Pledge of Allegiance and roll call, they approved the amended agenda.

There was a Public Hearing scheduled for the Board to hear any further public comment on the School District 2025-6 Budget. There were no comments.

Under Staff and Student recognition, Board President Reggie Foster announced that a prior school nurse, Toria Cruz Johnson, passed away on the previous Saturday after a battle with cancer. She asked attendees to hold a moment of silence in her honor.

Under CORRESPONDENCE TO THE BOARD, a letter to the board from Tracy Tarrell was read.

The letter expressed that the Board, discouraged emotional social media responses from the community, and should likewise not issue emotional responses. She referred back to the May 13 meeting when several board members read a statement after the decision to terminate the Superintendent based on the investigation.

She felt that the statements read were emotional and contained too much information on current staff complaints that should be confidential. (We printed those statements with the last school board coverage article. You be the judge.)

CONSENT AGENDA ITEMS passes. These included approval of May 13 meeting minutes, and three new hires, Kelly Klinger, MS/HS Counselor, Angela Ditto, Elementary Teacher, and Aundrea McCormick who moves into new positions of Athletic Director and Teacher.

The acting superintendent, Walt Cooper, also introduced the new MS/HS Principal, Wren Olsen. Wren will begin immediately and the acting principal, Lorie Cooper, said she'll be there as support through June 26 and available/accessible after that.

The board then went into Executive Session) for the purpose of receiving legal advice regarding the School District's response to Hedberg v. Custer County School District, a complaint filed by Mr. Hedberg against

the School District alleging that the Board of Education violated the Colorado Open Meetings Act.

After reconvening the regular meeting, Under ACTION ITEMS, the board voted 4-0 to proceed with defense against the claim. In discussion, Directors Fiore, Brown, Kreigh and Foster expressed that lawsuit claims are not true.

Regarding Board of Education Vacancy Appointment- On recommendation of the acting Superintendent Walt Cooper, the date was set for the 18th interview the one person interested, John Tillotson, for school board opening.

Regarding Designation of Critical Shortage in Accordance with PERA Rules and C.R.S. 24-51-1101(1.9) the board approved to include on the Critical Shortage list, the positions of Superintendent, School Principal, Math Teacher, and Special Ed Teacher. This improves how retired teachers that reenter the workforce have their PERA benefits effected.

Action Item, "Regarding Superintendent Search Activities and Timelines" was next. The acting Superintendent had a viable set of dates worked out that meet all the legal deadlines. The board approved the dates as follows: a June 18 deadline for naming finalists and June 30, July 1 and July 2 for public interviews.

The board approved three of the policy revisions the committee has worked on. These relate to home schooled kids or charter schooled kids who want to participate in the district and set the open enrollment deadlines, and how a student is enrolled- ie ½ time.

The policies are for fall semester in order to meet funding allocation deadlines (although this was not discussed.) Bottom line, enrollment deadlines for the school year is in the fall, just as in the past, but policy says students cannot be enrolled in more than one school district. Policy IHBG-Home Schooling, Policy JFBA-Intra-District Choice/Open Enrollment and Policy JBGA-Intra-District Choice/Open Enrollment passed as adjusted.

The next Regular Board meeting is scheduled for Tuesday, June 24, 2025, at 4:30 p.m. in the School Library.

KIDS

Friday, June 20, 2025

Leadville's Narrow Gauge



Holiday Run of Leadville Railroad

If you live in Colorado, you know there are many railroad trips you can enjoy going through the mountains. This week we will be looking at the Leadville Colorado & Southern Railroad, that runs at over 10,000 feet.

In 1870, railroads reached Denver for the first time, approximately 10 years after gold was discovered in California Gulch near present-day Leadville. It took another 10 years before the Denver & Rio Grande completed a much-contested route up the Arkansas River Valley, through the Royal Gorge to Salida and then into Leadville with its narrow-gauge line. Wagons at the time were charging \$18 a ton to haul freight to Colorado Springs. The railroads estimated that by cutting the cost to \$10 a ton they would be able to make close to a quarter of a million dollars per year hauling the same freight in a timelier fashion. Railroads have come a long way since then. The slow down of the depression in the 1930s and the Postal Service's decision to send mail from Denver by truck caused the rail service to Leadville to dwindle.

Today the Colorado & Southern Railroad lives again as a summer tourist destination taking passengers along some of the historic Denver, South Park and Pacific lines. The train ride showcases the beauty of the Rocky Mountains while enlightening guests on Leadville's vibrant and often humorous past. You can experience this two-and-a-half-hour train ride which takes passengers from Leadville through the untamed wilderness of the San Isabel National Forest for breathtaking views of Fremont Pass, Mt. Elbert, Mt. Massive, and the Arkansas River Valley.

The Leadville Railroad has operated as a scenic train in Leadville, Colorado, since 1988. Summer season starts on Memorial Day weekend. Check out their website for details on specialty summer tours like the wildflower tour and BBQ specials, Fall photo specials, Octoberfest in the fall, and Holiday and Winter express tours from November to April. Due to the high elevation of the train tour it is advised to come prepared with jacket, hats sunscreen and definitely your camera. Check out their schedules at <https://leadvillerrailroad.com/train-rides/>.

by Audrey Slater. Sources: <https://www.uponarriving.com/leadville-railroad/>, <https://www.coloradocentralmagazine.com/leadville-mineral-belt-railway-the-rails-before-the-trail/>, <https://leadville.com/railroads-change-leadville-forever/>, <https://coloradoinfo.com/activity/leadville-railroad-leadville-train/>
Photo via <https://leadvillerrailroad.com/history/>

Sangre de Cristo Sentinel • Westcliffe, Colorado

CORNER

Look carefully then how you walk,
not as unwise but as wise,
making the best use of the time,
because the days are evil.

Therefore do not be foolish, but understand
what the will of the Lord is.

Ephesians 5:15-17 ESV



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with Justin Krall



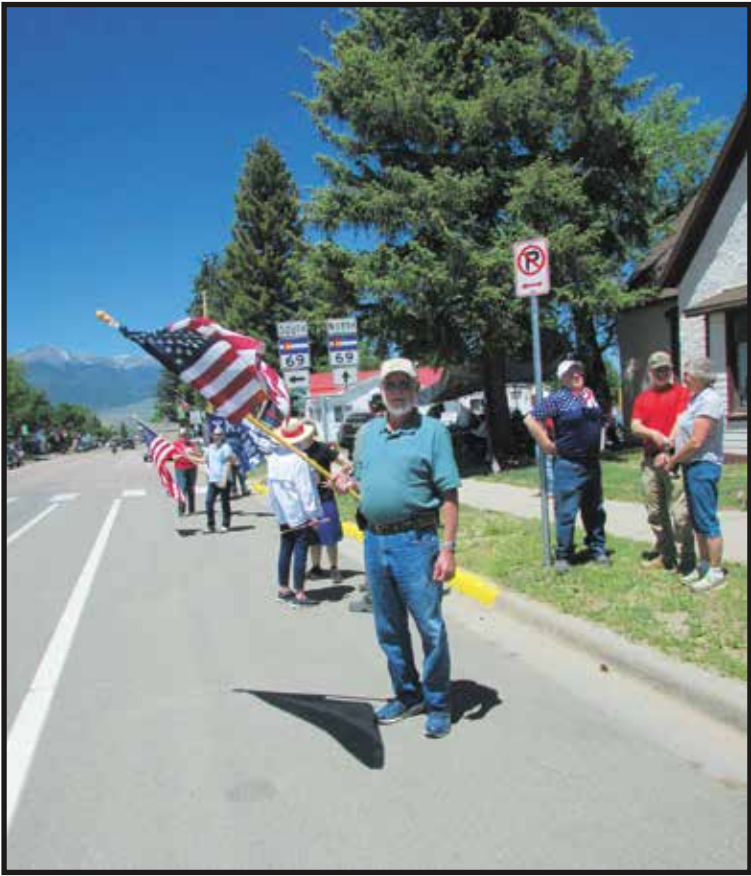
Friday, June 27th
10:00 am-12:00 pm
@ Hermit Park



Registration is Required.
Please sign up by June 20th.

Local Mountain News & Notices

Ohio Comes to the U.S. Flag Day Celebration



We had one non-local at the Sentinel’s U.S. Flag Day Celebration: A Robert Baltzly. He is the father of our Coroner, Brad Baltzly. Robert and his wife were here visiting Brad and decided to come help us celebrate Flag Day. Another great Patriot.

Sentinel photo

CFE Purchases Historic Grader Now On Display in Silver Cliff

Press Release
Colorado Forestry & Earthworks
Via Facebook, June 14, 2025

What a day for the history books! Today, we were incredibly honored to purchase this Caterpillar Pull Type Grader from Sangre de Cristo Seminary.

Getting to see this magnificent piece of old iron was truly special. It’s a fantastic reminder of how far earthwork has come, from these foundational machines to today’s advanced

technology. Andrew Zeller reflected upon his days pioneering Seminary Road and other roads at Horn Creek (Sky Ranch) with this very machine, offering a glimpse into the dedication and hard work that shaped these areas. It’s more than just equipment; it’s a tangible link to a rich legacy.



In loving memory of Dwight Zeller (September 13, 1929 - May 30, 2025), whose pioneering spirit helped build the roads of yesterday. We’re proud to give this piece of history a new chapter.

(Editor/GG: It’s now proudly displayed at CFE’s headquarters at the corner of Oak Creek Grade and Highway 96 in Silver Cliff.)



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2nd Annual Silver Cliff Community Park FUN Day

JUNE 21, 2025, 9:00 am – 3:00 pm
1011 Butler Street, Silver Cliff

Silver Cliff Fun Run - 5K @ 8K Feet

Registration 8:30
click the link or QR
<https://ultrasignup.com/register.aspx?eid=18998>
Run Starts at 9:00
Prizes for the top 3 fastest times.

\$25 Entry

2-MILE WALK
PARK TO PARK TRAIL HEAD TO THE HISTORIC SILVER CLIFF CEMETERY
\$10 ENTRY FEE
REGISTRATION 9:00 – START TIME 9:30
USE THE SAME REGISTRATION METHODS AS THE RUN
LEARN SOME HISTORY WHILE AT THE CEMETERY

\$10.00 to Register for each Event

10:00 am • Pickleball Event • Golf Challenge Closest to the Pin \$1/per ball or 12 for \$10 Unlimited chances	11:00 am • First bracket of Cornhole and Horseshoes • Home Run Derby \$10 for 10 balls – Unlimited chances	1:00 pm • 2nd Bracket Cornhole and Horseshoes
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Beer Tent, Music & Live Music 12 - 3

Support your Silver Cliff Community Park Improvements grants. Help us replace our playground equipment and build a 4 court Pickleball facility.
Give your input, donate or make a pledge to contribute to the matching funds. We appreciate all the community's support.

All proceeds go towards park improvements and future programs.

