



Large Turnout for Republican Caucuses

by George Gramlich

The March 4th Custer County Republican caucuses were well attended Tuesday night.

Precinct 3 which met at the

4 guests while the Precinct 1 caucus had 79 registered republicans and 6 guests. The attendance at Precinct 2, Wetmore, was unavailable at press time.

The Precinct 3 caucus was presided over by Carol En-

demning the new Colorado gun laws passed last year, specifically the magazine restriction law and the expanded background check law, was unanimously passed by voice vote in both precincts.

Precinct 1 elected Delegates are: Sandra Attebery, Lynn Attebery, JD Henrich, Fred Jobe, Don Camper, Jake Shy, Deloris Jobe, Art Nordyke, Glen Livengood, Suzie Coleman, Wendy Geary, Allen Butler, and Ken Coleman.

Precinct 2 elected Delegates are: Chuck Steigerwalt, Dave Trujillo, Virginia Trujillo, and Melanie Fall.

Precinct 3 elected Delegates are: Randy Rusk, Rock Canda, Bob Senderhauf, Mary Seifert, Jerry

Seifert, Charles Cox, Eston Harrington, Tom Davis, Dick Downey, Dave North, Nancy North, and Tate Rusk.

The delegates will meet at the Republican Party County Assembly on Tuesday, March 25, to vote to decide what candidates will appear on the Republican primary ballot (through the caucus process). The candidates running for office through the caucus process are: for Sheriff - Toni Supan and Shannon Byerly, for Commissioner - Allen Butler and Bob Kattnig, and for Coroner - Art Nordyke and Brad Baltzly. Candidates seeking to make the primary ballot via the petition process are: for Sheriff - Steve Trombley and Erik Thomp-



Sheriff Candidates, Shannon Byerly and Tony Supan.

Sentinel photo by George Gramlich

son, and for Commissioner, Jack Canterbury.

The Republican Primary date is June 24, and is mail in ballot only.



Carol Englen and Sheron Berry compile the list of people nominated for delegate.

Sentinel photo by George Gramlich

Custer County School's multi-use room had 85 registered republicans plus

glen while the Precinct 1 caucus was run by Andrew Zeller. A resolution con-

Water Forum Held in Westcliffe

by Paul Sage

The Fourth Custer County Water Forum was held March 1 in the Custer County School Multipurpose Room. The theme of the forum was "Water on the Land and in the Ground".

The forum included a group of seven speakers specializing in various subjects related to water dynamics, use and law in Colorado.

Bill Donley, the Custer County Director for the Upper Arkansas Water District, and Jerry Livengood, the Lead Water Commissioner for Water District 13, which covers this area, brought updates on local water issues and court cases. Two of the most important subjects of these are the re-allocation of Hermit Basin snow making water held in Conquistador Reservoir #2 for other uses and what is called the Fountain-Widefield change case. In this case the named towns want to reallocate irrigation water rights for city consumption.

Ken Watts, Groundwater Specialist from the U.S. Geological service office in Pueblo, gave a presentation on how various ground and rock types transmit and hold various amounts of water which affects the productivity of wells in these

various rock strata. He explained the local rainfall amounts and where it all goes, leaving us, as always, in our semi-arid condition. While the annual precipitation in the Sangre de Cristos average 40 inches, with 15 inches in the valley and 20 inches in the Wet Mountains, totaling an estimated 330,000 acre feet of water, about 90% of this moisture, or 300,000-acre feet of water evaporates right off the top. Much of the rest finds its way into Texas Creek and Grape Creek to leave the area.

In Custer County, we have one of the few relatively untouched watersheds in the States protecting this natural resource, and Ben Lenth and his staff at the San Isabel Land Protection Trust are working with Land owners in the area to keep it that way. Calling it, "an issue of National Security". Mr. Lenth explained the mission of the San Isabel Land Protection Trust as tying the water to the land to permanently prevent it from being sold out from under the land.

As land ownership and water rights are separate issues, water rights attached to land can be sold off, sometimes leaving the land relatively useless. Urban areas are always looking

for water to satisfy the desires of the growing number of city dwellers and their lawns. These water rights are frequently bought from rural and agricultural areas to their ultimate detriment. The mission of the San Isabel Land Protection Trust is to partner with land owners to protect this resource and ultimately their long term land value.

Huerfano County Commissioner Max Vezzani made a presentation about how the residents of his county voted to create their own water conservation district to protect their resources. He cited the use of what are called 1041 regulations to protect the autonomy of the county in the face of State Legislature interference.

State of Colorado Division 2 Engineer Steve Witte, gave a presentation on ponds on your property. In this presentation he outlined the guidelines and regulations tied to property owners creating any kind of water retention structures on private property. The rules are long and complex, addressing the safety of such structures and how they could potentially affect down-stream water users.

Finally, the slate of speakers was rounded out by Colorado Supreme Court Justice Gregory Hobbs. Justice

Hobbs added an historical perspective to water rights law in Colorado going back to the 1800's. He outlined how water law developed out of necessity as people settled the semi-arid region and needed water for farming, mining and town use. As the Colorado Mountains are the beginning of most of the water available in the western U.S., the watersheds here support part of all the water needs of 18 states and the Republic of Mexico. Two-thirds of the water originating in Colorado must be delivered downstream according to various water compacts, federal and state laws which were formed in the 1800's and fought over in courts and otherwise ever since.

"We are over-appropriated," according to Justice Hobbs, and that means water is a scarce resource even in years of plenty, let alone in years of drought. This leads to the necessity of smart water resource man-



Colorado Supreme Court Justice Gregory Hobbs shows historical map of Colorado and historical water facts that effect Custer County.

Sentinel photos by Candi Sage

agement and conservation at all times. As populations grow, this becomes always more challenging and important. Water laws set up on principals of 'first in time - first in use' for beneficial use, do and will continue to rule over the use of water even as it becomes more scarce and in demand requiring more creative conservation efforts.

For more information on how water laws effect you, contact these departments: The Custer County Conservation District at 719-783-2481, The San Isabel Land Protection Trust number is 719-783-3018, and the CSU Extension office in the courthouse can be reached at 719-783-2514. All three have helpful information and literature on this important subject.



Daylight Saving Time Begins Sunday, March 9

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Would Jesus Bake a Cake for Homosexuals? page 18

PATRIOT ALERT! Connecticut Gun Confiscation "We Are Armed..." page 16



And do this, knowing the time, that now it is high time to awake out of sleep: for now our salvation is nearer than when we first believed.

Romans 13:11, NKJ

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the same mountains!

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

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

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Our Opinion...

From the Editorial Board

ARIZONA & OUR CONSTITUTIONAL RIGHTS

It's sad what happened in Arizona last week. Governor Jan Brewer had a chance to uphold one of our most sacred rights but she caved in to those pushing phony personal agendas and to the big money. We understand why Governor Brewer did what she did. She was just wrong in doing it. Our leviathan government with all its rules is so big that it is many times in conflict with itself. Couple that with the complete misinterpretation of our Constitutional freedoms and liberties by the liberal progressives in America and we have the big mess we are all faced with today. We, unfortunately, may be reaching the state we are warned about in Mark 3:24. The New International Version (NIV) translation is "If a kingdom is divided against itself, that kingdom cannot stand." The New Living Translation (NLT) puts it like this, "A kingdom at war with itself will collapse." We are certainly getting close to being so completely divided in America that we might be headed to a failed state. Many of us believe that our leaders in Washington, D.C. are already there. And we don't want any more "working together" for compromise sake. Compromise with the liberal progressive agenda is hurting this country and will eventually lead to our collapse. Look at what happened in Arizona. One of our 1st Amendment rights is the freedom of religion and was the core reason the early pilgrims left Europe to seek a new place free from govern-

ment intervention in practicing their religion. This freedom was pretty much understood and practiced in America until the 20th century. That's when "Big Government" started to flourish. After WWI, and especially after WWII, Big Government started to grow like the "Blob." It started interfering in our lives, our freedoms, and our rights more and more. From the 1950s through the 1980s, one government agency after another was created and along with it an enormous amount of regulations and overhead. In the last decade of the 20th Century and the first decade of the 21st Century it has grown to even more gargantuan proportions. It is now an insatiable monster that is most certainly beyond the control of any and all leadership from our Nation's Capital.

"We The People" cannot sustain this monster much longer. It must be downsized and not with a scalpel, but with a machete. But we digress. Back to the 1st Amendment. Our religious freedoms were being infringed upon so badly by government that leaders in the 103rd Congress decided it needed to pass the Religious Freedom Restoration Act of 1993. This Act basically reminded the government, and us all, that the people had an unalienable right to the free exercise of religion secured by our framers in the U.S. Constitution. It was passed unanimously by the U.S. House and passed 97-3 in the U.S. Senate and Clinton signed it. Pretty clear,

don't you think? But earlier, as part of the Public Accommodation Section of the Civil Rights Act of 1964, Congress passed legislation that essentially said all businesses must serve everyone. Which is it? Do we have to violate our sacred 1st Amendment rights because someone wants to buy a cake or force a photographer to video a gay wedding? No, this is wrong. Who is really being violated? We all know there are plenty of bakers and plenty of photographers to do business with. Why must a Christian or a Muslim, or Jew for that matter, be forced to violate their religious beliefs just so another citizen can buy a cake? It makes no sense. So, down in Arizona the state legislature wanted to align their state law with the 1993 federal law protecting religious freedoms for their business owners. Arizona Senate Bill SB1062 simply spelled out the details as it aligned itself with the 1993 law for protecting their 1st Amendment rights. State legislators wanted to pro-

tect the religious freedom of their citizens before this kind of infringement began to happen in Arizona. The right to buy a cake from a specific baker that doesn't want to sell to you because it violates their beliefs IS NOT in the Constitution. However, the right to not violate one's religious beliefs IS in the Constitution. This is simple. Go to some other baker! Why should one person's perceived right trump the other's actual right. Would it be right to force a Muslim to serve pork or alcohol just because someone demanded it? No, this is not complicated, but is being made so by the liberal progressives and their false agenda to push their brand of tolerance and discriminatory views on us all. This Arizona legislation was not anti-gay, it was not "anti" anything. It protected religious freedom. But, many in that community and their supporters used "tolerance", and other twisted gibberish, as a weapon against the rights of Christians. Governor Brewer

simply blew this one. She vetoed the legislation based on political correctness and the fear of the loss of the almighty dollar. The opponents of the legislation, which included Apple and the NFL, failed to understand or purposely misinformed others of what was going on here. It proved that poorly informed hysteria works. The Governor let special interest groups hijack the real purpose of this religious freedom legislation. Other misinformed individuals jumped on the discrimination aspect and forced Governor Brewer to make the wrong decision for the Christians in her state. Where are we now in this country? Divided for sure. The erosion of religious freedom in America continues on. The persecution of Christians and their beliefs and values is under full scale attack, even by some provisions in Obamacare. We can only hope the Supreme Court of the United States upholds the Constitution.



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Profile on an Ideal Sheriff

by Joe Cascarelli

I have been watching people at the sheriff’s meet and greets and other forums where candidates present themselves. It is axiomatic that candidates for public office must provide a compelling reason for voters to vote for them. But, voters must also have some metric or model to determine who the “best” candidate is. All too often, busy distracted voters use gut-feel and initial impressions to select a candidate. These same voters frequently complain when the elected candidate doesn’t live up to their expectation...whatever those expectations were. Without a systematic way of identifying who the best candidate is, disappointment is virtually guaranteed.

When faced with an election (or hiring) decision, here is what I do. I read the job description of the office in question. Next, I assemble a list of

characteristics, skills, knowledge and past experience that the person needs to possess to be able to do the job well. Now, I have a screen or filter through which I can examine each candidate. Included here is a general description of the job of sheriff, as our county doesn’t have one. Next, is my list of characteristics that I’m looking for in an ideal candidate. Now, I can evaluate each candidate seeking evidence that the candidates possess these characteristics. Can I ever be totally sure that I can assess if the candidate can manage a budget? No, at some point, I must decide if the candidate is telling the truth. What I can do is “peel the onion” with more detained question like, “What factors go into your decision on salaries and benefits?” A person who has never created a budget will have a difficult time giving a credible answer. This is why I can ask numerous relevant

questions at a meet and greet or other events.

I encourage you to develop your own Profile of an Ideal Sheriff based on the job description, along with profile as a sample. Given a specific job description, I do not expect that all who try this exercise will have the same list, but the list will be more alike than they are different. My list has 14 characteristics. Will a candidate have all of these characteristics, skills, knowledge, and past experiences? Probably not, but they should surely have ten or eleven. Are all characteristics weighted the same? No, but the list rates each as high, medium or low value to the specific job. The whole process takes me about 30 minutes. Not too much time in my opinion to select a person who the community will have to deal with for four years.

Good luck.

Sheriff's Job Description

by Al Bondigas,
eHow Contributor

The elected county sheriff will have jurisdiction over a wide area.

In many parts of the country, the county sheriff is the most visible law enforcement officer. Elected by county voters, he oversees law enforcement in unincorporated county areas and in cities that don’t have their own police departments. But the sheriff’s department assists in cities that have their own police departments and handles several other county-based law enforcement functions.

Supervisory:

The sheriff’s role is a supervisor who delegates to deputies working under him. He’s the equivalent of a city police chief, though he’s covering an area where the boundaries are not as clear as an incorporated city. His deputies will include regular patrol officers, dispatchers, courtroom personnel and jailers. Some of his deputies will have exper-

tise in patrolling and handling emergencies with a county’s geographical features in mind-such as mountains, desert, and water. Other deputies may specialize in some aspect of police work such as narcotics, or special weapons and tactics. Besides the desk work, the sheriff may take command on the field in some operations.

Elected Position:

The county sheriff is an elected position. While anyone can run for the office, voters will generally choose a sheriff with a law enforcement background. Because he is elected, the sheriff answers to the county’s citizens--including those who live in incorporated areas with their own police departments.

Out In Public:

A particularly active county sheriff will implement various crime prevention programs in his jurisdiction. These programs may include having an officer work as a liaison at county schools, or having jail inmates work at cleaning trash or weeding lots. In addition to police work, a sheriff will deal

with a county’s board of supervisors to get operational funding or to implement special law enforcement projects. The sheriff, or a designated deputy, will also address all press inquiries, and some sheriffs may ask media members to ride along in some operations.

