



Dramatic Proposal for Clinic/Ambulance

by Candi Sage

The Custer County Commissioner’s meeting was held on Monday, March 31 at 9:00 am.

After a few scheduling changes and an update on the “way finding” sign the packed room waited for the next presentation.

Rural citizen, Paul Sage, presented his case regarding citizens interested in restructuring/reorganizing the EMS/Clinic operation. “We, the people, want reliable, well trained, and reasonably paid EMS personnel to be on duty to respond when we have a medical emergency and call 911, and we would also like to have a reliable, cost-effective, healthcare clinic where we could take our insurance card or money and receive some basic medical service right here at home when it is possible. When we read the annual budget review of the West Custer County Hospital District, we would like to see that the reasonable and prudent managers we have in place have once again balanced the budget we have given them to work with. The Fire Department does it with a 3.8 mill levy.

The Hospital District can do this with their 4.9 mill levy. When the day comes, we need to pay more to get what we want, we will then confidently vote to provide it.”

He asked the commissioners to “end the madness” reminding them that they have asked the hospital board “numerous times to work it out and modify the service plan”, but it hasn’t happened. He said, “Today I ask you to be the leadership of the county and order them to do so; to provide the services promised in this contract and to eliminate the expenses that are not part of that contract. State statutes authorize you to request the district court to enjoin (to direct or impose by authoritative order with urgent admonition) the unauthorized service plan departures by a motion of the county commissioners. To do so now can put a stop to unauthorized spending of tax dollars, provide for a quality paid EMS service, and prevent the expense of a Hospital District Board recall election to accomplish the simple goal of having the needs of the tax-paying citizens recognized.”

nized.”

He presented various issues with the West Custer County Hospital District and the Ambulance Service both wrapped up in an outdated service plan. Mr. Sage presented the commissioners with a four-page outline of issues from financial to services provided for both the ambulance and the Hospital District together and separately. The issues he presented are:

-The crisis of confidence that members in the community have expressed.

–“Outdated, illegal, archaic” service plan as claimed by Hospital Board members.

-Stated to be ‘changed over time’ by the Hospital Board but without the required public notification.

-Questionable claiming of ‘government immunity’ in current wrongful death suit by operating outside their service plan with unsubstantiated ‘practicability’ as their support.

-Bad management as expressed by community due to long history of known and financial issues.

-Financial losses from the

Hospital Board’s financial statements showed 2009, 10, 11, 12 totaling \$933,423.

-Hospital Board’s Financial Advisor reported, “The financial statements were fragmented, two and sometimes three sets of books and inaccurate.”

-Failing to maintain the 3% cash reserves required by the Tabor Amendment of the Colorado Constitution and noted in both the 2011 and 2012 financial audits, as the estimated emergency reserve requirement has not been met.

-In 2011 took out a \$100,000 interest bearing loan to offset cash-flow problems.

-Currently has an \$85,000 loan which is “collateralized by the ambulances” per the auditor. (It is generally considered illegal to place a lien on public property as the Hospital District has done with ambulances.)

-Unaudited financials for 2013 shows more management loss of \$64,229 which includes \$22,000 in severance costs and \$10,000 of that paid to the former clinic director as a ‘performance bonus’ after quitting.

ting.

-2012 audited budget numbers show over \$600,000 was paid to medical personnel, yet the original service plan states that it is “not allowed” to pay salaries for medical personnel with tax money.

-2013 financial figures show \$94,000 as “new provider pay” and \$55,000 as “provider credentialing”, neither are provided in the service plan.

-Following the switch of the EMS from volunteers, to independent contractors, then back to volunteers and a complaint made to the Department of Labor, the Hospital Board now has to pay the back wages of just over \$36,000 to the EMS workers.

-By the Federal Department of Labor ruling, the EMS workers can’t be on call since they remain as volunteers which can have an effect on potential survival of a 911 emergency.

-Now the Hospital District is looking for a new ‘home’ for the EMS which may result in another tax in-

See CLINIC on page 4

We’ve Got Races!! Byerly and Kattnig Make It

by George Gramlich

Sheriff candidate Shannon Byerly and Commissioner candidate Bob Kattnig both succeeded in gathering enough signatures in the brief time period between the March 25th Republican caucus and the March 31 petition deadline to be placed on the Republican June 24th primary ballot. The primary election will be mail-in only. This was perhaps the first time that a candidate successfully fulfilled the petition signature requirement in only six days.

Shannon Byerly’s supporters gathered a rather incredible 440 signatures for his petition in the brief

six-day period. Only 234 were needed to be certified. So now we have three candidates for the Sheriff’s position: Under Sheriff Tony Supan, Shannon Byerly, and Eric Thompson.

Commissioner candidate Bob Kattnig gathered a total of 292 signatures during the petition period. With 36 being rejected, he still exceeded the minimum number of 234 to qualify. We now have three candidates for the county commissioner’s slot: current Commissioner Allen Butler, Jack Canterbury, and Bob Kattnig.

Stand back folks, it’s “politic’n” time.

Eagles Summit Ranch

Wounded Warrior Graduation

Friday, April 4, 2014 - 6 p.m.

This session will be a group from Ft. Bragg, North Carolina. The reason this is extra special is that they are flying all the way here because our friend, LTC Joseph Anderson, former Commander of Ft. Carson and friend of Westcliffe, insisted that a group from his new appointment attend our program in beautiful Colorado.

We are honored that he believes in what we do so strongly!

Bring a side dish, salad, bread or dessert - we’ll provide the meat and drinks!

For directions and to RSVP please call 719-783-9729.



Stampede Royalty Selected

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Colorado Education: Paying More for Less

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Willing to go to Jail for Prayer

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Armed Citizens Prevent Bank Robbery

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PATRIOT ALERT! Veterans Resource Forum in Pueblo

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So do not fear, for I am with you; do not be dismayed, for I am your God. I will strengthen you and help you; I will uphold you with my righteous right hand.

