



Penrose Experiences the Downside of Marijuana

by: Barbara Penezic

Dollar signs may be dancing in the eyes of City Council members but for many residents in Penrose marijuana has been more trouble than they expected. This newly legalized plant requires bright light, more than a little water, and it permeates the surrounding countryside with an odor that many find less than pleasing. One other “side benefit” of pot that has Penrose residents feeling uneasy is the worry that unsavory elements will be drawn to the area hoping to affect midnight withdrawals. It’s cheaper that way!

City officials and others have been heard to say, we can’t control the black market sale of marijuana so we may as well make it legal and collect the taxes. Let’s

all hope they have more luck discouraging the criminal element that comes with drugs. The black market dealers may not be of a mind to just sit back and let areas of Colorado take their rather lucrative trade without a fight. If they can’t control that element we will all be paying a high price for the increased tax monies. While they have set aside a specific amount of money for education and so forth, not much has been said about the funds that law enforcement may need or reasonably expect to receive. We may well be sacrificing more than clean air to bring extra revenues into our communities.

One lady who did not wish to be identified says, “I have asthma and I fear what this odor will do to my health. We don’t have air conditioning just a swamp cooler

that has always served our family well. This summer will be difficult if we must choose between the heat or that horrid smell. My husband and I are considering selling out and moving to Montana to be near our son.” Her husband added, “Of course we worry about what is happening to the value of our home. Water has always been scarce around Penrose and I’m hearing marijuana needs lots of water. May not be much of a market for a farm that is short of water to grow hay for the horses. Always thought I’d live and die right here in Penrose. No sir, surely never saw this coming!”

The people of the state of Colorado have voted to legalize marijuana and private property owners are now seeing their land and homes being com-

promised. Susan Hilderbrand, a Penrose resident and member of ‘Penrose Concerned Citizens’ a local activist organization that hopes to minimize the impact of medical marijuana in Penrose, says a group is hoping to buy the Crossroads Arena and Event Center, with an eye to having the property re-zoned for marijuana usage. Susan said, “The smell of marijuana is very strong from my back deck and the lights at night are a nuisance.” The Penrose Concerned Citizen group will meet next on March 8th at the Wells Fargo Bank in Penrose. Meeting time is 5 p.m. and anyone who is concerned about future regulation of pot is invited to attend.

Mr. Vasquez co-owner of Apple Valley, says they wish to be good neighbors.

We have done some work on filtration systems and added some black out curtains, but admits that fixing the problems can be very expensive. Loosely translated ‘get used to the bright lights and bad odors.’ The need for regulation is paramount. High dollar operations usually attract a criminal element hoping to score big. Cañon City area residents may want to pay attention to the issues now playing out in nearby Penrose. Our city officials are just taking up the issues of zoning and how to control the drug that has been unleashed amongst us. We must as concerned citizens hold our officials feet to the fire. We must be sure they see beyond the dollar sign and put in place the safety nets we will surely need.

Be Informed ...

Get Involved

Citizens Come Out to Hear Candidates

by Joe Cascarelli

On Saturday, February 22, the Town Of Westcliffe sponsored a forum with the 2014 candidates for Sheriff of Custer County with 62 community members in the audience. The questions were about issues which directly affect the Town of Westcliffe. The candidates - Shannon Byerly, Anthony Supan, Eric Thompson, and Steve Trombley were questioned by Mayor Christy Veltrie along with Trustees Joe Cascarelli, Brian Cline, and Art Nurdyke. The questions were prepared by the Board of Trustees, less Trustee Steve Trombley, in advance of the meeting. For fairness, none of the candidates were to be shown the questions ahead of the meeting. Candidates were all given the opportunity to be the first to answer through a rotation.

By way of background, the first issue of concern is the debate over the rationale of the fees that both towns pay the sheriff’s office each year for policing functions. A perennial debate has been caused by the fact that the Town of Westcliffe pays



Thursday evening, about 130 citizens attended the Town Hall Meeting hosted by the Southern Colorado Patriots Club and Custer County Republican Central Committee, to hear from candidates for sheriff, coroner, and commissioner.

Sentinel Photo by George Gramlich

“600%” more in fees than the Town of Silver Cliff. The Town of Westcliffe has had a frustrating time for the past eight years trying to understand why this disparity exists. The Trustees are currently considering other options including reinstating the Town Marshall. The second issue on the minds of residents, trustees, and merchants is how the new laws concerning recreational marijuana will be handled by the new sheriff. Both are complex issues so a thorough battery

of questions was developed by the Mayor and the Trustees.

The first question addressed the disparity in the fees paid to the sheriff’s office by both towns for the same services. Trombley opened with the description “unfair,” and said that as sheriff he would seek to make the fees more equitable. Supan restated the current sheriff’s position using local

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Republican Caucus March 4: How to Attend and Vote

by George Gramlich

This Republican Caucus on March 4 is extremely important to our community as it will determine who will be on the Republican Primary Ballot in June. We will be electing a new sheriff, and there are multiple candidates for a county commissioner slot and coroner.

This caucus will probably determine who will be the next sheriff. So it is imperative that every registered republican attend and vote. The Colorado caucus system is, in all reality, a horrible way to select candidates as it is very susceptible to insider dealing and unethical voter behavior (e.g., democrats temporarily switching over to republican just to vote in our caucus). To prevent this behavior, we need all republicans to turn out and make your voices heard. You must be a registered, Custer County republican.

What follows will be a layman’s attempt to walk you through how the caucus works:

1. The county is divided into three precincts. Each precinct has its own meeting place.

2. If you don’t know what precinct you are in, contact the County Clerk at 719-783-2441 or visit their office. Custer County’s website, www.custercountygov.com, has a precinct map, although it doesn’t go to street level: Go to the Planning & Zoning section, click on “Maps”, and then go to lower, right map titled “Custer County Voting & Commissioner District Map”, click on the map. The map is a little confusing as it is two maps in one: a Precinct map and Commissioner District Map. The Precincts are colored coded as noted in the lower left portion of the map.

3. The three precinct voting places are: Precinct 1 is at the Courthouse, Precinct 2 is at the Wetmore Fire House, and Precinct 3 is at the Multipurpose Room at the CC School (west side).

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MUST ATTEND: Republican Caucus

Tuesday, March 4

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Sage Chases Ambulances, Again

page 4

PATRIOT ALERT!

We Will Not Be Disarmed

page 16



“Do not let your hearts be troubled. Trust in God; trust also in me.”

John 14:1 NIV

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*A different view from
the same mountains!*


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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Editorial Board

J. Michael Hess - President
Mike.Hess@sdcsentinel.com

George Gramlich - VP
George.Gramlich@sdcsentinel.com

Rob Canterbury - Secretary
Rob.Canterbury@sdcsentinel.com

Mary Seifert - Treasurer
Mary.Seifert@sdcsentinel.com

Key Personnel

Anne Crewdson - Office Manager
Anne.Crewdson@sdcsentinel.com

Katherine Camper - Graphics Director
Kat.Camper@sdcsentinel.com

Barbara Napolitan - Advertising Coordinator
Barbara.Napolitan@sdcsentinel.com

Reporters

Joe Cascarelli
Joe.Cascarelli@sdcsentinel.com

Carol Clemenson
Carol.Clemenson@sdcsentinel.com

Candi Sage
Candi.Sage@sdcsentinel.com

Paul Sage
Paul.Sage@sdcsentinel.com

Business Hours:
Mon-Thurs: 9 a.m. - 5 p.m.
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How to contact us:
719-783-3360
610 Main Street
Westcliffe, CO 81252
www.sangredecristosentinel.com

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Our Opinion...

From the Editorial Board

THE CAUCUSES



It's that time of year again, the beginning of the election process. It's time to select the candidates that will appear on each Party's Primary Ballots for several of our local county positions. A Town Hall type meeting was held on Thursday, February 20th. At this time there are two candidates for County Coroner: Art Nordyke and Brad Baltzly. There are three candidates for County Commissioner: Allen Butler, Jack Canterbury, and Bob Kattnig. Four candidates are running for County Sheriff: Shannon Byerly, Tony Supan, Eric Thompson, and Steve Trombley. At the Town Hall meeting we learned both coroner candidates are going to participate in the Republican Caucuses and Butler and Kattnig are also participating while Canterbury is going to petition. In the Sheriff's race Byerly and Supan are competing in the caucus while Thompson and Trombley are going the petition route.

Caucuses are designed for local like-minded citizens

to come together, discuss and select the candidates for their party's Primary Ballot. At the caucus fellow citizens select a number of delegates in each precinct to represent them. These delegates then attend a County Assembly where they vote for the candidates of their choice. A candidate must get 30% of the delegates to be placed on the Primary Ballot. If the candidate receives between 10% and 30% of the delegate votes, they may choose to continue their efforts to get on the ballot by petitioning. If they get less than 10% they are finished and can no longer run for office. Candidates can also choose not to participate in the caucus at all and achieve ballot status by petition alone. This is what Canterbury, Thompson, and Trombley have decided to do. They each need to get about 250 signatures of properly registered Republican voters. Once the signatures are validated by the county clerk's office they will then be placed on the Primary Ballot. In the Republican Caucus there

are a total of 30 delegates to be elected. So a candidate participant must get a minimum of 10 delegates to be placed on the ballot and at least 3 supporting delegates to be able to stay in the race by petition. The delegates officially vote for the candidates of their choice at the County Assembly which will be held on Tuesday, March 25. In our opinion the caucus system is flawed in many ways. Many citizens, believing it is not important, don't attend leaving it up to a small minority of registered voters to select who is placed on the Primary Ballot. This has previously led to charges of "rigging" which is totally incorrect. This state-mandated system also allows non-Republican voters to participate. Those who are registered Unaffiliated or Democrat can simply go to the County Clerk and re-affiliate as a Republican and then they can either sign a petition or vote in the caucus. As the point of the caucus is for each party to pick their candidates this doesn't sit well with everyone. Al-

though "legal" in Colorado many find it unethical or distasteful at the least. The false argument is that since the Democrats cannot find a competitive candidate in this mostly conservative county they simply want to influence who the Republican Party puts forth. This is not right. Why should registered liberals get to participate in the conservative party's business? Most people we know believe this is a bad procedure. Those registered Unaffiliated can re-register right up to Primary Day, June 24. Registered Democrats can re-affiliate up to May 23. They must re-affiliate by March 31 in order to sign a petition. This has happened in the past in Custer County and it looks like it might happen again. We know this is being considered by at least some local Dems. We will monitor the situation and keep you informed. Why is this important? There is an unusual scenario which could play out in the race for Sheriff. The caucus system could produce 2 candidates and petitions could produce

2 more. That means that it is possible to have 4 candidates for Sheriff all on the Primary Ballot. If that happens, as little as 26% of the voters could conceivably select the next Sheriff and they might not even be Republicans. If the Democrats were to change their affiliation in any large numbers and block vote for one candidate they could very easily influence the outcome in the Republican Party. Legal, yes. Right, No! We will keep a close eye on this development and report on what is happening. If you are concerned about how the system works and how it can be manipulated you should participate. That is extremely important. We encourage you to attend the Republican Caucuses on March 4th at 7:00 PM. The best way to make sure things are properly happening is to be involved. We hope the majority of the Democrats in the county will not interfere in the Republican Primary process. However we will keep you informed.



Building Trades Class

This year's project is progressing well, with the exterior walls sheeted and the students begin to work on sheet the roof. Great work, guys!

Sentinel photo by Candi Sage

Obamacare:

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*The Affordable Care Act
("ACA") and
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are Obamacare?


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*The truth is, all might be free if they valued freedom,
and defended it as they ought.*
Samuel Adams - Founding Father

Few sinners are saved after the first twenty minutes of a sermon.
~Mark Twain



Your Opinions... Letters to the Editor



Please send your submissions to us at submittals@sdcsentinel.com, mail them or bring them in to the office at 610 Main St. Westcliffe CO 81252.

Rules: We will print, at our discretion, the thoughts and ideas of our fellow citizen-patriots. Please limit your offerings to 250 words or less. No profanity or vulgarity, no personal attacks, and please sign your name. Also, please give us the general location of your residence and phone number or email - for confirmation only. *The opinions expressed here are solely those of the author; they do not reflect the opinions held or endorsed by the Sentinel.*

A Professional

I have made my home in rural Westcliffe for the past 17 years after retiring as a sergeant with over 26 years of service in a large metropolitan police department. I have a BA in Public Administration with a Minor in Police Management. I also served two tours in Vietnam in the military.

It seems like all I hear about these days is that our tax dollars are not being spent wisely. Unfortunately, as a country we have elected officials who are not accountable and responsible to their constituents.

We will soon have a chance to make a decision, hopefully based on facts not assumptions, about who is the most qualified and professional candidate for Custer County Sheriff.

The top law enforcement position in this county is one of the most important (and should be) to the citizens. Who and why we elect a candidate for Sheriff is equally important. The citizens will be paying \$70,000 a year with benefits for four years. This is not a position that you can let the

person go after six months if they don't meet your expectations. If you choose poorly you have very few options. Citizens would do well to look closely as to who is the most qualified professional candidate.

All you have to do is just look around the county, and you can find a lot of professional men and women. You don't become a professional at any job without extensive time, exposure, experience, education, knowledge and training. (There is no substitute.)

We all know we are not born with these skills, they cannot be given to you by someone and learned overnight, and there is no magic involved. It takes years and years of hard work and sleepless nights to become a professional at any job.

In today's law enforcement it is very easy to become overwhelmed in certain stressful situations that you have never dealt with before, or even had training for. Law enforcement requires a calm, rational, timely, and correct decision making process. You are

there to solve the problem not to escalate the problem.

Custer County has not experienced a lot of the problems or situations that have effected cities and counties around us yet. But the problems will try to come here and in the very near future.

We need to elect a very proactive professional candidate for sheriff. A candidate that already has previous exposure and experience in dealing with many different and difficult situations. One who has extensive knowledge and practical application in the enforcement of Colorado laws at the state and local level. A candidate that is already well-known and respected by local and regional agencies, and has a good working relationship with them.

I have known Shannon Byerly for nine years. And I believe he is what Custer County will need for our future. A fully qualified, service-oriented, well-trained professional law enforcement officer and a candidate for Sheriff.

*Cal Leslie,
Rural Westcliffe*

Telling It Like It Is

To the Editor,

For Christmas our brother-in-law, Randy Knight, bought us a subscription to the Sangre de Cristo Sentinel. It is very refreshing to read a newspaper that really "tells it like it is."

Our local Durango Herald (or the "Durango Horrid" as some of us call it) would never print anything so truthful or conservative as we find in every issue of the Sentinel.

Thank you for the good read and thanks to Randy Knight for putting us on to it.