Courts:

The Sheriff’s Department handles enforcement in county courts. His deputies may handle everything from prisoner transport to maintaining order in the courtroom. The sheriff may be asked to testify in court in some cases.

Jail:

The sheriff is also in charge of the county jail, where people convicted of misdemeanors are usually incarcerated. The sheriff sets the tone to how the jail is run, from lenient to tough. Controversial Sheriff Joe Arpaio of Arizona’s Maricopa County became known for the way he ran his jail. Faced with budget cutbacks, he sought to feed his inmates as cheaply as possible and housed inmates in military-style tents.

Profile Worksheet

Instructions: Ask your professional colleagues and family to help you create your own list. Give each characteristic an importance factor: H (high), M (medium), or L (low). For example, “management experience” or “elected experience” or “fiscal experience” might be important to you. Then check each characteristic that each candidate possesses.

Circle One	Characteristic	Check
H M L	Police “Street” Experience	_____
H M L	P.O.S.T. Certified	_____
H M L	“Street” Supervisory Experience	_____
H M L	Managed a Budget	_____
H M L	Good Communicator	_____
H M L	Trust Worthy	_____
H M L	Understands Rural Communities	_____
H M L	Believes in Training	_____
H M L	Values the Posse	_____
H M L	Decisive	_____
H M L	Politically Savvy	_____
H M L	Held Elective Office	_____
H M L	Sense of Urgency	_____
H M L	Common Moral/Political Views as Community	_____

Scores (just count the check marks):

Ideal - great candidate	12 to 14
Very good prospect	9 to 11
Minimal acceptability	7 to 8
Wouldn’t get my vote	5 to 6
Not worth consideration	1 to 4

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Thanks from the Schneider & Uhland Families

When the Lord calls our loved one home, He leaves a gift of memories. Hold onto your memories, and let them guide you during this time. The Phil Schneider family and the Uhland family wanted to thank you for the comfort of friends and family, cards, food and gifts. We hold you safe in our hearts.

Phil Schneider,
Custer County

On Election Strategy

Dear Editor.

After listening to the candidates at the Patriots meeting I realize there are some very good candidates running for office in Custer County.

There is one point that really stood out though. Eric Thompson has some real-

ly good points and sounds like he would make a very good sheriff. However, he has made one big mistake. He went to the Democrats and he is encouraging them to change their affiliation to Republican to be able to sign his petitions. This of course is not illegal, but it

is unethical.

Think about it. If he is willing to be unethical to win the race, what other unethical things will he be willing to do as the sheriff. Is that really who we want heading up the sheriff's office?

Audrey Slater
Oak Creek Grade

Candidate Trombley

Come out to meet Sheriff Candidate Steve Trombley. Hear his ideas for Custer County's Sheriff's Office, and discuss your concerns. What makes a good Sheriff? Come and find out! Everyone is invited - this is an important election; too important not to learn all you can about the candidates. And give your support to the best man for the job.

Join fellow residents on Saturday, March 8, from 2 p.m. - 4 p.m. at the Lamp Post Lodge, just north of Westcliffe on Hwy 69.



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"We the People" Speak

Smoke, Lies, and Scapegoats

by Joel F. Shults, Ed.D

Congratulations, Colorado. After thirty years of fighting cigarette smoking and drunk driving, we just couldn't stop ourselves from warmly embracing marijuana. Pueblo County Sheriff Taylor couldn't have said it better: we will regret this.

The old story - said to be Native American wisdom - tells of a snake who asks to be carried across a river and promises the kind man that he will not be bitten. Persuaded of his safety, the man offers the snake a ride across the waters in his canoe, only to feel the pain of hot venom from the snake's bite on the other side. The kind man, betrayed, complains of the snake's broken promise. The snake replied "You knew what I was when you picked up me". As the serpent hissed its lies to the kind man, reminiscent of the fall of man under Eve's garden of Eden gullibility, the hiss of the promoters of medicinal and recreational marijuana is still in our ear and just as false.

Hiss number one has beguiled even the President: marijuana isn't as bad as alcohol. This argument wouldn't survive a middle school debate class. Relative harm may be persuasive if we're comparing aspirin to apples, but to accept the risks of marijuana because they are less than the risks of alcohol is like saying hand grenades are safer than machine guns. Alcohol is familiar and common, but it is still

the most frequently abused chemical, represents the greatest addiction problem, is the drug most often associated with sexual assault, vehicle crashes, murder, family violence, drowning, fire deaths, and more. What percentage, exactly, of this calamitous standard are we ready to accept as an argument for widening the use of another drug?

Hiss number two is parroted by perfectly intelligent people who keep hearing about "first time, non-violent drug offenders" taking up prison space. Show me one of those. I've been in the justice business for 35 years and I don't know of anyone in any prison that fits that category. The real prosecutorial policy for drug offenders is to keep giving them pleas, breaks, deferred sentences, and drug treatment until even the judge rolls her eyes at the system being played. Nobody goes to jail for merely smoking marijuana. Legalizing marijuana was sold as the solution to a problem that never existed.

Hiss number three is that marijuana is safer when regulated. The first problem with this proposition is that the sale of cannabis will be poorly regulated for the foreseeable future under the crushing task. Prosecutors and street cops are so confused by the state of the law that there are fewer arrests and prosecutions for the many drug laws that were not affected by medical and recreational marijuana legalization. Even if regulat-

ed, the psycho active drug impairs brain development, reaction time, and can lead to ineffective self-medication for professionally treatable mental health conditions. Impaired driving is rapidly increasing and frequently undetected. Despite claims to the contrary, marijuana can be addictive and habituating, as well as a gateway drug.

Hiss number five is the benefit of taxation. At the very best, marijuana taxation will supplement the cost of its own wider use. It will not fund schools. Every niche retail tax just shifts general fund allocations. It may or may not reduce illegal marijuana trafficking, depending on market forces. It will never cover loss of productivity, health consequences, the cost of regulation associated with it anymore than liquor and cigarette taxes pay their own way.

You may have other arguments for legalization, some of which are rational and deserving of continuing debate. The sellers of Colorado's laws did not choose to make those arguments. We did not hear liberty and self-regulation as an argument. We did not hear about more openness about mental health treatment. We didn't hear the most honest reason of all: dope smokers want to smoke dope and be left alone. Maybe there is merit to those and other points. Instead of the truth, we were sold distractions.

Now the snake is in our canoe. Do we think we can keep from being bitten?

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Ask a Pro: 'Pissy' Pumps: the 5 GPM Model/Series

The pump mentioned in the previous article wasn't adequate for 2 people in one bathroom; it was a 5 GPM series pump. Manufactures generally make pumps in 5-7-10-13 and 18+ GPM models. They offer pumps in different HP and number of stages to cover a wide range of depths. We use the 7&10 GPM series for cabins and the 10 to 18 GPM pumps for homes. Some trophy homes require even more. Even on trophy homes we see 5&7 GPM pumps installed. Talk about 'pissy'. We see a lot of 1 1/2 HP -5 GPM pumps in the valley which is the largest made in the 5 GPM series. It pushes the design parameters and is the one model

in each manufacture's line most prone to failure. The 1 1/2 HP -5 GPM pump's warranty rate is several hundred percent greater than all other models together. We just don't use it.... We know what works, what lasts and why; thanks to many factory schools. My first was Sta-rite Pumps in 1979, Goulds in 1985, Jacuzzi 1990, Grundfos, Red Jacket and more.

-David Nequette /Lic. 1043

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Local Mountain News & Notices

Broadband Study to Move Forward

by Paul Sage

The County Commissioners on Monday March 3rd threw their support behind a proposal to participate in a five-county study of broadband internet improvement in the area. The proposal was presented by the Custer County Community Development Corporation, and will allow the county to take part in the study of a strategic plan for broadband application in the area.

The five counties ; Chaffee, Custer, Fremont, Lake, and Park will together hire a consulting firm to conduct this study with a \$75,000 grant from the Department of Local Affairs. Each

county, for its part must contribute \$5000 toward a \$25,000 match required to receive the grant. The Commissioners encouraged the large group in attendance, representing various community groups like CART and the Chamber of Commerce, to work together on raising the \$5000 from private sources.

When completed the proposed plan should "address county specific issues and goals from a user viewpoint rather than that of the providers," according to the proposal. Commissioner Lynn Attaberry questioned whether it would address the biggest challenges first or last, as has typically

been the case in the past, Charles Boggle with the Custer County Community Development Corporation, gave a long statement about many elements of the plan, but didn't answer the question.

Amy Moulton, giving her report on the Library District on Tuesday, March 4th, was questioned by the commissioners about the internet service at the Library. She responded that they have both CenturyLink and DD Wireless and currently run at about 7 to 8mb downloads, which is "not bad." She told the Commissioners that she is "so glad that you're taking that seriously, because it's a huge issue here."

Students Complete CERT Training

by Candi Sage

On March 5 ninth grade students at Custer County High School participate in a practice exercise of emergency training. Custer County Emergency Services (CCES) provided training (CERT) to the students over the last six weeks in health class to help them be prepared and learn about safety and medical issues during an emergency.

They simulated a bus accident where the students found themselves in the freezing cold with no cell service, the bus driver is deceased, the bus radio is out, there is a downed live power line just outside the bus, and many students are injured. They needed to determine who handles various areas of the emergency and form teams to handle communication, safety, transport, triage and treatment of those injured.

The team handling communication made a live practice call to 911 and spoke to dispatch directly answering questions as if a real emergency. Students also were appointed to various areas of determining triage on the

bus, transport and order of injuries off the bus, triage on the ground in a designated barn area, and treatment once in the barn. Students practiced with colored plastic and colored tape to indi-

ries. They learned how to treat wounds and determine the order of triage based on injuries. Students will have two practice events, one to be a responder and one to be a victim.



Freshman students participate in simulated bus crash at the end of their CERT training.

Sentinel photo by Candi Sage

Royal Gorge Bridge & Park Opens March 15 Weekends Only

Just in time for spring break! Beginning March 15, the Royal Gorge Bridge & Park will reopen on weekends, and offer guided tours on park vehicles through construction zones and over one of the world's highest suspension bridges, according to Mike Bandera, Vice-President and General Manager. Weather and construction permitting, park hours will be 10 a.m. - 4 p.m. and the park will charge \$10 per head, three-year-olds and under will be free.

The interest in the rebuilding of the park has been off the charts according to Bandera. Thousands of cars have traveled up to the Royal Gorge since the day after the Royal Gorge Fire, June 11, 2013, with patrons hoping to catch a glimpse of the Royal Gorge and the park.

"Our first tour will begin at 10:30 a.m. and all tickets will be sold on a first-come, first-serve basis," Bandera said.

Those with valid 2013 season passes will be honored,

and no coupons will be taken.

Last June's wild fire swept through the park decimating 48 out of 52 buildings and world-class attractions in the 85-year-old park. The Royal Gorge Bridge was relatively unscathed and received only minor damage. The park expects a Grand Re-Opening August, 2014 with Phase 1 of the rebuild completed. For more information visit the website www.royalgorgebridge.com or call 888-333-5597.

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*No Purchase Necessary to Enter
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You get an extra ticket for each \$25 spent.
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\$50 to be used in any of the three businesses

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Local Mountain News & Notices

Outdoor Buddies Banquet



Outdoor Buddies will hold its annual fundraiser banquet for 2014 at The Wildlife Experience on Saturday, April 5, 2014. Everyone is invited! This year's banquet celebrates thirty years of community service by Outdoor Buddies.

The Wildlife Experience is located approximately 10 miles south of downtown Denver at the intersection of Lincoln Avenue and South Peoria Street. To get there from I-25, take Exit 193 East on Lincoln Avenue and go approximately 1 mile to South Peoria Street.

Outdoor Buddies, based in Westcliffe, is an all-volunteer 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization dedicated to providing outdoor adventure opportunities to mobility-disabled persons and youth groups.

The \$40 ticket for this event includes admission to the museum and galleries at The Wildlife Experience starting at 3:00 p.m. and a dinner of your choice.

There will be a social period beginning at 4:00 p.m. with dinner being served at approximately 6:00 p.m. Business casual attire is suggested.

The evening's agenda includes an introduction of Bob Broscheid, Colorado Parks and Wildlife Director. Joe Arbuckle, Major General, U.S. Army (Retired), will deliver a brief talk related to impacts of Department of Defense budget cuts and wounded warrior status associated with the military drawdown in Iraq and Afghanistan.

Some of the raffle and auction items available are a Beretta A300 Outlander Wood 12GA 28" MC3 Semi Auto Shotgun, AR-15 Colt® LE6920 Safe-Semi with 16" Barrel, Lake of the Woods Charter Fishing for 4-Minnesota's World Class Fishing Destination including 4 nights lodging/3 days fishing for 4 persons, Four-day Argentina Dove Hunt for Two, South African Photo Safari for Two, Custom Made

Fly Rod, Rockies Tickets, Colorado Cow Elk Hunt, SCCY CPX 9mm Pistols, Traditions Pursuit 2 XLT 50 Caliber Muzzle loading Rifle, 7-Day African Plains Game Hunt for Two, CZ-USA 550 30.06 Rifle, Wyoming Fishing Outing for Two, Waterfowl Hunt for Two, Outfitters Tent Stove, Deer Mounts on Pedestals, Front Sight Legacy Membership, Jewelry, Knives, and much more.

For more information or to order tickets by telephone contact Dwaine Robey, Outdoor Buddies Executive Director, at 783-9044.

Hotel accommodations at a reduced rate are available for those who would like to spend the night in the Denver area after the banquet. To order your banquet tickets and make hotel reservations online for this great Outdoor Buddies event go to: www.outdoorbuddies.org.

Custer County School District C-1 Regular School Board Meeting Great Room Tuesday, March 11, 2014 - 4:30 p.m.