Isaiah 41:10
NIV

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*A different view from
the same mountains!*


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

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

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

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Our Opinion...

From the Editorial Board



WHO'S PROTECTING OUR RELIGIOUS FREEDOMS?

One thing is certain: the Obama Administration is not protecting our religious freedoms as expressed in the 1st Amendment to our Constitution. The first 10 Amendments, known as the Bill of Rights, were passed as part of the ratification process of the Constitution in order to specifically and absolutely identify the most important rights of the people and the States. They were included to make sure the limited powers of the federal government were honored and that it would never, ever violate those critical rights. In the 1st Amendment our freedom of religious rights were stated like this: "Congress shall make no law respecting an establishment of religion, or prohibiting the free exercise thereof;..." That seems pretty clear to most of us. It means that the Public Accommodation Section in the Civil Rights Act of 1964 cannot override our right of the free exercise of our religious beliefs. The 1st Amendment trumps any congressional law. So who is protecting our religious freedom rights? Two great organizations come to mind that spend all their time fighting big government's infringement of our God given rights: The Alliance Defending Freedom and the American Center for Law and Justice. Read more about these two organizations below. The info is directly from their web sites and mailed literature.

Alliance Defending Freedom is a servant ministry building an alliance to keep the door open for the spread of the Gospel by transforming the legal system and advocating for religious liberty, the sanctity of life, and marriage and family.

Recognizing the need for a strong, coordinated legal defense against growing attacks on religious freedom, more than 30 prominent Christian leaders launched Alliance Defending Freedom in 1994. Over the past 18 years, this unique legal ministry has brought together thousands of Christian attorneys and like-minded organizations that work tirelessly to advocate for the right of people to freely live out their faith in America and around the world.

Unlike any other legal organization, Alliance Defending Freedom employs a unique combination of strategy, training, funding, and litigation to empower its allies and achieve victory for religious freedom.

Alliance Defending Freedom and its allies have won 8 out of every 10 cases litigated to conclusion, including 38 precedent-setting victories at the U.S. Supreme Court and hundreds more in the lower courts.

As a result, the God-given, constitutionally protected right to religious freedom has been restored for thousands of Christians – students, parents, business

owners, employees, pastors, and community members – who were previously censored or punished, but are now free to live out their faith.

Since its founding in 1994, Alliance Defending Freedom has made a significant impact for God's Kingdom through its winning legal efforts to preserve religious freedom for people of faith.

The American Center for Law and Justice (ACLJ) and its globally affiliated organizations are committed to ensuring the ongoing viability of freedom and liberty in the United States and around the world.

By focusing on U.S. constitutional law, European Union law and human rights law, the ACLJ and its affiliated organizations are dedicated to the concept that freedom and liberty are universal, God-given and inalienable rights that must be protected.

The ACLJ and its worldwide affiliates engage in litigation, provide legal services, render advice to individuals and governmental agencies, as well as counsel clients on global freedom and liberty issues. They also support training law students from around the world in order to protect religious liberty and safeguard human rights and dignity.

As a non-profit organization, the ACLJ does not charge for its services and

is dependent upon God and the resources He provides through the time, talent, and gifts of people who share our concerns and desire to protect our religious and constitutional freedoms.

ACLJ Chief Counsel Jay Sekulow has conducted oral arguments before the Supreme Court of the United States on numerous occasions, and the ACLJ has one of the most effective amicus brief programs in the nation.

ACLJ won seven injunctions against enforcement of the Obamacare abortion-pill mandate in all seven of their anti-mandate cases. They won religious freedom for students in local school districts, securing the right to form Bible groups and reference God in schoolwork. They also protected students' rights to express their faith in numerous other situations. ACLJ fought for the right to display religious symbols, including the Ground Zero Cross in New York City, a Jesus statue in Montana, the Star of David at a Holocaust memorial, and for our National Motto, "In God We Trust." They also filed briefs at the Supreme Court of the United States arguing against the President's unconstitutional recess appointments, supporting prayer at town board meetings, calling for preservation of a state law banning abortion after 20 weeks and of the rights of pro-life counselors at abor-

tion facilities – and they petitioned the Justices to hear the case against the Obamacare abortion-pill mandate.

These kinds of cases go on every day in America and around the world. The liberal progressives are confused on this issue. They don't understand that this Nation stands strong only when it stands with God. Late last month the Supreme Court heard the case of Sebelius vs. Hobby Lobby. Those good Christian owners don't want to provide birth control pills to their employees and that requirement is mandated in Obamacare. The Obama administration is fighting hard to force them to violate their strong religious beliefs. It's shameful. These two organizations fight hard for our 1st Amendment freedoms every day. We encourage you to check out their web sites, learn more about them and contribute as you are able, to help them sustain their righteous efforts. America must stand up for God. Their contact info is below:

Alliance Defending Freedom

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Scottsdale, AZ 85260-2769
www.AllianceDefending-Freedom.org

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He will put the sheep on his right and the goats on his left. "Then the King will say to those on his right, 'Come, you who are blessed by my Father; take your inheritance, the kingdom prepared for you since the creation of the world.'

Matthew 25:33-34, NIV

Pueblo's 4th Annual Regional Veterans Resource Forum Saturday, April 19th 9 a.m. - 1 p.m.

**Pueblo Community College
Fortino Ballroom
900 W. Orman Ave.**

Information available:

**Federal Benefits (Vietnam Era/
Desert Storm/Post911) - State
Benefits - Education Benefits -
Mental Health/Medical Benefits
- Pueblo Veterans Clinic - Jobs for
Vets - Housing and Homeless
Programs - Mortgage Loan
Programs - Women Veterans**

**Vietnam Vets Panel - 30th Anniversary
of Agent Orange Settlement**



Your Opinions...