Keep up the good work!
*Paul and Carol Bynum
Durango, CO*

On Life, Liberty, and Land

To the Editor,

Good day and God bless. In response to the article written by Edward Whitcraft, "Government and Land", published in the Sentinel's January 31, 2014, issue, I would like to encourage the Christians of our community to seriously study this concept of land rights. The ownership of property is integral to freedom. The scriptures speak of every man abiding under his own tree (Micah 4:4) and of every man being assured of his inheritance (Numbers 36 and Leviticus 25). The framers of our nation understood this and assured all citizens the protection of their "life, liberty, and land". It was later that the phrase became "life, liberty, and the pursuit of happiness".

Marxism calls for the abolition of private property. One of the planks of the Communist Manifesto

is the abolition of private property. It is a fact of history that Karl Marx worshiped Satan, and therefore, his philosophy is diametrically opposed to the principals of God. Agenda 21 is founded upon the commitment of the U.N. to the satanic Marxist philosophy of communism. As free-born Americans (if there is such a thing anymore), we are assured the promise of freedom through private ownership of land. Taxation of such ownership amounts to extortion and infringes upon liberty.

Mr. Whitcraft nailed it on the head by pointing out the ignorance of elected officials on Agenda 21. We, as a nation, through the ignorance of our representatives, are subjecting "We the People" to the tyranny of a satanic agenda. What else have "We" signed up for through the pens of elected officials who care

only about money and power?

As Christians, we have our inheritance in Christ and seek our eternal home in the new heaven and earth. As Americans, Christian liberty is best expressed through the Constitution and the Bill of Rights. In order for our future generations to enjoy the freedom of being an American, we must be aware of what our elected officials are doing. The recent recalls in Colorado reveal that we are not yet at the point of no return. We can restore the ground we have lost and keep our country from becoming a prison for our children to live in. But we have to get educated and involved. "My people are destroyed for lack of knowledge" (Hosea 4:6) May God bless our children.

*In His service,
Scott D. Bailey
Lowell, FL*

Thanks from Candidate Supan

I would like to express my great appreciation to the three organizations that have recently held public forums for the Sheriff's candidates. It is important for the community to have information about the candidates so that they may make an informed decision. So a huge thank you goes out to the Southern Colorado Patriots Club, the Republican Central Committee, and the Westcliffe Town Board for hosting these forums. I appreciated the opportunity to voice my opinion.

*Sincerely,
Tony Supan,
Candidate for Sheriff*

Sheriff's Posse The Posse Needs a Few Good Men & Women for its Mounted Corps

This is a great opportunity to serve our community.

Candidates are invited to apply.

Those with P.O.S.T certification, past mounted experience or private citizens with a love of Custer County:

- Contact Robin Schmutzler to get an application
- New Posse candidates must own a horse and trailer
- Horse will need to be desensitized for parade duty
- The Mounted Posse Corps holds a weekly practice
- Back-country missions are a possibility
- On-going training for both horse and rider is a posse policy
- Frequent duty for Color Guard duty is likely

**If you think that you would like to join or just learn more:
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Local Mountain News & Notices

Ambulance Corps Viable as Sanctioned, Clinic Not

Commentary

by Paul Sage

In 1988 Ronald Reagan was the President, Roy Romer was the Governor, the 719 area code was created and the bankrupt Conquistador Ski Resort was closed down by the Federal Government which had taken it into receivership. George Draper, John Coleman, and Bob Senderhauf were the Custer County Commissioners. The County Ambulance Corps operated under their authority at that time.

While the records contained in the vault in the county courthouse are anything but clear, and the election records and ballot issues have long been destroyed, a few things are clear. In 1988 a group successfully created the West Custer County Hospital District by a vote of the citizens. On March 1st, 1988, by a resolution, the Commissioners determined that the plan of the district was in the best interests of the citizens of the county and accepted the service plan of the District. One of the conditions of this approval was that “the District shall use ad valorem tax money for the expenses of the clinic and ambulance service, except salaries of medical personnel.” This is no small thing as salaries of medical personnel alone at the clinic were \$645,026, according to the last audited figures available for 2012.

In the agreement that followed to transfer the ambulances and related equipment from the board to the new District, it is stated that “The District agrees to pay all costs of operation and to

provide ambulance service that has historically been provided by the Ambulance Corps, even though that service will be for areas outside the district.” That agreement was signed by George Draper as Chairman of the County Commissioners and Keith Hood as Chairman of the Hospital District Board.

In 1998 the voters of Custer County “approved a \$500,000 bond issue to be used in conjunction with over \$800,000 in cash and in-kind donations to build a new state-of-the-art medical facility,” according to the Westcliffe Master Plan. Thus the fancy building the Clinic now operates out of. According to information provided by the Hospital District related to their mill levy request last year, “the clinic gets a 4.9 mill levy, some of which covers Ambulance Corps operations.” According to the last audit of the clinic finances in 2012 which seems to the clearest numbers available in the voodoo economics of the Hospital District budget writing, that amount was then \$464,601. It should also be noted that the 1988 service plan states “that it shall be mandatory for an auditor to annually review the efficacy of the business practices of the District and submit a report thereof.” This has not always been followed.

According to the 2012 audit numbers, the ambulance service cost was \$303,997 in total. \$118,154 of this was for salaries and benefits, according to the then in place pay system which has since been determined to be illegal. These amounts do not include the approximately 40% of the amount

billed for this service that is actually paid. Therefore the actual cost is substantially lower. With this in mind, the District as designated in the service plan is a profitable operation.

On top of all these expenses, however, are all the additional expenses to operate the clinic, which was never specifically authorized by the voters or the County Commissioners. These include \$1,064,153 in salaries and benefits alone. The administrative salaries of the clinic are \$410,405. Again, these are 2012 audited numbers and are the cost before any recovery made through billing.

There are several facts which have become clear in recent months, though the entire District has been flying downhill like a Jamaican bobsled toward an imminent crash for years with each new layer of leadership sticking their feet out to slow the inevitable crash.

The aging population here and our summer time adventure seeking guests need and demand reliable emergency services, including the ambulance service to get them to full-service medical care. This is the task assignee to the West Custer County Hospital District from its inception. The dedication of the EMS staff may get lost in the controversy surrounding their placement, but make no mistake about it; this is the most dedicated group you could find. In the past few months in particular, under the leadership of EMS Director Ellie Czarnota, every member of this crew who could afford to, have worked tirelessly to protect the citizens of

Custer County for no compensation.

County residents and guests would also like the convenience of a limited service medical clinic and doctors’ office to go to. This is not, however, the task assigned to the District even before skyrocketing health care costs and shrinking “free money” from a government trillions of dollars in debt hit home here.

Clearly, moving the ambulance service to the Wet Mountain Fire Protection District, as now commonly discussed would be a highly desirable move, as that district has historically been well-managed and fiscally responsible. They have stuck closely to their service plan and earned the respect of the community. To do this, however, they would need to take the 4.9 mill levy from the clinic to operate the service, or would need to collect additional tax money to pay for the service. This is anything but a sure thing with the financial picture in the county.

Until those details are worked out, the hospital district needs to severely cut back or eliminate services not authorized by the voters or fiscal realities to accomplish what is authorized. Private entities operate entities similar to this clinic, offering for-pay urgent care services and leasing space to doctors. Or possibly all the talk of going to the electors to form a separate Ambulance District should be redirected toward seeking approval and funding for a clinic district since the Ambulance District was already created in 1988.

Supreme Court Justice Hobbs to Present at the 4th Custer County Water Forum this Saturday

It’s not every day that a Colorado Supreme Court Justice visits Westcliffe. But this Saturday, March 1, Custer County will welcome Supreme Court Justice Gregory Hobbs to town during the 4th Custer County Water Forum.

Sponsored by the Custer County Conservation District and San Isabel Land Protection Trust, the theme for the forum this year is “Water on the Land and in the Ground”. Presentations will include an update by the Upper Arkansas Water Conservancy District, a discussion on ponds by the Colorado Division of Water Resources, and presentations on the uses of 1041 regulations with water issues by county governments and the use of conservation easements to tie water to the land.

Justice Greg Hobbs practiced environmental, land use, transportation and water law for 23 years before becoming a member of the Colorado Supreme Court in 1996. Hobbs is vice-president of the Colorado Foundation for Water Education,

which is a non-political organization created by the General Assembly to provide information about water to Colorado citizens. CFWE has provided a number of citizen’s guides on water issues that will be available at the forum.

“It’s an honor to welcome Justice Hobbs to Westcliffe as well as the other speakers Steve Witte, Max Vezzani, and Ken Watts”, said Conservation District Board Member and San Isabel Land Protection Trust Executive Director Ben Lenth. “Justice Hobbs is known for his dynamic and engaging presentations. The breadth and depth of his knowledge around this history and current status of water in Colorado is impressive”.

The water forum is free and open to the public and runs from 9am – 1pm in the Custer County School multi-purpose room.

For more information or to pre-register, contact the San Isabel office at 783-3018 or the Conservation District at 783-2481.

Correction:

From last week’s article on “Community Elections”, to clarify the requirements to run for Westcliffe Town Board:

“In order to vote a person has to be registered. They have to be a resident of the state of Colorado for 22 days and be a resident of the town.”



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Prayer for our Country—Book of Common Prayer
Almighty God, who hast given us this good land for our heritage; We humbly beseech thee that we may always prove ourselves a people mindful of thy favour and glad to do thy will. Bless our land with honourable industry, sound learning, and pure manners. Save us from violence, discord and confusion; from pride and arrogancy, and from every evil way. Defend our liberties, and fashion into one united people the multitudes brought hither out of many kindreds and tongues. Endue with the spirit of wisdom those to whom in thy Name we entrust the authority of government, that there may be justice and peace at home, and that, through obedience to thy law, we may show forth thy praise among the nations of the earth. In the time of prosperity, fill our hearts with thankfulness, and in the day of trouble, suffer not our trust in thee to fail; all which we ask through Jesus Christ our Lord, Amen.

Local Mountain News & Notices

Bob Kattnig Announces Candidacy for County Commissioner

Bob Kattnig has announced his candidacy for Custer County Commissioner from District 1. Bob was born and raised in Custer County, and returned home three years ago many years of living and working in Arizona. Agriculture has always been Bob's calling. He retired from the University of Arizona as a Livestock Specialist, and held elected offices as President of the Arizona Hereford Association, a member of the Board of Education in Merino, Chairman of the 'Fiesta de los Vaqueros' Rodeo and Parade Oversight Committee. Bob also served on the Livestock Incident Response Team in Arizona and as Chairman at their International Conferences, Arizona's Department of Agriculture Drought Relief Team, and many other organizations. He was recently elected President of the Custer County Stock Growers Association.

Now Bob wants to bring his vast experience and many contacts to the Board of County Commissioners here in Custer County. He notes that the present top priority for the BOCC is the medical clinic and ambulance service and hopes the situation will be addressed long before a new commissioner takes office. How-

ever, he wants to know the dynamics and issues involved, and wants to meet with all of the entities involved in an effort to understand this complex situation.

Bob was instrumental in bringing the CSU Extension Office to Custer County, and creating the vocational agriculture/FFA program at the Custer County High School in the mid-1980s.

As was mentioned at the Candidate Forum on February 20, the local economy is in the forefront of all three commissioner candidates, as well as many residents. Bob has many ideas for strengthening the recreational and tourism opportunities in the county, and contributing to the economy.

Bob lived in Junkins Park, in the eastern portion of Custer County, before his family moved to their ranch southwest of Westcliffe in 1961. He says that Lake Isabel is in danger of going dry. He would like to see a permanent pool of water



Bob Kattnig, Candidate for Commissioner

courtesy photo

maintained in the lake, and notes that action must be taken very soon to accomplish that.

Education is also a priority for Bob, specifically around topics such as fire mitigation, "As a community, we need to do more in terms of education and voluntary mitigation to reduce the fire danger. This includes thinning on public lands and defensible areas around residences."

The Custer County Caucus will be held Tuesday, March 4. It begins at 7:00 p.m., so be sure you arrive in time to sign in before then.

CUSTER COUNTY REPUBLICAN CAUCUS

TUESDAY, MARCH 4

Precinct 1: Custer County Courthouse

Precinct 2: Wetmore Fire Station

Precinct 3: Custer County High School

The Caucus will start at 7:00 p.m., at which time, the doors will be closed. Please arrive with enough time for everyone to sign in and take your seats prior to 7:00.

To determine which precinct you are in, please contact the County Clerk at 719-783-2441 or visit their office. Also, Custer County's website, www.custercountygov.com, has a map of the precincts.

(See Caucus article on page 1 for details)

CAUCUS

From page 1

4. The caucuses start at 7 p.m.. You MUST be there before 7 p.m. as the doors will be locked. It is urged that you get there early to talk to the delegate candidates.

5. Delegates: This is where all common sense is absent. You don't directly vote for the actual candidate (e.g., your desired sheriff candidate) you want. You vote for a person called a delegate that has indicated that he/she will vote for the candidate that you want in the upcoming Republican Party County Assembly in March.

If a candidate at the Republican Party County Assembly receives at least 30% of the delegate votes, he will be placed on the Republican Primary ballot. It is possible that more than one candidate can be on the primary ballot. The primary election is like a normal election, where you vote directly for your candidate.

6. Finding the Delegate You Want: Now here is the crazy part. There is virtually no information provided to you at the caucus on which delegate will vote for

which candidate. There is a nomination process where somebody nominates a person to be a delegate and the person's name is written on a big board. Nowhere is it indicated who the specific delegate will vote for! I went to my first caucus in 2012 and was astounded that unless I knew beforehand that a particular delegate was for a specific candidate, it was virtually impossible to find out then.

So here is what you have to do. To find out what delegates are for a particular candidate (e.g., the sheriff candidate you want), contact your candidate a few days before the caucus and get the names of the delegates that your candidate will be proposing at the caucus. Bring that list with you to the caucus and vote for those delegates.

7. Multiple Delegates: You can vote for more than one delegate for your candidate at the caucus. There will be 14 delegates elected in Precinct 1, 4 delegates elected in Precinct 2 and 12 delegates elected in Precinct 3. The candidate with the most delegates voting for him in the Republican Party County Assembly will be at the top of the ballot in the primary. So, each

candidate will have multiple delegates to vote for in each precinct. Thus, the candidates representatives at the precinct locations will often hand out the infamous "list" of his chosen delegates as you walk in the door.

So the bottom line is: You have to find out what delegates you want to vote for before you go to the caucus or, at the caucus, find a representative of your candidate and get the list of his preferred delegates. And vote for each one of them.

Who ever gets more than 30% of the delegate vote in the Republican Party County Assembly in late March will be listed on the ballot in the June primary. (Also, if a candidate gets between 10% and 30% of the delegate vote, he has the option of going the "petition" route to get on the ballot, but that is another story.) And then in the June primary it will be a direct vote for the candidates on the ballot.

And folks, this sheriff election is as important as it gets here in Custer County. And in all probability, the next sheriff will be determined on caucus night. So get down to your precinct on March 4 and make a difference.

CRIPPLE CREEK TRIP

sponsored by the Custer County Senior Center

Everyone Welcome!

Come join us for a fun-filled day on
Wednesday, March 26, 2014.

Depart Senior Center at 7:30 a.m. and depart Cripple Creek
between 4:00 p.m. and 4:30 p.m. Fare is \$10 round-trip.