1. Call to Order and Pledge of Allegiance
2. Welcome of Guests
3. Modification/Approval of Agenda
4. General Public Comment Session - (Comments will be limited to a maximum of three minutes)
5. Consent Agenda
 - a. Modification/Approval: Minutes of regular board meeting of February 11, 2014
6. Reports from Students/Staff
 - a. Junior Class - Prom
 - b. Jim Bistodeau - History Club Trip
7. Reports from Public
 - a. Excellence in Education report
 - b. Adopt-A-Class report
 - c. Accountability report
8. Board Committee Reports
 - a. Accountability Committee, BOCES, FFA, Legislative Update, Preschool Advisory
 - b. Discussion: District Goals/Strategic Plan
9. Action Items
 - a. Approval: Check Vouchers
 - b. Approval: Financial Reports
 - c. Personnel Hires
 - i. Alan Paxton - Vol. Assistant Baseball Coach - pending background check (rec. of AD Greg Cravens)
 - d. Acceptance: Technology Plan (tabled from February meeting)
 - e. Approval: Board Policy BEDB (Agenda) - third and final reading
 - f. Approval: Board Policy BEAA (Electronic Participation in School Board Meetings) - third and final reading
 - g. Approval: Administrative Contracts
 - h. Approval: 2014-15 District Calendar
 - i. Approval: Authorization to temporarily suspend provisions in policy GBGL and regulation GBGL-R (Sick Bank)
 - j. Approval: Negative Factor Resolution
10. Principal's Reports
 - a. Elementary – Holly Anderson
 - b. Secondary – Barb Jones
11. Superintendent's Report – Enclosed
12. Items introduced by Board Members
13. General Public Comment Session - (Comments will be limited to three minutes)
14. Executive Session (If needed)
15. Adjournment



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FRATERNAL ORDER OF POLICE**
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Frank Gale
PRESIDENT

Dan Shapiro
SECRETARY

To the Citizens of Custer County,

As the largest law enforcement organization in Colorado representing over 5,000 sworn law enforcement officers, the Colorado Fraternal Order of Police is proud to announce its support and endorsement of Eric Thompson for Custer County Sheriff. We recognize the leadership qualities of Eric Thompson and his ability to effectively address the critical public safety issues that face the citizens of Custer County in the years ahead.

The Colorado State Lodge Fraternal Order of Police recognizes the professional leadership and management qualities that Eric Thompson will bring to the Custer County Sheriff's Office. Eric Thompson is a dedicated and experienced law enforcement officer with a lengthy career that will serve the citizens of Custer County well. That career includes nine years as the Administrative Director of Police Community Relations which involved responsibility for writing and administering law enforcement grants, developing and managing capital gain projects, and oversight of daily operations of that program. Under his administration the program grew from approximately 400 to 6,000 participants and the annual budget increased from approximately \$200,000 to approximately \$800,000. This valuable managerial experience included managing a broad scope of issues including liability, compliance, community relations, and other issues faced by today's law enforcement community.

Eric Thompson's 26 years in law enforcement has shown that he possesses the courage and integrity that the office of Sheriff demands. He is a proven public safety advocate who has demonstrated his dedication to the citizens he serves. His understanding of policing and public safety issues in Custer County makes him a quality candidate who is able to effectively handle the tough decisions necessary to properly tackle those issues. Eric Thompson is a true leader and innovator. He is committed to bringing his vision and leadership skills to the Custer County Sheriff's Office. He is a candidate that cares about public safety and is capable of creating effective solutions demanded by the position. He will restore a sense of pride and fairness to the office of Custer County Sheriff's that citizens and deputies will quickly recognize and appreciate.

Eric has a personal investment in the community that sets him above the rest. He has two children in the school district and his wife owns a small business in Westcliffe. His wife's parents own a home in Custer County and plan on moving there. Eric and his family chose to live there because of the community and the people that comprise it. They love living there. It is important to him to have the Sheriff's Office as an integral part of the community and an organization that the community is proud of and can trust.

As the Custer County's first line of defense in the war against crime we know how essential it is to have a Sheriff who values and understands the work of his law enforcement officers. Eric Thompson is upfront and open about his ideas for fostering a better relationship between the Sheriff's Office, its employees and deputies, and the citizens of the county. He is committed to doing what it takes to restore morale and stability to the department, and is committed to retaining quality law enforcement officers in Custer County. To that end he will work to ensure that the citizens of Custer County have one of the best and most responsive Sheriff's departments in Colorado.

Electing the right person to serve as Custer County Sheriff is a serious responsibility, one that is tremendously important to the citizens of Custer County. The Colorado Fraternal Order of Police believes Eric Thompson is that person. He has earned the endorsement of the largest law enforcement organization in Colorado, and we strongly encourage the citizens of Custer County to elect Eric Thompson as their next Sheriff.

Sincerely,

Michael J Violette

Executive Director
Colorado State Lodge
Fraternal Order of Police

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Local Mountain News & Notices

Teacher Feature

Sue Bailey

Where were you raised: Grass Valley, CA

Education: Masters of English/Reading

Hobbies: Being outside and enjoying God's beauty!!

Personal Info: Married to Ken Bailey. I have two children: Michelle and Jack.

Currently teaching - Grade Level or Content Area: High school English

Why did you choose to work in Custer County? We raised our kids in Del Norte--we always love this side of the mountains.

What is your greatest motivation to be a teacher? My greatest motivation is the students..I want to be a positive influence in their lives.

What are your greatest challenges as a teacher? My greatest challenge is all the grading; I grade every weekday night and, at least, two days every weekend.

What is the most important

'take away' you hope for your students at the end of the year?

I want my students to know that I care about them, and that I am available for English and life questions.



Open Range

Oak Creek Grade, where cows own the road!

Sentinel photo by George Gramlich

Stampede Royalty Update

The first clinic for the Stampede Royalty Competition was held on Sunday, March 2 at A Painted View Ranch, with Horsemanship and Safety being the focus. The next clinic will be held on Sunday, March 9 starting at 1:00 sharp.

Because of the low turnout of competitors, applications will still be accepted at the March 9 clinic. Following the 3/9 clinic, the application process will be closed. Needed are participants for Queen and Miss Stampede. Please contact any of the following committee members for an application and guidelines.

Sandy Brown (783-2308), Terry Lee (783-0204), or Ashten Hutton (371-4542)

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Attention All Businesses & Business Owners In The Cliffs!!

What: A meeting to discuss the upcoming Main Street Manager's role in the future of The Cliffs Businesses.

When: March 19th @ 5:30pm

Where: Cliff Lanes

Why: We need your input, ideas, and dreams for the future of our two towns and this meeting will let you know how to best communicate those thoughts and get involved.

Agenda:

1. History of our relationship (C.A.R.T. Chair.)
2. Main Street Manager (Paul Wenke)
3. Next Steps
4. Involvement of the businesses community

CART is a 501 (c) 3 non-profit organization dedicated to enhancing our downtown through preservation, revitalization, business enhancement, business recruitment and by promoting and marketing the local downtowns of Silver Cliff and Westcliffe being branded as the 'Cliffs Commercial District.'



Bobcat Menu • March 10 - March 13, 2014

Monday breakfast
French Toast Sticks
Sausage Links
Fruit, Milk
lunch
Hamburger
Choice of Vegetable
Choice of Fruit
Milk

Tuesday breakfast
Bagels w/ Cream Cheese
Ham
Fruit, Milk
lunch
Italian Dunker
Garlic Rolls
Choice of Veg. & Fruit
Milk

Wednesday breakfast
Sausage Gravy, Biscuits
Fruit
Milk
lunch
Hot Turkey Sandwich
Choice of Vegetable
Choice of Fruit
Milk

Thursday breakfast
Scrambled Eggs
W. W. Toast
Milk
lunch
Meatball Sub
Choice of Vegetable
Choice of Fruit
Milk

Elementary - Main dish, bread, milk, choice of 1 veg. & 1 fruit • Salad bar • NO SCHOOL ON THURS K-5

KIDS

Friday, March 7, 2014

RUCKUS OVER A CAUCUS: REVERSAL OF POWER

Does your high school government class lead you in a discussion of a candidate selection process known as a caucus? CITIZENS AWAKE. Only 14 states employ the caucus procedure for candidate selection process and Colorado is one of them. This process actually reduces the possibility of a candidate whose ideology is not the preference of its party members. Our country was founded with a government specifically limited in its powers. The caucus erodes our guaranteed constitutional rights. Caucuses are at the root of government eroding more of those limits to its power.

Caucuses are not elections. Members of political parties meet in "neighborhood precincts" where candidates are endorsed and delegates are sent up to the next level in the decision-making process. Unfortunately, there are cross-over voters who vote for the candidates they believe are the weakest opponent in order to improve their candidate's chances in the general election.

This procedure could quite possibly be the reason why and how republicans have had such weak candidates in the recent presidential elections.

Our individual vote counts when our choice is on the ballot and we vote our ourselves. STAND UP AND BE COUNTED!

Sangre de Cristo Sentinel • Westcliffe, Colorado

CORNER

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Americans have the right and advantage of being armed - unlike the citizens of other countries whose governments are afraid to trust the people with arms.

~ James Madison

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



Sangres Best
Grass-Finished Beef. Call
719.783.2222 to order!
www.sangresbest.com,
www.musicmeadows.com

Help Wanted

Looking for a **babysitter**.
Hours are flexible. Some
weekends and travel re-
quired. Please call (719)
371-6996 for details.



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 West-
cliffe, covers the front of-

fice and responds when the
Town Clerk is unavailable.

This position requires ad-
ministrative skills; excel-
lent customer service, orga-
nizational, computer skills
(Excel, Word and Quick-
books); must be detail ori-
ented; reliable; work in-
dependently; 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 knowl-
edge of the community.
Non-smoking office, the
Town of Westcliffe is an
Equal Opportunity Em-
ployer and is a municipal-
ity, 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 avail-
able to occasionally work
40 hours a week when the
Town Clerk is unavailable
Minimum starting hourly
wage is \$10.00. No bene-
fits.

Please pick up a full job
description at the West-
cliffe 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 re-
sumes will be kept confi-
dential.



CDL Drivers - Class B
minimum. Apply in per-
son. Seifert's/Beach Re-
di-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 in-
clude: trash removal, mow-
ing, weed eating, snow
removal; park, street, sign,
equipment, rest-room and
building maintenance. Me-
chanical 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 dead-
line is March 21, 2014.

Notice to Creditors

Estate of Virginia M. Ger-
oux, deceased, Case Num-
ber 14PR2
All persons having claims
against the above-named
estate are required to pres-
ent 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 avail-
able. \$45,000. Limited time
offer. Call United Country
Wapiti Realty at 783-9052



Lori Kastendieck
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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

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SERVICE
Detail oriented. One time
or continuous. Schedule
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Elite Home Service (719)
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Chainsaw Sharpening. Ac-
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Ring J.B. 719/783-4448



Kohler Back-up Stand-by
Generators - Power when
you need it! On grid or solar.
6.5Kw - 125Kw. Propane or
natural gas. Locally sold &
serviced by G P Power Sys-
tems (formerly Miller Auto-
motive & More) Call Glenn at
719-371-8625

Wanted

Charter Members for a local
chapter of Safari Club Inter-
nation (First for Hunters).
“Whether you consider your-
self a passionate conservation-
ist or merely a supporter of all
things wild, there is one orga-
nization that is able to make
the most out of the contribu-
tions you are able to give and
accomplish all the goals that
are important to sportsmen
and women everywhere.” For
more information and/or ap-
plication 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

Come and Worship

Christian Science
9:30 a.m. Worship
8 Bassick Place
Westcliffe

Church of Christ
9:30 a.m. Bible Study
10:30 a.m. Worship
5 p.m. Worship
810 Ohio Street
Silver Cliff
719/783-4601

**Church of Jesus Christ
of Latter Day Saints**
10 a.m. Sacrament Mtg.
12:10 p.m. Sunday School
240 Ridgeline Drive
Westcliffe
719/783-9356
719/404-4585

**Community United
Methodist Church**
8 a.m. Worship
10 a.m. Worship
202 S. 6th Street
Westcliffe
719/783-2511

**Cody Park
Community Church**
9:30 a.m. Sunday School
10:30 a.m. Worship
517 County Rd. 27A
Cotopaxi
719/942-3462
719/942-3526

**Cotopaxi
Community Church**
9:45 a.m. Sunday School
11 a.m. Worship
6 p.m. Worship
20326 Hwy. 50
Cotopaxi
719/942-4185

*Don't love the world and what it
offers.
Those who love the world don't
have the Father's love in them.
Not everything that the world
offers--
physical gratification, greed, and
extravagant lifestyles--comes from
the Father.
1 John 2:15 - 16 GW*



**First Baptist
Church of Westcliffe**
9:30 a.m. Sunday School
10:30 a.m. Fellowship
10:45 a.m. Worship
6 p.m. Worship
417 S. 6th Street
Westcliffe
719/783-2498

**High Country
Mennonite Church**
9:30 a.m. Worship
10:45 a.m. Sunday School
110 Rosita Avenue
All Aboard Westcliffe Bldg.
Westcliffe
719/783-9045

Hope Lutheran Church
9 a.m. Sunday School
10 a.m. Fellowship
10:30 a.m. Worship
3rd & Powell Streets
Westcliffe
719/783-9773

**Oak Creek Grade
General Store**
6 p.m. Worship
Followed by potluck
12 miles north on Cty. Rd. 255
719/783-2245

**Our Lady of the Assumption
Roman Catholic Church**
Diocese of Pueblo
11 a.m. Sunday Mass
10 a.m. Tuesday Mass
109 S. 5th Street
Westcliffe
719/783-3507

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

**Sangre de Cristo
Mennonite Church**
10 a.m. Worship
120 Jerry Drive
Westcliffe
719/783-0903

**Sangre de Cristo
Seminary Chapel**
10 a.m. Worship
6160 County Rd. 130
Westcliffe
719/783-2447

St. Luke's Episcopal Church
10:30 a.m. Worship & Eucharist
11:30 a.m. Ffellowship
3rd & Rosita Streets
Westcliffe
719/783-2477

St. Patrick's Anglican Church
11 a.m. Worship
401 2nd Street
Westcliffe
719/783-2500

Valley Bible Fellowship
10 a.m. Worship
116 Hermit Lane
Silver Cliff
719/783-9050

Westcliffe Community Church
10 a.m. Worship
103 N. Adams St.
Westcliffe
719/429-4256

Wetmore Baptist Church
9:45 a.m. Sunday School
1045 a.m. Worship
6 p.m. Worship
Wetmore
719/784-4197

Wetmore Community Church
Tues., Dec. 24 – 5:30 p.m.
Candlelight Service
Cty. Rd. 395
Wetmore
719/784-0596

Wild West Cowboy Church
Tues., Dec. 24 - 6:00 p.m.
60260 Hwy. 69 North
Westcliffe
719/783-2676

Eateries

Alpine Lodge
6848 Cty. Rd. 140•Westcliffe
719/783-2660
Thurs. - Sun. 5 p.m. - 10 p.m.
Sun. 11 a.m. - 2 p.m.
Reservations recommended

Candy's Coffee
106 S. 2nd St. • Westcliffe
719/783-9516
Mon. - Sat. 9 a.m. - 2 p.m.