11:00 am
KIDS FREE EVENTS
Bounce House
Kite building kits
Face Painting
Other games

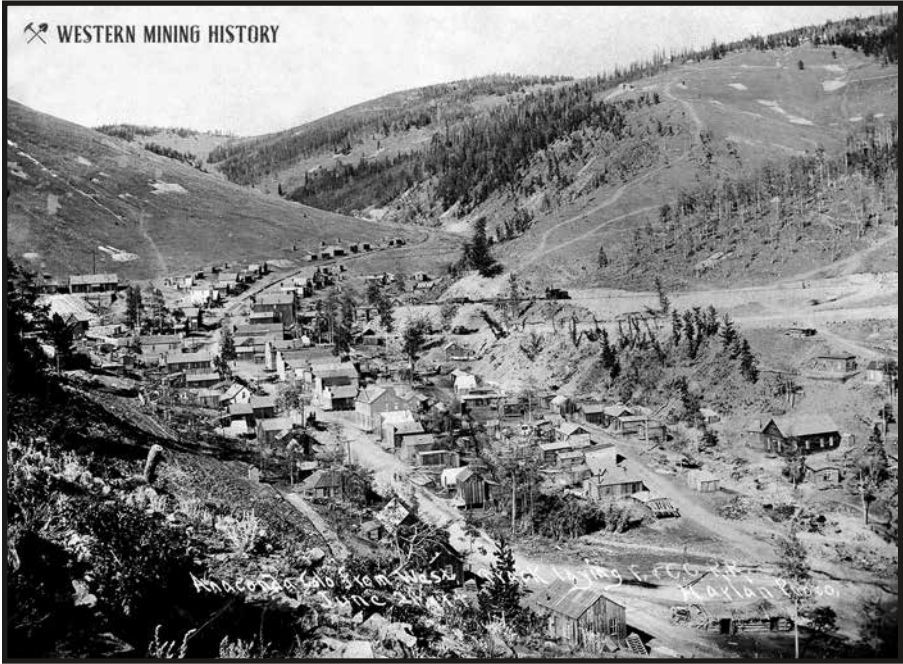
\$5.00
Hot Dog Meal
(Free for 10 and under)
\$10.00
Hamburger Meal

Questions - Call 719-783-2615

Anaconda, Colorado, in the C

Anaconda Details
Status: Ghost Town
Elevation: 9,498 Feet
State: Colorado
County: Teller

Date Settled: 1892
Current Population: none
Peak Population: ~1,000
Commodity: Gold

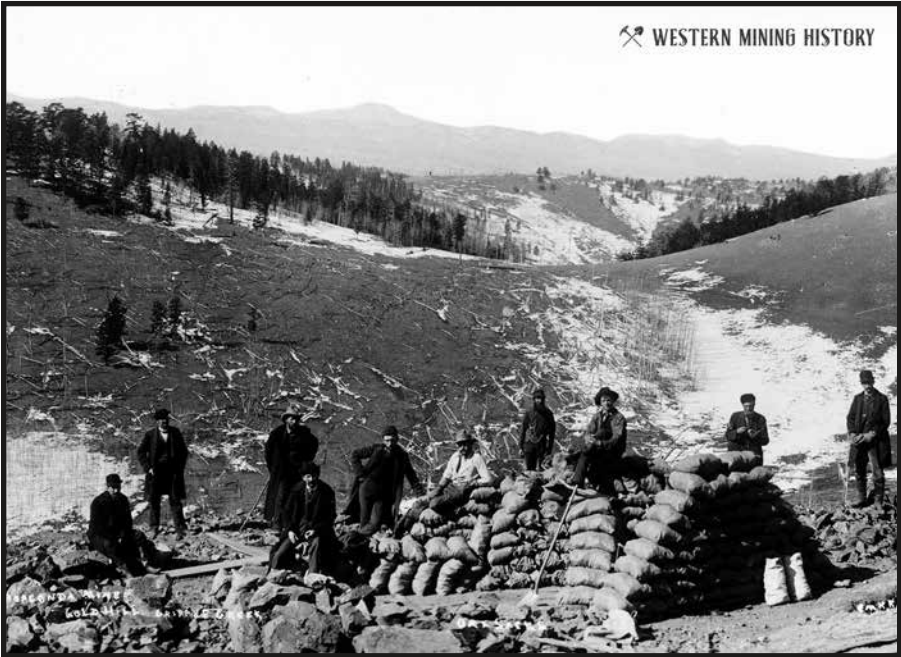


Anaconda, Colorado 1894

Anaconda History

by Jan MacKell Collins

As the Cripple Creek District developed during the 1890s, thousands of miners flocked to the region seeking fortune. Within an incredibly short time, hundreds of prospect holes dotted the landscape. In one area, located roughly halfway between Cripple Creek and Victor, the body of “a female aborigine” was unearthed. The remains were most likely those of a Ute Indian, since those native Americans once favored the area as a summer hunting ground. The area where she was found became known as Squaw Gulch.



Miners pose with bags of high-grade gold ore at the Anaconda Mine 1892

By about March of 1892, the Anaconda Mine above Squaw Gulch was producing \$50,000 in gold each month. The company was officially incorporated on June 21. David Moffat, the famed Colorado railroad tycoon, was president. The mine was not without its problems as principle officers of the company fought with each other over who got what, and the mine was shut down at least once. While the Anaconda struggled, other good producing mines followed, including the Mary McKinny just a few months later, and the Doctor Jack Pot and the Morning Glory in 1893.

Along Squaw Gulch, a series of small towns formed. The two earliest communities were Mound City and Barry which sat on either side of a wagon road traversing Squaw Gulch. Quite suddenly, a new camp emerged in Squaw Gulch, at the foot of Gold Hill. Without much aplomb, the Aspen Daily Times of May 20, 1893 simply mentioned that the “town of Anaconda, near Cripple Creek, has taken out incorporation papers.” At least the Daily Times was impressed by the town newspaper which began two months later. “The Anaconda Herald is a new candidate

for newspaper favors at Cripple Creek. It is very ably edited by A.J. McNasser.”

It was not long before there was some news to report. On an August night in 1893, Larry Cavanaugh ended an all night drinking spree by coming home, knocking his wife to the floor and threatening to cut her throat. He also threatened to kill his brother in law, George Cosen. Mrs. Cavanaugh managed to escape to Cosen’s house. On her heels was her husband, who kicked in the door and went after Cosen with a revolver. Cosen “picked up his rifle and shot the intruder dead,” reported papers throughout Colorado. The news said Cosen was arrested, but that he would most likely be released.

Indeed, Anaconda had blossomed practically overnight into a real town with the accompanying violence of any western town. The 1893 directory lists Anaconda’s first mayor as Dr. A.A. Smith, with trustees consisting of U.G. McCrackin, James A. Doyle, Chas. A. Keith, J.C. McKenney, F.C. Hathaway and W.M. Armstrong. A second newspaper, the weekly Mining Standard run by W.A. Bray, soon replaced the Herald. Hotels, drugstores, groceries, physicians and lawyers put out their shingles.

Three saloons—Good’s Place, Mayer & Cook and Page & Allen’s X 10 U 8 sample room—kept the blue collar workers happy. The Anaconda Dance Hall and the Barry Club also provided entertainment. There also were churches, a school and a jail. There was even a music teacher and dressmaker living in town. Not bad for a town of only 200 people.



Deerhorn Boarding House - Anaconda, Colorado ca. 1892

In December of 1893, Anaconda managed to snatch the post office from, and absorb, the nearby town of Barry. Another community, Mound City, was absorbed as well. The Anaconda post office officially opened on December 7, 1893. M. Lehman, who also ran a “gent’s furnishings” store, was postmaster.

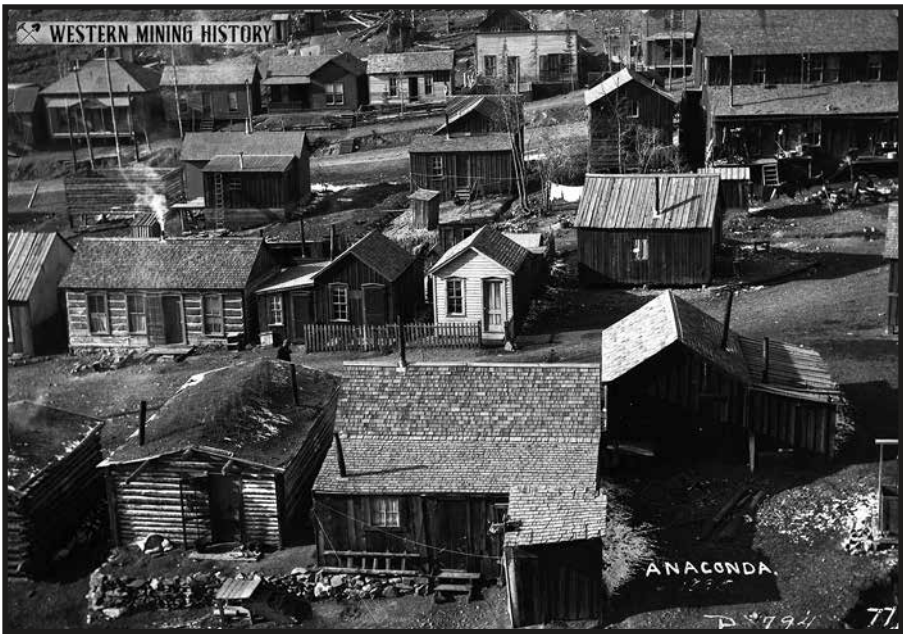
Barry resident Leslie Doyle Spell remembered the small jail at Anaconda, a two room affair built of rock from the nearby creek bed and filled with mortar. On a night, temporary marshal Tom Flanagan jailed a miner known as “Big Kelly” for being drunk. Flanagan had installed his prisoner and was playing poker when Big Kelly suddenly appeared at his elbow. “Tom whirled and said: ‘I thought I put you in jail’; whereat Kelly answered: ‘You didn’t expect to keep a hardrock miner in a jail like that, did you?’” It turned out that some local children, including Spell, had found an old knife and given it to Kelly to dig his way out through a weak place in the mortar.

Flanagan duly marched Kelly back to the jail and made him crawl through the hole, telling him to stay put or the marshal “would come back and give him a good licking.” Kelly stayed put for the rest of the night. Spell recalled that many years later he was telling this story in Bisbee Arizona. “An elderly man spoke up,” he remembered, “and said, ‘That’s a true story, men. I was playing poker with Tom at the time.’”

Unlike Altman and other places in the Cripple Creek District, Anaconda seemed rather unaffected by the labor strikes of 1893-94. Even in Squaw Gulch, there were few places for miners to build a stronghold like they had at Altman. Rather, Anaconda’s miners seemed a bit more open to—or afraid of opposing—owners of the Anaconda mine who wanted them to work an extra hour for the same pay. In March of 1894, it was announced that the Anaconda Mine was one of the few that would

ripple Creek District, Part I

reopen and hire anti-union employees to work there. While not all of Anaconda’s miners were for the change in policy, when the strike was settled a few months later citizens simply resumed their daily lives with little trouble or comment.



Anaconda, Colorado 1895

In 1894, Anaconda was becoming an important part of the Cripple Creek District, and incorporated. The population consisted of about 1,000 people “who enjoy their cosy [sic] life snug in the embrace of the hills,” according to an 1894 directory. More billiard halls and saloons were now present, but more respectable businesses such as the Delmonico and Keystone Restaurants, hardware stores, attorneys, doctors, and others outnumbered them.