Also, call regarding free booklet and a chance to win
an overnight stay in Cripple Creek.

For more information, contact Roxie at (719) 371-7016
or Carol at (719) 783-9495.

Last day for reservations is Friday, March 21, 2014.

**Get your facts first,
and then you can distort 'em as much as you please.**

~Mark Twain



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Local Mountain News & Notices

Education in Custer County-Part 3

by Joe Cascarelli

This is the final installment, part three, which will focus on the C1 High School's rating as provided in the ColoradoSchoolGrades.com website as sponsored by Colorado Succeeds. Do you recall from the earlier two articles that Colorado Succeeds is an organization founded by members of the Colorado business community who are committed to improving workforce readiness? Their motives are captured well in their Vision Statement: "Our vision is that every student in Colorado has access to a high performing school and graduates with knowledge, skills and behaviors necessary to succeed in a competitive global economy." Remember, when a student graduates twelfth grade the business community's job is just starting. They will have to underwrite the employee education effort for the next 40 years. What this organization is attempting to accomplish with their website is to rate each school using layman's terms, i.e., letter grades A, B, C, D, and F just like those most people are accustomed to. Gone are the confusing terms like "partially proficient" which many, including the author, find confusing.

Custer County High School

proved nor fallen back in the past three years. C-1's academic proficiency gets a "C." That means that in Reading it's a "C"; in Math it's a "C"; in English it's

data is that as far as Reading and Math are concerned, the average C-1 student is not ready for college-level work or a career based on their ACT scores. In short,

courses in the summer prior to the start of classes.

I have no idea if this information has been helpful to students or their parents. But, one can hope that it has been useful. Here are some things that parents can do if they are concerned about the quality of education here in the county.

- Parents can talk to other parents in the community

- Parents can talk one-on-one to their child's teachers

- Parents can attend school board meetings and talk to their elected representatives on that board

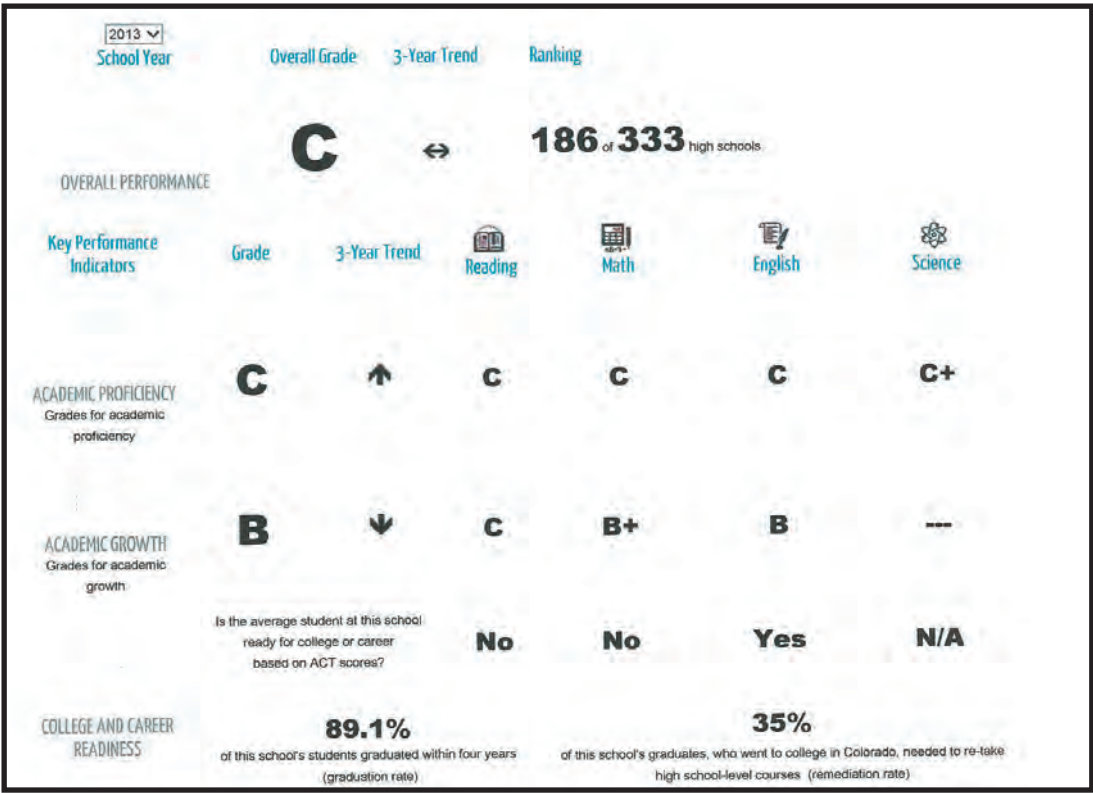
- Parents can have a candid discussion with their child about how things are going at school and what

the child's plans are for the future

- Parent, teachers, and students can collaborate on developing a plan for the future

In my view, the only thing that should be avoided is doing nothing. Face it, about 50% of the 2013 college graduates can't find jobs. Many are still looking while others have taken a job that requires no degree. This is pretty sad given what a four-year college degree costs today. For those students who are juniors or seniors, they may want to consider attending a community or junior college. They can get their feet wet at a modest cost. They can brush-up on those problem subjects from high school. And, if the student does well, most of the subjects for which they have earned an "A" will be transferable toward a degree at a good in-state college or university.

I would love to hear from parents or students about their plans. Just write me in-care-of the Sentinel. Good luck.



receives a "C" from Colorado Succeeds. The three-year trend is flat. More specifically, C-1 high school students have neither im-

a "C"; and, in Science the students get a "C+." One conclusion that Colorado Succeeds draws from the

35% of C-1's students who get accepted at a Colorado college or university must re-take high school level

HELLO, I AM BOB KATTNIG REPUBLICAN CANDIDATE FOR COUNTY COMMISSIONER DISTRICT 1

- *Rancher & Businessman*
- *Owner & President K Bar Livestock Consulting Group*
- *Retired Livestock Specialist University of Arizona*
- *Past VALI Board of Directors*

Elected Offices

- *Current President Custer County Stock Growers Association*
- *Past President Arizona Hereford Association*
- *Former Member Buffalo RE1 Board of Education, Merino, CO*
- *Vice President Udall Park Neighborhood Association, Tucson, AZ*



- *Registered Republican 40 years*
- *Served as Precinct Committee Person*
- *Worked Election Phone Bank*
- *District Voter Registration Drive*
- *Campaigning for Republican Candidates in the Community*

Strengths

- *Ability to facilitate diverse groups to find common ground and build consensus*
- *Ability to evaluate facts and make a decision*
- *Know Custer County - I am a Custer County native*

EXPERIENCED IN WORKING AT LOCAL, STATE, AND NATIONAL POLICY LEVELS.

This ad is paid for by the committee to elect Bob Kattnig. To contact Bob, call 719-783-0738.

Local Mountain News & Notices

SIX-PACK Time Cut Short at State Wrestling Tournament

by Michelle Pedigo

The intro to ABC's Wide World of Sports featured the phrase "the thrill of victory, the agony of defeat." Unfortunately, our Bobcat State qualifiers found themselves on the "agony" side of the phrase, as each of the grapplers finished on the mats Friday with 0-2. But there is no shame in Custer County! Only the top four in each weight class from each region make it to State, and these three competitors can hold their heads high. Sometimes the important thing you walk away with from a tournament is experience. And so it was a weekend to remember and to put on their resumes.

As a first year 'Cat wrestler, senior Tyler Watson persevered throughout the season but wasn't sure he would make it to the final goal. Then a fortunate turn of events landed him in 4th place at Regionals, and he found himself on his way to Denver. Knowing it was his only shot, he gave what

he had and enjoyed being in the realm with the best of the best.

Junior Kody Aldrich has been in the big house before, having competed at State as a sophomore. While last year Aldrich squeaked into the qualifications on the edge, this year he well earned his spot on the bracket, and was seeded 5 places higher than last year. If the past two years are any indication of what to expect, Aldrich will certainly be a forceful competitor worth watching in his senior season.

Two-time State-qualifier Manny Pedigo (senior) had a terrific season and was a hopeful for the 'Cats to place coming into the tournament. But Pedigo knows that when you take your position on the mat, the competition requires 100% body, mind, and soul, and a bad case of bronchitis had him depleted going in. Although he left everything he could on the mat, it wasn't enough to come out

on the victory side. Pedigo still hopes his efforts and season stats, combined with his desire, will be enough to propel him into collegiate opportunities next year. When asked what he would tell continuing and future 'Cat grapplers, Pedigo advised "practice and wrestle as much as you can off-season, and go to other tournaments."

As reported earlier in the year, there was a noticeable decline in numbers in the 2A Region 2 this season. Although up against powerhouses such as Paonia and Baca County, Region 2 did boast a handful of individual placers at State, including one champion. Coach Ham plans to recruit for the 2014-15 season, including some up and coming wrestlers from the middle school team that began practices last week. Additionally, Ham says he hopes to have some off-season events for the team, and he plans to implement fundraisers for new uniforms and team expenses.

Juniors Hear About Boys State and Girls State

by Candi Sage

On February 24, juniors at Custer County School were visited by Carol Kennedy from American Legion Post 170 and Brinder Bradbury, a representative from the American Legion Auxiliary, about the opportunity to attend the upcoming Boys State and Girls State. Applications for both Boys State, held at CSU in Pueblo, and Girls State, held at Western State in Gunnison, are currently being accepted.

Carol Kennedy, a veteran, gave the background information about the American Legion and outlined what boys should expect from attending Boys State. Boys State is only open to

high school young men who have completed their junior year of high school. The pre-planned program takes boys through active involvement where they set up their own government from the city level to the county level and to the state level. At the state level they will also appoint a Governor, Lieutenant Governor, and two Senators. Boys will learn with their peers about the positions at each



Carol Kennedy and Brinder Bradbury, from the American Legion.

Sentinel photo by Candi Sage

level, campaign, and writing their own resolutions.

Brinder Bradbury presented to the girls information needed to consider attending Girls State. Similar to

See **BOYS & GIRLS** on page 9



Bobcat Menu • March 3 - March 6, 2014

Monday breakfast
Blueberry or Banana Muffin Loaves
Fruit, Milk
lunch
Cheese Pizza
Choice of Vegetable
Choice of Fruit
Milk

Tuesday breakfast
Cheese Omelet
W. W. Toast
Fruit, Milk
lunch
Sloppy Jo
Choice of Vegetable
Choice of Fruit
Milk

Wednesday breakfast
Blueberry or Plain Pancake Wrap
Fruit, Milk
lunch
Pig 'n' A Blanket
Choice of Vegetable
Choice of Fruit
Milk

Thursday breakfast
Sausage Gravy, Biscuits
Fruit, Milk
lunch
Nachos
Mexican Rice
Choice of Veg & Fruit
Milk

Elementary - Main dish, bread, milk, choice of 1 veg. & 1 fruit • Salad bar



BYERLY FOR CUSTER COUNTY SHERIFF

YOUR VOTE WILL MAKE A VERY BIG DIFFERENCE IN THE FUTURE OF CUSTER COUNTY

Shannon is excited to go to work for you, the citizens of Custer County. He is dedicated to providing a professional law enforcement environment where the citizens of Custer County are treated equally. He will improve the relationships between intergovernmental agencies and foster relationships that will benefit the county. Community involvement and interaction will be normal functions for the Sheriff's Office. You, the citizens will have direct access to provide feedback and information to the Sheriff through regular citizen accountability meetings.

QUALIFICATIONS: Associates of Science Degree in Criminal Justice. Graduate of the Denver University Public Safety Leadership Development Course. 11 Years Law Enforcement Experience at Cañon City PD as a patrol officer, patrol sergeant, and current department supervisor. Shannon has Budget development and management experience as he currently manages the Cañon City Police Department's budget.

GOALS: A thorough budget evaluation to maximize the use of assets through re-prioritization, Increase training opportunities for all department personnel, Review, develop, and update policies to eliminate current liability to the county.

If you would like to contact Shannon Byerly:

Cell Phone: 371-6678

Email: shanbyerly@yahoo.com

Facebook Page at:

Facebook.com/Byerly for Custer County Sheriff

KIDS

Friday, February 28, 2014

Achieving 100% in Life

We all want to give 100% in life. Here is an interesting way to accomplish that. Consider the following:

A = 1	H = 8	O = 15	V = 22
B = 2	I = 9	P = 16	W = 23
C = 3	J = 10	Q = 17	X = 24
D = 4	K = 11	R = 18	Y = 25
E = 5	L = 12	S = 19	Z = 26
F = 6	M = 13	T = 20	
G = 7	N = 14	U = 21	

Then:

HARDWORK

$$(8 + 1 + 18 + 4 + 23 + 15 + 18 + 11) = 98\%$$

Similarly:

KNOWLEDGE

$$(11 + 14 + 15 + 23 + 12 + 5 + 4 + 7 + 5) = 96\%$$

But interestingly, and as you might expect:

ATTITUDE

$$(1 + 20 + 20 + 9 + 20 + 21 + 4 + 5) = 100\%$$

Source Unknown

Sangre de Cristo Sentinel • Westcliffe, Colorado

CORNER

Local Mountain News & Notices

Classifieds

For Sale

GUNS, AMMO, and Gunsmithing
THRIVE Freeze-Dried Food
OnMarkArms.com
113 Mill, Silver Cliff
11 - 5, Thurs. - Sat.
719/371-3158

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Grass-Finished Beef. Call
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www.musicmeadows.com

Almost new **Janome 10001 Quilting and Embroidery Sewing Machine** with digitizing software. \$1,200 or best offer. Call Paulette, evenings 719-783-0899 or daytime at 719-746-2390.

Help Wanted

The Town of Westcliffe is looking for a part-time Deputy Clerk. Will share responsibility for official administrative duties on behalf of the Town of Westcliffe, covers the front of-

fice and responds when the Town Clerk is unavailable.

This position requires administrative skills; excellent customer service, organizational, computer skills (Excel, Word and Quickbooks); must be detail oriented; reliable; work independently; High School Diploma and at least 2 years of related office or clerical experience.

A good sense of humor and an ability to be a team player are desired, as well as experience and knowledge of the community. Non-smoking office, the Town of Westcliffe is an Equal Opportunity Employer and is a municipality, so employees need to recognize this government entity is required to provide services to all citizens of the Town of Westcliffe.

Sixteen to Twenty-four hours /week must be available to occasionally work 40 hours a week when the Town Clerk is unavailable Minimum starting hourly wage is \$10.00. No benefits.

Please pick up a full job description at the Westcliffe Town Hall, 305 Main Street, Westcliffe, Monday through Friday, 8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. Resumes and a cover letter are due 4 p.m. on March 12, 2014. All resumes will be kept confidential.

CDL Drivers - Class B minimum. Apply in person. Seifert's/Beach Redi-Mix, 198 Range View Loop, Westcliffe, CO.