**Chappy's Mountain View
Bar & Grill**
213 Main St. • Westcliffe
719/783-0813
Mon. - Sat. 11 a.m. - 8 p.m.
Sundays 11 a.m. - 6 p.m.

Have a Nice Day Cafe
104 Main St. • Westcliffe
719/783-2313
Mon., Tues., Fri., & Sat.
10 a.m. - 3 p.m.
Grill closes at 2 p.m.

Hunger Buster
824 Main St. • Westcliffe
719/783-9228
Call for hours

Letter Drop Inn
6654 Cty. Rd. 328 • Rosita
719/783-9430
Closed for Winter

The Lodge at San Isabel
59 Cty. Rd. 371 • San Isabel
719/489-2280
Open May 1 - Oct. 15
Wed. - Mon. 8 a.m. - 9 p.m.

Mavericks
404 Main St. • Silver Cliff
719/783-3333
Wed. - Sat., Noon - 8 p.m.
Mon. & Tues., Noon - 3 p.m.
Sun. - closed

Mining Company Restaurant
60 Main St. • Westcliffe
719/783-9144
Daily 7 a.m. - 2 p.m.
Tues. 7 a.m. - 8 p.m.

**Oak Creek Grade
General Store**
12 miles north on Cty. Rd. 255
719/783-2245
Closed for Winter

R's Pizza
630 Main St. • Silver Cliff
719/783-9300
Closed for winter

Rancher's Roost at Cliff Lanes
25 Main St. • Westcliffe
719/783-2147
Mon.-Sat. 8 a.m. - 8 p.m.
Sun. 8 a.m. - 3 p.m.

Sangrita
212 Main • Westcliffe
719/783-4054
Reservations recommended
Thurs. - Sat. 11 a.m. - 9 p.m.
Sun., 9 a.m. - 8 p.m.
Sunday Brunch 9 a.m. - 2 p.m.

**Schlabachs Marketplace
& Deli**
120 N. 3rd St. • Westcliffe
719/783-9010
Mon., Tues., Wed. & Sat.
10 a.m. - 2 p.m.
Thurs. & Fri. 10 a.m. - 5 p.m.

Silver Cliff Mountain Inn
700 Ohio Street • Silver Cliff
719/783-2688
Wed. - Sat. 7 a.m. - 8 p.m.
Sun. - Tues. 7 a.m. - 2 p.m.

Silver Cliff Pizza Company
upstairs in the
Silver Dome Saloon
110 Main St. • Silver Cliff
719/783-9499
Call for hours

SomeWhere Saloon
215 Main St. • Westcliffe
719/783-4900
Monday-Saturday 11:00 a.m. - 2:00 p.m.
Sunday 11 a.m. - Midnight

St. Andrews Golf Course Cafe
801 Copper Gulch Rd. • Westcliffe
719/783-9410
Closed for Winter

Subway
inside JR's Fuel Stop
425 S. 6th St. • Westcliffe
719/783-2748
Mon.-Sat. 6:30 a.m.-9:00 p.m.
Sun. 7 a.m. - 8 p.m.

Sugar & Spice Mtn. Bakery
411 Main St. B • Westcliffe
719/783-4045
Mon. - Sat. 7 a.m. - 4 p.m.

Westcliffe Wine Mine
109 N. 3rd St. • Westcliffe
719/783-2490
Fri. - Sat., 3 p.m. - 9 p.m.

Local Mountain News & Notices

Events Calendar

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
1 p.m. - 2 p.m. - Triple C Clover 4-H Meeting
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

Tuesday, March 11, 2014

All day - Tourism Board Meeting
4:30 p.m.- 6 p.m. - School Board Meeting

Thursday, March 13, 2014

All day - Knowledge Bowl League at Alamosa
10 a.m. - 11 a.m. - "Ask A Nurse" at the Library

Friday, March 14, 2014

5:30 p.m. - 8 p.m.: Wildland Fire Mitigation and Slash
Reduction Presentation at Cliff Lanes

Saturday, March 15, 2014

5:30 p.m. - FFA Oyster Fry at Custer County High School
West Gymnasium

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 commu-
nity 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.

Obituary

Crystal L. (Uhland) Schneider Sunrise 04/21/1959 ~ Sunset 02/26/2014

Crystal L. (Uhland) Schneider, 54, passed away February 26, 2014 in Pueblo, Colorado. The daughter of William A. and M. Lucille (Becco) Uhland, she was born in Cañon City, Colorado on April 21, 1959.

Crystal attended school in Cañon City and graduated from CCHS in 1977. She attended two years of college at USC in Pueblo studying elementary education. She lived in the area all of her life, except for a short time in Oklahoma. She was an animal lover, and was especially fond of horses..

On February 8, 1986, Crystal married Phillip M. Schneider in Westcliffe, CO. She always had a love for ranching and after her marriage she got to live her dream of being a rancher. She was a wonderful homemaker, and home schooled all three of her children. She was a proud member of the NRA.

Crystal is survived by her



husband, Phillip; children, Matthew, Lucas, and Mariah; her parents, Bill and Lucille; brother, Gary William (and Lauri) Uhland; nephews, Christopher Brett and Michael Sean; and numerous other nephews, nieces, adopted kids, cousins, and brothers & sisters-in-law.

Memorial services were held, Saturday, March 1,

2014 at the Wilson Memorial Chapel at 1449 S. 9th Street in Cañon City, Colorado. In lieu of flowers or food, donations may be made in Crystal's honor to the Dundee Animal Shelter in Westcliffe, CO. Arrangements are under the care of Holt Family Funeral Home. Online condolences @ www.holtfamilyfuneral-homes.com

Make Your Appointments Now for the 9 Health Fair

The Health Fair will be held on Saturday, April 12 at Custer County School. Among other services, free pap smears, breast exams and testicular screenings will be offered at the health fair. Appointments for these tests can be scheduled by calling the public health office at 719-783-3369.

"Ask A Nurse", Thursday, March 13 at the Library: Colorectal Cancer

Colorectal cancer is the third most common cancer in the United States and a leading cause of death from cancer. Colorectal cancer affects all racial and ethnic groups and is most often found in people ages 50 and older.

The best way to prevent colorectal cancer is to get screened regularly starting at age 50. There are often no signs or symptoms of

colorectal cancer -that's why it's so important to get screened.

To increase awareness about the importance of colorectal cancer screening, Custer County Public Health Agency is proudly participating in Colorectal Cancer Awareness Month. Please join us at the library Thursday, March 13th, from 10 to 11 am during

our monthly "Ask A Nurse" session. While we will have additional information on this important health topic, we are also glad to take your blood pressure and answer any other questions you may have. You can also purchase and take home a colorectal screening kit at the 9 Health Fair on April 12th from 7 am to noon at the Custer Country School. The cost is \$20.

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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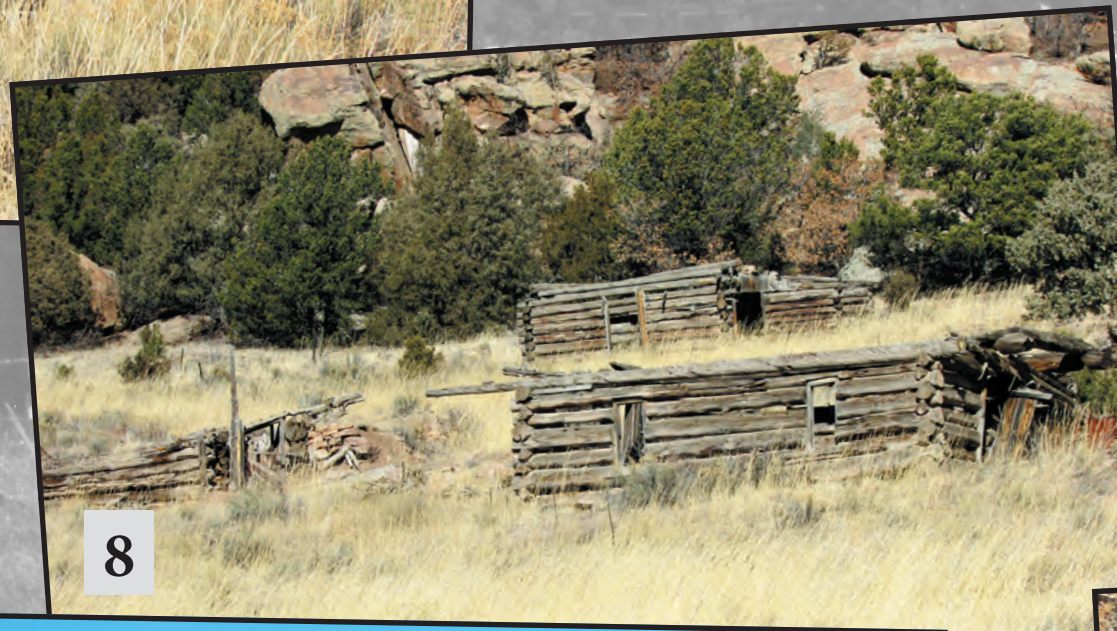
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Do You Know The History?

Part I - Oak Creek Grade

Do you know the history of any of the buildings pictured in our photo feature? All of today's pictures are in the Oak Creek Grade area. If so, would you be willing to share this information with our Sentinel readers? Please note that they are numbered from 1 to 13.
You may send the information directly to the Sentinel office at 610 Main Street, Westcliffe. We thank you!



Sheriff's Report...

There are currently six men in jail.

February 26 Steven Dixon, age 59, was arrested in Pueblo off of a Custer County bench warrant for contempt of court. He later posted \$1,000 bond and was released. Dixon will appear in Custer County Court at a later date. The original charge was third-degree assault.

February 26 At 8:25 p.m. a 2009 Toyota pick-up truck driven by Sharon Langfeldt, age 59, of Silver Cliff was westbound on Highway 96 near mile marker 12 when an elk ran onto the roadway in front of the vehicle. The elk was hit and had to be dispatched. Moderate damage

was sustained to the vehicle's right front-end.

March 2 Timothy Leach, age 42, of Westcliffe was issued a summons for a dog running at-large. It was filed in the Westcliffe Municipal Court.

State Patrol Report

February 26 A stolen 2008 Cadillac out of Pueblo was recovered near mile marker 18 on Highway 96. The vehicle was found off the road in a ditch unseen from the roadway. The case is still under investigation by the state patrol.

There were two ambulance calls between February 28 and March 2 and no fire calls.

Court Report...

Joseph C. Shellenberger, age 56, of Silver Cliff was charged with criminal mischief (theft under \$50) which was dismissed by the District Attorney. The second charge was harassment. Shellenberger plead guilty and was found guilty. He served 50 days in jail and is currently on probation for two years. Other conditions of the sentence is for him to complete domestic violence, substance abuse, and mental health evaluation and treatment as recommended. The protection order remains in effect. Shellenberger was fined \$1,506.50.

Jeremiah Dean Patton, age 19, of Westcliffe was charged with providing alcohol to a minor, a class 1 misdemeanor. He plead guilty and

found guilty. Patton was also charged with 2 counts of contributing to the delinquency of a minor, a class 4 felony which was dismissed by the District Attorney. He is on probation for 2 years and must perform 48-hours of community service. Other conditions of the sentence are to abstain from alcohol, drugs, and marijuana. Patton must complete drug/alcohol evaluation and treatment as recommended. He was fined \$1,478.50.

Jeffrey Denton Brosh, age 40, of Colorado Springs was charged with failure to register as a sex offender. Brosh plead guilty and found guilty. Brosh has already served his 106 days in jail for this class 1 misdemeanor. He was fined \$840.50.

Colorado Democrats Give the Nod to Pot-Stamps

Colorado Senator Larry Crowder informed us about a bill killed in the Colorado Senate last week. Federal law requires states to take measures to prevent recipients of public benefits from using electronic benefit transfers at liquor stores, gambling establishments, and adult-oriented entertainment establishments. Current Colorado law pro-

hibits the use of automated teller machines by recipients of public benefits at gambling establishments, firearms dealers, and liquor stores. The bill extends the Colorado prohibitions to establishments licensed to sell marijuana or marijuana-infused products and adult-oriented entertainment establishments.

On January 15, SB037_C.001 was introduced, and then reviewed by the Committee on State, Veterans, and Military Affairs. Last week, the Committee recommended that SB14-037 be postponed indefinitely.

The committee with a Democratic majority killed this bill. Republicans voted in

favor and Democrats voted against. If passed, this bill would have prevented purchasing marijuana with a food stamp debit card. Elections have consequences and this is one of them. In a Democrat controlled Senate and House, this is the type of legislation that is going on, using your tax dollars.



American Legion Rips Latest Round of Defense Cuts Fair Pay and Benefits Needed to Maintain Quality Volunteer Force

The leader of 2.4 million member American Legion says a Pentagon budget proposal unveiled Monday by Defense Secretary Chuck Hagel endangers America's national security and that downsizing force structure and benefits will lead to an exodus of quality men and women from the Armed Forces.

"Secretary Hagel warned about a 'hollowed force,' and The American Legion is concerned that this budget is leading us rapidly in that direction," National Commander Daniel Dellinger said. "Cutting forces to pre-World War II levels makes no sense in a world where countries such as North Korea, Iran and Pakistan could become viable nuclear threats to our very existence. Moreover, we do not know the exact nature of future wars and conflicts. The American Legion believes that we must be prepared for any scenario."