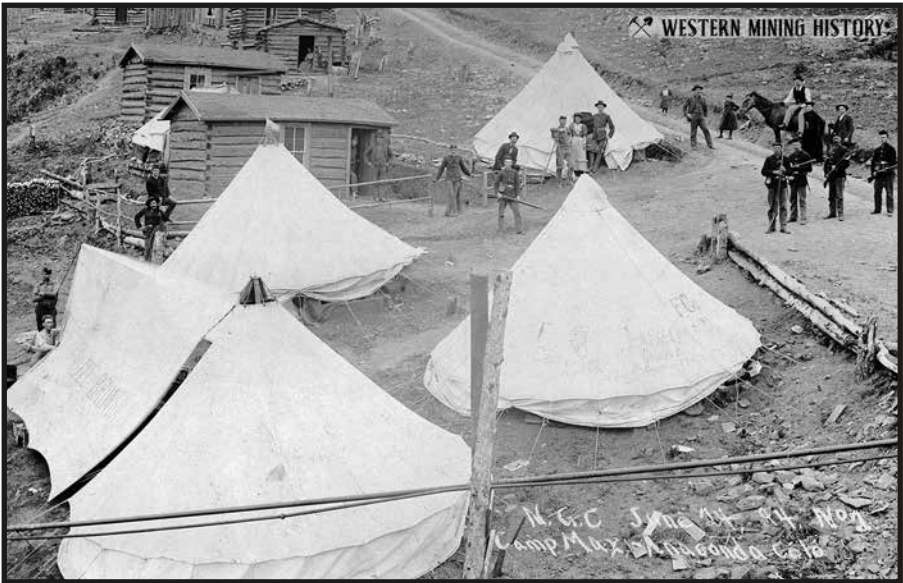
As Anaconda grew, both the Midland Terminal Railroad and the Florence & Cripple Creek Railroad were running a most heated race to reach the Cripple Creek District. The F. & C.C. won, with a passenger train chugging into nearby Cripple Creek on July 1, 1894. The next day the train continued on to Anaconda, only to derail and cause a spectacular crash close to town. Two passenger coaches and the baggage car went over the edge of a trestle. Twenty one people were injured, and W.G. Milner of Leadville was killed.



Passenger train wreck near Anaconda, Colorado 1894

By 1895, upwards of 2,000 train passengers and visitors passed through Anaconda each day. Enter Jimmy Doyle, a former fireman, would soon strike it rich at the famed Portland Mine and become a future mayor of nearby Victor. But his beginnings in the Cripple Creek District consisted of advertising his assaying services in newspapers throughout 1895. The city was still growing, and in May, the Blue Bell addition was added for more housing. Now, Anaconda even had a baseball team, and by November, the Midland Terminal Railroad tracks had reached one side of town.

Prizefighting became a popular pastime in Anaconda beginning in 1896, when newspapers announced that Billy Woods and Jim Williams would be duking it out for a purse of over \$3,000. The fight was forgotten a few weeks later, however, when the city of Cripple Creek just a few miles away burned in not one, but two fires. Refugees from the fire crowded into Anaconda, tripling business at the post office. In the months following

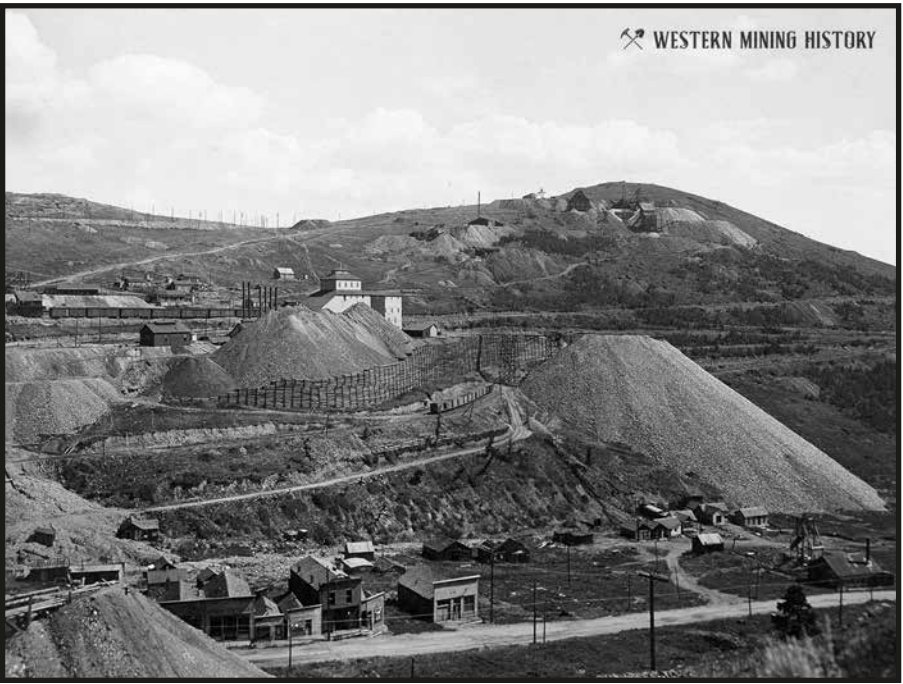


Camp Max - National Guard camp at Anaconda, Colorado 1894

the fires, after the temporary visitors had returned to Cripple Creek, the Cripple Creek District directory of 1896 guessed there were roughly 1,800 people living in Anaconda.

City businesses now included a blacksmith, drugstore, general merchandise store, laundry services, a livery, a meat market, shoemaker, two barbers, two confectionaries, two dressmakers, two dry goods stores, two physicians and two restaurants. There were also four grocery stores, and six bars to quench the thirst of locals. Guests of the town had two hotels and eight boarding houses to choose from. There was even a justice of the peace and a notary public. Around town were about twenty six mines, plus a sampling works, stamp mill and three assayers.

Also in 1896, a new newspaper, the Assayer, was met with approval. “Mr. [C.P.] Brooks, it is needless to say, knows how to make a bright and newsy paper,” commented the Leadville Herald Democrat. The article proved to be an understatement, for the lively Mr. Brooks kept readers entertained with plenty of news, and a good dose of editorial comment to boot.



Mary McKinney Mine at Anaconda, Colorado 1899

On January 13 of 1898, the Greeley Tribune noted that “Charles P. Brooks, who was reported a few weeks ago to be in a dying condition at Anaconda” had also become editor of the Cripple Creek Prospector newspaper in Cripple Creek. Greeley was, incidentally, Brooks’ former hometown. The Elbert County Banner also had something to say about Brooks’ character: “The editor of the Anaconda Assayer has been having a high old time with the mayor and town board of that camp. But he seems to be plenty for them even they do pummel him around and draw guns on him when he attends town council.”

Part II will continue soon!

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GOCO Board Awards \$50K Grant to Protect Rusk Ranch in Custer County

DENVER – The Great Outdoors Colorado (GOCO) board awarded a \$50,000 grant to Colorado Cattlemen’s Agricultural Land Trust (CCALT) to permanently protect the 1,187-acre Rusk Ranch with a conservation easement.

The grant is part of Keep It Colorado’s Transaction Cost Assistance Program (TCAP) that re-grants GOCO funds to nonprofit land trusts to help cover the costs associated with conservation easement transactions. It helps landowners who have urgent opportunities to conserve their properties, but face financial barriers to completing the transaction, to conserve land more quickly.

Rusk Ranch is situated on the east side of the Sangre de Cristo mountains, along with a cluster of other permanently conserved Wet Mountain Valley properties. After leasing the property for decades, the landowners purchased it in 2020 and will now add it to the conservation corridor. The land and its senior water rights, which currently irrigate 177 acres of hay, will be protected for continued agricultural use.

The property provides habitat for elk, mule deer, bald eagle, and wildlife designated as Tier 1 Species of Greatest Conservation Need in the Colorado State Wildlife Action Plan, including the burrowing owl, golden eagle, and Townsend’s big-eared bat. The parcel is adjacent to the property’s original 1900s ranch buildings, which are on the National Register of Historic Buildings and operate as a museum and cultural center.

“This funding is so beneficial to moving projects forward,” said CCALT’s Senior Conservation Manager, Erin Quinn. “We are grateful for the support and to the landowners’ dedication to conservation.”

Great Outdoors Colorado (GOCO) invests a portion of Colorado Lottery proceeds to help preserve and enhance the state’s parks, trails, wildlife, rivers, and open spaces. GOCO’s independent board awards competitive grants to local governments and land trusts and makes investments through Colorado Parks and Wildlife. Created when voters approved a constitutional amendment in 1992, GOCO has since funded more than 5,800 projects in all 64 counties of Colorado without any tax dollar support. Visit GOCO.org for more information.

Second El Paso County School District Bars Boys from Girls’ Sports

by Savana Kascak,
Complete Colorado

COLORADO SPRINGS, CO

A second El Paso County school district has enacted a policy recognizing inherent differences between males and female and requiring students to participate in sports based on their biological sex.

The Colorado Springs District 11 (D-11) Board of Education on Wednesday held a special meeting to approve a new policy, Preserving Fairness and Safety in Sports, which bars boys from competing in girl’s athletics, among other things.

“Allowing men and boys to compete against women and girls is demeaning, unfair, and dangerous to women and girls, and denies women and girls the equal opportunity to participate and excel in competitive sports,” reads the new policy, in part.

The school district will now designate all sports teams under “male, men, or boys,” “female, women, or girls,” or “coed, mixed, or open.” The policy also prohibits biological male students from entering female locker rooms and being lodged in hotel rooms for athletic team travel.

The policy was approved in a 6-1 vote, with the only dissenting board voice being Director Julie Ott, who went as far as calling the new policy both “hateful” and “illegal” before casting a no vote.

At least one female D-11 teacher spoke up in favor of the policy, thanking the board for “standing up and protecting girls’ safety and privacy.”

D-11 is now the second school district in El Paso County to pass a policy to keep biological boys out of girls’ sports. The Falcon 49 school board in May enacted a similar policy, stating that the action was taken after a presidential executive order that the school board believed would put its federal funding in jeopardy if they did not comply.

President Trump announced in Executive Order 14201 (February 5, 2025) that “it is the policy of the United States to rescind all funds from educational programs that deprive women and girls of fair athletic opportunities, which results in the endangerment, humiliation, and silencing of women and girls and deprives them of privacy.”

The D-11 policy takes a hard stance on the idea boys in girls’ sports: “Allowing boys to compete in girls’ sports is part of a broader attempt to debase the entire category of ‘woman’ and transform laws intended to protect sex-based opportunities into laws that hurt girls by undermining their identity, are inherently unfair, and denigrating to their rights.”

Please see <https://completecolorado.com/2025/06/13/second-el-paso-county-school-district-bars-boys-from-girls-sports/>

**Coffee and
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FLAG DAY from page 1

red diaper babies have been using since the 60's. This guy was very aggressive on them pounding away like he was in some nightclub in Cuba back in the old Batista days. This, of course, caused much amusement amongst our Patriots.