The Town of Westcliffe will be hiring one position for a Street and Park Technician. Applicants must possess a minimum Class B-CDL, have a clean DMV record and pass a drug/alcohol screening and able to lift up to 100 lbs. and preferably live in town. Duties to include: trash removal, mowing, weed eating, snow removal; park, street, sign, equipment, rest-room and building maintenance. Mechanical aptitude a must,

some weekend and "on call" work required. Wage is D.O.E., and includes a benefit package. The Town of Westcliffe is an equal opportunity employer, and a smoke free workplace. Applications are available at Benson Hall, 305 Main Street, Monday through Friday, 8:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m. Application deadline is March 21, 2014.

Notice to Creditors

Estate of Virginia M. Geroux, deceased, Case Number 14PR2

All persons having claims against the above-named estate are required to present them to the Personal Representative or to the District Court of Custer, County, Colorado on or before June 30, 2014, or the claims may be forever barred.

Justin D. Geroux
12207 Hwy 96
Westcliffe, CO 81252
First Publication:
February 14, 2014
Final publication:
March 7, 2014

Real Estate

Shining Mountain Estates
12 five-acre lots available.
City water and sewer available. \$45,000. Limited time offer. Call United Country Wapiti Realty at 783-9052

Lori Kastendieck
Independent Broker
Real Estate
Westcliffe Broker.com
719/269-0653
Serving buyers & sellers since 1982

For Sale: 10 acres across from Oak Creek Grade General Store. Electric, well, septic & phone. \$50,000 firm. Call Jack & Audrey 783-2245

Services

COMPUTER HELP
New technology, Facebook, cell phones, setup problems, or general questions. CCHS student. Reasonable. Kaylan (719) 371-4701

SPRING CLEANING SERVICE
Detail oriented. One time or continuous. Schedule

filling. Kristi Sandeen with Elite Home Service (719) 783-0219

Chainsaw Sharpening. Accurate sharpening. Multiple chain discount. Overnight service available. Chain loops made to order and repaired. Ring J.B. 719/783-4448

Nordyke Sanitation LLC Septic pumping and inspection. Call Art Nordyke at 719/783-2747 or 719/371-3523

Wanted

Charter Members for a local chapter of Safari Club International (First for Hunters). "Whether you consider yourself a passionate conservationist or merely a supporter of all things wild, there is one organization that is able to make the most out of the contributions you are able to give and accomplish all the goals that are important to sportsmen and women everywhere." For more information and/or application form, call A Painted View Ranch at 719-783-9100 by 3/13/14.

Deadline for getting your information into the Classifieds is Tuesday at Noon for that week's edition.

Call (719) 783-3360 to place your ad

Don't Delay!

Time is running out to get health insurance for 2014.

Deadline is March 31.

Trained and certified experts are available in your community to help you choose and sign up for a plan.

Come see what YOU might save on health insurance!

Need Health Care Coverage?

Get Free One-on-One Assistance
With Health Coverage Guides, Certified Counselors,
Insurance Brokers & Agents

Wednesday, March 5
10 a.m. - 6 p.m.
West Custer County Library
Library Community Room
209 Main Street, Westcliffe

Self Employed * Individual * Family * Small Business



Also Sponsored by West Custer County Library



Norup Gas Inc.

28 Rangeview Loop
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Office hours:
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8 a.m. until 5 p.m.

719-783-9338

Local Mountain News & Notices

Events Calendar

Friday, February 28, 2014

9 a.m. - BOCC Meeting in Boardroom

Saturday, March 1, 2014

8:30 a.m. - 1 p.m.- Conservation District Water Forum in school multi-purpose room
All day: High School District Basketball

Monday, March 3, 2014

9 a.m. - BOCC Meeting in Boardroom
4:15 - 5:45 p.m. - Accountability Committee Meeting for Custer County School District C-1 in library

Tuesday, March 4, 2014

9 a.m. - BOCC Meeting in Boardroom
7 p.m. - District Caucus

Thursday, March 6, 2014

10 a.m. - Airport Authority Board Meeting
All day: Western Slope Honor Choir at Gunnison

Friday, March 7, 2014

Jones Theater: No shows for month of March
All day: Western Slope Honor Choir at Gunnison
ACT Test for Colorado Juniors Registration Deadline
8 p.m. - 12 a.m. High School Dance

Saturday, March 8, 2014

1 p.m.- Sangre Shooting Sports Club - Safety Orientation
All day: National SAT Test Date

Sunday, March 9, 2014

Daylight Savings Time Begins

Recurring Events and Business Hours

Monday

6 p.m.: Closed discussion meeting Alcoholics Anonymous at St. Luke's Episcopal Church in Westcliffe.
Call Jim at 783-2053 or 360/509-9172 or Lisa 719/783-0809.

Monday through Friday

10 a.m. - 4 p.m.: Custer County Public transit service available to everyone through Wet Mountain Valley Rotary Club. Call 783-2343.

Monday, Tuesday, Thursday

Noon: Lunch served at Custer County Senior Center located on first floor of Silver Cliff Town Hall. Call 783-9508 to RSVP.

Monday and Thursday

11 a.m. - 5 p.m.: Lighthouse Pregnancy Resources in Silver Cliff opens to assist young mothers and families in need. Services include free pregnancy tests, counseling to pregnant women and more. Call 783-4357.

Tuesday

12:30 p.m.: Bridge Club meets in the library community room in downtown Westcliffe.

4:30 p.m.: Awanas for kids ages three through sixth grade at First Baptist Church of Westcliffe.

6 p.m. - 8 p.m.: Jammin' band at Mining Company restaurant in Silver Cliff.

Tuesday through Friday

10 a.m. - 5:30 p.m.: Library in downtown Westcliffe open.

Wednesday

Line dancers meet at Community United Methodist Church from 9:30 to 11 a.m. thru the winter starting November 20. Call Clem at 303/909-7370.

6 p.m.: Closed Big Book study Alcoholics Anonymous meeting at St. Luke's Episcopal Church in Westcliffe.
Call Jim at 783-2053 or 360/509-9172 or Lisa 719/783-0809.

Thursday

5:30 p.m.: Weight Watchers meeting in the Hope Lutheran Church basement. Call 783-4144.

6 p.m.: Celebrate Recovery program at First Baptist Church in Westcliffe. Call 719/568-1060.

Friday

6 p.m.: Open topic Alcoholics Anonymous meeting at St. Luke's Episcopal Church. Call Jim at 783-2053 or 360/509-9172 or Lisa 719/783-0809.

Friday and Saturday

1 p.m. - 4 p.m.: Share Center adjacent to Hope Lutheran Church in Westcliffe open.

Saturday

10 a.m. - 2 p.m.: Library in downtown Westcliffe open.
10:30 a.m.: Story time for kids at the library.

BOYS & GIRLS

From page 7

Boys State, Girls State will involve the same government processes including parliamentary procedure instruction, newspaper, judicial presentation and guest speakers. Girls interested will need to meet the eligible criteria; above average academic standing, high moral character, interest in government and current events, and possess leadership qualities. One half of the cost for Girls State is paid for by the

Auxiliary and the other half can possibly be covered by grants if the applicant is unable to pay.

Boys State and Girls State both send selected delegates to attend Boys Nation and Girls Nation in Washington, DC and continue the political processes, meet with Colorado State Representatives and Senators and includes a trip to the White House.

Interested boys and girls need to be sure their paperwork in turned in by May 1, 2014. Included is their ap-

plication with all required signatures, letter or essay of why they would like to attend, and medical form/waiver signed by parent/guardian. Both Boys State and Girls State attendees can get up to 6 college credits through Adams State and can apply for the Samsung American Legion Scholarship for future college attendance. Attendees can also take the military ASVAB test at no cost. Boys State contact info: www.colegionboysstate.org and Girls State contact info: www.alacolorado.com

Custer County Wildland Fire Mitigation & Slash Reduction Presentation

Wildland Fire Mitigation Specialists, Controlled Burn Specialists, Wet Mountain Fire Fighters and Emergency Management will give tips on protecting your home from wildfire, evacuation plans, how to conduct safe slash burns and answer questions about the Custer County burn policy.

There will also be a presentation on community mitigation projects that have been credited for saving entire neighborhoods.

**March 14, 5:30 p.m. - 8:00 p.m.
at Cliff Lanes in Westcliffe**

**Contact Christe Coleman
719-783-2410 or ccoem@custercountygov.com**



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&
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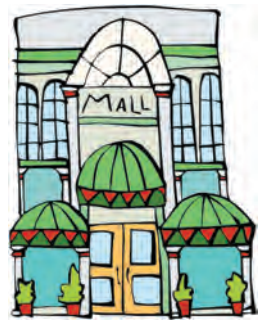
Beach Redi-Mix

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10 AM to 6 PM**

**Corner of 8th and Main Streets
Cañon City**

TROMBLEY 2014

Why should you vote for a candidate?



Most people would answer:
'Because he's the best man for the job.'

**Consider experience. Consider skills.
Consider values.**

The office of Sheriff is too important to fill based on anything less than
"who is the most qualified candidate for the position?"

I believe I am that candidate. I have served Custer County as a Posse Member and a Deputy Sergeant. I have represented the residents of Westcliffe on the Town Board. I have worked along side you as a businessman. I have handled difficult situations in law enforcement, administrative duties, and budget matters.

I know what it takes to be a good Sheriff. I look forward to the opportunity to serve everyone in this community as Sheriff.

Thank you for entrusting me with your support and your vote.

Join me at the Lamp Post Lodge on Sat. March 8 from 2 p.m. - 4p.m. to talk about your concerns, hear my ideas, and lend your support by signing my petition to be on the ballot.

You can also reach me at 719-371-1423.

FOR SHERIFF

Bobcat Girls

BOBCATS	6:00	GUEST
72	PERIOD 4	26
BONUS		BONUS
FOULS 9	PLAYER	FOULS 7
WON	GAME	WON

#	Name	Grade
10	Taylor Staton	Sophomore
11	Serenity Ham	Freshman
20	Brandi Platchek	Junior
21	Madeleine Woods	Junior
22	Latisha Schlabach	Freshman
23	Ashley Schlabach	Senior
30	Ashley Gillium	Freshman
32	Nicole Lorenzen	Sophomore
44	Athena Wisecup	Freshman
50	Sarah Gerringer	Sophomore

Custer County Bobcat Basketball

Coaches
Head Coach Joy Parrish
Assistant Coach Laura Kinsey
Managers
Hannah Schlabach
David Kinsey
Kobe Lewsader

Coaches
Head Coach Shannon Byerly
Assistant Coach Gary Holycross
Managers
Heather Schlabach
Rachel King
Max Dawid

#	Name	Grade
2	Henry Watson	Senior
4	Conner Rowley	Junior
12	Devon Hockaday	Freshman
14	Tyler Schlabach	Sophomore
20	Ethan Gomez	Sophomore
21	Brian O'Connor	Senior
22	Lane Byerly	Senior
23	Jonathan Redmond	Sophomore
24	Michael Parsons	Freshman
34	Geoffrey Mellini	Sophomore
45	Cody Lyons	Freshman

Bobcat Boys

BOBCATS	8:00	GUEST
66	PERIOD 4	55
BONUS		BONUS
FOULS 6	PLAYER	FOULS 10
WON	GAME	WON



Sheriff's Report...

There are currently 3 men in jail.

February 19 Adam Coleman, age 29, of Silver Cliff, was arrested off of a Fremont County bench warrant for failure to appear. He was later bonded out on \$400. Original charge was DUI, failure to appear.

February 18 It was reported to the Sheriff's office that sometime between February 14 and 18 someone broke into a cabin belonging to Phillip Veale. The cabin is located near mile-marker 8 on Highway 165. Among the items stolen are a rifle, a motorcycle, some hand-tools, and various small items. The car used in the burglary was recovered along with some items that were in the vehicle. The case is still under investigation.

February 23 Benjamin Lewis, age 33, of Silver Cliff was arrested in Westcliffe off of a parole violation warrant out of the state of Indiana. He is currently being held in the Custer County jail with no bond. Lewis is waiting for extradition back to Indiana.

February 18 Marland Jones, age 23 of Westcliffe was arrested in Westcliffe for two counts of violation of a protection order. He was booked into the Custer County jail where he posted \$1,000 bond and later released. He will appear in Custer County court at a later date.

Ambulance and Fire Calls

February 18 – 25 Five ambulance runs and one fire run. The fire run backed up an ambulance run.

Correction:

In last week's court report, it was stated that Forest Spitzfaden, age 19 of Westcliffe had been charged with a DUI. That information is incorrect.



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CANDIDATE REMINDER

Custer County Republican Caucus Meetings

Date : March 4, 2014
Time : 7:00 p.m.
Place:

PRECINCT 1 : Custer County Courthouse
PRECINCT 2 : Wetmore Fire Station
PRECINCT 3 : Custer County school

Don't forget to come out and let your voices be heard

Paid for by Committee to Elect Tony Supan Sheriff

Students Train To Be Their Best

by Troy Bomgardner

The Winter Weightlifting program is in full swing for numerous Custer County students after school on Monday-Thursday. The program is designed to build strength, speed and explosive power in students.

“For students who want to increase their athleticism, the weight room is a great opportunity to become a better athlete,” said Troy Bomgardner. “The high school programs in the state that reach the elite level year in and year out have athletes that invest time in strength training. And it’s not just for football players anymore. Every sport now uses strength training to take their athletes to the next level,” commented Bomgardner. Bomgardner, along with Coach Ross McGee supervises those students who want to come after school from 4pm-5:15pm for weight lifting. Bomgardner noted that the emphasis of the program is not on becoming better

of the weight training is less observable. “Delayed gratification!”, exclaimed Bomgardner. “This is an activity that students have to commit to and make sacrifices in order to see the results, and it doesn’t happen overnight. This provides a tremendous opportunity to develop some discipline and a “stick-to-it” character in the students!”

Currently, those attending the sessions are a mixture of high school and middle school age students. “We opened the weight room for any student who has interest in fitness and weight lifting and we typically have 10 or so students attend,” said Bomgardner. “We have an outstanding group of high school students that are really working hard and

but seeing the young lifters means something special.

of America Weightlifting (USAW) organization. The



Winter weightlifting participants flex their muscles for the camera. Sentinel photo by Jim Silver

“There is no doubt that the earlier a student begins strength training, the more solid their foundation will be as they grow into the teen and early adult years,” noted Bomgardner. “For such a long time, we thought weight training might have negative effects on youth. However, we now have scientific research that proves that weight training, done correctly with appropriate weights and with supervision, is very healthy and beneficial for even pre-adolescent children,” said Bomgardner.

The weight training program is very strict in technique and safety. Bomgardner strongly added, “It benefits no one if someone gets hurt in the weight room. My philosophy is to teach technique with little or no weight and when a student can lift correctly, only then do we add weight slowly.”