Dellinger called it "unconscionable" that the Pentagon is proposing that members of the military

pay for part of their housing allowances out of their own pockets. "Whether it's cutting commissary subsidies or increasing TRICARE deductibles and co-pays, these benefits are well deserved and available to anyone willing to serve. Military life is much more challenging than private sector careers. The American Legion will continue to call for an end to sequestration and insufficient defense budgets. Providing for the common defense of our nation is a responsibility required by the U.S. Constitution."

American Legion officials said that although the organization strenuously opposes the current budget proposal, they appreciate the transparency shown by the secretary of defense and look forward to future discussions.

American Legion Department of Colorado comments on troop reduction:

When Department of Colorado Commander Carol Kennedy read this press release, she wrote NO! NO!

NO! Stop taking away from the military the very things they need to live. Many younger troops require LEAP and WIC, commodities to live from day to day NOW and the wealthy leaders of our country want to take more of their hard earned money and benefits away. Why are they balancing the budget on the back of active duty troops and our veterans? Not only is this wrong, it is unworthy and disrespectful of a country like the USA. We send billions of dollars to foreign countries to feed their poor and starving, yet we leave our own military troops all but poor and starving.

Look back into the history books and see were cutting troop numbers down got us? Our active military and reserve units were bare bones when countries like Germany, Japan and Korea decided to go to war. And now, Terrorist has decided to jump into the fray.

We cut troop strength after World War I and World War II and then again after Vietnam and Desert Storm, all in the name of saving

money. Saving money? Not hardly!

Our politicians are always reinventing the wheel by reducing our military, but they do it with the lives of our troops. Oh, that is right, the politicians don't do the fighting and dying, they leave that up to someone else.

A strong military defense prevents incidents like this. With countries like Iran, and North Korea threats are there, and they are REAL! WE MUST STOP these cut backs to the military. SPEAK UP to those trying to make our country weak and unprepared for war and injustice. If you don't speak up NOW, you may one day be speaking a foreign language and YOUR country won't be YOURS anymore.

Do SOMETHING and do IT NOW!!! Contact your U.S. Senators and Congressmen and SPEAK UP.

For More Information Contact Darrell Myers, PR Chair at 303-366-5201 or email at observer@coloradolegion.org

EST. 2013



Happy Hour
Monday - Saturday
4 - 7 PM
215 Main Street
783-4900

Karaoke Every Friday
9 PM with Erica

Exit West Saturday 9 PM
No Cover Charge

Counting Down to
Donovan Lee's CD Release Party
March 15



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Fremont County Bulletin

News, Opinion, Commentary

Planning Commission in Favor of Pot Shops in Historic Downtown Cañon City

by Barbara Penezic

With only one member of the Planning Commission abstaining it has been decided that Historic Downtown Cañon City should be “Open for Business” when it comes to recreational marijuana sales. Royal Gorge Blvd. is also on the Planning Commission’s radar as a prime site for pot shops. They cite that keeping retail shops on main thoroughfares would accommodate law enforcement and medical responders. Guess that speaks to some form of planning anyway. A Special Review Use might also allow medical marijuana and retail cultivation in rural living zones. Now we await the final decision by the Cañon City Council. Once again the main impetus for such a decision is money and the Cañon City Planning Commission will be urging the City Council to allow retail marijuana sales in the Centralized Business District.



Cañon City’s historic downtown area.

Sentinel photo by John Penezic, Jr.

A poll of downtown merchants showed most have mixed feelings. The majority think the taxes from retail/recreational sales could be beneficial to the City but many expressed concern that the tax will be used judiciously. An unidentified source said, “I think a few people directly involved with marijuana growth and sales will become wealthy. The rest of us will just live with the consequences of this act.” Bill Massey, owner of Rexall Drug Store expressed his concern with the regulations, “They got the cart before the horse.” They should have done the regulations. We’re over-regulated on a lot less potentially dangerous drugs.” Debbie Lake of Classic Furniture is concerned about the effect this may have on her business and is against having retail pot sold downtown. She explained the difficulty they have finding motivated employees with a real work ethic and fears the effect marijuana will have on our youth and their potential. Nancy K. of Tailored West expressed her concern this way, “I have seen the devastating effects on my peers. I don’t claim to know all the medical facts on it, I just know what I saw with my own two eyes as a teen ager and young adult. It

didn’t seem to be assisting or improving their lives.”

Edward Perrotta would like to be among the first to open a recreational marijuana shop downtown. He would undoubtedly reap great profits from such a venture. Commissioner Bellantoni thinks it will attract more people to the downtown area. She has been quoted as saying, “Feet on the street are good because maybe they’ll go next door and buy a gelato.” That is a pretty big maybe ... here is another, maybe they’ll just hang on to their cash so they can buy another high from Mr. Perrotta. Maybe the Cañon City residents who have supported these Main Street shops for years will take their business elsewhere to avoid the “sight, sound, and smell, of the newly adored pot buyers.”

Parents waiting to pick their children up from local area schools were glad to respond. Jackie Smith was waiting for her son at Washington Elementary school when she gave me this statement, “The very thought of a substance such as marijuana being sold only blocks from my child’s school makes me physically ill, but you know what can we do? These decisions are being made by the people we voted into office.” Jack Cochran, father of a middle school student said, “I think my role as a parent has just gotten tougher. I know my wife and I will not feel comfortable allowing Chelsie to walk to the library this summer.” Kelly Whorl, a downtown shopper said simply, “It’s not my Cañon City anymore, I don’t feel comfortable, I just don’t think I feel that hometown comfort anymore!” I also spoke with a Cañon City Police officer, again no names, “this is going to present us with a huge challenge, all I can say is I hope we are up to it.”

Marijuana will no doubt increase tax revenues in Cañon City but it seems it has also sparked a lot of mistrust and anxiety amongst shop owners and area residents. Pro or Con, few are willing to show their hand until the final count is in. Might be interesting to find out exactly who owns those empty store fronts that will likely be filled with retail marijuana vendors after July 1.

BE INFORMED,
GET INVOLVED

Senate Forum in Cañon City

by Chandra I. Serfoss

Saturday afternoon found four fantastic Colorado GOP candidates for U.S. Senate introducing themselves and answering questions for a good-sized crowd at a forum in Cañon City. Co-hosted by the Royal Gorge Tea Party and the Royal Gorge Republican Women, the event took place in the Mountain View Core Knowledge School’s gymnasium. Despite the snowy weather, candidates Mark Aspiri, State Senator Randy Baumgardner, Floyd Trujillo, and State Senator Owen Hill arrived in good spirits, and they articulated their political platforms and focuses in their primary run for the Republican bid to challenge Democrat incumbent Mark Udall in the general election this November. Not present were Amy Stephens and Ken Buck, candidates who have both recently dropped out of the senate race, and who have both thrown their support behind Cory Gardner, Colorado’s Fourth Congressional District’s Representative, who announced, in Denver, his senate campaign also on Saturday.

First to introduce himself was Owen Hill, a U.S. Air Force Academy graduate, who currently represents Colorado Senate District 10, and he spoke of his desire to help people in need, referring to his experience with the charitable organization Compassion International which assists poverty-stricken children and their mothers around the world. He pointed out that his motivation to pursue the Republican nomination for the senate race stems from that same wish, claiming, “The only way to really help people is to allow them to be self-sufficient.” Hill bemoaned big government’s intrusions declaring that, “We don’t want Denver and we don’t want D.C. running our lives.” In order to improve the economic disaster that America finds itself in, we have to embrace capitalism, the only system that truly works because it expands the piece of the pie instead of cutting it into ever-increasingly smaller pieces.

When questioned about Obama’s administration’s push to drastically increase the minimum wage, Hill responded that, “The very people we are trying to help are the ones who are going to be hurt by this.” He claimed, if accomplished, a minimum wage increase would force many off the payrolls. And Hill compared this form of government intervention with Obamacare, healthcare legislation intended to help the uninsured, and he very wisely pointed out that the Affordable Health Care Act created not one new doctor.

A former U.S. Marine, Floyd Trujillo, grew up in Colorado and has an expansive resume of life experiences, including working as a janitor, a pipe fabrication laborer, and a truck driver for the D.A.V., and he then became very successful in the oil and gas industry. A proud Hispanic Republican, Trujillo spoke of the difficulty that many in the Republican Party have in reaching out to bring independents, Democrats, and especially minorities, into the GOP,



U.S. Senate candidates Mark Aspiri, State Senator Randy Baumgardner, Floyd Trujillo, and State Senator Owen Hill in Cañon City last Saturday.

Sentinel photo by John Penezic, Jr.

referencing Ronald Reagan who supposedly said that “Latinos are Republican—they just don’t know it yet.” Trujillo stated that what Reagan should have said is that, “Hispanics and Republicans have the same values.” He urged the forum’s audience, “When you see someone who doesn’t look like you, talk to them.” This message should not be lost on any conservative/Republican who wishes to see a return to Constitutional and limited government.

When the cowboy with the striking mustache stood to introduce himself, he said that he stands for three things: limited government, personal responsibility, and free enterprise. Randy Baumgardner, Colorado State Senator for District Eight, described himself as “rough around the edges.” But he also claimed that right now, Colorado needs exactly that! He made only two promises: that if elected he would give 100% for his constituents and that he would do the best job he can, pointing out that oftentimes many politicians make promises they either never intend to keep or that they cannot keep. Most importantly, but simply, this Colorado rancher asserted an old maxim not heard as frequently these days as in the past: “My word is my bond.”

Baumgardner was asked what he would do, if elected, to return adherence to rules within the legislative branch, and his response was that the voters have to elect the right people, candidates who work for their constituents—not themselves. In addition, Baumgardner was asked how he is different from a Democrat (because many Republicans these days act just like Democrats), and he didn’t blink an eye before noting the differences: he’s against gun control; he’s for property rights; he’s for safely developing all forms of energy in order to make America energy independent; he’s for limited government, and he’s for lower taxes. Marked differences, indeed.

Arriving late to the event due to icy roads, economic developer Mark Aspiri’s introduction was direct and to the point: “Our country is in jeopardy. Enough!” His opening words were complimentary of all the candidates present at the forum. He said, including himself, that “these four gentlemen don’t represent the backdoor GOP.” He was emphatic that they were all in the race to fight for our country, for Colorado, and for our party. Aspiri wishes to bring his twenty plus years of management experience and economic expertise to the table in order to begin to remedy the economic crisis in which America now finds itself.

All four candidates spoke of a need to return to sound fiscal responsibility, an emphatic safeguard of our Sec-

See SENATORS on page 19

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
Facebook**

**Southern
Colorado
Survivors
1st Sat at 8:30 a.m.
Mugs
1520 Royal Gorge Blvd
Cañon City
Find them on
Facebook**

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

Your compulsory “Shared Responsibility” for Socialism

by Bill Wilson,
DailyJot.com

The IRS is warning Americans that they must either sign up for socialist healthcare or pay the “Shared Responsibility Payment” with their income tax this year. Despite that the law has been changed by executive order no less than seven times, there are nationwide problems with websites and signing up, and the vast majority of Americans do not want socialized healthcare, the IRS is making sure it warns you that you will be giving your pound of flesh even if the law is not remotely ready to implement. In addition, the IRS says that if you don’t file it this year, you will be required to pay next year for what you didn’t pay this year. Was it Martin Luther King, Jr., who said an unjust law is no law at all?

The IRS issued a news release February 25 to remind all of America’s citizens that they must pay the tax or prove they have healthcare. The IRS said, “If you (or any of your dependents) do not maintain coverage and do not qualify for an exemption, you will need to

make an individual shared responsibility payment with your return. In general, the payment amount is either a percentage of your household income or a flat dollar amount, whichever is greater. You will owe 1/12th of the annual payment for each month you (or your dependents) do not have coverage and are not exempt.” You will owe the greater of 1 percent of your household income or a maximum of \$285.

Did you notice the words “shared responsibility” in this release? Those words were used four times. Shared responsibility is code for “wealth redistribution.” The unconstitutional “agency” called the IRS is trying to put the spin on this that it is your “shared responsibility” to fund this socialist nightmare that is already undermining the healthcare industry, and causing layoffs and unemployment, further destruction of our already bad economy. The fact is, the IRS and the communists in the government need your participation to make this unprecedented wealth redistribution program work. The word “exemption” is

code for “receiving wealth redistribution.” If you are hard working, you give it; if you are not, you receive it.

This so-called law requires Christians to support abortion, healthcare rationing, and homosexuality. It goes against the Biblical principals of liberty and justice. In Luke 10:7, Jesus said “the laborer is worthy of his wages.” Solomon wrote in Ecclesiastes 3:13, “...every man should eat and drink, and enjoy the good of all his labor, it is the gift of God.” Even after the Lord returns, people will, as shown in Isaiah 65:21-23, “They shall build houses, and inhabit them; and they shall plant vineyards, and eat the fruit of them. They shall not build and another inhabit; they shall not plant and another eat...They shall not labor in vain.” The statist healthcare plan of shared responsibility is against God’s plan for your life. This is real exemption. We should follow God, not man.

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

UNION PUPPETS: Democrats Kill Bill to Get Good Teachers in Bad Schools Because Union Said So

by ColoradoPeakPolitics

Why help students who need it most when you can just do your Union-masters’ bidding? Proving once again that liberals value the campaign checks that teacher unions write for them over what is best for students, Democrats in the Colorado State House killed a bill that would have rewarded some of the best teachers in Colorado for working in some of the most challenged school districts in the state. As Chalkbeat Colorado reports:

The proposed pilot program would have provided

stipends of between \$3,000 and \$12,000 a year to highly-effective teachers who worked in low-performing schools. The \$4 million program would have provided grants to about 100 teachers over four years.... The measure had bipartisan sponsorship. [the Peak emphasis]

If that wasn’t enough, Democratic Committee Chair Rep. Millie Hamner felt the need to make sure everyone knew she cared:

Some committee Democrats went out of their way to compliment Priola’s effort. “While I support what you’re trying to do ... I just

haven’t heard the compelling evidence that this is the right strategy.”