As they marched by on the opposite sidewalk you could see the composition of the rabble: a fair amount of old, pasty, bony wanna be bolshie types that never grew up, some Marxist types, younger, very angry, sad and lonely people and depressingly, some children in the mix. They carried dozens of childish, handmade cardboard signs declaring us normal people "nazis", "fascist", and other bad things, that Trump should be gone, plus the self-righteous lib mantras on sex. The usual lefty, Marxist opioid mix. They constantly chanted catchy phrases knocking and mocking normal Americans with a heavy emphasis on the "nazi" theme which the national libtards have adopted since Trump got in. To us old folks who have seen this garbage in the old days, it looked like a pathetic attempt to re-create these old bolshies' childhoods. Vice President Vance calling those shriveled up old lady hippies, "sad, lonely cat ladies" was a compliment. Brain washed. The word "parasite" comes to mind.

So the red mob passed and we kept waving our American Flags and the passing vehicles continued to give us the good vibes.

After about 20 or 30 minutes, we can see to the east of us that the red rabble is now crossing the street about a block away, and they start walking towards us on OUR side. No need for this. **They want to cause a confrontation.** (Which could have been a big mistake.)

So we tell our crew stay off the sidewalk and let these fools pass. As they pass they are screaming curse words, calling us "nazis", etc., chanting lib nursery rhymes, trying to provoke us. All we do is yell stuff like, "God Bless America", "USA, USA...", "Trump", etc. This gets their drawers in a bind, and they chant and scream harder. Finally, the lemmings finished passing and all was well.

But here is something that we observed: Our crew, save one beautiful gentleman from Ohio, who was visiting his son here, were ALL LOCAL and we know who the locals are. After the Red Pioneers passed, we all compared notes on how many local people did we recognize in that emasculated crowd. The consensus was SIX. Out of 60. SIX. And when you viewed the clothing, the demeanors, the physical appearances (I don't think there was ONE alpha male in that whole creepy mob), the sad and angry look on their faces, you know they were from out-of-town. The urban shorts, the hip tee shirts, way too clean for country folk, the way they shuffled along. City libs. The worst. This is what local libs do around the country. Literally bus in city commies to harass conservative cites and towns.

So how did they get here and why? Our own geriatric, red diaper baby libs brought them here. But why? Because Custer County is one of the last red counties in the state. Because Custer County is hard core Christian conservative. And if they want numbers, they must still import just like they did here.

(Custer County is so hard core right the local Dems don't even hold a primary here! There hasn't been a registered dem running for county office in like forever. Our county level elections are won after the Republican primary

because the Dems don't even bother to field a candidate in the general election because they know they will be massacred. So our local libs use us as a target for their urban commies to come here and attempt to intimidate us. Which obviously is a total waste of time. In fact, every time these losers march up and down Main Street the more locals come to dislike them. These sidewalk marches totally disrupt our tourist trade and the Main Street stretch that they march on is the tourist shopping district. Who is going to park and shop with their kids when they see/hear sick looking crazy people walking down the sidewalk? Our Main Street merchants don't want this. Plus the marchers blow out of here as soon as they are done because they don't want to spend a dime to support our community.)

GUN UP!

So they kept marching down the sidewalk to where they started. We get back to flag waving. However, during this period and now afterward, there was a newer, four door Jeep Wrangler that kept driving slowly past us. Every time he drove by, he shouted (LOUD) hard core obscenities at our flag wavers including, of course, calling us "nazis". Now remember this is an older crowd. Probably most of our crew are retired. Regular, polite, conservative Christians spending a few hours celebrating our great country. And this guy keeps coming back screaming at old men and old ladies waving the American Flag, constantly using the "F" word. Each pass he gets louder and crazier.

Finally, at maybe his fourth or more pass, he drives past me and another male flag waver and stops right in front of one of ladies waving. Very close to her. (The woman happens to work at the *Sentinel*. Me and another male were just a few feet to the left of the lady. To her right were a bunch of flag wavers.) The guy, his face contorted with rage, starts screaming like a mad man at the lady in a very threatening manner using extreme obscenities (including the "F" word). Finally, the lady yells back at the punk and then a few seconds later she steps back and freezes. (The guy is on our side of the road, driving left to right past our wavers. His passenger window is next to us.)

The guy keeps scream-

ing and starts to move past us towards the other wavers (he is going west). Just as he starts moving we all hear, "He's got a gun!" from multiple people.

The woman says he had pulled a pistol out, wracked it right in front of her and then pointed it directly at her, the male standing next to her, and as he started driving, at other people. The lady said he stretched his arm across the cab and had the gun right by the passenger window, only a few feet from her.

Little did this rocket scientist know, but at the end of our line was our County Coroner, Brad Baltzly, and coming to his side, Assistant Coroner, Nikita Phillips. Both had seen what was happening and Brad whips out his cell phone and is filming it. At the same time, he grabs his police radio and calls it in to our SO.



Game on!

The punk goes another 30 yards or so and then turns south at the intersection on Hwy 69 heading towards Walsenburg. He knows he screwed up and is fleeing.

Based on Brad's call, the Custer County Sheriff's Office swings into action. All the Deputies are on duty due to the NOKings commie march so there are plenty SO cars around. Four or five SO vehicles jump on it and chase this loser down 69, lights on, sirens screaming and stop this guy around 4 miles outside of town. (It was like a "Dukes of Hazard" chase except they caught the perp.)

High Risk, Felony style stop. Rifles and pistols out. BUSTED. Wrong county to play lib bad boy. They book him. Tons of charges. Down to the Fremont County Criminal Playground for this guy. The SO tells us his name is Brett Tuthill.

The SO stated that the guy was wearing body armor!

So what set this guy off? Was it the NOKings loonies marching around town chanting satanic verses. Was it the BONGO

DRUMS? My guess is that he got all pumped up with the loonies marching around and he has a severe case of Trump Derangement Syndrome.

It could have been a disaster. The guy could have shot the lady point blank and then opened up on the rest of us. Just on the street flag waving line, half of us had sidearms and if he started shooting it would have gotten nasty. Plus there were more of our guys with guns behind us. Hey, it's Custer County.

So our local lefties finally brought the horror of liberalism to our peaceful community. Their predictable solution is always the same--violence, voter fraud, indoctrinating our children and taxing and regulating our way of life out of existence. A sad commentary on where America is today due to their extremism.

Attention Lefties: You're wasting your time in Happy Valley. We see through the facade.

(We didn't stop waving our American Flags after the gun incident. We kept on trucking. It will take more than that to stop Patriotism here in Happy Valley.)

God Bless Happy Valley and God Bless America.

(Bonus Feature: A VERY reliable source told us that after the red parasites crossed the road to get to the school parking lot and started down Main Street toward the *Sentinel*, they left one of their members behind! Apparently, it was an older lady who succumbed to the heat. She was laying on the parking lot or the sidewalk. The libs left her there. NOT ONE LIB BOTHERED TO STAY WITH THE OLD LADY AND HELP HER. (I guess, "Leave no man behind" is not part to the lib team mentality.) Finally, someone from the SO came to help her. Yup, a valuable insight into the libs heads.)

(Editor/GG: Remember, all defendants are presumed innocent until proven guilty in a court of law.)



Flag Day photos by the Sentinel



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Denver's Big Budget Mess the Price of Progressive Governance

by Rob Natelson, CompleteColorado.com

The Denver budget mess has become too ominous even for the liberal media to ignore. A June 9 article in the Denver Post reports that the city faces a \$250 million budget shortfall and furloughs and layoffs.

It seems that under “progressive” Mayors Mike Hancock and Mike Johnson, Denver has “added about 4,000 employees and expanded both programs and the purview of city government.”

In addition, between 2022 and 2024, the city diverted nearly \$100 million for programs that (1) cater to the idle and (2) make life easier for illegal immigrants, thereby aiding and abetting their defiance of federal law.

Crime also is up, as almost invariably happens under “progressive” governance. This makes people reluctant to shop in Denver, especially downtown. And while the Post doesn’t mention it, people also are deterred by the traffic tie-ups caused by Denver’s permanent and temporary lane closures and by the eternal construction projects.

Among these construction projects, few are more damaging and idiotic than the Colfax Avenue Bus Rapid Transit project. It has been constraining traffic and forcing local businesses to close, and will continue to do so for at least another two years. All these factors have depressed tax revenue.

In “progressive” governance, budgetary fudging is routine. So it also is unsurprising that the city has been drawing down its rainy day fund.

No doubt Denver would be in even worse condition if the “progressives” didn’t have to balance their budget and live within the (tattered) limits of the hated Taxpayer’s Bill of Rights (TABOR).

Déjà vu all over again

To quote Yogi Berra, “It’s like déjà vu all over again.”

Swedish economist Assar Lindbeck once said rent control (the quintessential leftist policy) is “the most efficient technique presently known to destroy a city—except for bombing.” (It is not true, as sometimes is claimed, that Nobel laureate Gunnar Myrdal said it. But he agreed.)

It would have been just as accurate to say that leftist policies generally are, next to bombing, the most efficient way to destroy a city—or a state, or a country.

Here’s the political lesson, Colorado: Socialist and other leftist policies screw things up. Free market policies

make life good. It seems to be a law of nature, like gravitation.

For example:

- The Cuban economy used to be one of the most prosperous in Latin America. Socialism destroyed it.
- The Venezuelan economy used to be one of the most prosperous in Latin America. Socialism destroyed it.
- Under the last Czar the Russian economy was coming out of its long slumber and beginning to join the developed world. Socialism destroyed it.
- Detroit used to be one of the world’s great cities. Under “progressive” policies, it went bankrupt.
- New York State used to be—on a wide range of economic measures—truly “the Empire State.” Big government, beginning with the disastrous regime of Governor Nelson Rockefeller (1959-1973), almost sent the state into bankruptcy. New York has continued to bleed population and businesses ever since. Now California faces a similar decline, and for the same reasons.
- As for Colorado—well, Gazette opinion editor Wayne Laugesen recently chronicled in detail the ghastly economic and social damage “progressives” have inflicted on the state since 2018. It is a lengthy and irrefutable indictment, and a damning one. Every Coloradan should read it.

The other side of the coin

It works the other way, too: Relatively free-market policies enrich even places without appreciable natural resources: Hong Kong, Singapore, and Japan are among the wealthiest places on earth.

Particularly dramatic is the history of how nations and states wasted by leftist policies and other causes of destruction recovered under free market policies of privatization, deregulation, and government downsizing—particularly when the necessary reforms came fast: To cite only three: The German economic miracle after World War II. The United Kingdom under the care of Prime Minister Margaret Thatcher. And New Zealand during the 1980s under the guidance of Finance Minister Roger Douglas.

Probably the most unreported recent economic story is what President Xavier Milei’s aggressive free market program has done in Argentina: Only 19 months into his term of office, the long-lasting hyper-inflation is down, the country is out of recession, and Argentina now has a balanced national budget. Previously, Argentina had balanced its budget only ten times in the last 123 years.

During my quarter-century in Montana,

I lived through another case history. The state had become an economic basket case under the high-tax and big-government policies pursued between 1970 and 2000. I helped turn things around. It took several elections to get rid of the politicians responsible for “progressive” nonsense, but the state has been prosperous ever since.

There are less dramatic examples at the federal level. Perhaps the best known is the Reagan recovery from the economic malaise of the Carter years.

Why do voters keep electing leftists?

The biggest question for me is why these facts aren’t better known. If they were, people like Mike Johnston and Mike Hancock (and most of the Colorado legislature) wouldn’t get anywhere near the levers of political power.