"We the People" Speak



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

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

The Party of Sarah Palin and the Duke Dynasty Women or The Party of Sandra Fluke and Hillary:

by Candy Thompson,
Cañon City

The 2102 Election that put Barack Obama in the White House was decided by women voters, 55% of whom voted for him compared to 45% of men voters. The 2012 election has been hailed as the year of the women. It's interesting that men voted for Romney in the same proportions producing a gender gap of 20, the greatest ever recorded in an election.

Women need to ask themselves these questions and answer honestly: Are you better off under this administration than you were previously? Are you happier with your life? Are you healthier and are your relationships more or less rewarding? Are your hopes for the future for your children more or less positive? Do you have more money or less money to spend on necessities for your family? Is it easier or harder to find employment? Do you have more or less leisure time with your family? Do you and your children feel safer in the world and in your home?

The party that has done more to divide men and women and hurt relationships is the party of Sandra Fluke, the Democratic Party. One of the early women's libbers, Gloria Steinem, influenced many women's feelings about men and caused dissatisfaction saying for example: "Some of us are becoming the men we wanted to marry" and "Most women are one man away from welfare." So are women better off or worse off now?

Under the Democratic Party, women have become more dependent on government since Johnson's "war on poverty" and

have found it more beneficial to stay single for government handouts than to get married. This dependence has left women poorer, not better off and more vulnerable in many ways with more divorces and more women raising children alone.

The Virginia Slims lady of the 60's freed women to smoke like a man and also to get cancer like a man. Wanting to have "free sex" without consequences, women now have free contraceptives and abortions and a whole lot of problems to go along with that "freedom". The party that pretends to be the party of choice and compassion couldn't give a rip about the lives they are destroying in the name of freedom and equality.

Even God gives people a choice to serve Him or not, but He also gives them a clear truthful picture of what each choice will bring upon them. In Deuteronomy 28 God tells His people about the blessings they will incur if they harken to his voice and obey his commandments, but He also gives them a long list of curses they bring on themselves for disobeying and not harkening to His voice. Choices have consequences and they are real.

The liberal propaganda that was fed to the American women in the 60s by the likes of Betty Friedan, a man-hating, card-carrying communist, and Gloria Steinem, praised as the guru of women's liberation, is still infused in the liberal/progressive party of today.

Putting a woman on the podium like Sandra Fluke who says she needed \$3,000 for contraceptives during her law school stint, when \$9 a month should have

covered her sexual activity, was laughable, but it was also irresponsible and downright deceptive.

She says that she is grateful that Obamacare will meet women's critical healthcare needs. What she fails to say is that all these contraceptives don't protect from 25 strains of std's alone which can actually be the cause of these "critical healthcare needs." Teen girls have the greatest incidence of these diseases, many incurable.

The party of Hillary and Sandra is not the party I believe has done the most for women but whose policies and philosophy have contributed the most to the destruction of women's lives in every way. Hillary Clinton, humiliated publicly yet staying with an adulterous husband may seem admirable to many women but, frankly, even God doesn't require us to do that without sincere repentance and a change in behavior. "What difference does it make, anyway?" A lot, I think.

The party that gave women the vote and made citizens of blacks, that safeguards the values of family, traditional marriage, free enterprise, small government, and American exceptionalism as well as the unborn is the party that I will support, the Republican Party. "Mama Grizzlies" are rising up over all the country to make their voices heard and are tired of having those speak for them who do not represent their values, hopes and dreams. Give me the party of the Duck Dynasty women, Sarah Palin and Michele Bachmann and many other smart, godly women who are beautiful inside and out. Happy, happy, happy....as Phil would say.

On Life in Israel Today

Dear Sentinel Readers –
The Informed

My wife and I just returned from our fourth trip to Israel. Let me issue my disclaimer right off. I am not naïve; I know my Bible and I know the "facts" on the ground. So if you'll allow me, I will tell you like it is.

First, the Palestinians (an unknown group of people in history only since 1964 and Yasser Arafat have they existed), they are Arab Muslims and were given the area of Jordan as their land under the British mandate. Of those living in Israel, 95% are content to live under Israeli rule, but 5% are radical Muslims (the Koran says to kill the infidel), also, there is money and power to be gained – keep the terror going.

Our focus was Biblical Judea and Samaria (the so-called occupied territory). Be serious, most people don't have a clue where this is and sorry to say that most people don't know the Bible.

Since May 14, 1948, (the rebirth of the nation of Israel) when the land was barren, no one claiming it since that day the Jewish people have not had one hour of peace. But survey the land today from Dan to Beersheva you will see the desert blossoming like the Bible says in Amos 9: 14 -15. Yes, we visited Tekoa, the birth place of the prophet Amos.

The agriculture is amazing – bananas growing where one inch of rain falls, mangos, cotton (colored) dates, almonds, pistachios, wheat, dairies, chicken and turkey farms, cattle – you name it, for local consumption and for export.

Then travel along the coast – Haifa, Netanya, Hertzelia and Tel Aviv, high tech second only to the Silicon

Valley in CA. Why? They will tell you it's God.

The poor 95% of the Palestinians, they want peace, they want to be Israeli citizens, they want the benefits, but the 5% won't let them.

On the ground –

Fabulous homes in Palestinian villages (billions of dollars from the USA, Europe and Israel), trailers for Jews who cannot get building permits. The Arabs are stealing water, electricity, and land from Israel. Stealing and stripping cars by the thousands, Israel turns a blind eye. Insurance covers the loss – keep the peace at all costs.

It was a great trip – wish you had been there. We got angry every day; the injustice is over the top. We could hear the shelling when we were on the border of Israel. As a result of the constant threats, Israel spends 45% of its GDP on security.

Thank God for the wall Israel built that protects the Israeli's from terrorism.

The world will find out soon enough (Joel 3:2 and Matthew 25:31 – 46). They are very clear that judgment is coming for how the nations treat Israel.

Please don't fall into the trap that the world has set concerning Israel: Zachariah 12:1-4, speaks of the destruction of those who come against Jerusalem.

There are currently 350,000 Jewish people living in Judea and Samaria and they aren't going anywhere.