Thanks for the empty words, Rep. Hamner, we’re sure they will bring comfort to the kids stuck in failing schools with teachers who half-ass their jobs because they have a union protecting them, the same union you decided to side with today. But, thanks for playing.

Reprinted with Permission. Please see: coloradopeakpolitics.com/2014/02/25/union-puppets-democrats-kill-bill-to-get-good-teachers-in-bad-schools-because-union-said-so/

Department of Veterans Affairs Employees Destroyed Veterans’ Medical Records to Cancel Backlogged Exam Requests

by Patrick Howley,
DailyCaller.com

Employees of the Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) destroyed veterans’ medical files in a systematic attempt to eliminate backlogged veteran medical exam requests, a former VA employee told The Daily Caller.

Audio of an internal VA meeting obtained by TheDC confirms that VA officials in Los Angeles intentionally canceled backlogged patient exam requests.

“The committee was called System Redesign and the purpose of the meeting was to figure out ways to correct the department’s inefficiency. And one of the issues at the time was the backlog,” Oliver Mitchell, a Marine veteran and former patient services assistant in the VA Greater Los Angeles Medical Center, told TheDC.

“We just didn’t have the resources to conduct all of those exams. Basically, we would get about 3,000 requests a month for [medical] exams, but in a 30-day period we only had the resources to do about 800. That rolls over to the next month and creates a backlog,” Mitchell said. “It’s a numbers thing. The waiting list counts against the hospitals’ efficiency. The longer the veteran waits for an exam that counts against the hospital as far as productivity is concerned.”

By 2008, some patients were “waiting six to nine months for an exam” and VA “didn’t know how to address the issue,” Mitchell said.

VA Greater Los Angeles Radiology Department Chief Dr. Suzie El-Saden initiated an “ongoing discussion in the department” to cancel exam requests and destroy veterans’ medical files so that no record of the exam requests would exist, thus reducing the backlog, Mitchell said.

Audio from a November 2008 meeting obtained by TheDC depicts VA Greater Los Angeles officials plotting to cancel backlogged exam requests.

“I’m still canceling orders from 2001,” said a male official in the meeting.

“Anything over a year old should be canceled,” replied a female official.

“Canceled or scheduled?” asked the male official.

“Canceled. ... Your backlog should start at April ’07,” the female official replied, later adding, “a lot of those patients either had their studies somewhere else, had their surgery ... died, don’t live in the state. ... It’s ridiculous.”

El-Saden, according to Mitchell, was “the person who said destroy the records.” And her plan was actually carried out during the Obama administration’s management of VA.

“That actually happened,” Mitchell said. “We had that discussion in November 2008 and then in March 2009 they started to delete the exams. Once you cancel or delete an order it automatically cancels out that record” so that no record of the exam requests remained.

Mitchell tried to blow the whistle on the scheme and ended up being transferred out of his department and eventually losing his job.

“I actually filed a complaint with the VA [Inspector General] IG and the office of special counsel. The IG requested if I had any documentation. They wanted names. I gave them [about] a thousand names,” Mitchell said. “The list I turned into the IG went all the way back to 1997.”

“I filed the initial complaint with the IG. ... The IG instead of doing their own investigation just gave it to the facility and made them aware of my complaint.”

Mitchell eventually wrote to Congress about the issue in January 2011. Two months later, in March 2011, he was fired.

Mitchell received an April 30, 2013, letter from the U.S. Office of Special Counsel stating that OIG found in November 2009 that “all imaging services across the country were in-

structed to mass purge all outstanding imaging orders for studies older than six months, where the procedure was no longer needed” and that “patient imaging requests found to still be valid were scheduled.... Approval was granted for this process by the MEC [Medical Executive Committee], and in collaboration with the Service Chiefs and/or Careline Directors within the health-care system.”

But Mitchell said that in Los Angeles, exam requests that were found to still be needed were “definitely” destroyed.

“The IG’s report said this was a nationwide issue, but I know when we were having our meeting we weren’t talking nationwide — we were talking about our department,” Mitchell said.

“It is the general policy of OSC not to transmit an allegation of wrongdoing to the head of the agency involved, where the agency’s OIG or its delegate, is currently investigating or has investigated, the same allegations. Consequently, this office will take no further action concerning this allegation,” according to the U.S. Office of Special Counsel letter.

“That was an excuse” and part of a “cover-up,” Mitchell said.

“I’ve actually filed a lawsuit against them” for wrongful termination and another complaint, Mitchell said. “I filed it in district court in August of last year. It was accepted in September. The court dismissed it and wants me to amend the complaint with additional facts. I’m turning that in this week.”

VA did not return repeated requests for comment. The VA Greater Los Angeles Healthcare System did not return a request for comment and for an interview with Dr. El-Saden.

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Our President on the World's Stage

Editor/GG: Folks, In the Putin/Obama panels, it is not about Putin, he is just a foil for the parody/sarcasm.

PUTIN VS OBAMA

Putin looks China's president in the eye



Obama bows like a weak dog



Putin looks the Saudi King in the eye



Obama... W T H?!



Putin looks Japan's Emperor in the eye



Obama... W T H!!!!!!



Putin is "one of the boys"



Obama... well...



Putin controls his dog without a leash



Obama's dog walks him!



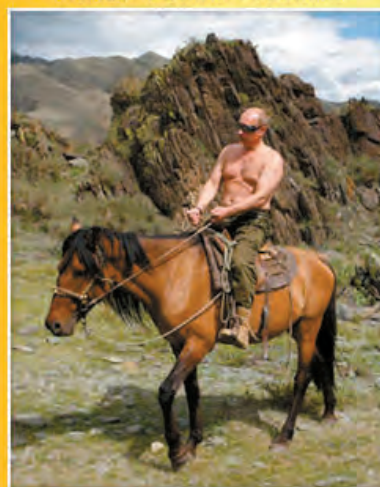
Putin: black belt in judo



Obama winces like a girl at the sight of judo



Putin rides horses



Obama rides girly bicycle with helmet



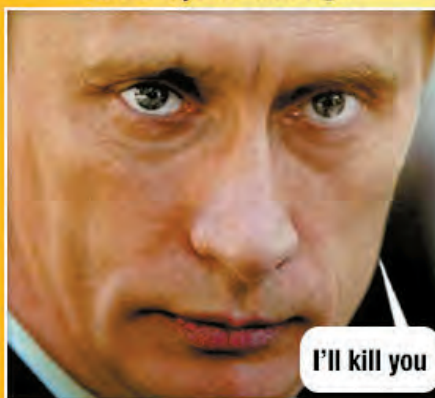
Putin married this soft-spoken beauty



Obama..... well...



Putin: eye of the tiger



Obama: feminine look and fake smile



When the two of them meet face to face...



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- G. K. Chesterton



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The Second Amendment Corner Liberty's Line in the Sand

1776

2014



Connecticut Patriot Group Fights Back Against Confiscation Order: 'We Are Armed... And Are Familiar With the Finer Points of Marksmanship'

by Marc Slavo,
SHTFplan.com

(Editor/GG: If you don't think we are close here in Colorado, better think again. This is the liberals end game.)

The war on liberty is coming to a head in Connecticut where tens of thousands of gun owners have refused to comply with their state government's gun registration laws. Officials have literally ordered those who failed to meet the registration deadline to surrender their firearms or face arrest.

The state of Connecticut is now demanding that gun owners across the state turn in all newly-banned, unregistered firearms and magazines or face felony arrest.

The State Police Special Licensing & Firearms Unit began mailing out notices to gun owners who attempted to register their firearms and accessories with the state but did not do so in time for the January 1

deadline of Connecticut's newly enacted gun control law.

The law bans the sale of magazines holding over 10 rounds and "assault rifles" manufactured after 1994 and requires that residents who possessed either before the ban to register them with the state.

It doesn't take a stretch of the imagination to understand that the enforcement of this law can only come at the barrel of a gun. Therefore, we can conclude that we may soon see SWAT-style raids on the homes of suspected law breakers. Because we're talking about gun confiscation, you can be fully assured that the state will not be knocking nicely, and they won't be asking residents to exit their homes.

They're going in full force.

But Americans simply don't take well to being told what to do, especially as it relates to their Second Amendment rights.

These unreasonable demands which have yet to pass muster with the U.S. Supreme Court have prompted Mike Vanderboegh of Connecticut's Sipsey Street Irregulars to go on the offensive. Earlier this week Vanderboegh publicly posted the names, addresses, and phone numbers and then provided direct access to pictures of all CT legislators involved with passage of the gun confiscation bill, saying that since the government has a list it "seems obvious to me that it is thus only fair to list those anti-constitutional tyrants."

The Daily Sheeple reports:

Sometimes you just have to fight fire with fire. And that is exactly what Mike Vanderboegh has chosen to do. The state of Connecticut wants to make a list – a list of gun owners. So, Vanderboegh has created his own list – a list of those state legislators who are insisting that certain firearms be banned or registered.

Here is the post, A Sipsey Street Public Service Announcement: The Connecticut Tyrants List:

The state of Connecticut is making lists of firearm owners to raid. It seems obvious to me that it is thus only fair to list those anti-constitutional tyrants who will have blood on their hands the moment the first Connecticut citizen is shot by the CT state police while carrying out their orders. I will be sending these folks my own email later today.

CT State Senators voting Yes on "An Act Concerning Gun Violence Prevention and Children's Safety, also known as Public Law 13-3 or Connecticut Senate Bill No. 1160," 3 April 2013. List includes home addresses. Photos and home phone numbers of these tyrants are available here.

As promised, Vanderboegh followed up his list with an Open Letter to the Legislative Tyrants of Connecticut sent to all CT

legislators where he extensively details the impact of Connecticut's new law and which he closes with a plea to legislators in an effort to prevent the potential for violence that may result in the event of a state-mandated gun confiscation:

Excerpts via Sipsey Street Irregulars:

To the CT State Senators And Representatives who voted Yes on "An Act Concerning Gun Violence Prevention and Children's Safety, also known as Public Law 13-3 or Connecticut Senate Bill No. 1160," 3 April 2013.

And, yes, I said tyrants. You bought it, in the form of the woefully misnamed "Act Concerning Gun Violence Prevention and Children's Safety," you own it, you are certainly — if you get your way — going to pay for it like it or not, so you might as well own up to it. Look in the mirror. That's what a tyrant in the 21st Century looks like. Mather Byles, the Massachusetts Loyalist

of the Revolutionary period — our first civil war — once famously asked, "Which is better — to be ruled by one tyrant three thousand miles away or by three thousand tyrants one mile away?" The Founders themselves were just as suspicious of unrestrained democracy as a means of tyranny. This is why they gave us a republic of limited powers and the rule of law, to limit those who would misuse democracy to create a new tyranny. Yet that is precisely what you've done. Own it.

We are at a crossroads. You, in the arrogance of your power and your ignorance of the people you seek to dominate are extrapolating from your own cowardice — you believe that just because the government orders these folks to knuckle under that they will do so BECAUSE THAT IS WHAT YOU WOULD DO. You mistake them, and your mistake is, in the full-

See PATRIOTS on page 19

Detroit Citizens Send Loud Message Criminals: We've Got Guns & Aren't Afraid to Use Them

Lily Dane,
FreedomOutPost.com

Citizens of Detroit are sending a loud and clear message to thugs: they have guns and aren't afraid to use them.

In the span of one week, three different homeowners in the city used guns to defend themselves against intruders.

The most recent incident happened around 2 a.m. last Saturday. Two men broke into a home and tried to knock out the homeowner with a tire iron. The homeowner shot both of them, killing one. The other escaped.

Around 12:30 a.m. on Saturday, a woman was sur-

prised by an armed man after she parked her car in her garage. She dropped her keys to distract him, reached for her own gun, and fatally shot him.

Detroit Police Deputy Chief Rodney Johnson told WXYZ Detroit that the woman handled the situation correctly:

"People are told that when faced with a situation, whether a robbery or carjacking, just to drop your belongings right there. That's what she did taking a few steps back to obtain her weapon which was a .38 caliber handgun. She was able to fire off several shots."

Less than a week ago, a Detroit mother armed with

a rifle defended her family from three thugs who broke into her home. The ordeal was caught on surveillance camera, and all three suspects were caught by police shortly after the incident.

Deputy Chief Johnson said over the past three to four years there has been an increase in the number of homeowners applying for concealed pistol licenses.

Detroit Police Chief James Craig has been an outspoken supporter of arming law-abiding citizens, and has publicly stated that "Good Americans with concealed pistols translates into crime reduction."

Living conditions in Detroit have declined in recent years. The city's bankrupt-

cy led to a reduced police force, and residents have had to learn to protect themselves. Self-defense killings in Detroit rose to 2200% above the national average in recent years, and Chief Craig says that more than 300 legally armed citizens defended themselves last year.

Maybe wanna-be thugs in Detroit will think twice about messing with homeowners in the area.

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"Whenever the legislators endeavor to take away and destroy the property of the people, or to reduce

them to slavery under arbitrary power, they put themselves into a state of war with the people, who are thereupon absolved from any further obedience and are left to the common refuge, which God hath provided for all men, against force and violence."

~ John Locke,
2nd Treatise on Government

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US Army Troop Cuts: Hagel and Obama Seem Determined to Decimate Our Military Capability

by Allen West,
AllenBWestCom

Early this morning I received an email from Mrs. Annie Shyne, a former constituent, whose son Nicolas received a nomination from our congressional office to the U.S. Naval Academy where he is now a plebe.

She was distressed over the intentions of Secretary of Defense Chuck Hagel, former U.S. Army Soldier, to decimate our military capability with deep U.S. Army troop cuts. Her email expressed concern for her son and his future as a commissioned officer in the Navy or Marine Corps. She was even more disturbed over the abandonment our military families will receive by way of cuts to commissary services and pay freezes. We recently reported the level of food stamp usage by our military families and its unconscionable increase.

Then this morning, I tuned in to hear SecDef Hagel attempt to explain this ill-conceived budget decision — which certainly has our enemies cheering. It seems Hagel, in his insidious and dubious manner, fails to realize that the most technologically advanced weapon on the battlefield is a trained, resolute, and determined warrior.