After all, the record of their kind of politics is crystal clear. And the basic reasons aren’t obscure: First, even when government is not corrupt (as it often is), it simply cannot allocate resources as well as the private sector. Second, while freedom and personal responsibility make the human spirit soar, control and compulsion crush it.

I do not have an authoritative answer to this question. But I think it has at least three components:

- Although economics, like reading, ‘riting, and ‘rithmetic, should be an element in the basic education system, it is not. As a result many people hold beliefs that are simply economic nonsense. (Example: “The way to balance the budget is to raise taxes on the rich.”)
- Most of the educational system is run by government, and government has a strong incentive to downplay facts inconsistent with government power.
- The dominant media have incentives to cozy up to politicians and bureaucrats—or even to serve as propagandists for them. Thus, they are unlikely to report stories of how free markets outperform governments.

Do you have any doubt about the role of the media? If so, when was the last time you saw a mainstream media report on Milei’s free-market record in Argentina?

Robert G. Natelson, a former constitutional law professor, is senior fellow in constitutional jurisprudence at the Independence Institute in Denver. He authored “The Original Constitution: What It Actually Said and Meant,” of which publication of the fourth edition is now pending.

Please see: <https://completecolorado.com/2025/06/16/denvers-budget-mess-price-of-progressive-governance/>

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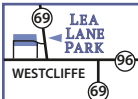


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**NOTICE:
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The Wet Mountain Fire Protection District is Soliciting Bids for the purchase and installation of an 80 kW Propane Generac Standby Generator for the Main Fire Station on the southeast side, which is an automatic 240V single-phase generator. The generator location will be on the outside of the building and the project includes the installation of the automatic transfer switch and all electrical work required to make the generator functional in the event of a loss of power to the Main Station. The generator electrical connection to the building with the transfer switch will be on the East Wall, directly adjacent to the Main electrical lines to the building and the electric meter located at the Southeast corner of the building.

The project site may be seen at the Main Fire Station, 215 North 4th Street, Westcliffe, CO 81252, between the hours of 9 A.M. and 4 P.M. Monday through Thursday or by appointment by calling (719)783-9245 during office hours.

Sealed Bids must be clearly marked on the envelope “Generator Installation.” The Bids will be accepted by the Wet Mountain Fire Protection District, 215 North 4th Street, P.O. Box 324, Westcliffe, CO 81252 through Wednesday, July 9th, 2025, 3 P.M. Bids will be publicly opened and read aloud at 7 P.M. on Wednesday, July 9th, 2025.

Main Building power to site by Fire District

Permits obtained by Contractor

All applicable insurances will be provided to the District 15 days prior to starting construction.

- Builders risk
- Contractors liability
- Workers compensation

For any questions, please call: Battalion Chief Faggiano 925.519.5348

Must provide your Unique Entity Identifier number with the sealed bid.

Wet Mountain Fire Protection District reserves the right to refuse or accept any and all bids.

Published June 20, 2025
Sangre de Cristo Sentinel
Westcliffe, Colorado

**NOTICE:
INVITATION TO BID**

The Wet Mountain Fire Protection District is Soliciting Bids for the construction of a 15’ by 24’ overhang on the Southeast side of the Main Fire Station with 2 Bollards installed as impact barriers. The overhang needs to have a minimum 3:12 pitch extending from the Main Station building to cover a generator and partially cover a Connex box. Must be a metal roof.

The project site may be seen at the Main Fire Station, 215 North 4th Street, Westcliffe, CO 81252, between the hours of 9 A.M. and 4 P.M. Monday through Thursday or by appointment by calling (719)783-9245 during office hours.

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Published June 20, 2025
Sangre de Cristo Sentinel
Westcliffe, Colorado

**NOTICE:
INVITATION TO BID**

The Wet Mountain Fire Protection District is Soliciting Bids for the installation of a 1000-gallon propane tank on the Southeast Corner of the Main Fire Station, with a propane line installed connecting it to a standby generator on the Southeast Corner of the Main Fire Station. The propane tank will require concrete footers to be installed to rest on, and the propane line will be a minimum of 2’ underground.

The project site may be seen at the Main Fire Station, 215 North 4th Street, Westcliffe, CO 81252, between the hours of 9 A.M. and 4 P.M. Monday through Thursday or by appointment by calling (719)783-9245 during office hours.

Sealed Bids must be clearly marked on the envelope “Propane Tank Installation.” The Bids will be accepted by the Wet Mountain Fire Protection District, 215 North 4th Street, P.O. Box 324, Westcliffe, CO 81252 through Wednesday, July 9th, 2025, 3 P.M. Bids will be publicly opened and read aloud at 7 P.M. on Wednesday, July 9th, 2025.

Main Building power to site by Fire District

Permits obtained by Contractor

All applicable insurances will be provided to the District 15 days prior to starting construction.

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- Contractors liability
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For any questions, please call: Battalion Chief Faggiano 925.519.5348

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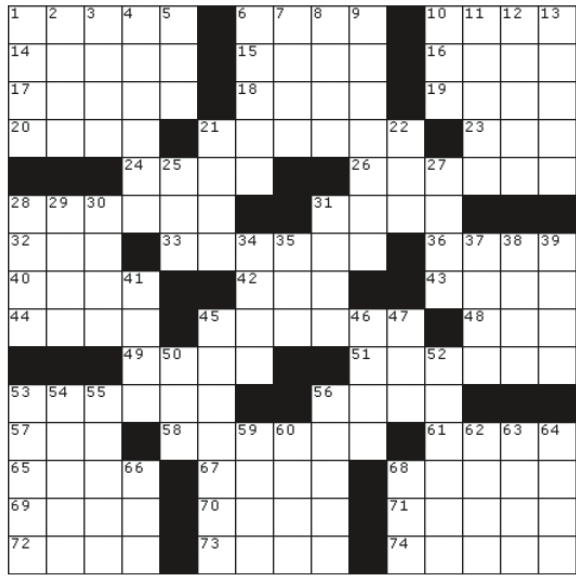
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- 42 \$ (abbr.)
- 43 Little Mermaid's love
- 44 Biblical "you"

- 45 Romantic song
- 48 Feign
- 49 Stack of paper
- 51 Moves
- 53 Leave camp
- 56 Shorten (abbr.)
- 57 Time period
- 58 Ideal place
- 61 Snaky fish
- 65 Taboo
- 67 Evils
- 68 Addiction
- 69 Baal
- 70 Apply a varnish
- 71 Shade
- 72 Fix
- 73 Speck (of wood, etc.)
- 74 Written material

- DOWN**
- 1 Convexity
 - 2 Stated
 - 3 Reverse
 - 4 One of the apostles
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 - 6 Reference book
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 - 21 Eye infection

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 - 25 Tree
 - 27 Tried and __
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 - 30 __ upon a time
 - 31 Gehenna
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 - 37 Cliff
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 - 39 Book after the Gospels
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 - 45 Sacrament
 - 46 Word meaning father
 - 47 Knight
 - 50 Flightless bird
 - 52 How God sometimes communicates
 - 53 Heavy cloth
 - 54 Wear away
 - 55 Authoritative list of scripture
 - 56 Passageway
 - 59 Fake butter
 - 60 Small ground plot
 - 62 Tides
 - 63 Italian currency
 - 64 Wait
 - 66 Aged
 - 68 Tint
- Key on page 7**

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

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

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

A Prophetic Book Within the Book Foretells the Messiah's Return

Tucked away in the wilderness account of Numbers 10 is one of the most intriguing prophetic markers in all of Scripture—a “book within the Book.” It’s found in verses 35–36, right as the Israelites set out from Sinai under the divine guidance of the Shekhinah Cloud. But these two verses don’t just stand out for their content—they’re framed by something incredibly rare in the Hebrew Bible: two backward, upside-down Hebrew letters—called nuns (pronounced noons). Hebrew letters carry symbolic meaning, and when you see something as odd as inverted nuns inserted directly into the inspired text, it’s not just decoration, it’s a divine signal. In this case, a hidden prophecy of the Messiah’s return.

The Jewish sages write in the Talmud that these two verses, bracketed by the flipped nuns, are treated as their own separate scroll—a book within the Torah. Before moving the camp, Moses declared Numbers 10:35, “Arise, O LORD! Let Your enemies be scattered, and let those who hate You flee before You.” And when the Ark rested, Moses would declare, “Return, O LORD, to the many thousands of Israel.” These were declarations of a supernatural conquest where, as the Ark of the Covenant went ahead of the people, God would miraculously clear out Israel’s enemies as He promised in Exodus 23:27–28: “I will send My terror before you... I will make all your enemies turn their backs to you... I will send hornets before you.” But that’s not exactly what happened.

The mission is derailed by a parade of complaints, rebellion, and collapse: cravings for food, grumbling against leadership, and the catastrophic failure of the spies sent into the land. Moses even asks God to take his life out of sheer misery. Instead of having their enemies supernaturally scattered in faith, the Israelites chose the path of unbelief, rebellion and fear. The journey meant to take a few days turns into 40 years and the next generation had to conquer the land by physically fighting. So what happened to the promise? The nuns, marking off these two verses like literary time capsules, are a picture of what should have been. They describe a moment in Israel’s story that was postponed by unbelief. Rabban Shimon ben Gamliel says in Talmud Shabbat 116b, “In the future, this portion will be uprooted from here... and placed in its proper place.”

In other words, this “hidden book” is a prophecy. It points toward a future time when the Messiah, the greater Moses, will rise and truly scatter His enemies. When He will return to the people of Israel in glory. That day is coming. The story wasn’t canceled—it’s simply on pause. And here’s the takeaway: though we, like ancient Israel, may delay or detour God’s plan for us through fear or disobedience, God’s promise doesn’t get erased. It waits. It waits for faith. It waits for the Messiah. And when He comes, the parentheses will close, and the story will pick up exactly where it left off. Romans 11:29 says, “For the gifts and the calling of God are irrevocable.” One day soon, the inverted nuns will no longer mark what might have been—but what finally is.

Bill Wilson
Dailyjot.com Printed with permission.

Liberal Hypocrites

by Daniel Greenfield,
FrontPageMag.com

A handful of years after they cheered a president flanked by armed soldiers declaring half the countries to be enemies of the state, liberals are denouncing President Trump as a dangerous authoritarian. The misinformation censors of yesteryear have suddenly discovered that they love free speech and the men who filled D.C. with federal troops worry about the right to protest.

This born-again liberalism fools absolutely no one except the fools virtue signaling it.

The majority of liberals cast aside liberal values, they learned to deplore meritocracy, fair play, freedom of speech and all differences of opinion that did not serve their radical cause. They became leftists who play the cynical game of viewing dissent as either a “threat to democracy” or the “highest form of patriotism” depending on whether they’re the ones in power or dissenting.

That’s not liberalism. It’s a leftist wolf who puts on sheep’s clothing when he’s being hunted.

Liberalism means fundamentally distinguishing between speech and violence. It does not mean, as leftists have come to do, declaring that their violence is speech and that every-one else’s speech is violence. Branding the BLM race riots as the “speech of the unheard”, while also arguing as the *New York Times* did that, “Free Speech Is Killing Us”, is illiberal totalitarianism.

Free speech isn’t defending the speech you agree with, but the speech you disagree with, and the last time the born-again liberal hypocrites did that was at least a generation ago. The same people who told us that cancel culture was really ‘consequence culture’ are outraged when consequences come for their activists after they spent over a year calling for Death to America.