The philosophy Coach Bomgardner lives by in the weight room is not one that he came up with on his own. “I have been fortunate to have been educated in excellent strength training programs over the past 20 years. I currently hold a Strength Training certification from the United States

USAW is the governing body for the Olympic sport of weightlifting in the United States. My first training with the USAW was completed at the University of Kansas with the KU football strength coaches. The 2nd level of my certification was completed at the US Olympic Training Center in Colorado Springs with Olympic level coaches and the last level of certification was completed under the direction of Leo Totten, a Pan-Am weightlifting coach. In addition, I spent 5 years coaching with Tom Cross, a former NCAA Division I Strength Coach of the Year.”

Coach Bomgardner says the weight room is open after schools Monday-Thursday from 4-5:15pm. Any student of Custer County is welcome to come and learn more about weightlifting and how beneficial it is to building a strong, healthy athletic body. “Parents are welcome to come with their child, boy or girl, to see what we are doing after school and learn more about the program, we have an open door policy,” said Bomgardner. For more information, Coach Bomgardner can be reached during the school day at 783-4927.



Coach Bomgardner watches this impressive power lift. Sentinel photo by Jim Silver

weightlifters but enhancing athleticism through total body strength training.

Another significant benefit

showing commitment to the program,” added Bomgardner. Bomgardner noted he is thrilled with the results of the high school students

Gracie Barra Westcliffe Team Competes in Denver

On February 22, 2014, six students from the Gracie Barra Westcliffe Academy traveled to Denver for the Fight to Win Brazilian Jiu Jitsu and Submission Grappling Tournament of Champions.

In the youth division, Jack Doughty, Dalton Wommack, Josh Sturtevant, and Colt Moulton all competed and fought hard. Jack Doughty placed first in gi (Editor/GG: there are two categories of competition at this event, the “gi” section where the competitors wear judo/Jiu Jitsu uniforms, and the “no-gi” section, where only a bathing suit hip garment is used) at white/grey belt in his age division receiving a gold medal, Josh Sturtevant also placed first

in gi at white/grey belt in his age division receiving a gold medal, and Dalton Wommack placed second in no-gi at white belt in his age division receiving a silver medal.

Two adults competed during the tournament. Wyatt Wommack in no-gi blue belt division and Anthony Dovidio competed in the gi blue belt division. Anthony Dovidio placed second in his division receiving a silver medal.

Coach Anthony Dovidio stated, “Our team did very well. I am so proud of everyone.”

Gracie Barra Westcliffe has classes on Tuesday and Thursday at Club America WMV in Silver Cliff. Kids class begins at 5:30 PM and Adults begins at 6:30 PM. Everyone is welcome to try a free class and to come and learn more about the bene-

fits of the sport of Brazilian Jiu Jitsu.

For More information contact Anthony and Amy Dovidio at 719-371-5860 or contact Club America WMV.



Local medal winners are recognized at Denver tournament. Courtesy photo



Fremont County Bulletin

News, Opinion, Commentary

Commissioner Bell Addresses Royal Gorge Tea Party

by Candy Thompson

Commissioner Debbie Bell, who so far is running unopposed for her second term, opened her speech to Royal Gorge Tea Party showing her Conceal Carry Permit to the group’s approval and her testimony of how God helps her make the tough decisions she has faced since taking office.

The Commissioner stated, “I’m not here because I wanted to be here. I believe with all my heart I am here because this is where God wanted me to be.

“I also believe,” she continued, “that He’s telling me He wants me back for four more years.” She quickly added, “If that’s not true and I’m not re-elected, I’m OK with that because I know He’s got a better plan for me.” With that she asked for the Tea Party’s support.

The Commissioner explained the County’s move to withdraw from the Dispatch Communication Center project as the inability of the entities to work together and because of their pettiness. It was the Sheriff’s frustration that had led the Commissioners to withdraw by sending a letter to the others, she explained.

The Sheriff has been granted space in the Garden Park High School building purchased by the County for the ever expanding Public Health Agency where he plans to set up a communications center for Fremont County. The Commissioners have been criticized and called “everything but a white man” over misunderstandings on this issue, she told the crowd.

This purchase that was done by adding \$800,000 to present debt and refinancing the Certificates of Participation to get the interest payments down, Ms. Bell explained. They decided the refinancing was an opportunity to pay for some

projects they had wanted to do for years, including a building for this government agency.

She was unable to answer Steve Barton’s question about a balloon payment and the number of years financed, “I do not have that paperwork in front of me. I will speak in generalities.” She then said that it did add “a couple of years” to the note but would give no specifics.

Johnny Herndon questioned the County’s negotiating and said he wasn’t sure they negotiated very strongly, suggesting possible “collusion” between the two government agencies, as there was surely a better deal for the money. Commissioner Bell denied that, saying that they looked at 5 buildings and this had the infrastructure in place and others didn’t. She said it was in the tax payers’ best interest and good for the School District. Also, the school district would not come down on their asking price.

The subject of marijuana drew a great deal of interest. The crowd applauded when she announced that the Commissioners had just voted on a Temporary Moratorium on any new growth or expansion with Medical Marijuana because of the influx of growers in the area, mainly in Penrose. She said that this explosion was due to Commissioner Norden’s comment after they banned Recreational Marijuana. He suggested that they take another look at RM if the 24% tax passes, so the Commissioners are in disagreement on this issue, though we haven’t heard Commissioner Norden’s side. RM has been approved in the city limits by the City Council but Commissioner Bell said “Not on my watch!” for the County.

Ed Whitcraft asked about Agenda 21 in Fremont County to which Ms Bell

answered, “The United Nations has no business in the world dictating to Fremont County Colorado what we do and do not do here.” Assuring the group that none of the planning things they do are in conjunction with Agenda 21, she said, “We don’t ever look outside our borders for any kind of advice or direction on how we’re going to operate here....”

However, Commissioner Bell wrote an article for the Daily Record last year telling about the county’s partnership with Governor Hickenlooper’s Bottom-Up comprehensive economic development plan to enhance global competitiveness and how she felt it would “breathe life into economic development into our area.” Part of the Agenda 21 Sustainable Development is the shifting from free enterprise to “public-private partnerships” which is the thrust of Hickenlooper’s Bottom-Up program. She was excited about implementing this plan which has been in the working for a couple of years.

Vernon Thompson asked, “Why are we as a county trying to comply with the International Building Code? Why is it even needed?” Evidently Ms. Bell feels the need for such regulations as she cited “safety” at the Royal Gorge as an answer to the question, “We will never allow a building to be built at the Royal Gorge that’s going to house people every single day...and not have some sort of safety net in place. It’s never going to happen on my watch.” Vernon noted that 4 businesses he knew of went elsewhere because of this county’s regulations.

Many questions remained unanswered in the short time allowed but the Commissioner’s office is at 615 Macon, Room 105, Mon-Thurs. 7:30 a.m.-5 p.m.

Illegal School Board Meetings: Cañon City RE-1 School Board Violates Open Meetings Act

by: A Concerned Fremont County Citizen

(Editor/GG: The author is known to the Sentinel, however, he wishes to remain anonymous.)

The RE-1 Board has a pattern of holding “work sessions” prior to the open board meeting. These work sessions are scheduled at 4 p.m. on board meeting days, and are closed to the public. No agendas or minutes for “work sessions” are available. Discussion clearly takes place at these sessions since muted voices can be heard through the wall. “Work sessions” have been held prior to each open board meeting over the past months, including on 10 February 2014. School officials have admitted that open board meetings are short (often 30 minutes) because much is done in the “work sessions,” “needing only a public ratification”.

There is no exception in the Colorado open records act (CORA), CRS 24-72-201 et seq., for “work sessions.” CORA requires the ENTIRE DELIBERATIVE PROCESS be open to the public, not merely final votes. CORA applies even to email between board members--these must be preserved for disclosure.

CORA permits some closed meetings, but requires a vote to close the meeting be held in an open session, the statute authorizing closure of the meeting, and a public statement of topics to be discussed in the meeting. Closed meetings, or executive sessions, must be recorded, and are limited to specified student discipline, contract negotiations, personnel matters, and similar issues. Meetings under CORA include ANY gathering of 2 or 3 (depending on quorum size), or more, members where discussion of board business occurs -- with an exception for primarily social contacts without significant discussion. Scheduled “board work sessions” are not social gatherings, and have most of the board attending.

What is being discussed in these closed sessions? Is the board discussing curriculum issues like “Common Core?” Class sizes? Are they discussing the sorry state of 45-year-old middle and high school roofs and other safety hazards to students in the district? Are they discussing safety hazards? The budget? Real estate commissions--or broker selection? Pay hikes?

We do not know.

Fremont - Custer Bar Association Announces Scholarship Competition

by: Steve Barton

The Fremont-Custer Bar Association intends to grant a scholarship to a graduating senior from any high school in Fremont or Custer counties. An essay is required and should be submitted through your school to the county bar president Dan Slater.

The subject of the essay should be related to the legal profession, as stated by the bar association, “We’d prefer reading of the applicant’s motivation for entering the legal system or related professions as a lawyer, paralegal, cop, sheriff, judge, or even a coroner, or how the legal system or profession has affected the applicant, her family, friends, or ancestors.”

IMPORTANT DATES IN FREMONT

School Board Meetings:

Cañon City
Fremont RE-1
2nd and 4th Mon
5:30 p.m.
101 N 14th St
in Cañon City

Florence-Penrose

Fremont RE-2
2nd Mon at 7 p.m.
403 W. 5th St.
Florence

Cañon City
City Council
1st and 3rd
Mondays at 6 p.m.
City Hall
128 Main St
Cañon City

County
Commissioners
2nd and 4th Tues.
9:30 a.m.
615 Macon, Rm 105
Cañon City

Royal Gorge
Tea Party
2nd & 4th Thursday
of each month
6:30 p.m.
Core Knowledge
School Gymnasium,
890 Fields Ave.
Cañon City
www.royalgorgetea-party.com
or find them on
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The Daily Jot

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

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

NSA Expands Spying, DHS Buys More Ammo

by Bill Wilson,
TheDailyJot.com

In a week where we saw the United States slide 13 places to 46th in the 2014 World Press Freedom Index, we are now seeing that the National Security Agency will likely increase its database on phone records of Americans and the Department of Homeland Security is purchasing another 704 million rounds of ammunition over the next four years. This means that despite denials by the government that the NSA is spying on you, it acknowledges keeping phone records for more than five years. Additionally, the Government Accountability Office is saying that there are roughly 70,000 DHS agents and the DHS ammo is enough for 2,500 rounds per agent. Can anyone say "P-O-L-I-C-E S-T-A-T-E"?

Government lawyers involved in lawsuits over the NSA phone-records program believe federal-court rules on preserving evidence require the agency to stop destroying older phone records. The Wall Street Journal writes: "As a result, the government would ex-

pand the database beyond its original intent, at least while the lawsuits are active...one official said that even if a decision is made to retain the information, it would be held only for the purpose of litigation and not be subject to searches. The government currently collects phone records on millions of Americans in a vast database that it can mine for links to terror suspects. The database includes records of who called whom, when they called and for how long."

CNSNews reports that In Appendix III of the GAO report, "Department of Homeland Security Ammunition Contracts, as of October 1, 2013," it states that "the 29 existing DHS ammunition contracts extend over the next 4 fiscal years and have a remaining contract limit of approximately 704 million rounds (for various ammunition types) if every option for purchasing ammunition were exercised into fiscal year 2018...As of October 2013, the DHS had a total amount of 159 million ammunition rounds on hand in inventory, which when

divided by the estimated number of DHS officers of 70,000, comes to about 2,271 rounds per agent."

Alarming to me is that there are so many people in this country who call themselves Christians and they are not alarmed by this news. They repeatedly tell me that I, and others who believe like me, am a nationalist and am not concerned about the kingdom of God. I keep saying it is not an either-or type of thing. We should be showing our citizenship in the kingdom of God by our actions here on earth. Jesus said in Matthew 5:16, "Let your light so shine before men, that they may see your good works, and glorify your Father which is in heaven." To allow our free country, where we are free to spread the good news of the gospel, to fall into despotism when we have authority to disallow it, is a great sin. Christianity needs to become more vocal and protective of our God-given freedom.

Have a Blessed and Powerful Day!
Bill Wilson
www.dailyjot.com

Christians: Empty the Churches and Fill the Streets

by T.L. Davis,
Christianmerc.blogspot.com

David Green, founder and CEO of Hobby Lobby, has, through great hesitation, decided to sue the federal government to ensure his rights to pursue his religious rights as guaranteed in the First Amendment to the United States Constitution.

This is just another in a long line of needless lawsuits arising out of an unjust and unconstitutional law, affectionately called Obamacare by Barack Obama, or otherwise given the ironic title of Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act, which accomplishes neither patient protection nor affordable care.

The Constitutional questions are not questions at all. There is no more clear wording in the Bill of Rights than: "Congress shall make no law respecting an establishment of religion, or prohibiting the free exercise thereof." There simply is no more clear admonition than "Congress shall make no law..." What part of "no" is vague? What part of "congress" is vague? What part of "law" is vague? What part of "prohibiting the free exercise thereof" is vague?

Very clearly, if Congress

makes a law, drafts a law or passes a law that prohibits the free exercise of religion, i.e., requires that Christians, in order to obey such law, must violate their religious beliefs against abortion by funding that activity, providing that activity through any means which violates their admonition from God in the Ten Commandments not to kill, is not unconstitutional, then words mean nothing.

Unfortunately, we have seen all too often that when it comes to federal government power, the federal Supreme Court, has found in favor of the government and against the citizen. It is hostile to religion. It is hostile to liberty.

If it is found that Hobby Lobby is forced to violate their freedom of religion, it is the intent of David Green to close its doors. Realistically, they will probably sell their assets to some other large retailer and the stores will stay open under another name. Christian values, however, will be largely diminished.

There are a long list of reasons Obamacare should have been ruled unconstitutional, not just for the violation of religious freedoms inherent in its language, but the violations of individual liberty wherein a mandate

requiring the people to purchase anything, including medical coverage, is a violation of the Constitution.

Finding Obamacare constitutional is an example of how the Supreme Court is acting illegally by failing to uphold the Constitution. It is why every judgment made by this Supreme Court is an affront to justice. Allowing any nine people in the nation to encumber the entire population with unwanted, unwarranted violations of liberty is political malpractice. It changes the very fundamentals of a republican form of government and arrives at a system much more akin to an oligarchy.

Christians must fight back against these abuses of government. They are now involved in the fight and while many Christians find it unpalatable to engage in politics, politics have engaged them. To honor God is not to forfeit His will to bureaucrats because of sloth and a refusal to take up Christ's defense in the public square. It is the duty of Christians to empty the churches and fill the streets.

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NOW WORSE THAN THOUGHT:

335,500 Coloradans Have Now Lost Their Health Insurance

by ColoradoPeakPolitics

Senator Mark Udall promised if you liked your plan you could keep it. That was a slap to the face of now 335,500 Coloradans... and counting?

Lost in the back and forth over whether "a very hostile phone call" is considered intimidation is what The Denver Post basically footnoted on their most recent article.