Instead of “investing” in the most important task of our federal government — providing for the common defense — we shall now focus on “investing” in the expansion of the welfare nanny-state. There is no doubt where President

Obama’s priorities lie.

We have departed from the maxim of “peace through strength” to a belief in “appeasement through weakness.” Obama somehow believes kumbaya is a strategic objective. And don’t give me the crap about drones because we learned during Vietnam that a president should not be directing strikes from the White House — implemented by another failed progressive president, Lyndon Baines Johnson.

We should be examining how we create the capability and capacity to meet the challenges of the enemy globally. That means looking at each geographic AOR (Area of Responsibility; CENTCOM, AFRICOM, EUCOM, PACOM, SOUTHCOM, NORTHCOM) and ensuring they have the appropriate level of force mix to meet the threats in their AORs.

We don’t need massive endeavors into new technologies. We need a massive focus on capability to meet and defeat the enemy by way of deterrence. Of course I support the defense industry, but the defense industry shouldn’t be the drivers of our national security strategy.

For Obama and Hagel to believe taking the U.S. Army down to pre-World War II levels is a smart decision evidences their abject stupidity in comprehending the global conflagrations in which we are embroiled — the enemy has a vote. This whole inane statement about “pivoting to the Asian-Pacific

rim” is more empty rhetoric as we decimate our U.S. Naval strength while China builds theirs.

Barack Hussein Obama cannot be seen as a Commander-in-Chief and I will never refer to him that way. His fundamental transformation of America means weakening our nation and leaving our Republic less secure. I can just imagine how appreciative and elated his Muslim Brotherhood friends are at this point, to include Turkey’s President Erdogan, as well as the mad mullahs in Iran.

Why would any mother like Annie Shyne want her son or daughter to serve under this charlatan? The real “War on Women?” It’s the Obama vision to have more American mothers welcoming their children home in flag-draped caskets — as we’ve seen under his purview in Afghanistan where deaths have skyrocketed.

This is my Army for whom I gave 22 years of honorable service and where I have a nephew and many a dear friend serving. I will be damned if I allow these progressive socialists to put their lives in danger. This, my fellow Americans, is why we need conservative American leaders who have served and are willing to lay down their life for this nation. Not some sorry Obama lapdog.

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Obama’s ‘Voter ID’ Scam is Busted!

by Wayne Allyn Root,
TheBlaze.com

Folks, we are being scammed. Democrats are winning elections through what appears to be massive voter fraud.

There is a saying, “He with the gold rules.” Well, whoever wins elections has the gold. The winner has the power to change everything — so they rule. It doesn’t matter if the win was by a small margin or if the win was by committing fraud. Winning is everything.

Many citizens may not realize most national elections are won by a sliver of votes in only a few, key battleground states. Change the vote totals by a small bit in a few states and Mitt Romney is the president: Ohio, Florida, Virginia, Colorado, Nevada, New Mexico, Wisconsin, Iowa, and Pennsylvania.

Why did Obama and Democrats win by just a sliver in those few battleground states? In 2012 it was a powerful one-two punch, both of which I believe were out and out voter fraud.

First, Obama used the IRS as his personal mafia thug enforcers to persecute, intimidate and destroy his political opposition — ranging from Tea Parties, to conservative fundraising organizations, to top GOP donors, and to high-profile outspoken critics in the media (like myself).

This widespread Obama-IRS conspiracy killed enthusiasm and intensity, dampened energy, silenced free speech and prevented fundraising through an IRS witch-hunt. This changed the outcome of the 2012 election and Obama should be impeached for it.

If you think impeachment can’t happen, study Ukraine. One day the president is mocking protestors and sending police to kill them. The next day he is abandoning his palace, impeached by Congress, and the military is hugging the

citizens in the streets. It all changes quickly.

But still, I believe the IRS scandal is the smaller problem. Impeach Obama and no president will use the IRS for political purposes ever again. Problem solved.

The more widespread problem involves Voter Identification — or the lack of it. Without Voter ID, Democrat voters across this country could be voting four times, five times, 10 times each. There is no way to prevent it and the facts indicate that is exactly what happened.

Take Philadelphia as just one example. There were voting precincts in Philly where the combined vote was Obama over Romney by about 30,000 to 0. In those precincts GOP poll watchers were forcibly removed for several hours until judges ordered them back in. During those hours were the ballot boxes stuffed? Did Democrat voters vote 10 times each? As absurd as 30,000 to 0 is (it’s just statistically impossible), maybe the right vote total was 6,000 to 0.

If I’m wrong, why did the wolves want the chicken coup left unguarded?

Democrats hate Voter ID. It’s one of their biggest issues. But that’s ridiculous. Voter ID is a no-brainer. You need an ID to do most anything: cash a check, buy cigarettes or alcohol, get food stamps, or get any government benefits. You even need ID to get into government buildings!

So why are Democrats so intense and passionate about such a minor issue? Me thinks thou protesteth too much. This is a much bigger issue than meets the naked eye. Democrats are losing their minds over Voter ID because they know they can’t win elections without fraud.

Obama and his socialist cabal are making “a mountain out of a molehill” because this is their edge. This is

how they win elections when their policies are a failure; when they’ve ruined the economy; when they’ve spent the country into bankruptcy; when they’ve killed millions of jobs. Voter ID is their secret weapon. They stuff the ballot box. They cheat.

I dare Democrats to prove me wrong. But of course they can’t, because without Voter ID, there is no way to prove voters are voting multiple times, in different precincts, using false names, or the names of dead voters, or the names of voters who have moved, or using illegal immigrants to illegally vote across this country.

But there is proof positive Voter ID is a scam. The Obama-Democratic Party argument against Voter ID because:

- A) It’s racist...
- B) It’s meant to stop people from voting...
- C) It’s too big of a burden for poor and minority voters to obtain ID.

I just returned from two doctor visits for a checkup and a follow-up test. These were my first doctor visits since Obamacare took effect. Guess what both medical offices asked me for before any doctor could see me, or any medical test could be done?

Official government-issued photo ID.

You cannot see a doctor or receive your free Obamacare without ID to prove it’s really you. A health insurance card won’t do the trick, simply because the medical office needs to prove you are in fact the person whose name is on the insurance card.

I questioned the nurses at both offices. They verified no one can collect their “free” Obamacare services from any doctor without showing ID. And since everyone is now required to

See SCAM
on page 19

*I prefer liberty with danger
to peace with slavery.*

~Anonymous

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No Erick Erickson, Jesus Would Not Bake A Cake for Homosexuals

The Common Constitution-alist, FreedomOutPost.com

Well, here we go again. Another day and another discrepancy with a conservative stalwart. What the heck. It seems to be the week for it. Maybe, hopefully, this will be the last.

As painful as it is, I have to be honest about where I stand, even if it is in disagreement with a true conservative, or conservatives.

A few days ago I posted an article in disagreement with Dr. Thomas Sowell regarding Ted Cruz.

This time it is Erick Erickson of RedState. My disagreement is over a diary post he wrote entitled, "Yes, Jesus Would Bake a Cake for a Gay Person."

His post begins: "Jesus Christ would absolutely bake a cake for a gay person. He would bake a cake for a straight person. He would bake a cake for a girl, a boy, a person who isn't sure what they are, a black person, a white person – Jesus would bake that cake if it, in some way large or small, drew that person closer to him."

"And Christians should, too."

"Christians should show love and compassion for gays, straights, and everyone else. Christians should show God's love in hopes of drawing people to a relationship with Christ. Ninety-five percent of that may just be relationship building, but it should still be done."

I agree with some, but not all of his sentiment. I agree that we should show love and compassion to all, although it is easier said than done, being that we are neither God nor angels.

I do not, however, believe Jesus Christ would bake a cake for a homosexual. Recall that Jesus said to the adulterer, "Neither do I condemn you; go and sin no more."

He didn't say, "If you cease your sinful ways, I'll bake you a tasty treat." He would love her and show compassion, but he did no more for her than to forgive her and tell her to stop sinning.

Now, being that the Bible says that homosexuality is a sin, by extrapolation, Jesus would say the same for a homosexual.

In my opinion, this whole business about homosexual "marriage," cake baking and the like isn't or shouldn't be about Christianity or religious freedom. It is about freedom, period.

Erickson continued: "If a Christian owns a bakery or a florist shop or a photography shop or a diner, a Christian should no more be allowed to deny service to a gay person than to a black person. It is against the tenets of 2000 years of Orthodox Christian faith, no matter how poorly some Christians have practiced their faith over two millennia."

And here is my problem with the whole mess we find ourselves in. The premise itself is flawed.

Should someone not be allowed to deny goods or services to someone else? Where in the Constitution does it say that?

I understand the premise of his argument is religious, not constitutional, but we should be allowed to deny service to anyone. Right or wrong, God will never force us to do anything or tell us we are not allowed to do something. Only that we shouldn't. He gave us free will.

I know that people naturally recoil when the term "slippery slope" is mentioned, but that's what this is and has been for a long time.

The government should not be able to tell its citizens that they cannot discriminate. Yeah, I can hear it now. I'm a hatemonger, blah, blah, blah!

Those who say that have given this issue no reasonable thought at all.

The answer, the solution to all discrimination, whether it be racial, gender, religious or whatever, has been and always will be a free market, where people are free to sell to, buy from, and discriminate against anyone they choose.

"The market" will take care

of what jackbooted government edicts, by force, can never.

Erickson states that, "The disagreement comes on one issue only – should a Christian provide goods and services to a gay wedding. That's it. We're not talking about serving a meal at a restaurant. We're not talking about baking a cake for a birthday party. We're talking about a wedding which millions of Christians view as a sacrament of faith and other, mostly Protestant Christians, view as a relationship ordained by God to reflect a holy relationship."

No it isn't. It's never about one issue. This isn't solely about the Christian sacrament. Again, it's about true freedom to choose. It's about a slippery slope. It's about our freedom to sell to, buy from, and congregate with anyone we choose.

Picture this: I open an establishment that allows only heterosexual white smokers in the door. Another entrepreneur sees an opportunity and opens a non-smoking, all-inclusive establishment across the street.

Now you tell me who will be the more successful. I will eventually end up closing because I can't compete unless I change, but because I'm a piece of crap, racist homophobe, I won't, so sayonara to me. Oh, and fear not; I will be judged later.

The marketplace takes care of itself. We just have to be open-minded enough to allow it.

If people don't wish to cater to homosexuals, whatever the reason, it is, or should be their right as Americans. Others will step in to more than fill that void. That's the American way.

It may not seem it at times, but a free market is the most fair and just system ever devised by humans, if we give it a chance.

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A Sheepdog Barks!

This last week, ever since Putin "The Bully" sent Russian troops into Ukraine, we have witnessed the most feckless leadership by Obama, Biden and Kerry imaginable. Once again Obama has promised consequences, this time it was the word "costs". Russia's actions will have "costs" howled Obama. Yes, it will cost Russia a lot of money for its deployment of thousands of troops and associated equipment. The 90-minute phone call with Putin, in which the main stream media said Obama used "strong" words, had zero effect. No one needs 90 minutes to be "strong." Strong is "Get out now, Vladimir!" And why did it have no effect? Putin, along with most of the other thugs and dictators in the world, has no respect or fear of Obama and his hollow demands. Holding hands and singing Kumbaya doesn't work well with the world's bad guys. Look at how Putin and Assad are poking Obama in the eye in Syria. Absolutely no respect. In the case of dealing with other foreign leaders Obama is a wolf with rubber fangs. WHIMPER! Putin has Obama's number and he has had it from the very beginning. He's been playing him like a set of cheap bongos. Recall Obama's submissive comment to Medvedev caught on a hot microphone, "Tell Vladimir I'll be more flexible after I get reelected." More flexible my behind! More submissive is what he meant. The failed "reset" is now bearing its fruit. Play nice with the Russians and they will walk all over you. Some respected pundits on Fox News described it this way. "Obama's policy, once again, is based on fantasy. It's all wishful thinking. The world is not behaving as Obama hoped it would." It's just more false "hope" from him. And HOPE is never a good plan. Obama and Kerry are trying to tell us that Russia is not behaving like they should in the 21st Century. Really, imagine that! Kerry suggested that this isn't the "modern" manner to resolve problems. He said "you shouldn't use 19th Century "methods" in today's world." What kind of idiot thinking is that? Did I miss something? Who established those rules?

Obama? First of all, powerful and aggressive forces have been invading other weaker countries since the beginning of time. The strong army attacks a lesser army. By the way Kerry, that "method" was used several times in the 20th Century. Do you remember the Nazis? Twice! And pacifist actions and excuses like this usually leads to the invaders being emboldened. This administration is even suggesting UN observers could be used. Really? They are not even effective in 3rd World African countries. How could they possibly be effective against Russians? Whatever develops, Obama and his "B" Team (aka the National Security Council) better get this one right. Judge Jeanine said it best: "His Red Lines turned Pink, then Yellow." The lines have now disappeared altogether in Egypt, Iran, and Syria. Obama has finally achieved transparency. WOOF! He probably won't get this one right either. Obama needs the full support of the European Union and they get a lot of resources and natural gas from Russia. We'll see how tough they are willing to play. Stay tuned, this will take a while. Now I'm going to shift gears a little. An old Army sheepdog buddy and war hero (thanks, John) sent me a great email (slightly edited) that I'm going to share with you. Most presidents say one or two things they live to regret. But Looky Here, one stands out. Let's quickly compare the current and last few presidents. Most of you will remember all of these:

Famous Presidential Lies:

LBJ: We were attacked! (in the Gulf of Tonkin)

Nixon: I am not a crook!

GHW Bush: Read my lips - No New Taxes!

Clinton: I did not have sex with that Woman... Miss Lewinski! The era of big government is over!

G.W. Bush: The prescription drug benefit will be good for America! You did a good job, Brownie!

Obama:

I will have the most transparent Administration in history!

The stimulus will fund shovel-ready jobs!

I am focused like a laser on creating jobs!



The IRS is not targeting anyone!

It was a spontaneous riot about a movie!

If I had a son!

I will put an end to the type of politics that "breeds division, conflict and cynicism!"

You didn't build that!

I will restore trust in Government!

The Cambridge cops acted stupidly!