The cries about the sanctity of academic freedom ring hollow from the establishment that watched conservatives and then even actual liberals and non-conforming leftists being purged from academia until it became a political monoculture. The same liberals now defending campus Hamas riots were fine with campus bans on everything from sombreros to copies of the Constitution. Scrawl a Hamas red triangle and the civil libertarians will jump to your defense who ignored when a campus chalk message in support of Trump was treated like a hate crime.

The old liberal organizations who never said a word when fraternities and sororities were being forced out of Harvard and their members punished, wave the bloody shirt of

freedom of association when the Trump administration investigates members of pro-terrorist groups like Students for Justice in Palestine after a year of violence and calls for the murder of Jews.

The federal government has no right to investigate Harvard and Columbia University, they tell us, but when the authorities came for Liberty University and Yeshiva University, they cheered. Unlike suing religious schools to impose LGBTQ values on them, investigating antisemitism at liberal schools is a violation of the rights of the right kind of bigotry at the right kind of university.

The larger issue here is not any of these double standards: it’s the double standard itself.

The spectacle of authoritarians playing libertarians, the thugs who punched you in the face a year ago running to cry to the media when their visas are revoked, and the politicians who were warning about the urgent need to police ‘misinformation’ suddenly talking about the importance of tolerating genocidal views that we might disagree with is the most despicable hypocrisy.

This isn’t even the bare honesty of “when I am weaker than you, I ask you for freedom because that is according to your principles; when I am stronger than you, I take away your freedom because that is according to my principles” practiced by Jihadis and Communists. Instead, Jihadis and Communists playacting as liberals practice this without ever saying it openly.

Like Orwell’s “1984”, they switch gears without a trace of shame from tyrants to liberals, alternately lecturing about the threat posed by those who disagree with them and then about the virtues of disagreement, deploring and imploring for freedoms of all kinds, limitations on government authority and due process with no regard to anything except their own power.

A generation of this has destroyed liberalism as thoroughly as any totalitarian regime ever could. No ideal can survive a movement that is both pro-censorship and anti-censorship, for the rule of law and against it, for the judiciary and against it, for and against the power of the Senate, the White House and any branch of government depending on their control over it.

Liberalism without a set of rules that apply to everyone is a bad excuse for abuses in fair weather and a worse excuse for immunity in poor weather. Moral blackmail by people who have shown us time and again that they have no morals stops working on anyone except idiots.

If liberalism is not the right to tell

people what they don’t want to hear, the mission to fight to the death for the speech you disagree with, and a free society for all then it’s nothing but a lie.

And for the vast majority of self-declared liberals, that is exactly what it has become.

Liberals could have avoided the illiberalism they deplore. They could have stood up to the campaign to ban ‘misinformation’. When the government began telling internet monopolies whom to censor, they could have rallied against it. And when cancel culture took hold of everyone from random teenage boys to respected members of their own ranks over offenses so absurd they could have come from a Russian novel, they could have shown some backbone.

Instead they cheered, they lied and they excused locking people into their homes, filling the streets with troops and censorship of even the mildest dissenting views.

It’s too damn late now for them to pretend that they’re still liberals who want freedom for all.

Under the guise of warning about the urgent threat of the people they disagree with running for office, speaking out or even existing, liberals declared a state of emergency under which civil liberties had to be suspended to save liberalism from those who would destroy it. But the imaginary threat was never more than a justification for suspending the First Amendment, and ending free and fair elections, and turning the temporary emergency into a permanent one.

Trump didn’t kill the liberal order. If anything he saved its last vestiges from the liberals who would have enthusiastically done it to death while pumping their fists in the air, canceling a few more artists, writers and journalists, and planting “Hate has no home here” signs on its remains.

If the former liberals honestly want to reclaim a principled liberalism, embrace free speech for all, protect the right to assembly and free press that doesn’t just advocate for their favored causes, and reopen the institutions they hijacked to more than one point of view, they are welcome to do so, but there’s no sign of that taking place because they’re not liberals anymore. They don’t believe in free speech, a free press or any kind of freedom except as a hollow slogan to hide behind when their plans for building a totalitarian state temporarily fall apart.

They’re not liberals. They’re totalitarian hypocrites. Liberalism is dead and they killed it.

Please see: <https://www.frontpage-mag.com/liberal-hypocrites/>

The Fairy Tale of the Democratic Party's Democracy

by Bill Wilson, Opinion
The Daily Jot

Once upon a time, Democrats claimed to stand for the little guy, for civil rights, and for open government. Now it seems like a fairy tale. We are witnessing a coordinated push to undermine the will of the people, secure permanent control, and repackage authoritarianism as “progress.” The Left’s power grab didn’t start in the last election cycle. It’s been decades in the making. Cultural institutions—media, universities, Hollywood—were infiltrated as indoctrination centers. Courts, regulatory agencies, and intelligence services were repurposed into political weapons.

The Fairy tale of the left's brand of democracy



**UNDERMINE
THE WILL OF THE PEOPLE
ESTABLISH
LONG-TERM POWER
SOCIALISM
LEADS TO TYRANNY**

**IT IS BETTER TO TRUST IN THE LORD
THAN TO PUT CONFIDENCE IN MAN.
PSALM 118:8**

What couldn’t be won at the ballot box was reengineered behind closed doors. President Trump is trying to reverse this true insurrection, but it’s stubborn.

The approach is to insulate their agenda from public rejection, to make ideology immune to accountability. In the new book *Original Sin*, *Politico*’s Alex Thompson and CNN’s Jake Tapper reveal that Biden’s own staff believed they were justified in doing “undemocratic things” to keep Donald Trump out of office. Thompson told *Fox News Sunday* on May 25th that unelected White House operatives—dubbed the “Poliburo”—essentially ran the country while covering up President Biden’s cognitive decline. Let that sink in: a group of

bureaucrats—unaccountable to the public—decided they knew better than the voters. They acted on it, even referring to themselves as the highest executive authority of the Soviet communist state. What does that tell you about the Democratic Party and the Biden administration?

Even their own insiders recognize it. In an astonishing moment of honesty, Sen. Bernie Sanders (D-VT) admitted the Democratic Party is becoming a threat to democracy. He acknowledged that Democrats have, at times, bypassed primaries, manipulated electoral processes, and ignored voter sentiment in favor of party elites. He said it’s “fair” to say the party is behaving in ways that erode democratic trust. If even a self-described socialist is ringing alarm bells about his own party, you know the wheels are coming off. The Biden administration actually raced to enshrine its agenda by fast-tracking left-wing regulations and handing out billions to cronies during the last hours of the administration. This is not the behavior of a party winning fair and square, but rather a political machine laying down cement before the public can rip up the pavement.

It’s called “democratic socialism,” and it always leads to one thing: centralized control, loss of freedom, and state-managed misery. The Left has redefined democracy as permanent rule by their ideology. Elections are tolerated only if they produce the desired outcome. Dissent is labeled as extremism. Free speech becomes hate speech. And any challenge to the regime—from Trump supporters to independent journalists—is treated as a threat. Psalm 118:8 says, “It is better to trust in the Lord than to put confidence in man.” When politics becomes idolatry, people will justify any abuse of power. But when we put our trust in God—not man-made systems—we see clearly. And when we see clearly, we act boldly. Speak truth. Reject the tyranny clothed in the language of freedom. These people are not freedom fighters, but warriors for oppression.

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Dailyjot.com
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She Wasn't Supposed to Sign Anything....



by J.P. Chandani, *This Will Knock Your Socks Off*, via Facebook

Richard never spoke much about Vietnam. All I knew was that he’d been wounded by a sniper, and that he kept a grainy black-and-white photo from a USO show tucked away—one he’d taken of Ann-Margret on stage, with Bob Hope faintly visible in the background. That photo meant the world to him.

Years later, we heard Ann-Margret would be signing books at a local store. Richard—quiet, reserved—was there by noon for a 7:30 p.m. event. All he wanted was to show her the photo. Maybe say thank you.

By the time I arrived after work, the line wrapped around the parking lot and down the street. Before it began, store staff made an announcement: she would only sign her book—no memorabilia allowed.

Richard understood. But when his turn came, he gently took out the photo anyway. Staff stepped in, reminding everyone of the rule.

Ann-Margret paused.

She looked at the photograph—her eyes softened, then filled with tears.

She turned to the crowd and said,

“This is one of my gentlemen from Vietnam. I will most certainly sign his photo.”

Then, in front of everyone, she leaned in and kissed him. She spoke about “her boys,” how much they meant to her, how proud and grateful she still was. The line went silent. People wiped their eyes.

In that moment, Richard wasn’t just a man in line.

He was seen. He was honored.

That night, something changed in him. At dinner, he sat quiet. And when I asked how he was feeling, my strong, steady husband finally broke.

“That’s the first time anyone ever thanked me,” he said. I’ve never forgotten it. And now, I thank every veteran I meet.

Because sometimes, the smallest moment—a photo, a few words—can be everything.

Please see: <https://www.facebook.com/groups/412208518089864/>

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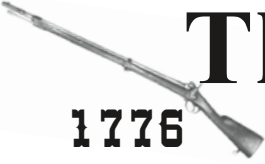
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The Second Amendment Corner

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

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Saturday, June 28, 9am-3pm: Combat Handgun

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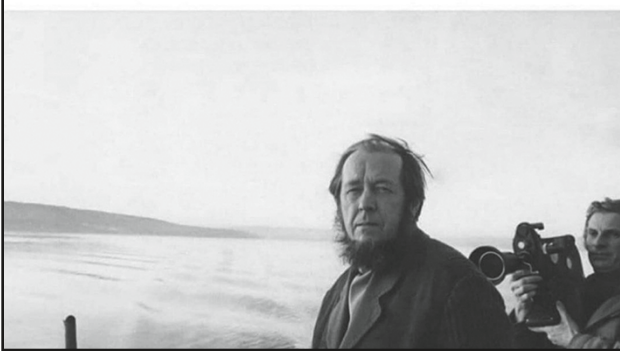
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"Human beings are born with different capacities. If they are free, they are not equal; if they are equal, they are not free."

—Aleksandr Solzhenitsyn



And with many other words he testified and exhorted them, saying, "Be saved from this perverse generation. So those who received his word were baptized," Acts 2: 40-41a

How Much Ammo to Stockpile for Training and SHTF

by Scott Witner,
ammoland.com

You Don't Need 50,000 Rounds—But You Do Need a Plan

We've all met that guy—the one with crates of surplus 7.62×39 stacked like Tetris blocks in his garage... but not a single case of water or a week's worth of food in the pantry.

In the firearms and preparedness communities, there's a common belief that more is always better. More ammo, more mags, more bulk deals. But is your stash really supporting your goals—or just collecting dust?

Whether you're a weekend range shooter, a course junkie, or someone prepping for the next disaster scenario, the question comes up again and again:

How much ammo should I stockpile?

This guide breaks it down by use case and caliber—so you're not just hoarding brass, but building a smart, intentional reserve that supports your training, self-defense, and long-term security.