Yeshua haMashiach (Jesus the Messiah) will bring the peace of God to the land and the people.

Rev. Hal & Linda Crossley

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Letters to the Editor



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You Can Vote!!

To the Editor:

As many of you know, at last week’s caucus Custer County sheriff candidate Shannon Byerly did not receive the needed votes to be placed on the June 24th primary ballot. In a matter of hours a team of Byerly supporters hit the ground running with petitions. Other candidates who went the petition route had a four-week head start, so TEAM BYERLY’s work

was cut out. We needed 234 “good signatures” to qualify getting him on the ballot. After less than 5 days, 440 signatures were gathered. 377 were “good signatures” which exceeded the required number by over 50 percent.

Shannon says that “all citizens of Custer County should be treated with respect and equality.” As someone who was treated unjustly and unfairly,

I, for one, would welcome change.

Shannon would be happy to meet with any group when convenient to explain his vision for Custer County. He can be reached at 371-6678 or e-mailed at shanbyerly@yahoo.com

Sincerely,
Robert Pruikma
Former seven-year Custer County Search and Rescue Captain

My thoughts against DST

1. Rural kids have to wait for their buses and go to school in the dark.
2. In the summertime it is still daylight and hot when early risers go to bed creating the need for A/C
3. Early rises have to use lights and sometimes heaters in the mornings and go to work in the dark.
4. It’s obvious that DST mainly serves the interests of people who want to play. Why not stay on standard time and let those that need an extra hour at night start an hour earlier.
5. Standard time provides a balanced state of time and daylight hours to all concerned.
6. DST tends to throw everything out of balance. A person just gets used to

the changed time schedule when it is time to change again.

7. It is just pure selfishness that the elite of this state pushes DST onto all of us.
8. Mother Nature does her thing very well, letting the sun rise and set. It is this government that screws everything up between sunrise and sunset.
9. It is very nice to have the sun set on a standard time basis so that a person can sit on the porch in the coolness that comes with sunset in the summer time, before going to bed, probably negating the use of A/C.
10. I’ve never been able to see any benefits of DST to the rural communities. As I’ve said many have to adjust their lives for the con-

venience of the elite few.

11. I have from time to time over the years sent my thoughts and concerns to the governor’s office as well as our state senators which as usual gets no response one way or the other.
 12. DST definitely affects farmers and all others that have outside chores to do before leaving for work, therefore causing another waste of electricity because they have to do them in the dark.
 13. It’s common sense to stay on standard time the year around.
- NO DST at all.
- I despise it,
Richard Daniel
Westcliffe, CO

Clarification About a Business in Custer County

Hi, My name is Kristi Gray and I wanted to respond to a recent letter to the editor regarding Jack Canterbury. The business that was mentioned in the article, “ECM” is actually, Midwest ECM Repair. ECM is just a car/truck part, not the name of the business which my husband has been employed by for over five years now. It is just an absolute shame that we could not build this company in Silver Cliff; it is a very stable and lucrative company and Silver Cliff turned them down. Tsk...Tsk... Bet they regret it now!!

Thank you,
Kristi Gray,
Silver Cliff

**Remember, democracy never lasts long.
It soon wastes, exhausts, and murders itself.
There was never a democracy that did not commit suicide.**
~John Adams

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Local Mountain News & Notices

CLINIC From page 1

crease (over the 4.9 mills). The cost just to create a new ambulance district is \$75,000 (and that is only the legal paperwork).

-Then, another tax increase of approximately \$300,000 annually would be needed to fund a new ambulance district.

-Again, working outside the service plan and losing its former vision as well as without the public’s (taxpayer) knowledge; according to the auditor’s report, “the clinic is part of a five-state national pilot program to become a “medical home” providing a springboard into the new national healthcare system.” (ie: One designed for “uninsured and under-insured patients, especially those with chronic diseases and complex needs”.)

-When seeking help from the Custer County Commissioners, the Hospital has been told for over a year to “change your service plan” to match the services provided.

-The Hospital Board has not elected to change their service plan after the direction of the Commissioners to do so.

-Local realtors talk about sales lost because of the current problems with the Hospital District.

-Local citizens live in fear of a time when emergency services are needed and find them unavailable.

As misleading and misrepresenting Mr. Sage thinks the Hospital District has been to the taxpayers over the years, Mr. Arbuckle thinks the same is happening with his presentation. Mr. Arbuckle read his summary of the ‘mission’ (service plan) and spoke of how vocal the new board (which contains some of the previous board members) has been in identifying problems and making attempts to correct them.

Mr. Arbuckle stated that the most important judge of the

clinic is how many people use it per year, and said that the all-time high was just over 7,600 visits which he stated was a 52% increase over the previous low of 5,000. (Actual calculations are closer to a 34% increase).

Although more of the story regarding the clinic and ambulance has been revealed since October 2013, Mr. Arbuckle stated that what was represented was not the “whole story”. At one point Commissioner Shy said, “If recall is a citizen action then accountability and credibility is called on by the people.” While an open forum ensued with Commissioner Butler having to calm and redirect the discussion on several occasions, the discussion turned to the issue of the “priority”. Several in the audience felt the clinic should be the ‘priority’ of the tax payer monies and others felt the ambulance service should be the ‘priority’ of the tax payer mill levy.

Audience member, Cindy Howard, speaking as a taxpayer said, “As a taxpayer, I want to see EMS funded at 100%, but also want to make sure we are looking at cost accounting perspective; what costs are justified and what need to be reduced.” She also stated, “There are people here that think the clinic is top heavy on some of the staff and services.” Hospital Board Member Brent Bruser wanted people to know that there is a “great story happening at the clinic.” Mr. Sage stated that in the minds of many citizens is, “If I can’t call 911 in an emergency, then what good is the hospital...?”

The Commissioners gave their final word. Commissioner Atterbury said the priorities of the District were “wrong” and that “EMS is the number one thing. Whatever it takes to do the EMS from the top of the budget, if it takes all of that to run the ambulance you use the rest for your clinic.” He added, “When you go and ask for your

mill levy increase you need to ask for the mill levy for your administration. It’s going to be hard to get me off of that one.”