The public will have 5 days to look at every bill that lands on my desk!

It's not my red line - it is the world's red line!

Whistle blowers will be protected in my administration!

We got back every dime we used to rescue the banks and auto companies, with interest!

I am not spying on American citizens!

ObamaCare will be good for America!

You can keep your family doctor!

Premiums will be lowered by \$2500!

If you like it, you can keep your current healthcare plan!

It's just like shopping at Amazon!

I knew nothing about "Fast and Furious" gunrunning to Mexican drug cartels!

I knew nothing about IRS targeting conservative groups!

I knew nothing about what happened in Benghazi!

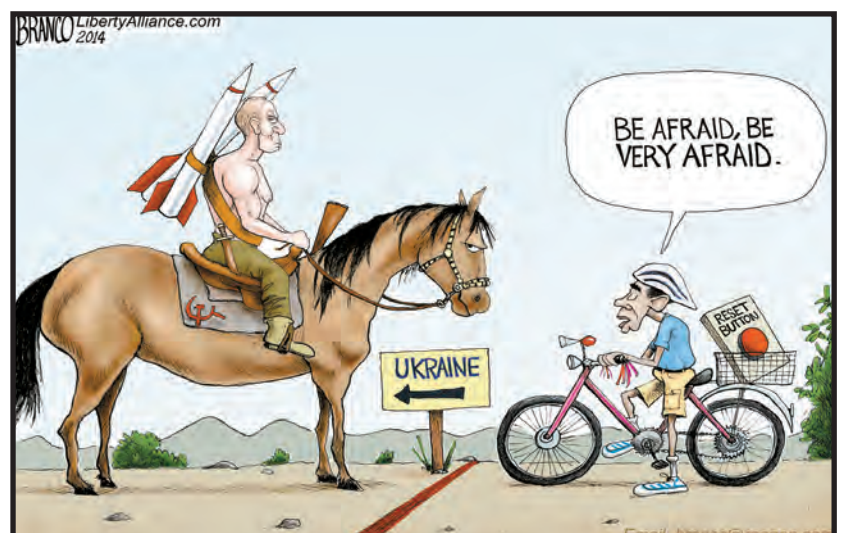
I have never known my uncle from Kenya who is in the country illegally and that was arrested and told to leave the country over 20 years ago!

And, I have never lived with that uncle!

And his biggest LIE of all: "I, Barack Hussein Obama, pledge to preserve, protect and defend the Constitution of the United States of America!"

I believe we have a clear winner! Enough said. WOOF!

May God have Mercy on America! JMH



Presenting The #1 Financial Haven For Dictators & Criminals

by Simon Black, ZeroHedge.com

Pop quiz: When really nasty criminals and dictators want to hide their illicit gains, which country do they go to?

I'll make this easy for you - multiple choice:

- a) Switzerland b) British Virgin Islands c) Hong Kong

With all the drama, history, and stigma surrounding Switzerland, most people would choose (A).

Yet over the last few years, Switzerland has worked hard to shed this reputation, even going so far as to propose laws making it easier for them to freeze dictators' funds.

But in reality, the correct answer to the question is (D), none of the above. It's the United States of America.

Despite being at the forefront for every other country in the world to eradicate banking privacy, the US government has hardly done a thing about the huge cracks in its own banking system... at least when it comes to foreigners.

Many states ranging from Delaware to New Mexico boast corporate entities that can be completely private, especially for foreign share-

holders.

Not to mention, attorney-client privilege laws in the US mean that a lawyer can be inserted between a foreigner and their Delaware bank account, making the funds virtually untraceable back to the original shareholder overseas.

Last- the US banking system is so large with hundreds of billions of dollars of inflows and outflows, it's quite easy for several hundred million to slip right past the radar.

So if you're a villainous dictator who has plundered your citizens' wealth, you'd be a fool to stash that cash away in Switzerland. Wall Street banks are waiting with open arms, and Saul Goodman is just a phone call away.

None of this, by the way, is any wild conspiracy theory. It's all fact... validated by the US government itself.

You see, the Financial Crimes Enforcement Network (FinCEN), an agency of the US Treasury Department, sent out a rather frantic email blast to banks across the United States yesterday about former Ukrainian President Viktor Yanukovich.

Mr. Yanukovich recently fled his home country and is

on the run from mass murder charges. And as you can imagine, he has spent years plundering the wealth of Ukraine.

FinCEN recognizes that Yanukovich has substantial assets stashed away in the Land of the Free... and they're keen to avoid yet another embarrassing public scandal in which the US banking system is caught financing a fugitive dictator.

So their email yesterday was a not-so-subtle suggestion to banks across the country that they should sound the alarm bells with respect to "suspicious movements of assets related to Viktor Yanukovich. . . and other senior officials resigning from their positions or departing Kiev."

It certainly begs the question- why would FinCEN send out such an admonishment to US banks?

Simple. Because while ordinary citizens are treated like dairy cows and medieval serfs, FinCEN knows that the United States is the #1 financial safe haven in the world for foreign criminals and dictators.

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SENATORS From page 13

ond Amendment rights, and a return to smaller, limited government. Perhaps some differences can be noted in their stances on social issues. When questioned about abortion, a highly divisive issue in this country, the responses were primarily what all social conservatives want to hear; the four candidates all espoused a

pro-life stance. The differences lie in who will push legislation in this area. Aspiro's answer was that he's pro-life and that his position wasn't going to change, but he argued that the issue is too divisive and that as conservatives we have too many battles; if we choose to focus on this one, we'll lose it all. Trujillo's answer was similar in that he believes Democrats successfully use the issue to divide

us; we should avoid trying to legislate and instead work on changing the heart and soul of individuals who believe that abortion is the answer. Hill spoke eloquently about Amendment 67, legislation that would provide protections from criminals to unborn babies. And Baumgardner stated simply that he's pro-life.

Be informed; and if you love America, get involved!

PATRIOTS From page 16

ness of time, going to get people killed. And who do you think these people who you victimize — these people who you will have state agents seek to round up and kill — who do you think they are going to blame for that? It doesn't take Madame Lawlor and his crystal ball to predict that such people — victimized by their own state authorities in an unconstitutional law that likely will be found to be null and void anyway — will blame the people who sent the killers. Which is to say, you.

This is deadly serious stuff, this foray into an undiscovered country that you have so blithely entered upon, like blind men and women tap dancing in a minefield you scarcely comprehend. Fully eighty-five percent of the people you targeted with the law — the people that YOU AND YOU ALONE made into law-breakers — have just told you by their noncompliance to take your unconstitutional law and stick it where the sun don't shine. Does that not tell you ANYTHING? These people are ARMED. They are familiar with the finer points of marksmanship. They are principled in a way that perhaps only the Founders would under-

stand — at the risk of their own lives. So what part of "Oh, HELL no" don't you understand? You have been playing with titanic forces. You are going to send armed agents of the state to their doors to work your collective and collectivist will upon THEM? You have unintentionally sown the wind and if things go predictably south you will reap the whirlwind.

Sincerely,
Mike Vanderboegh,
Smuggler and alleged leader of a merry band of Three Percenters

The importance of what's happening in Connecticut and how its citizens are responding cannot be understated. What we have here is a government that has directly violated the Second Amendment of the United States of America by legislating forced gun registration with the penalty of confiscation of said firearms and felony imprisonment for those who refuse to comply.

They have now threatened all Connecticut residents with arrest if they refuse to turn over their firearms.

In coming days and weeks, unless Mike Vanderboegh's warnings are heeded, we will begin to see police-state raids of homes belonging to anyone sus-

pected of owning an unregistered firearm or accessory.

Keep in mind that this legislation has not yet made it to the U.S. Supreme Court, so Connecticut state officials intend to confiscate guns through the use of force and without a judicial review of the Constitutionality of the laws they passed.

There will be those in Connecticut who surrender their firearms. But a growing sentiment across the United States suggests that there will be those who will simply refuse to submit to the will of the state.

If Connecticut goes through with this and sends heavily armed police personnel to the doors of Constitutional Law-abiding citizens it is not out of the question to suggest that we will see bloodshed and violence when these gun confiscations begin.

The people have had enough and many Americans are preparing to stand their ground.

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SCAM From page 17

have health insurance (or is given free insurance), the government is requiring that EVERYONE have a photo ID.

Does that make Obama and the Democrats racists? No, what it makes them is hypocrites who are in total fear of fair elections that they know they have no chance of winning — no chance, that is, unless they cheat. Don't look now but Obamacare just opened the door for Voter ID.

This is where the younger generation screams, "BUSTED!"

Let's take the hypocrisy a step further. Every single Democrat voter must be lining up to get their photo ID so they can get their free Obamacare. So the argument that poor and minority Democrat voters don't have ID, or shouldn't be "burdened" to get it, is out the window.

I think this is where the younger generation screams, "DOUBLE BUSTED."

That leaves only one possi-

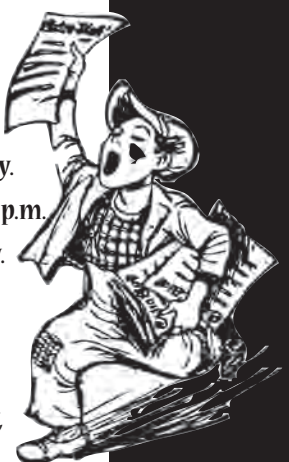
ble reason to oppose Photo ID for voters...the ability to cheat! The whole Voter ID scam is dead in the water- just like the Obama economy. The argument against Voter ID is killed just like jobs in this Obama economy. Anyone who tries to argue "most voters don't have ID" is a liar just like the president who said, "If you like your insurance, you can keep it."

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FYI...

for your information...

The Sangre de Cristo Sentinel is published every Friday. Our office hours are Monday-Thursday 9:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m. Friday 9:00 a.m. - 1:00 p.m. Closed Saturday and Sunday. Deadline for classified ad copy is Tuesday Noon. Deadline for display ad copy is Friday Noon the week before the ad is to appear in the paper. Deadline for all other submissions is noon on Monday, and can be emailed to submittals@sdcsentinel.com Please send us information on clubs and organizations, news stories and pictures, and upcoming events. Please limit Letters to the Editor to 250 words and "We the People" Speak to 500 words. Please include your name, address and phone number. Garage/Yard sales are printed free, however verbiage is limited to date, time and address. Birth, Engagement, Wedding Announcements and Obituaries are also printed free of charge with a 350 word maximum and one photo included.



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WHO'S COUNTING?

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NO RESPONSIBILITY YET!

NOW ON DAY #1,179

1ST AMENDMENT ATTACKS ON U.S. PRESS BEGAN WHEN THE DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE APPLIED FOR A SEARCH WARRANT AGAINST JAMES ROSEN.

NO ACCOUNTABILITY YET!

NOW ON DAY #851

TERRORIST ATTACK IN BENGHAZI FOLLOWED BY RELENTLESS LIES AND COVERUPS.

NO ACCOUNTABILITY YET!

NOW ON DAY #542

IRS TARGETING OF CONSERVATIVE GROUPS ADMITTED BY LOIS LERNER.

NO ACCOUNTABILITY YET!

NOW ON DAY #301

OBAMACARE STARTED ON OCTOBER 1, 2013, BASED ON LIES, INCOMPETENCE, AND BUDGET BREAKERS. NEEDS TO BE REPEALED.

NO ACCOUNTABILITY YET!

NOW ON DAY #158

“Takin’ It To The House...” A Calendar And Commentary From The Golden Dome

From: Representative
Jim Wilson – HD 60
March 2, 2014

The House “Kill Committee” put another notch in their weapon this past week – and they did it in a really bizarre fashion! If you recall in prior columns, I pointed out that an extraordinary number of bills (in both the House and Senate) had been assigned to the State, Veterans and Military Affairs Committees during this session. These committees are known as the “kill committees” due to the fact that the leadership in the House and Senate assign bills that they want killed to these committees. It is no surprise that a bill assigned to the House SVMA committee got killed. What is surprising is how it was done! Just so you will not think this is me venting about how the Dems are running the agenda this year, here is the story according to Joel Malecka’s press release from the Capitol:

“Today, the Democrats on the House State, Veterans, and Military Affairs Committee voted party-line to kill SB14-084. Though party-line votes have not

been uncommon this session, it is shocking to see House Democrats kill a bill along party lines after it has passed the Senate unanimously. What is even more shocking is that Rep. LaBuda (D-Denver), a co-prime sponsor of the bill, voted to kill her own bill.

The bill would have allowed voters of counties with populations of less than 70,000 to change the method by which county commissioners are elected so that each commissioner is elected exclusively by the voters residing within that district. The Colorado Farm Bureau and rural conservation districts testified in support of the bill.

‘Not one of the Democrats on the committee, including the other co-prime sponsor of the bill, is from a rural area. This vote is just one more example of urban Democrats telling rural Coloradoans how to live,’ said Rep. Corum (R-Montrose). My bill simply ensured a county commissioner would be elected by the people from their own district. Unfortunately, Democrats on the committee felt they know more about rural elections and

what’s best for the people of rural Colorado.”

I just listened to a discussion this past week (that included the aforementioned representative that voted against her own bill) focusing on the premise that rural is overrepresented – Really? Folks, there may not be an all-out war on rural Colorado under the Golden Dome this session, but rural has certainly been under fire!!! The challenge of making sure rural districts like HD 60 are not ignored at the Capitol is an uphill battle

Speaking of battles, the “Student Success Act” (HB14-1292) will be heard in the House Education Committee this week. In one corner are school districts, superintendents and the teachers union pushing for a buy down of the negative factor anywhere from \$200 to \$275 M. In the other corner are the legislators trying to make sure the amount of dollars in the buy down is sustainable over time. None of the combatants packs a knockout punch, so this bout will be a long one... Keep in mind that HB14-1292 is NOT the annual



School Finance Act – it is yet to come. HB14-1292 is an additional funding bill to restore some of the cuts made to school budgets over the past 5 years.

SB14-004 -- allowing 2-year colleges to grant 4-year Bachelor of Applied Science degrees, is now law! The Governor signed the bill on Thursday. Sen. Todd (D) and I were glad to see 1 ½ years of hard work pay off!

Please 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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