The 3 Categories of Ammunition You Should Be Tracking

Before you start running the numbers, make sure you understand the why behind your stockpile. Ammo should be organized into three categories:

- 1. Range Ammo** – The stuff you burn through. Used for training classes, match prep, and range days.
- 2. Ready Ammo** – Loaded magazines and defensive loads staged in gear, vehicles, or safes. This is your grab-and-go reserve.
- 3. SHTF Reserve** – Deep storage. This is your long-term hedge against civil unrest, supply chain disruptions, or full-on grid collapse. You don't touch it unless things truly go sideways.

Many shooters stop at range ammo and assume they're "stockpiling." They're not.

Let's run through how to structure your supply by caliber.

How Much 9mm Ammo Should You Stockpile?

Range Ammo

If you're training seriously, expect to burn through 250–500 rounds per month. Advanced classes—like ECQC or handgun-specific tactical

courses—can easily push past 1,000 rounds over a few days.

Ready Ammo

Plan on 6–10 loaded magazines per pistol—roughly 100–150 rounds per firearm. If your spouse or training partner carries too, double it.

Reserve Ammo

Aim for 5,000 rounds per person. This gives you enough to stay proficient long-term without dipping into training or ready ammo.

How Much 5.56/.223 Ammo Should You Stockpile?

Range Ammo

Active rifle shooters can expect to run through 300–500 rounds per month. Add in tactical carbine courses or competitions, and that number grows.

Ready Ammo

A basic combat load is seven magazines (210 rounds). Add buffer room and go with ten loaded mags—300 rounds.

Reserve Ammo

At minimum, 5,000 rounds per shooter. If you're planning for two or more people, scale accordingly.

Tip: Stick to brass-cased, quality ammo for storage. Even 55-grain FMJ will do work with a properly zeroed 20" barrel at extended distances.

How Much 12-Gauge Ammo Should You Stockpile?

Range Ammo

Shotgun training is less common but no less important. Run 25–50 shells monthly, including buckshot and slugs.

Ready Ammo

Store 100–150 shells in shell cards, side saddles, or bandoliers, ready to go.

Reserve Ammo

Minimum of 250–500 shells, split between 00 buck and slugs. Consider how your shotgun is set up and its intended role.

Tip: Shotgun shells degrade faster than rifle or pistol ammo. Store them in a cool, dry location and rotate regularly.

What If You're Just a Weekend Warrior?

Not everyone runs drills every weekend or signs up for high-round-count courses. If your goal is simply to have a solid reserve in case things get weird—like a prolonged

ammo shortage or an emergency situation—here's a more practical, low-commitment starting point.

For someone who doesn't train regularly but wants to be ready:

- **5.56/.223:** Keep around 2,300 rounds on hand. That breaks down to a full combat load of ready mags (about 300 rounds) and a reserve stash of 2,000 rounds.
- **9mm:** Stock at least 1,650 rounds. This includes 150 rounds in loaded mags and gear, plus 1,500 rounds in deep storage for defensive use and periodic practice.
- **12-gauge:** A solid base would be 400 shells total—150 shells staged and ready to go (buckshot and slugs), and a 250-shell reserve for long-term readiness.

Now, if you're more serious about training and prepping long-term—maybe you're running drills monthly, attending a few courses per year, or preparing for a more extended disruption—your numbers should look significantly higher:

- **5.56/.223:** Upwards of 11,300 rounds makes sense. That covers 6,000 rounds for training throughout the year, 300 rounds ready in mags, and 5,000 rounds as a doomsday reserve.
- **9mm:** You'll want at least 11,150 rounds. This includes your yearly training supply, ready mags, and long-term reserve.
- **12-gauge:** Somewhere around 1,250 shells will keep you covered—600 for range training, 150 ready for immediate access, and 500 tucked away for the future.

Final Thoughts

You don't need 50,000 rounds unless you're leading a fire team. However, you do need enough to stay trained up and proficient, defend your home, and weather the next panic-buying or supply disruption.

The key? Start with a plan. Divide your stock into range, ready, and reserve. Track your usage. Rotate. And above all, train regularly.

Because stockpiles don't win fights. Well-trained shooters do.

(Editor/GG: Ammo is better than cash. You NEVER had enough ammo....)

Please see: <https://www.ammoland.com/2025/06/how-much-ammo-to-stockpile-for-training-and-shtf/>



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Gun Advocates Call Colorado's Firearm & Ammo Tax 'Unconstitutional'

by Elyse Apel, the Center Square

Gun advocates are moving forward with a lawsuit challenging Colorado's Proposition KK, which put a 6.5% firearms and ammunition excise tax on firearm vendors that took effect April 1st.

The proposition passed in November with a narrow majority of 54%. Revenue from the tax is expected to be up to \$39 million annually and will be used to fund crime victim services, mental health services for veterans and youth, and school safety programs.

The Colorado State Shooting Association, along with other groups like the National Rifle Association and the Firearms Policy Coalition, are among those suing Colorado's Department of Revenue Executive Director Heidi Humphreys and El Paso County District Attorney Michael J. Allen.

The lawsuit was filed in Denver County District Court in April and argued the tax is "unconstitutional," as previously reported by *The Center Square*.

"The effects of the tax will be felt by all citizens of Colorado who elect to exercise their constitutional right to keep and bear arms as vendors pass the cost of the tax on to ordinary individuals who purchase firearms, firearm precursor parts, or ammunition in Colorado," the lawsuit alleged. "Both sides of the transaction will be meaningfully harmed. Vendors will lose valuable business while individuals will face a tax on the exercise of their legal and constitutionally protected activity."

This 6.5% tax is on top of the existing 10%-11% federal excise tax on firearms and ammunition.

In an exclusive interview with *The Center Square*, Huey

Laugesen, executive director of the Colorado State Shooting Association, addressed why the organization felt the lawsuit was necessary.

"This lawsuit is about defending the rights of law-abiding Coloradans and standing up against what is an unconstitutional and deeply misguided ballot measure," Laugesen said. "Proposition KK threatens to undermine legal commerce, punish responsible gun owners, and impose costly burdens on small businesses across the state — all without meaningfully improving public safety."

Advocates for the proposition said it would make Colorado a "better, more compassionate" place by reducing crime. Laugesen pushed back on that, arguing there were other motives at play.

"At its core, Proposition KK is not about reducing crime.

It's about making it harder for everyday Coloradans to exercise their constitutional rights," he said. "The vague and overbroad language of the measure opens the door to arbitrary enforcement, confusion for retailers, and a chilling effect on perfectly lawful activity."

Colorado's Department of Revenue has responded to the lawsuit, requesting it be thrown out and denying that the tax violates any Second Amendment rights.

This is just one of the many measures Colorado has taken in recent months to restrict access to firearms, many of which received significant backlash from gun advocates.

The association has said it would consider filing lawsuits to challenge those other restrictions as well. On Monday, it announced it had taken the "first step" to

another lawsuit by officially retaining legal council "to represent us in our fight to protect gun owners' Second Amendment rights." Once filed, that lawsuit would address Senate Bill 25-003, which restricts the sale of certain firearms in the state.

Laugesen said the association will continue to fight against the tax, and other laws that restrict the rights of gun owners.

"The Colorado State Shooting Association believes in real solutions, not political stunts that punish responsible gun owners while doing nothing to address violent crime," he said. "That's why we've taken this fight to the courts."

Please see: https://www.thecentersquare.com/colorado/article_9331a566-cf7c-4027-965a-f9af366218bd.html

The Beneilli - The Marines Fighting Shotgun

by Travis Pike, ammoland.com

Back in 1999, the United States Military wanted a new joint service combat shotgun. They had numerous requirements for the new shotgun. They wanted semi-automatic operation, the ability to add optics without affecting reliability, and obviously, it needed to be a 12 gauge. The Marines were tasked with leading the competition, and in the end, they chose the Benelli M4 Super 90 shotgun. It would be christened the M1014 Joint Service Shotgun, and the M1014 arrived just in time for the Global War On Terror.

In that war, the M1014 would see plenty of action in environments like Fallujah in Iraq and Mianposhteh, Afghanistan. Benelli has also made the M4 available to you and me through importation, and for a pretty penny, you can get your own gas-operated fighting shotgun. Unfortunately, due to 922 R and the ATF, we can only get a quasi neutered version of the gun imported.

Mine came with a fixed stock and five round tube. To legally return the M4 to its glory, I went with Freedom Fighter Tactical to obtain the American-made parts necessary to validate 922R. This includes an American-made seven-round tube and Mesa Truckee handguard. With the tube, handguard, the Benelli three-position stock, and a few other parts and pieces, I had what I considered a proper combat shotgun.

Inside the Benelli M4

The Benelli M4 was the first Benelli to move away from the famed inertia system the M1, M2, and M3 utilized. The ARGO system, in particular, was quite revolutionary. This dual gas piston design required very little mainte-



Since the ATF hates freedom you'll have to use American made parts to get the 7 round tube



Look how tiny that bolt release is.

nance and eliminated the need for linkages which simplified and lightened the design.

The Benelli M4 holds five rounds from the factory, and with the proper tubular magazine, it holds seven rounds. The controls include a charging handle on the right-hand side, a bottom loading port, and a right-side ejection port. The safety is a crossbolt behind the trigger, and the bolt release is placed slightly below the ejection port. The only downside ergonomically for the M4 is that bolt release. It's too tiny.

The gun comes with a plastic, two-piece handguard which is completely sufficient but does not offer mounting capabilities. Additionally, the M4 comes with ghost ring peep sights and an optics rail. I replaced the optic's mount with a Scalarwork Sync Mount and attached a Holosun 507C. The M4 variants come with replaceable chokes in the Benelli/Mobil pattern.

At the Range

I love a good semi-auto shotgun. Something about delivering payloads of shot per trigger pull is just so satisfying. The Benelli M4 delivers a very rapid action that fires, extracts, ejects, and loads in the blink of an eye. You can chew through five or seven rounds of 12 gauge in very quick order and in a very satisfying way.

The Benelli M4 allows you to fire a rapid follow-up shot or two, or three. This ensures you can put a second shot on the threat or rapidly transition to a second target. Sometimes even 12-gauge shotguns need a follow-up shot.

When you think shotgun, you think lots of recoil. Don't think that way about the Benelli M4. The gas-operated ARGO system takes some sting out of a load of 12-gauge buckshot. In fact, it makes it downright comfortable to fire. With some good old-fashioned push/pull, you can take even more sting out of the gun. This allows you to make proper use of the M4's rapid firepower.

Shotgun accuracy is an interesting topic. It's a shotgun firing loads of shot. Accuracy isn't measured in groups or at long range. I will say that the Benelli M4 offers an awesome set of iron sights that allows you to adjust the sights right where you want to put buckshot.

I can put a load of Federal FliteControl between the eyes

of a threat at 15 yards with ease. With some Hornady slugs, I can easily ring a steel IPSC target over and over at 50 yards.

Benelli M4 Reliability

Well, it definitely should with an MSRP of more than \$2,000 or so. The Benelli M4 chews through any standard length shell I've put through it. Outside of those super low-powered trap shells, the Benelli M4 eats everything. This includes low recoil buckshot and reduced recoil slugs.

Low brass, high brass, it doesn't matter. The Benelli M4 eats through the cheapest loads of birdshot from Walmart, as well as high-end defensive loads from Hornady and Federal. The Benelli M4 is most certainly a reliable shotgun.