Commissioner Shy said, “I see two separate issues; the ambulance has disintegrated to the point that it absolutely has to be taken care of and there are hard working, diligent people doing that right now. As far as the clinic, the management of the clinic and your service plan and these antiquated documents being pointless at some point in history when things in that service plan stopped being done.... the mistake was the public was not informed. This is the covenant made with the public and the Commissioner’s agreement to turn over the ambulance to the clinic ... were made with expectations and frankly, they’ve been let down. ... If the clinic is offering other services, get them in the service plan.... As long as there is a public process to do it, I don’t care how often it changes...The community needs to be involved in the process. Let’s get the ambulance working, ... the funds to divest yourself from the ambulance need to come from you. If you want to get rid of the job - you need to set up the replacement for it, you need to fund the \$75,000, the public doesn’t need to fund that.” He also stated he is not a clinic manager and would not get into the management of the clinic.

Commissioner Butler’s response was now that the Hospital Board has brought this two times to the Commissioners, they need to talk to the public with forums to see what they think. He said he is getting a lot of calls from people upset about the ambulance service and that the “service plan is in the middle of the problem.”

(Editor/GG: Paul Sage is a volunteer reporter for The Sentinel. The statements in the article are his personal opinions, and not necessarily the opinions of the paper.)

Ask a Pro: Service Call Tips that could save you \$\$\$

Chances are at some time you will require service work on your water/pump system. We have some helpful tips below that will assist us with diagnosing your problem and save on the labor cost.

- A description of your problem. Please provide as much detail as you can.
- Have as much information as possible on the following:
Well -Total Depth-StaticWater Level and the Production Rate
Pump - Make and Model- HP- GPM rating and Volts
Pressure Tank - Brand – Size – Type (Bladderless or?) If you don’t know what size your tank is try to get the

approximate dimensions would be helpful – diameter and height. Keep in mind that the more info that we obtain from you the faster and more efficiently we can resolve your problem in a timely and cost effective manner. You can call us any time at 719-783-3000 or email us at: nequette@ris.net for your service work needs.

-Debi Williams / Office Support
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Local Mountain News & Notices



WWII Veteran Harold Estabrook Honored

Dave Roeber, Kathy and Dave Wampler were among those present to remember Harold on Wednesday.

Sentinel photos by Jim Silver

Westcliffe and Silver Cliff Town Election Results

Westcliffe Town incumbent Mayor Christy Veltrie was reelected with 106 votes. Incumbent John G. Johnston was also reelected with 77 votes while incumbent Arthur L. Nordyke failed to win enough votes to retain his seat with a vote count of 73.

Two new trustees were elected: Paul Wenke with 84 votes and Rodney (Rod) Thornburg with 83 votes.

The Silver Cliff Town Trustees elected were: Danny Smith (2-year-term), Bob Hall (2-year-term), Richard Lowe (2-year-term), Lela Cravens (4-year-term), Mary Behrendt (4-year-term), Marty A. Wolff (4-year-term) and H.A. "Buck" Wenzel (4-year-term).

Stampede Royalty Selected

by Sandy Brown

Before a crowd of more than 40, the final competition for the Wet Mountain Saddle Club Royalty was held at A Painted View Ranch on Sunday, March 30. The competition consisted of personal interviews, impromptu questions, modeling, speeches, and reigning patterns. A 'free-style' reigning pattern was also performed by the queen contestants. After deliberation by the judges, the results are as follows: Princess – Kaya Huffman; First Princess – Brooke Flynn; Miss Stampede – Taylor Staton; and Queen – Nichole Lorenzen. Additional awards given out were Miss Congeniality to Kaya Huffman; Appearance to Brooke Flynn;



2014 Stampede Royalty: (left to right): Brooke Flynn - First Princess; Kaya Huffman - Princess; Taylor Staton - Miss Stampede; Nichole Lorenzen - Queen

Sentinel photo by Sandy Brown

Horsemanship to Nichole Lorenzen; Speech to Taylor Staton; Modeling to Kaya Huffman; and Personality to Brooke Flynn. A special Thank You goes out to the sponsors, judges, and

volunteers that helped to make this competition such a success. Please come to the April 7 meeting of the Saddle Club to greet your 2014 Royalty.

Are you ready for some Pizza?

by Audrey Slater

R's in Silver Cliff will be opening under new ownership. Sam and Carol Hepp will be opening Tony's Mountain Pizza in April.

Sam and Carol have lived in the valley for 11 years, moving here from Firestone, Colorado. Sam said they always enjoyed coming to town for pizza and were sorry when it closed. Carol said her sister ran a pizzeria in Firestone for 30 years and Sam has always been the cook in the family. They said they felt the town really needed a pizzeria and decided they would step up

and try their hand at it.

Their menu will consist of pizzas, sandwiches, pasta, and calzones. They have their own recipes for sauce and meatballs and will be offering freshly cooked items with homemade recipes.

They plan on being open 6 days a week, exact days



Sam and Carol Hepp, new owners of Tony's Mountain Pizza - opening soon!

Sentinel photo by Audrey Slater

and hours are not yet set. Watch the Sentinel for the announcement of opening day and hours. Sam and Carol look forward to serving the community.

New Eatery Comes to Westcliffe

by Candi Sage

Seasoned restaurant owners Mike and Sharon Hirst just opened 'Campstyle Cookin' located at 108 S. 2nd St. in Westcliffe. They serve breakfast all day Monday through Saturday from 6 a.m. to 2 p.m. as well as lunch specials and Sunday brunch featuring an omelet bar for \$12.00 with 10% off for locals.

Venturing to Colorado to visit a friend in Hotchkiss led Mike and Sharon through Cotopaxi where they were drawn to the beauty and found a home. Mike ran a hunting lodge in Craig, Colorado, this past hunting season, then

they sold their home in Claflin, Kansas, with in three days and moved on January 10, 2014. By the end of January they leased 108 S. 2nd street and began cleanup and renovations, which included décor provided and designed by Jennifer Myers.