Since we were last updated at the begin-

ning of November, another 80,000 Coloradans have received cancellation letters (note to Udall's office: if price, coverage, or benefits change substantially enough to receive a cancellation letter whether options for different plans are included or not, doesn't really matter).

We're betting, if Representative Cory Gardner hadn't mentioned it, no one would have brought up, even though helping all those Coloradans he lied to has been why

Udall felt it was alright for his staff to place "very hostile" phone calls (remember, by Colorado Democrat Appointee definition: not intimidation).

How does Udall's office feel about these new numbers? Spokesman for Udall Mike Saccone told The Post they'll "review those numbers."

Yikes, sounds like the Colorado Division of Insurance should prepare itself to receive some very hostile, but not intimidat-

ing, phone calls in their future.

We here at the Peak think it's vital, in light of this new information, that we get regular updates on just how many Coloradans Udall has lied to directly who continue to lose their health insurance.

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Obama Administration Relaxes Ban on Refugees Who Have Supported Terrorism

by Allen West,
AllenBWest.com

I am sorry to have to report yet another event that makes me question not only the Obama administration's intent and motivation, but more fundamentally, its allegiance. Naturally, this latest action by the administration is receiving little attention.

Now you would think refugees and asylum seekers who have provided "limited material support" to terrorists might be barred access to our country. But not according to the Obama administration. On Wednesday, the Department of Homeland Security and the State Department wrote new exemptions for the Immigration and Nationality Act which narrowed a ban to exclude refugees and asylum seekers who had supported terrorists.

Thankfully, not everyone in D.C. thinks this is a good idea. As reported in the Daily Caller, Alabama Republican Sen. Jeff Sessions offered a scathing rebuke of the Obama administration's decision. Senator Sessions is a stalwart champion in the fight against amnesty for illegal immigrants and protecting our sovereign Republic. He stated, "Not only is this a national security issue, but a financial issue: those granted admission gain access to federal welfare programs funded by U.S. taxpayers. It seems the Obama Administration has forgotten that our immigration laws are meant to protect the interests of Americans."

Last week, Speaker John Boehner said immigration reform legislation will not happen this year due to President Obama's penchant for unilaterally and selectively enforcing only those laws he approves. Do

you realize how seriously frightening this is? After all, it is a violation of the president's oath of office not to uphold the Constitution and faithfully execute the laws of this Republic — and the Speaker of the House says it as a matter of fact.

Senator Sessions said, "In light of these and other facts, it is thus deeply alarming that the Obama Administration would move unilaterally to relax admissions standards for asylum-seekers and potentially numerous other applicants for admission who have possible connections to insurgent or terrorist groups. This includes terror groups not yet designated: al-Qaida was not designated by the Department of State as a foreign terrorist organization until 1999 — long after the first attack on the World Trade Center."

A Department of Homeland Security official explained the reasoning behind the exemptions, saying, "These exemptions cover five kinds of limited material support that have adversely and unfairly affected refugees and asylum seekers with no tangible connection to terrorism: material support that was insignificant in amount or provided incidentally in the course of everyday social, commercial, family or humanitarian interactions, or under significant pressure."

I absolutely agree with Senator Sessions, as I'm sure many of you would when he said, "the DHS does not have the authority to eliminate portions of the law, stating the department's claim, leaves one incredulous. It is one thing to approve a waiver in a particular case with uniquely compelling circumstances; it is entirely another thing

to declare a plain legal requirement is null and void. What is the point of Congress passing a law if the Administration abuses its 'discretion' to say that law simply no longer applies? This is yet one more instance of the Administration rewriting U.S. code through executive decree."

Many of you are asking, what can be done? We need lawsuits to be filed against President Obama by Congress, regardless if the D.C. Circuit Court is now stacked with his selected cronies. We also need citizens who can prove legal "standing" to file lawsuits against this unconstitutional administration, which means they must demonstrate concrete evidence of invasion of their legally protected interests.

Most importantly, we need those who are concerned for the future of this Republic to cast the correct vote in November to ensure there is a conservative House and Senate a year from now on Capitol Hill. In which case, if this lawlessness continues from President Obama, there is a Constitutionally-established method to return him to Chicago.

What can possibly be the motivation and intent of eliminating the law barring entry into America for those who have offered support to terrorism, regardless of degree or circumstance? I will leave it up to you to determine the answer — but it's just another aspect of the "fundamental transformation" of America.

Reprinted with Permission. Read more at <http://allenbwest.com/2014/02/obama-administration-relaxes-immigration-ban-refugees-supported-terrorism/#dfK8emmue2Jhs-GKv.99>

Report: Americans Completely Reliant on China for Antibiotics

by Christopher Bedford,
DailyCaller.com

(Editor/GG: Do you think we are a little vulnerable here? As noted below, your meds are now made in China and India.)

The United States is nearly completely reliant on China for its supply of lifesaving antibiotics.

"The crucial ingredients for nearly all antibiotics, steroids and many other lifesaving drugs are now made exclusively in China," The New York Times reported in the 32nd paragraph of a Friday article entitled, "Medicines made in India set off safety worries."

Indeed, 2014 marks the tenth anniversary of Bristol-Myers Squibb — the last American plant that manufactured the key ingredients for penicillin and other drugs — shuttering its upstate New York factory.

"Like other manufacturing operations, drug plants have been moving to Asia because labor, construction, regulatory, and environmental costs are lower there," the Times reported in 2009.

As China has grown economically, it has also grown more bellicose.

An October Washington Free Beacon article highlighted the Chinese military's "political warfare against the United States," including "funding pro-China activities abroad, recruiting intelligence sources, spreading propaganda, engaging in media activities, funding front groups that promote Chinese strategy and goals and, supporting perceived 'friends' of China."

In November, China announced a new air zone over the South China Sea, requiring commercial airlines to identify themselves. An angry American response, including a nearly six-hour January meeting with Vice President Joe Biden, has failed to sway China to abandon the unilateral move.

In December, India, and Japan began conducting joint naval exercises in response to China engaging the two countries in territorial-water disputes.

And speaking on tensions between China and Japan, including a dispute over islands, former Secretary of

State Henry Kissinger told a February audience that "Asia is more in a position of 19th-century Europe, where military conflict is not ruled out. Between Japan and China, the issue for the rest of us is that neither side be tempted to rely on force to settle the issue."

The comments played off of a speech by Japanese Prime Minister Shinzo Abe, who in late January warned that China and Japan should work to avoid repeating the mistakes of WWI.

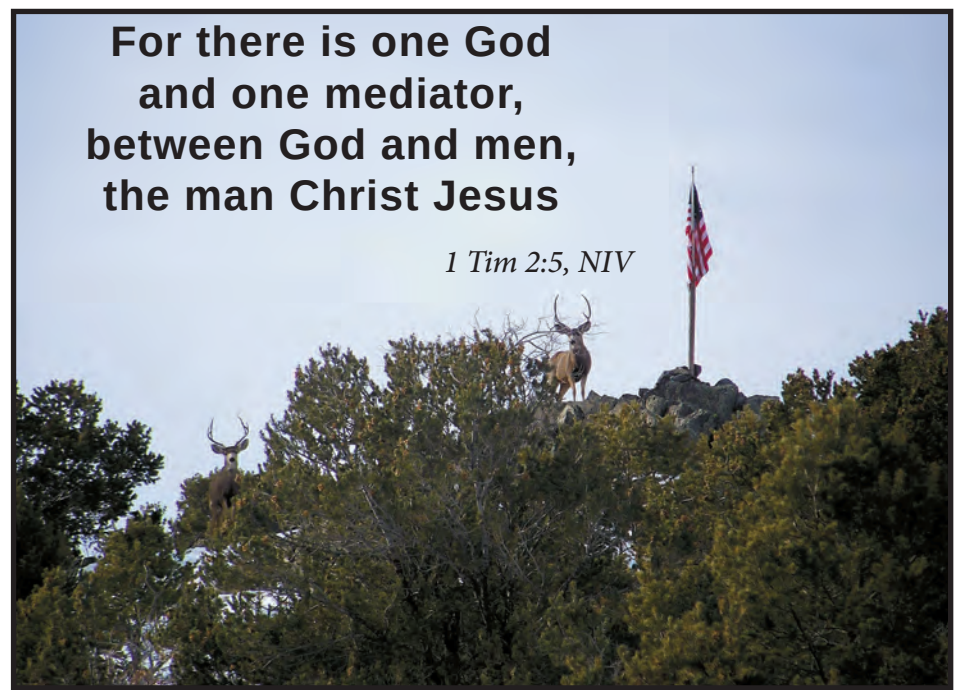
The United States is a close ally to Japan, maintains military bases on the archipelago, and is pledged to defend the island nation if it is attacked. The U.S. and Japan broadened their security alliance in October to include stationing drones at American military bases in the country.

China's economy is completely at the mercy of the ruling Communist Party in Beijing.

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For there is one God
and one mediator,
between God and men,
the man Christ Jesus

1 Tim 2:5, NIV



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1776

2014



We Will Not Be Disarmed - We the People Are the Militia

by Bradlee Dean,
FreedomOutpost.com

America knows that one great obstacle this criminal administration is trying to get over is the disarming of the American people. If it is not President Barack Hussein Obama blaming the American people for the crimes he and his administration are responsible for committing in Mexico, then it is his sidekick, Attorney General Eric Holder, trying to teach the media to brainwash America's young.

In concert they have an ally and fellow minion, the relentless criminal from New York, former Mayor Michael Bloomberg, who is assaulting the second amendment rights of those in other states within our union.

If only the American people would take the time to pull back the curtain on these criminals, we would find that they are neck deep in crimes against "We the People." We would find that we have an outlaw wanting to rule the law abiders by any means necessary.

The Second Amendment states:

"A well-regulated militia being necessary to the security of a free state, the right of the people to keep and bear arms shall not be infringed [broken, violated]."

There are certain criminal politicians that know they cannot get through the front door, so they attempt to come through in another way – namely, through their own interpretation. They say that it is only for the "militia" to bear arms. We are also told (through the state-run media, of course) that our modern-day militia is the "militia."

But are they really? Who are the militia? Aren't they we the people?

Congress has no power to disarm the militia.

"Their swords, and every other terrible implement of the soldier, are the birthright of an American. ... [T]he unlimited power of the sword is not in the hands of either the federal or state governments, but, where I trust in God it will ever remain, in the hands of the people."

– Tenche Coxe, Delegate for Pennsylvania to the Continental Congress, The Pennsylvania Gazette, Feb. 20, 1788.

Instead of highlighting dictators and their deceptive methods in disarming their people right before a mass genocide, let's take look at what some of our Founding Fathers said about guns, the average citizen's right to own them and who the militia really was and is.

John Adams:

"Arms in the hands of the citizens may be used at individual discretion for the defense of the country, the overthrow of tyranny or private self-defense."

Thomas Jefferson:

"The strongest reason for the people to retain the right to keep and bear arms is, as a last resort, to protect themselves against tyranny in government."

George Mason:

"When the resolution of enslaving America was formed in Great Britain, the British Parliament was advised by an artful man, who was governor of Pennsylvania, to disarm the people; that it was the best and most effectual way to enslave them; but that they should not do it openly, but weaken them, and let them sink gradually..."

"The people have a Right to mass and to bear arms; that a well Regulated militia composed of the Body of the people, trained to

arms, is the proper natural and safe defense of a free State. ..."

He goes on, **"I ask, who are the militia? They consist now of the whole people. ..."**

Friends, our forefathers did not arm the American people for the purpose of hunting, but rather to protect themselves from those who were doing the hunting: namely in their time, the tyrant King George.

The Second Amendment is only to vouchsafe our right to life, liberty, the pursuit of happiness and to ensure all of the other rights given unto us by our Creator. The wisdom of the framers of the Constitution is found consistent with lessons from the Bible that they used as their bedrock for civil law. The people's individual protection should always be a primary concern for a government "of the people."

In a righteous country, self-government reigns by the constraint of Christian morals. The civil government that desires such a monopoly of force (i.e. they are the only ones with guns) is a threat to the lives, liberty and property of its citizens. This government ceases to be "of and for the people."

President George Washington said:

"From the hour the Pillgrims landed, to the present day, events, occurrences and tendencies prove that to insure peace, security and happiness, the rifle and pistol are equally indispensable ... the very atmosphere of firearms everywhere restrains evil interference – they deserve a place of honor with all that is good."

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CT: Use Background Check Data to Enforce Gun Registration

by Dean Weingarten,
GunWatch.Blogspot.com

When second amendment supporters say that "Universal Background Checks" is just a step toward universal registration which leads to confiscation over time, those who want a disarmed population insist, no, it cannot happen. Background checks can never lead to registration.

In Connecticut, the Hartford Courant is calling for exactly that. From courant.com:

But the bottom line is that the state must try to enforce the law. Authorities should use the background check database as a way to find assault weapon purchasers who might not have regis-

tered those guns in compliance with the new law.

Any time legislators have attempted to create a way for background checks to be conducted without a paper or digital trail that can be used for later gun confiscation, those proposals have been shot down by the people who claim that "no one wants to ban your guns".

If "the state must try to enforce the law", what are the writer's views on enforcing the law on illegal immigration, marijuana possession, and voter fraud? I suspect that the writer only wants the laws that he likes enforced.

It is clear that the ban on future ownership of so-called

"assault weapons" in Connecticut is in direct violation of the second amendment of the Constitution. It is a clear infringement, if ever there was one. It is directly in violation of the highest law of the land.

The article in the Courant shows exactly why "universal background checks" are a very bad idea, and why private sales should remain private. They are the safety valve that prevents gun registration and gun confiscation.

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Missouri Senate Votes to Nullify Federal Gun Laws

Tim Brown,
FreedomOutpost.com

On Thursday, the Missouri Senate passed SB613, which is a version of the Second Amendment Preservation Act which would nullify federal gun laws, which was vetoed by Governor Jay Nixon last year. The vote on the bill was 23-10.

As I told you in January, this bill really has teeth in it. Not only does it forbid the use of state or local resources to help enforce federal gun laws, but additionally it will criminalize any actions of federal agents to enforce federal gun laws. State and local law enforcement will be given "discretionary power" to determine whether charges would be made.

SB613 counts as what could be the strongest defense against federal encroachments on the right to keep and bear arms ever considered at the state level. It reads, in part:

All federal acts, laws, executive orders, administrative orders, court orders, rules, and regulations, whether past, present, or future, which infringe on the people's right to keep and bear arms as guaranteed by the Second Amendment to the United States I and Section 23 of the Missouri Constitution shall be invalid in this state, shall not be recognized by this state, shall be specifically rejected by this state, and shall be considered null and void and of

no effect in this state.