From the Halls of Montezuma

The Marine Corps certainly chose right when they put the Benelli M4 to the task. It's easily one of the best combat shotguns ever made. Even after 20 years of service, the Benelli M4 has remained one of the most capable weapons in the Marine Corps arsenal, and it's my personal favorite shotgun. It's not a cheap weapon, but it's a well-made, easy-to-use, accurate, and superbly reliable shotgun.

Please see: <https://www.ammoland.com/2025/06/the-benelli-m4-the-marines-fighting-shotgun/>

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Michael Johnson: Redefining Speed

by the Marathon Mindset, Facebook

Just two weeks before the defining race of his career, Michael Johnson should have been locked into final preparations for the 1992 Barcelona Olympics training hard, resting well, and tuning every detail. Instead, he was doubled over with food poisoning in a Spanish hotel room, suffering alongside his agent. What started as a simple setback quickly became a major problem, as Johnson lost precious weight and strength with the biggest meet of his life just days away.

Suddenly, the favorite to win the 200 meters was on the back foot. Johnson, who had been expected to dominate, took to the track diminished, not at his best. The result was a shock: he placed sixth in his semi-final heat, missing out on the final by only 0.16 seconds. For many, such a defeat could have cast a long shadow. But Johnson had other ideas.

Refusing to give in, Johnson switched his focus to the U.S. 4x400 meter relay. There, despite his setback, he showed what he was truly made of. Anchoring the squad, Johnson delivered a blazing split of 44.73 seconds. The team not only captured gold but also set a new world record with a time of 2:55.74. It was a glimpse of what was to come.

Johnson returned stronger in 1993. He claimed the U.S. 400-meter crown and then dominated the World



Championships, winning gold in both the 400 meters and the 4x400 relay. His relay split was a staggering 42.91 seconds still the fastest 400 meters ever run, even now. With each race, Johnson was pushing the boundaries of what anyone thought possible.

In 1995, Johnson cemented his reputation for greatness at the World Championships in Gothenburg. He did what no elite male sprinter had managed in the 20th century, winning both the 200 and 400 meters at the same major championship. And as if that weren't enough, he also anchored the relay team to another gold, earning a rare "triple crown" of sprinting.

But Johnson's true legend was forged in the summer of 1996, when the Olympics arrived in Atlanta. At the U.S. Trials, he electrified the crowd by clocking 19.66 seconds in the 200 meters, breaking a 17-year-old world record. It was a

warning shot to the world: Johnson was aiming to do what no one else had win both the 200 and 400 meters at the same Olympics.

At the Atlanta Games, under the sweltering Georgia sun, Johnson famous for his upright style and unmistakable golden shoes delivered on the impossible. First, he stormed to 400-meter gold in 43.49 seconds. Then, in the 200 meters, he shattered his own world record, finishing in an astonishing 19.32 seconds. Johnson didn't just win he redefined what it meant to be fast.

Michael Johnson's path from a debilitating illness to Olympic glory wasn't simply about medals. It was a story of resilience, overcoming adversity, and breaking the mold with every stride. He didn't just race he changed our understanding of human speed.

Please see: <https://www.facebook.com/profile.php?id=61563440234086>

D.C. Parade Marks 250 years of U.S. Army History with crowd, color and chopper

by Jen Schumann, Rocky Mountain Voice

A man in colonial uniform rode as George Washington on horseback during the Army's 250th birthday military parade. It was the kickoff to one of the biggest military parades Washington has seen in decades.

More than 6,600 service members made their way through the city's center, with crowds pressed along Constitution Avenue and the National Mall to take it all in.

From there, the Army's long history moved forward in uniform. Regiments appeared in sequence, each dressed for their era — the Revolution, the Civil War, both World Wars, Korea, Vietnam and more recent conflicts. A narrator gave short intros as each group passed, offering just enough detail for onlookers to connect the pieces.

On the reviewing stand were President Donald Trump, Vice President JD Vance and his family, First Lady Melania Trump, Defense Secretary Pete Hegseth, Secretary of State Marco Rubio, HHS Secretary Robert F. Kennedy Jr., members of Congress and Gold Star families. They were joined by veterans, military families and current Army leaders.

The 3rd Infantry Regiment, the Old Guard, led the way in full Revolutionary War dress. They are the oldest active infantry unit serving since 1784, now as a ceremonial detachment to the president. Following them were artillery crews, engineers, aviators and cavalry units representing later eras.

Army bands were scattered throughout the route. They played everything from field songs to base camp classics — music that had once echoed from tinny radios on faraway posts. Before each set, the emcee offered a few lines on who wrote it, where it came from and why it mat-



Top: Screenshot by JD Vance

tered to the troops who relied on it. The music didn't just fill space. It helped carry the story.

The Golden Knights parachute team dropped near the Ellipse, landing one at a time with steady precision. A short time later, WWII planes flew overhead in tight formation.

Tanks clattered onto the avenue just as "Thunderstruck" by AC/DC ripped through the sound system. Tank operators grinned and waved. Hegseth caught the beat, smiled and nodded his head in rhythm to it.

Along the curb, veterans in patriotic ballcaps stood beside families waving flags and parents carried children on their shoulders for a better view. Phones were up everywhere, recording one unit after another.

Abram tanks, Apache helicopters and drones demonstrated the military might of America's first fighting force. Mixed in with the dress uniforms and historical weapons were soldiers carrying the Army's new M7 rifles, equipped with XM157 fire-control scopes.

The future of Army readiness was also displayed with Ghost robot dogs walking alongside service member operators.

Watching from home in Western Colorado, residents shared their reactions. "Love this parade! Tears and goosebumps. As the daughter of a Battle of the Bulge veteran, this hits home. A memory I'll always treasure," said Ann Duckett. Laureen Gutierrez commented, "It's taking me back to my childhood.

Bottom: Screen shot of troops during march session prior to the parade.



Growing up in Denver, they had big parades. My favorite part was the military marching to music by John Philip Sousa. Made me proud and grateful to be an AMERICAN! And humbled at the same time."

President Trump stood and saluted troops multiple times throughout the parade. He also swore in 250 new and reenlisting Army soldiers.

The U.S. Army was formed on June 14, 1775 — months before independence was even declared. Two and a half centuries later, it's still marching.

The parade can be viewed here: <https://www.youtube.com/live/LTH9p7G15ME>

(Editor//lv: Ft. Carson sent 400 participants, including 150 in Civil War uniforms, and our own local favorite, who have joined Silver Cliff & Westcliffe in its Memorial Day weekend and 4th of July Parades in the past; the 4th Infantry Division Mounted Color Guard, were there!)

Please see <https://rockymountainvoice.com/2025/06/14/d-c-parade-marks-250-years-of-u-s-army-history-with-crowd-color-and-chopper-thunder/>

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The States with the Most Drug Use: Guess Where Colorado Is?

by Tyler Durden,
ZeroHedge.com

Drug abuse has long been a serious issue in the United States, with the so-called “War on Drugs” dating back to 1971 under President Nixon.

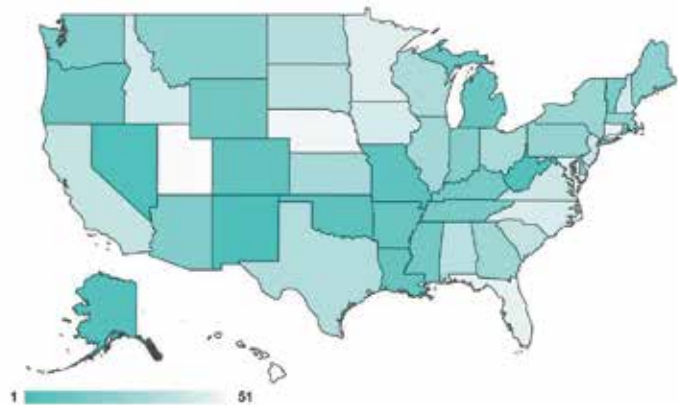
Despite decades of efforts to fight addiction, the problem remains widespread and deadly. More than 80,670 Americans died from drug overdoses in the 12 months ending November 2024. As new threats like fentanyl spread—enough was seized last year for 380 million lethal doses—it’s more urgent than ever for policymakers to act.

But where is the crisis worst? A new report from WalletHub ranks all 50 states and the District of Columbia across key metrics like drug use, overdoses, and access to treatment.

Chip Lupo, an analyst at WalletHub, explains: “Drug problems can start from multiple sources, like taking illegal substances with friends or getting hooked on a prescription that was originally given for a legitimate medical issue. As states fight drug addiction, they need to consider all angles and make sure they are not just addressing things from a law enforcement perspective but also providing the resources necessary to help people with addictions get clean.”

WalletHub’s analysts compared states using 20 metrics organized into three main categories: drug use and addiction, law enforcement, and drug health issues and rehab. These metrics included measures like the percentage of adults and teens who reported using illicit drugs, overdose death rates, opioid prescriptions, and availability of treatment facilities.

Main Findings



New Mexico tops the list with the biggest drug problem in America. The state has the highest percentage of teens using drugs, the most teens reporting marijuana use before age 13, and the third-highest rate of adult illicit drug use. New Mexico also struggles with high overdose deaths and ranks near the bottom in offering help to those with addiction.

West Virginia ranks second, with the highest overdose death rate in the country and one of the top college campus drug arrest rates. A lack of addiction treatment resources means many residents have nowhere to turn for help.

Nevada comes in third. Nearly 30% of students there report being offered or sold drugs at school. Nevada also ranks high for teens trying marijuana early and has too few treatment facilities to meet the need.

Other high-ranking states include Alaska, the District of Columbia, Oklahoma, Missouri, and Colorado. Each faces unique challenges, from high rates of opioid prescriptions to limited treatment options.

The report also highlights troubling data on teen drug use. New Mexico, Arizona, Rhode Island, Massachusetts, and Alaska have the highest percentages of teenagers who admit using drugs in the past month. Meanwhile, states like Arkansas, Tennessee, and Texas report much lower teen



drug use. Students being offered drugs at school is a big concern, too. California, Nevada, Georgia, New Jersey, and Hawaii top the list for that category, while states like Connecticut and South Dakota report much lower numbers.

The crisis shows no sign of ending on its own. Experts recommend a mix of strategies to combat

addiction, including making rehab more accessible and expanding education on the risks of drug use. The federal government and states alike must prioritize treatment alongside law enforcement to help communities recover.

Plases see: <https://www.zero-hedge.com/markets/these-are-us-states-most-drug-use>

HIGHEST DRUG USE BY STATE

Overall Rank ↕	State	Total Score ↕	Drug Use & Addiction Rank ↕	Law Enforcement Rank ↕	Drug Health Issues & Rehab Rank ↕
1	New Mexico	68.08	1	10	4
2	West Virginia	63.21	6	3	20
3	Nevada	59.50	4	37	1
4	Alaska	56.22	2	44	5
5	District of Columbia	55.93	7	31	3
6	Oklahoma	55.45	8	30	2
7	Missouri	54.79	20	7	7
8	Colorado	53.78	15	8	15
9	Louisiana	53.67	10	22	10
10	Arkansas	53.34	26	2	27

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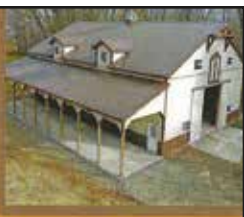


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