Campstyle Cookin is Mike's fifth venture since 1973. Both he and Sha-



Mike and Sharon Hirst, Campstyle Cookin owners.

Sentinel photo by Candi Sage

ron look to provide "value and quality at a low price". Mike wants to serve the local traffic yet has ideas to help bring visitors to the valley. They offer free coffee with the breakfasts off the menu and also offers catering.

Senior Center Cripple Creek Trip

(See the photo feature on pages 10-11)

by Carol Clemenson

A great trip up to Cripple Creek on March 26 was had by a group of 40 people, many from the Senior Center. The cost was only \$10 per person and that included the round trip bus fare, a \$0.49 all-you-can-eat breakfast at Bronco

Billies, plus other vouchers.

The jumping off point was the Senior Center at 7:30 a.m. Of course, most folks went for the gambling fun but there is a whole lot of other things to do in the area including a tour of the famous Victor Mine and the great Cripple Creek Museum with its fantastic mining history exhibits.

And folks, please don't forget to visit our Senior Center once and a while. They have pool tournaments, Wii games, Bingo, and many other activities. They also have very low-cost lunches on Mondays and Tuesdays, and, a special nutritional lunch on Thursdays. They are also looking for some younger folks to come and help (and learn) how to cook some of the meals.

Proud to serve as Custer County's community bank for the past 35 years!

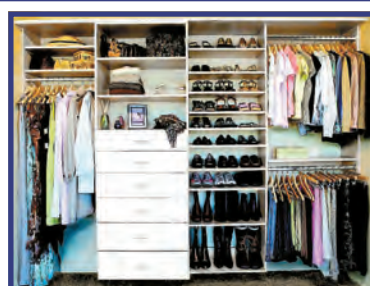


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Local Mountain News & Notices

Recycle Plastics at Club America

WHAT: Seven days a week plastic recycling at one location in Custer County.

WHERE: White, metal shed on the west side of Club America's parking lot in Silver Cliff.

WHEN: Beginning Tuesday - April 1, 2014 and thereafter during Club America's business hours.

WHO: Anyone can place their recycled plastics #1 - 7 in the shed if the plastics are in a special reusable bag purchased from Club America. Local donations to Sustainable Ways-High Country Recycling (SW-HCR) provided the funds to purchase the storage shed and. Club America provided the location and their volunteers monitor the site and sell the required reusable bags.

HOW: All rinsed plastics nos. 1-7 **MUST BE PLACED IN A SW-HCR REUSABLE BAG AVAILABLE ONLY AT CLUB AMERICA.** The cost for each bag is \$3 with a percentage going to Club America and the remaining balance going to We Recycle to cover pickup and transport costs.

WHY: Recycling plastic is the only good way to dispose of plastic and even

then it does not get remanufactured back to its original form. The fact is that a recycled plastic bottle is converted into something other than a bottle. It is used as a resource for something like carpeting, Trex decking, fleece, kayaks, and park benches to school lunch trays and railroad ties. In fact there are recycled plastics all around us. Producing new plastic products from recycled materials uses two-thirds less energy than is required to make products from raw (virgin) materials. It also reduces greenhouse gas emissions.

When plastic is left in its natural state it does not decay or biodegrade - it becomes tiny bits and flakes of plastic and eventually gets ingested by insects, mammals, birds, and fish. It can and does eventually become part of our food stream. In areas of the United States and the world certain fish have been banned from food markets and restaurants because of their level of toxic contamination from plastic.

Custer County landfill is nearing full capacity with a projected seven to ten years left. Estimated costs for construction of a new landfill carry a price tag estimated to be more than \$300,000.

A review of other options, such as creating a transfer station, have projected dump fees skyrocketing and other inconveniences, such as requiring separating compostable and non-compostable trash. Recycling extends the life of the landfill and everyone saves dollars by dumping less. Currently, local recyclers have reported that they have cut their amount of trash by 1/2 to two thirds.

According to the American Plastic Council, 70% of plastics are made from domestic natural gas. By recycling plastics, recyclers make that energy available for new products or for other purposes like heating our homes. Over 4 billion pounds of plastics were recycled in the U.S. in 2006 saving enough energy to heat over 2.1 million homes.

In short, recycling plastic not only saves landfill space, but it also creates a new product more efficiently. It's a true investment in the product you're purchasing: It's not just a Coke, it's a new pullover fleece or carpeting. Now that's the epitome of product stewardship.

Contact Joanie Liebman 719-371-0059 or email highcountryrecycling.org

Custer County's Own Named as 2014 Daniels Scholar

by Candi Sage

On March 21, The Daniels Fund announced the names of 260 high school seniors from Colorado, New Mexico, Utah, and Wyoming chosen for exceptional character, leadership, and commitment to the community which earned them a place in the Daniels Scholarship Program.

The new 2014 class of Daniels Scholars includes 180 from Colorado, 40 from New Mexico, 17 from Utah, and 23 from Wyoming. Rebecca Anne Tillotson was selected from Custer County.

Rebecca will be able attend any accredited nonprofit college or university in the United States, and the program covers the expenses that remain after all other scholarships and financial aid have been applied. Since this is not a full-ride scholarship she will still be seeking other scholarships to finance her education. Rebecca will also receive a laptop computer and will be attending Colorado Christian University in the

fall. Congratulations, Rebecca!

"We provide Daniels Scholars with resources, encouragement, and support far beyond financial assistance to help them earn a four-year college degree," explained Linda Childears, president and CEO of the Daniels Fund. "This includes personal and professional development, online tools, and networking opportunities to help them succeed and thrive in life."

The Daniels Fund website reports, "With this year's announcement, 3,022 students have received the Daniels Scholarship. At any given time, there are approximately 1,000 Daniels Scholars attending more than 200 colleges and universities in 45 states. More than \$108 million in scholarships have been awarded since 2000."