Federal acts which would be considered "null and void and of no effect" include, but are not limited to:

(a) Any tax, levy, fee, or stamp imposed on firearms, firearm accessories, or ammunition not common to all other goods and services which might reasonably be expected to create a chilling effect on the purchase or ownership of those items by law-abiding citizens;

(b) Any registering or tracking of firearms, firearm accessories, or ammunition which might reasonably be expected to create a chilling effect on the purchase or ownership of those items by law-abiding citizens;

(c) Any registering or tracking of the owners of firearms, firearm accessories, or ammunition which might reasonably be expected to create a chilling effect on the purchase or ownership of those items by law-abiding citizens;

(d) Any act forbidding the possession, ownership, or use or transfer of a firearm, firearm accessory, or ammunition by law-abiding citizens; and

(e) Any act ordering the confiscation of firearms, firearm accessories, or ammunition from law-abiding citizens

According to the Tenth Amendment Center, the National Rifle Association came out against the legislation due to a proposed amendment:

Anti-gun Senator Jamilah Nasheed added language requiring gun owners to report a stolen firearm to police no more than 72 hrs after the discovery of the theft. The NRA claimed the amendment also included penalties.

"Those who are unable to report a lost or stolen firearm within this arbitrary amount of time, would be subject to penalties including: a \$1,000 fine, Class A misdemeanor and the loss of their Right to Carry Permit."

But the actual text of the amendment included no such language. Bill author Senators Brian Nieves and Nasheed agreed to reconsider and the amendment was removed earlier this week, removing the source of NRA opposition.

There is also an accompanying Senate Joint Resolution (SJR36) which would propose a change to the Missouri state constitution, which would obligate the state government to uphold the right to keep and bear arms. That resolution passed the Senate also on Thursday 29-4. If the House approved the resolution, it will go to the voters of Missouri this Fall for approval.

According to Missouri First, as a constitutional amendment to the Missouri Constitution's existing Article I, Sec. 23, SJR 36 does

See NULLIFY on page 19



DEATH BY NUMBERS: Bad News After Bad News on Obamacare Buries Udall

by ColoradoPeakPolitics

Remember that iconic scene in “Cool Hand Luke” when Paul Newman has to dig a ditch in the prison yard just to fill it back in? Just a complete exercise in futility. We’re guessing Senator Mark Udall and President Obama have, and that it tickled them so much they decided to model their trillion-dollar Obamacare after it.

In a new Forbes article this week it was revealed a full 89% of enrollees in the Obamacare exchanges had been previously insured. A law meant to expand insurance is really a funhouse of mirrors, where Udall and Obama cut 335,000 Coloradans’ health insurance, and then declare the law a success when those same people turn around and sign up for more costly health plans on the Obamacare exchanges.

In further humiliating news, it was revealed yesterday during House testimony that legislative analysts are expecting more people in Colorado to pay a health care fine than have to sign-up for the can’t-keep-my-doctor plans of Obamacare:

The legislative analysis guessed that about 254,700 adults in Colorado would pay federal fines next year for not getting coverage. That’s more than the 249,000 Coloradans projected to enroll in either Medicaid or a private health insurance plan. [the Peak emphasis]

Let’s keep the numbers rolling. Ed Sealover over at the Denver Business Journal reports even though over a 100,000 people have been added to Medicaid doesn’t mean they’ll get to see a doctor anytime soon.

Adams, Denver and Arapahoe counties have the third-, fourth- and fifth-worst ratios of Medicaid enrollees to doctors who accept the lower-reimbursement insurance, all with less than one primary-care physician taking the insurance for every 2,400 enrollees.

And those numbers are likely to be exacerbated further as more people sign up for Medicaid. [the Peak emphasis]

The problem with Medicaid is the reimbursement rate is so low that most doctors usually lose money on each Medicaid patient they see. When Medicaid patients don’t have access to doctors they end up going to ERs, increasing the number of people who use an ER by almost 40%! Wasn’t Obamacare supposed to do away with the traffic jam that happens in ERs?

Meanwhile only 23% of the young healthy ones needed to sign up to keep premiums from rising have signed up. #ThanksSenUdall

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Michael Snyder, FreedomOutPost.com

The American people are the most drugged people in the history of the planet. Illegal drugs get most of the headlines, but the truth is that the number of Americans that are addicted to legal drugs is far greater than the number of Americans that are addicted to illegal drugs. As you will see below, close to 70 percent of all Americans are currently on at least one prescription drug. In addition, there are 60 million Americans that “abuse alcohol” and 22 million Americans that use illegal drugs. What that means is that almost everyone that you meet is going to be on something. That sounds absolutely crazy but it is true. We are literally being drugged out of our minds. In fact, as you will read about below, there are 70 million Americans that are taking “mind-altering drugs” right now. If it seems like most people cannot think clearly these days, it is because they can’t. We love our legal drugs and it is getting worse with each passing year. And considering the fact that big corporations are making tens of billions of dollars peddling their drugs to the rest of us, don’t expect things to change any time soon. The following are 19 statistics about the drugging of America that are almost too crazy to believe...

#1. An astounding 70 million Americans are taking legal mind-altering drugs right now.

#2. According to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, doctors wrote more than 250 million prescriptions for antidepressants during 2010.

#3. According to a study

19 Statistics About The Drugging Of America That Are Almost Too Crazy To Believe

conducted by the Mayo Clinic, nearly 70 percent of all Americans are on at least one prescription drug. An astounding 20 percent of all Americans are on at least five prescription drugs.

#4. Americans spent more than 280 billion dollars on prescription drugs during 2013.

#5. According to the CDC, approximately 9 out of every 10 Americans that are at least 60 years old say that they have taken at least one prescription drug within the last month.

#6. There are 60 million Americans that “abuse alcohol”.

#7. According to the Department of Health and Human Services, 22 million Americans use illegal drugs.

#8. Incredibly, more than 11 percent of all Americans that are 12-years-of-age or older admit that they have driven home under the influence of alcohol at least once during the past year.

#9. According to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, there is an unintentional drug overdose death in the United States every 19 minutes.

#10. In the United States today, prescription painkillers kill more Americans than heroin and cocaine combined.

#11. According to the CDC, approximately three quarters of a million people a year are rushed to emergency rooms in the United States because of adverse reactions to pharmaceutical drugs.

#12. According to Alternet, “11 of the 12 new-to-market drugs approved by the

Food and Drug Administration were priced above \$100,000 per-patient per-year” in 2012.

#13. The percentage of women taking antidepressants in America is higher than in any other country in the world.

#14. Many of these antidepressants contain warnings that “suicidal thoughts” are one of the side effects that should be expected. The suicide rate for Americans between the ages of 35 and 64 rose by close to 30 percent between 1999 and 2010. The number of Americans that are killed by suicide now exceeds the number of Americans that die as a result of car accidents every year.

#15. In 2010, the average teen in the United States was taking 1.2 central nervous system drugs. Those are the kinds of drugs which treat conditions such as ADHD and depression.

#16. Children in the United States are three times more likely to be prescribed antidepressants as children in Europe are.

#17. A shocking Government Accountability Office report discovered that approximately one-third of all foster children in the United States are on at least one psychiatric drug.

#18. A survey conducted for the National Institute on Drug Abuse found that more than 15 percent of all U.S. high school seniors abuse prescription drugs.

#19. It turns out that dealing drugs is extremely profitable. The 11 largest pharmaceutical companies combined will rake in approximately \$85,000,000,000 in profits in 2012.

In America today, doctors are trained that there are just two potential solutions to any problem. Either you prescribe a pill or you cut someone open. Surgery and drugs are pretty much the only alternatives they offer us.

And an endless barrage of television commercials have trained all of us to think that there is a “pill for every problem”.

Are you in pain?

Just take a pill.

Are you feeling blue?

Just take a pill.

Do you need a spark in your marriage?

Just take a pill.

And most Americans assume that all of these pills are perfectly safe.

After all, the government would never approve something that wasn’t safe, right?

Sadly, what most Americans don’t realize is that there is a revolving door between big pharmaceutical corporations and the government agencies that supposedly “regulate” them. Many of those that are now in charge of our “safety” have spent their entire careers peddling legal drugs to all of us.

We have become a nation of drugged out zombies, and it is all perfectly legal. The funny thing is that many of these “legal drugs” have just slightly different formulations from their “illegal” counterparts.

Read more at <http://freedomoutpost.com/2014/02/19-statistics-drugging-america-almost-crazy-believe/#d9xMDt2tBxBdK-Syr.99>

There is no distinctly American criminal class except Congress.

~Mark Twain

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Ask a Pro: How to verify any contractor is trustworthy?

In addition to verifying contractors reputation one should also check that he is financially sound. Does he pay his bills; is he operating under Chapter 11 Bankruptcy protection? Has he filed for bankruptcy in the past? One simple check is to verify his ad in the Yellow Pages if he does not advertize in the Yellow Pages there may be a reason. Does he have liability insurance? Check his insurance. Also check with his suppliers and subcontractors; do they get paid on time- if at all? If not, their only recourse is to place a lien on “your property”. Times are slow and some contractors will do anything to survive. Recently a customer told me that someone had

a 1200 foot well drilled in Cody Park. 1200 foot, really? Who would drill that deep and why? We have several Wells that were drilled at the highest elevations in Cody Park; they are just over 500 feet in depth. So for a driller to drill 1200 feet where’s a reasoning other than greed.

-David Nequette (deep Dave) Lic.1043

Send Questions to Nequette@ris.net
Nequette Drilling & Dave’s Pump Service
719-783-3000
www.nequettedrilling.com

Are Smart Guns Another Step Towards Gun Control?

Chris Carrington,
FreedomOutpost.com

Having a gun that only fires when the owner pulls the trigger may sound like a good idea. After all, if a gun won't work for anyone else, then you know for sure who shot whom.

Taking a closer look shows the flaws in the plan.

For a start, the gun owner will no longer know his family is protected when he is out of the house...only he can fire the gun rendering it useless for the family left at home.

Looking at the wider perspective, how long will it be before the government restricts sales of guns to ONLY those who can be fired by the registered owner of the weapon? This will be done under the guise of making law enforcement simpler, police will KNOW who fired the weapon removing ambiguity. Will such a move render forensic techniques such as checking for gunshot residue a thing of the past in cases where smart guns are involved?

What happens when the gun is fired but none of the other evidence stacks up? This will happen, we already know from other smart appliances that there is always someone who can work around the system.

It's very unlikely criminals will comply with this gun law any more than they have complied with other gun laws, or any other laws. The law abiding public at large will be at a distinct disadvantage.

A smart gun that works when an electronic wrist worn device is close by has hit the shelves in California. But many in the government would like the technology to go even further by incorporating a fingerprint scanner into the grip.

The National Rifle Association also feels that smart guns will lead to tighter and tighter restrictions: *"government mandates that require the use of expensive, unreliable features, such as grips that would read your fingerprints before the gun will fire," according to the*

website of its lobbying arm, the Institute for Legislative Action. "And NRA recognizes that the 'smart guns' issue clearly has the potential to mesh with the anti-gunner's agenda, opening the door to a ban on all guns that do not possess the government-required technology."

Implementation of any kind of technology that restricts the firing of a gun to its registered owner is a step backwards for the safety of families across the nation.

I am all for gun safety, and as soon as the government comes up with something that stymies the criminals, and not the law abiding citizens of the United States, I will sign up for it. Until then my non-smart guns will remain the mainstay of my home defense system, be that legal or otherwise.

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CANDIDATE

From page 1

statistics to justify the fee differences, but he suggests bringing Silver Cliff up to 4% of their annual budget. He also pointed out that Silver Cliff missed the most recent fee increase and this clerical error makes the situation look even more unbalanced. Thompson said that municipalities paying fees for sheriff's services was a common practice, but pointed out that in the absence of a special fee, the sheriff must still provide policing service to the town and finding out what the community wanted was the first step. Byerly pointed out that this disagreement was the result of poor communications between the sheriff and the town and that the town needs to say what they want in law enforcement and the sheriff would indicate to the town what the costs would be. He was the first candidate to point out that there is no excuse for the town not understanding the current sheriff's thinking on the matter. As Trustee, Steve Trombley was the only candidate to have read the contract between Westcliffe and the sheriff's office.

All candidates agreed that if the Town of Westcliffe went the Town Marshal route that the sheriff's office in all of their administrations would be a "collaborative effort" and work together. The candidates also agreed that a Town Marshal would be a higher expense than what is paid now for Westcliffe due to

a marshal being one person, as well as additional costs for backup personnel (vacations, sick time, etc.) jail facilities, dispatch, and vehicle needs. All agreed that withholding policing services for the Town was not an option irrespective of the agreement in place. When asked if any candidate had an alternate plan for an equitable fee assessment for the towns, all suggested that a prerequisite to any agreement was better communications. This issue of poor communications between the town and the sheriff's office continued to be repeated throughout the forum by all candidates.

Ideas like providing the town with more detailed reporting on arrests, incidents, accidents, etc., along with back-up reports were brought up by the candidates pretty regularly. All indicated to the direct question, "As Sheriff would you be willing to negotiate more equitable fees with the towns?" that "yes," they would be willing to negotiate.

Regarding the issue of legal recreational marijuana, all four candidates were unified in their belief that crime follows marijuana...legal or illegal. All indicated that bringing it into either town is not their personal choice and realistically they believe that legal marijuana in surrounding communities can hurt Custer County and would increase the costs of law enforcement. Candidate Byerly (Cañon City police sergeant) recalled an incident in Cañon City

where two men stole a car, rammed it through the front of a medical marijuana outlet, stole the marijuana and made a clean getaway. Naturally, the case is still open and hopefully the perpetrators will be brought to justice. All candidates said that as sheriff they would do their best to limit the problems that the legalization will unavoidably create.

The final issue discussed is the poor enforcement of local Westcliffe ordinances. Trombley said that the towns need to revisit their ordinances and update them. Supan said that the towns needed to be clearer about what their expectations were with regard to local ordinances. Both Trombley and Supan agreed that many ordinances were virtually unenforceable. Supan also reminded the town that ordinance enforcement could have negative public relations consequences. Byerly said that "enforcing the local ordinances were just part of the job" and that judging the practicality of ordinances was not the responsibility of patrol deputies or the sheriff's office. Thompson said that the first step toward local ordinance enforcement was "more clarity."

The session lasted about 2 ½ hours. Some residents of the county were disappointed that they didn't get to ask questions, but this was a Town of Westcliffe specific session. Mayor Veltrie thanked the candidates and the meeting was adjourned.

A Sheepdog Barks!

BARK!