Bill Daniels, pioneer in cable television known for



Rebecca Tillotson, Daniels Scholarship Recipient

Sentinel photo by Candi Sage

his kindness and generosity to those in need, established the Daniels Fund to provide grants and scholarships in Colorado, New Mexico, Utah, and Wyoming. His estate transferred to the Daniels Fund when he died in the year 2000, making it one of the largest foundations in the Rocky Mountain Region.

Their website suggests, "Motivated high school seniors graduating in 2015 are encouraged to visit www.DanielsFund.org to apply online for the Daniels Scholarship Program in the fall."



OWN YOUR HEALTH

Saturday, April 12

7:00 am - 12 Noon
at the Custer County School
709 Main Street, Westcliffe

Low Cost Screenings:

- Blood Chemistry Analysis \$30.00
- Prostate Specific Antigen (PSA) \$25.00
- Blood Cell Count \$15.00
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Registration is also available online until April 10th at www.9healthfair.org/findafair



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Local Mountain News & Notices

Bobcats Dropped by Rye Thunderbolts

by Jim Silver

The Custer County Bobcats faced their first conference opponents this season as they traveled to Rye on Saturday, March 29. The Bobcats lost to the Thunderbolts twice in the double-header outing, 12 to 0. Needless to say, this was disappointing to both the players and the coaches. Head Coach Jay Lont summed it up afterwards saying simply, “The team is a lot better than they showed.” The Bobcats won’t meet up with the Thunderbolts again until Districts, May 10. Rye will see a different team then, vowed the Coach.

The Bobcats pitchers were given high marks, with Conner Rowley as starting pitcher of game 1 and Lane Byerly in the second. Coach Lont says that an objective of the coaching staff this week in practice is to make some changes on defense to utilize the strengths of the players. Players will find themselves in different positions than they’ve been playing thus far, in order to tighten up play in the outfield, especially. On defense, the Bobcats

must “hunt down the ball,” stated the Coach, and he has players who can fill that bill.

And on the other side of the equation, had the Bobcats been able to hit, the games could have turned out much differently. Rye has strong pitchers, but “We do too,” Coach Lont was quick to add. The Bobcats are a team who can hit the ball, if they load when they’re at the plate and then swing decisively.

By the time the April 4th edition of the Sentinel is in the readers’ hands, the Bobcats will have faced Sargent in a non-conference contest on Thursday, April 3.

On Saturday, April 5, they will play John Mall. This will be another home game, so come out to show your support! John Mall is the second conference matchup of the season.



Megan Shanks at bat.

Sentinel photo by Jim Silver

A string of away games will follow: Sanford, Tuesday, April 8; Cripple Creek-Victor, Saturday, April 12 (conference, double-header); and Antonito, Friday, April 18 (at Adams St.).

Tuesday, April 22 will be the next opportunity to see the Bobcats at home—a non-conference game against Rocky Ford (4:30pm). That same week on Friday, the 25th, South Park will be at Custer County home-field for a conference double-header (11:00am, 1:00pm).

So, let’s support our Bobcats Baseball team! Travel a few miles to see some good baseball, if you can, be there for the home games, and encourage the players as you see them around town. They’re a good team.

4-H Public Speaking Contest

Did you know that more people are afraid of public speaking than they are of death? Here in Custer County, the 4-H youth are proving they can overcome their fears and are getting ready to share their speaking skills. They will compete in the 2014 Custer County 4-H public

speaking contest at 6 p.m. on April 7th at the Court House. The youth will showcase their talent in the areas of prepared speech, interpretive reading, impromptu, and demonstrations. The public is invited to come and be entertained and inspired by the youth who tell their tales, show us

how to do a project, interpret a favorite passage, and shoot from the hip on topics ranging from agriculture to fashion. For more information, please contact the CSU Extension office at 783-2514.

Come support our 4-H kids!

Bobcats Sport Schedule

BASEBALL

Saturday, April 5, 2014

2 p.m. and 4 p.m.: Double Header - John Mall at HOME

Tuesday, April 8, 2014

4 p.m.: Sanford at Sanford

Saturday, April 12

11 a.m. and 1:30 p.m.: Double Header - Cripple Creek at Cripple Creek

Friday, April 18

Antonito at Adams State

TRACK

Saturday, April 5, 2014

8 a.m.: Limon at Limon

Friday, April 11, 2014

8 a.m.: Ray E. Choate Invitational at Primero

Saturday, April 12, 2014

8 a.m.: Salida at Salida

Saturday, April 19, 2014

8 a.m.: Rye at Rye

GO BOBCATS!



Bobcat Menu • April 7 - April 10, 2014

Monday breakfast	Tuesday breakfast	Wednesday breakfast	Thursday breakfast
French Toast Sticks	Scrambled Eggs	Bagel, Cream Cheese	Sausage Gravy, Biscuits
Sausage Links	W.W. Toast	Ham	Fruit
Fruit, Milk	Fruit, Milk	Fruit, Milk	Milk
lunch	lunch	lunch	lunch
BBQ Chicken Sandwich	Lasagna w/ Meat Sauce	Toasted Cheese Sandwich	Soft Beef Taco
Choice of Vegetable	Garlic Roll	Tomato Soup	Pumpkin Bread
Choice of Fruit	Choice of Veg. & Fruit	Choice of Veg. & Fruit	Choice of Veg. & Fruit
Milk	Milk	Milk	Milk

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

Calling All 4th Through 6th Grade Homeschoolers!

You are invited to come to the Peaks and Plains AgFest. AgFest is a one day, hands-on, science-based, educational field trip experience. Spend a day with Colorado State University Extension Agents who have developed each agriculture science station using the resources and knowledge of the state’s land grant university. Find out about these and much more as you participate in eight hands-on activities that explore the agriculture of Colorado. The event will be held at Colorado State Fairgrounds, Palace of Agriculture April 28th – 30th (you pick your day). Call the Custer County Extension Office to register and for further information at 783-2514.