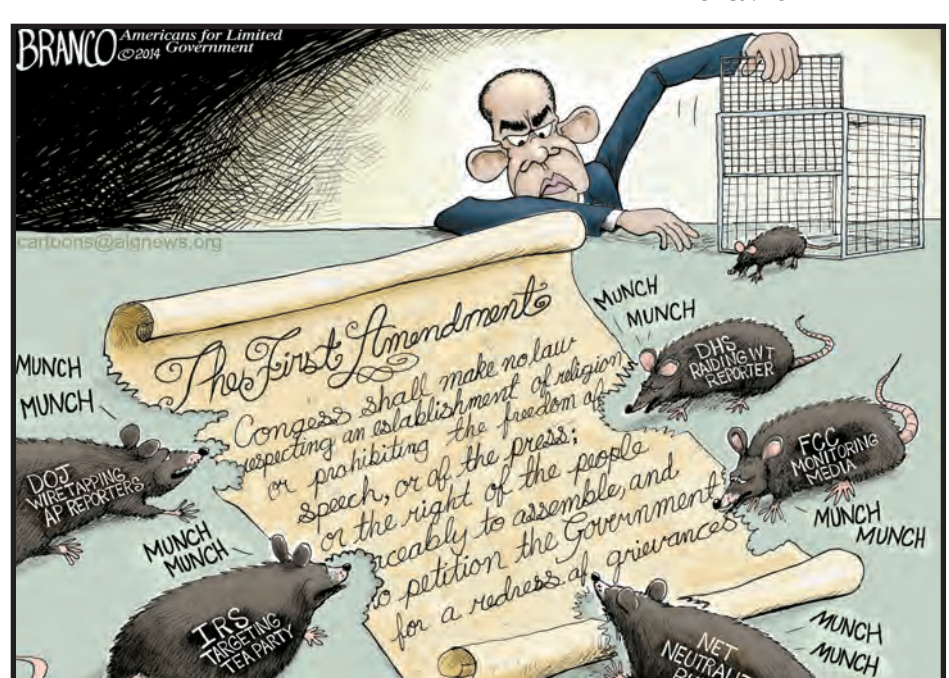
BARK! BARK! BARK! BARK! There, I feel better. Sometimes it helps just to get it out. Remember the movie "Network" where the TV Anchorman finally had had enough and screamed into the camera, "I'm mad as hell and I'm not going to take it anymore!" This is why sheepdogs are barking so much. If you are not mad you are not paying attention. Every day there is some new insanity coming out of Obama's Administration. It keeps a good sheepdog hoarse from trying to warn the sheep! In school we were taught that "the pen is mightier than the sword!" Today our pups are being taught that the pen and the cell phone are mightier than the Constitution. What are we putting up with? Earlier this week Attorney General Eric Holder told the State Attorneys General they shouldn't enforce LAWS they don't believe in. WHAT? HOWL!! This is completely unbelievable and very wrong. The oath of office always mandates obeying their state Constitution to the best of their ability. It doesn't refer to picking and choosing what laws to enforce based on personal beliefs. The rule of law is paramount. Attorneys General must enforce all laws. Who does he think he is even suggesting this? Shameful! Holder, an activist left over from the Clinton administration has been a terrible Attorney General. He has done terrible damage to the department, failed to prosecute clear voter intimidation, lied about Fast and Furious to the American people and to Congress, directs phony investigations and cover-ups of the IRS and all things dear to Obama. He is now granting asylum to criminal gang members based on fear. WHAT? We have made a terrible mistake in America. It will take many years to undo the harm of Obama and his cronies. And now Obama-world is in full out-of-control-spin. Obama has now withdrawn his phony offer to "do something about entitlements" and attacked

the Defense Department spending. It was very clear when he selected Hagel as the Secretary of Defense that this has been his plan for some time. Obama won't cut any entitlement spending but will reduce our military strength to pre WWII levels. We should have the size and structure of our military based on the threats to the United States, not on a budget number. Yes, Defense spending can be curtailed. There is fraud, waste, and abuse in every government program. EVERY government program. WOOF! But, this new plan from Obama and his "lap wolf" Hagel cuts to the bone. We strongly believe that America has a serious budget problem. We all need to share the pain, not just the military. The terrorist threat around the world is like no other defined threat we have ever faced. It is insane to reduce the size of our serving military force. Our current soldiers are serving 8-10 deployments or more in a 20-year career. This is difficult and the suffering to them and their families is stressful and causes retention problems. A smaller force will only exacerbate the problem. Hopefully Congress will not allow this to happen. And the Liberal Progressive Socialist Democrats (LPSDs) just keep rolling along with their stupid ideas and comments. Recently Pelosi said "there is just nothing more that can be cut from the budget". HOWL! What planet does she really live on? The pork and other wasteful and disgusting spending in the Farm Bill alone would have been a good place to start. And some no-name LPSD in the U.S. House recently suggested that the government (that's us taxpayers, folks) give every newborn in America \$500 each. HOWL! You can't make this stuff up. Can you even imagine the bureaucracy needed to oversee a crazy program like this? More regulations, more government employees, much more fraud and abuse. And these kind of idiots are supposed to be addressed as "The Honor-



able" so and so from the great State of "Madness." Obama's budget doesn't even pretend to cut costs. He plans to spend even more if Congress lets him get away with it. Now that he has no reelection concerns Obama is on a rampage. The Washington LPSDs have even floated out the idea that the ERA of Austerity needs to end. Austerity? Are you kidding me? We do not presently live in an austere age. However it's coming, and sooner than most think, if America keeps electing these buffoons. Obama's "war on energy" and his Obamacare are cruising merrily along and the "explosion" of costs to the taxpayers and consumers is rapidly approaching. Our only hope to stop the runaway Obama freight train is to stop the U.S. Senate from enabling him. The Senate is at risk. We must prevail. In Colorado we can help gain one of the six seats needed to personally retire Harry Reid from power. A Republican Senate can put the brakes on Obama's socialist and redistribution of wealth agenda. We must all help make that happen. Stay informed. Help your family and friends understand how critical the Senate race in Colorado is. No more apathy. No more attitudes of "what difference does it make?" Surely we all see the difference it makes. Let's stop electing Justin Beibers and elect some serious, Constitution-loving, conservative citizens before we are forever doomed. Let's get it right in 2014. Elections have serious consequences. Do your part! WOOF!

May God Have Mercy on America! JMH



The Sentinel on Man and Woman

The Difference Between Men and Women's Brains Revealed?

Do Men Really Have Bigger Brains Than Women? One Study Found Out

(Editor/GG: It's all here folks, everything you ever wanted to know about the difference between and man and a woman, well, maybe not all. Guys, this should be your main conversation topic on that first date....)

by Jason Howerton,
TheBlaze.com

In an attempt to better understand the differences between the brains of men and women, scientists scanned the brains of 949 young men and women in the biggest investigation of its kind thus far.

Researchers at the University of Pennsylvania found that the female brain is "hard-wired" to be better at multi-tasking, while men are better at concentrating on single, complex activities.

Women everywhere are probably nodding their heads in approval and muttering, "I told you so" under their breath, but there is also some advantages found in the male brain.

Using "hi-tech diffusion MRI imaging," scientists mapped the connections

between different parts of the brain and discovered that women have much better connections between the left and right sides of the brain. However, men showed more activity within the brain's individual parts, particularly in the cerebellum, the part of the brain that controls motor skills.

Motor skills would include things like parking a car, learning to ride a bike and reading a map.

More from the Daily Mail:

Men also have better connections between the front and back of the brain, giving them a better ability to quickly perceive information and use it immediately to carry out complex tasks.

This means they are better at things such as learning to swim or, as the old bone of contention has it, parking a car. Women are better at, for example, remembering a face, which means making connections between different parts of the brain.

The results are likely to be seen as supporting the theory behind best-selling pop psychology book Men

are from Mars, Women are from Venus – that the sexes are as different as alien races.

Of course, no study is perfect and there will certainly be individuals whose brain functioning appear at odds with the findings of the research.

Dr. Ragini Verma told the Daily Mail that she and her colleagues wanted to see "what would the male brain look like and what would the female brain look like" if 1,000 people were analyzed.

"The research shows that if women and men are given a task that involves both logical thinking and intuitive thinking, women will do it better – they are better at connecting the left and the right sides of the brain," she added.

The study included 428 men and 521 females between the ages of 8 and 22.

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by Liz Klimas,
The Blaze.com

In December of last year, a university study revealed the hard-wired differences between the male and female brain. But what of the physical, structural differences?

A study from the University of Cambridge published this week answered these questions. As it turns out, men really do have bigger brains.

"For the first time we can look across the vast literature and confirm that brain size and structure are different in males and females," PhD student Amber Ruigrok said in a statement. "We should no longer ignore sex in neuroscience research, especially when investigating psychiatric conditions that are more prevalent in either males or females."

A review of published research from 1990 and 2013 involving people from birth to 80-years-old, showed the total brain volume of males

was 8 to 13 percent larger than that of females. Here's more of a breakdown of where the volume was different between the sexes, according to the university's news release:

On average, males had larger absolute volumes than females in the intracranial space (12%; >14,000 brains), total brain (11%; 2,523 brains), cerebrum (10%; 1,851 brains), grey matter (9%; 7,934 brains), white matter (13%; 7,515 brains), regions filled with cerebrospinal fluid (11.5%; 4,484 brains), and cerebellum (9%; 1,842 brains).

Now, just where the difference in this volume occurred in male and female brains was especially interesting to scientists. Males had higher volumes in some areas while females had higher volumes in others, for example in the limbic system.

Professor John Suckling explained that the limbic system is often associated with psychiatric conditions with what he called "biased

sex ratios," noting autism, schizophrenia and depression as examples.

"This new study may therefore help us understand not just typical sex differences but also sex-linked psychiatric conditions," Suckling said in a statement. "It is important to note that we only investigated sex differences in brain structure, so we cannot infer anything about how this relates to behavior or brain function. Integrating across different levels will be an important goal for future research."

Though the study had a large sample size, reviewing 126 articles pertaining to the topic, Dr. Meng-Chuan Lai said that most subjects were 18 years or older, leaving room for more research on brain development between the sexes during formative years.

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NULLIFY

From page 16
these things:

1. Elevates the right to keep and bear arms to "unalienable rights" status. While you and I would and should maintain that a "right is a right", the courts don't look at it that way. The courts give more weight to some

constitutional rights than others. Government actions infringing on what they consider lesser rights are not scrutinized as closely as the "weightier" rights. For example, when a citizen claims his rights are being violated by some law, the courts can "test" the law against two basic standards of review. The least strict standard is often referred to as the "Rational Basis

Test", and the tougher standard — the one that best protects your rights — is the "Compelling State Interest Test".

2. The Second thing SJR36 does is "obligate" the state to protect the right to keep and bear arms from all infringements — including those from the federal government. Coupled with the "unalienable" provision,

this clause will also help to defend any bills like SB613 to nullify unconstitutional federal gun control laws if those bills are challenged in state courts. This is an important provision that helps to empower state nullification of unconstitutional federal edicts.

3. It adds "ammunition and accessories" as explicitly constitutional protected.

And adds the phrase "any restriction on these rights shall be subject to strict scrutiny" to the state Constitution. This phrase reinforces the concept in (1), above, which is a tremendous help in keeping the courts from redefining our gun rights.

4. "The powers not delegated to the United States by the Constitution, nor pro-

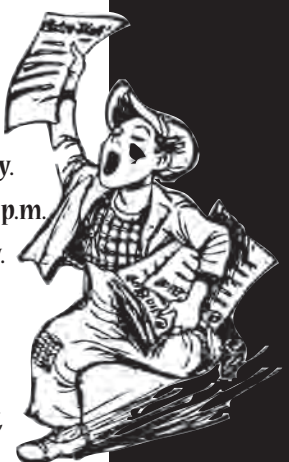
hibited by it to the States, are reserved to the States respectively, or to the people."—Tenth Amendment to the United States Constitution

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Local Mountain News & Notices

News from the Colorado Senate, from Larry Crowder

The Soldiers of the Colorado Army National Guard held a Departure Ceremony for a Special Operations Detachment heading to South Korea on Friday, February 21. This was part of the detachment of an estimated 800 troops, nationwide that have been deployed to South Korea since the first of the year. U.S. Senator Bennet, and Lt. Governor Garcia and myself were in attendance. It was quite an inspirational program which included family of these brave men and woman, who left taking with the spirit of this country with them. I was grateful and proud to be part of this send-off. God's speed.

In other news: In Summit County, there is a situation brewing that may take legislation to correct. Mr. Andy Barrie owns and holds title

to 10.3 acres surrounded by national forest as well as wilderness area. The County Commissioners have and are seeking to claim eminent domain on this property for the purpose of expanding open space. The access to the property crosses Wilderness Area and the Forest Service has denied motorized access to this property, which I have no problem with, but I vigorously object to the taking of property for open space.

We are trying to work this out, by personal contact, but we will see how this develops.

We are dealing with many issues, concerning veteran issues, health care, county issues, and more. We have been very successful to date as almost all our initiatives have passed the senate.

From: Representative
Jim Wilson – HD 60
February 23, 2014

The big news at the Capitol this past week was the introduction of the “Student Success Act”. This is shaping up to be another one of those “dramas under the Golden Dome” – you just cannot make up better story lines! This yet-to-be-introduced bill is a bi-partisan attempt to restore some of the funding that has been cut from school budgets during the recession. The bill proposes \$148 M in “recurring costs,” which means they would have to be funded every year thereafter as well as an additional \$115 M in one-time spending. The bill also proposes an \$80 million buy-down of the “negative factor,” the formula the legislature has used in recent years to reduce K-12 funding from what it otherwise would have been. The bill contains no provision for full-day kindergarten funding (schools currently receive funding at 58% per pupil rather than 100%). The breakdown of the bill from Chalkbeat Colorado is as follows:

• \$80 million to buy down

the negative factor

• \$20 million in additional continual funding for implementation of the READ Act, which requires students to be reading at grade level by third grade

• \$13 million for charter facilities funding

• \$40 million for school infrastructure, kindergarten facilities (\$30 million), technology (\$5 million), and yet more for charter schools (\$5 million). This part of the proposal is likely to raise fierce opposition from interests who feel the \$40 million in marijuana tax revenue should go to the Building Excellent Schools Today program under the terms of Proposition AA.

• \$100 million in one-time funding (interestingly labeled the “negative factor supplemental fund”) for districts to implement reforms that already are on the books

• \$15 million to implement school-level financial reports and convert the current system of one-day enrollment counts to the average daily member-

ship system

Now for the drama -- school districts, superintendents and the teachers union are pushing for a buy down of the negative factor anywhere from \$200 to \$275 M. Since the proposed bill only provides for an \$80 M figure, I think you get the picture... But wait – there's more! In the Senate, folks on both sides of the aisle are not really happy with Sen. Johnston (the creator of SB13-213 from last year that drove the Amendment 66 ballot issue). In fact, according to Chalkbeat Colorado, “Around the Capitol, the bill commonly is called the ‘Son of 213,’ a reference to the comprehensive, \$1 billion overhaul of the state's school funding system that remains on the shelf because voters last year rejected the tax increase necessary to pay for it. (Sponsors of the new bill hate that nickname.)” So-o-o, even if we can get the bi-partisan compromise bill out of the House, the Senate drama awaits...

On a lighter note, last Friday I was excited to be able to recognize on the House floor some past recipients of the Demont Award. The



recipients have been recognized for demonstrating exceptional leadership in Colorado's Rural and Small Schools. Their high moral character, compassion for children and positive contributions to education has set an example for administrators throughout the state. An unwavering dedication to the success of their students and school districts has resulted in being commended for “Leaving It Better Than They Found It”.

You can call me @ (303-866-2747) or e-mail wilsonforhd60@gmail.com or james.wilson.house@state.co.us.

Yours for HD 60 -- Representative Jim Wilson

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