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KIDS

Friday, April 4, 2014

Stars and Stripes Forever April 4, 1818

In the year 1818 on this day, Congress ordered that the United States flag be redesigned. The number of stripes were to be reduced to the original 13, 7 red and 6 white stripes, and setting the number of stars at 20. Congress also ordered that, “on admission of every new state into the Union, one star should be added.”

Word Scramble

- a. pirsste _____
- b. innou _____
- c. isanmsido _____
- d. srtas _____
- e. segrocsn _____

Answers:

a. stripes b. union c. admission d. stars e. congress

information source: thepeoplehistory.com

Sangre de Cristo Sentinel • Westcliffe, Colorado

Corner

Local Mountain News & Notices

Classifieds

For Rent

2 bedroom, small house next to Oak Creek Grade General Store. \$650/month, utilities included. No smokers; No pets. Call 783-2245.

4 bedroom, 1 1/2 bath house in Silver Cliff. Attached garage. \$700/month plus utilities. Trash provided. No smoking/pets. Available immediately (719) 783-2821

For Sale

>2:35x50x18” Ford Mustang tire and rim - \$200
>Troy Built Roto Tiller - \$200
>Full-size truck bed storage bin - \$175
All in excellent condition. Call Richard Kohler, 783-0922

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

Gardener needed for one-acre garden. Working knowledge of permaculture Gardening and Landscaping preferred. Team-oriented and willing to take direction. Send resume/cover letter to resumes81232@gmail.com. P.O. Box 6, Hillside, CO 81232

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

Real Estate

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Services

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

Chainsaw Sharpening. Accurate sharpening. Multiple chain discount. Overnight service available. Chain loops made to order and repaired. 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 Systems (formerly Miller Automotive & More) Call Glenn at 719-371-8625

Custer County Planning and Zoning Fees for 2014

by Paul Sage

Building and Zoning Director Jackie Hobby brought the 2014 Planning and Zoning Schedule to the Board of County Commissioners for approval on April 1st. This fee schedule covers things like various types of building permits, zoning variance costs and special use permits. Fortunately, the fee schedules remain unchanged from those charged in 2013.

Some of the important numbers to keep in mind when considering building are that permits for enclosed spaces like a house or garage are 35 cents per square foot and open space like a car port or open barn are 25 cents per square foot. Adding a deck larger than 100 square feet costs \$25. Another important number to keep in mind is 3. If you don’t get a permit before you start construction, your fee becomes three times the original amount.

If you have questions about any kind of permit or building within Custer County, stop by and see the folks at Planning and Zoning in the County Courthouse at 205 S. 6th Street or give them a call at 719-783-2669. Much of their information can be accessed at www.custercountygov.com

If you live within the towns of Westcliffe or Silver Cliff, contact your town Building and Zoning Department.

Landfill Alert Notice

The State of Colorado is requiring proof of state compliance and the information necessary for tracking materials from demolished construction sites that may contain asbestos (not waste from new construction). This county compliance process is scheduled to commence on May 1, 2014. Please be prepared to present compliance documentation on any load of demo material on or after this date. Forms will be available at the Custer County Landfill and Custer County Zoning Office during regular business hours.

Bobcats Basketball Banquet

Our annual basketball banquet will be held on April 9th at 6 p.m. in the Rancher’s Roost Banquet room. We will be honoring our athletes’ achievements for both the Girls and Boys High School basketball teams. Dinner, drinks, and dessert will be served. The cost will be approximately \$15 per plate.

Please RSVP by Monday April 7th to either Shannon Byerly or Joy Parrish.

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
1:30 p.m. Worship
6 p.m. Wed. Worship
818 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

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. Fellowship
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

Campstyle Cookin’
108 S. 2nd St. • Westcliffe
719/783-0533
Mon. - Sat. 6 a.m. - 2 p.m.
Sun. 10:30 a.m. - 2 p.m.
Sun. Brunch & Omelet Bar

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. 3 p.m. - 8 p.m. Dinner
Thurs. - Sat.
11:30 a.m. - 8 p.m. Dinner
Sun. - Tues. 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

Tony’s Mountain Pizza
630 Main St. • Silver Cliff
719/783-9300
Opening Soon

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.

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.
I John 2:15 - 16 GW

Local Mountain News & Notices

Events Calendar

Friday, April 4, 2014 7:30 p.m. Jones Theater: "The Monuments Men" National SAT Registration Deadline for test date 5/3/14	Tuesday, April 8, 2014 10 a.m. - 11 a.m.: "Ask A Nurse" - Meet at the library Tourism Board Meeting
Saturday, April 5, 2014 All day: Middle School Robotics Field Trip 7:30 p.m.: Jones Theater: "The Monuments Men"	Wednesday, April 9, 2014 6 p.m.: Annual basketball banquet in Rancher's Roost Banquet Room
Sunday, April 6, 2014 2 p.m.: Jones Theater: "The Monuments Men"	Friday, April 11, 2014 7:30 p.m.: Jones Theater: "The Son of God"
Monday, April 7, 2014 4:15 p.m. - 5:45 p.m.: Accountability Committee Meeting in school library 6 p.m.: 4-H Public Speaking Contest at Courthouse R.S.V.P. to Shannon Byerly or Joy Parrish for annual basketball banquet	Saturday, April 12, 2014 7 a.m. - Noon: Custer County Health Fair 5 - 7 p.m.: Rotary Van Service Chili Cook-Off: Cliff Lanes 7:30 p.m.: Jones Theater: "The Son of God"
	Sunday, April 13, 2014 2 p.m.: Jones Theater: "The Son of God"

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 at (719) 783-0809	Tuesday through Friday 10 a.m. - 5:30 p.m.: Library in downtown Westcliffe
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	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
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	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 at (719) 783-0809
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	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
Tuesday 12:30 p.m.: Bridge Club meets in the library community room in downtown Westcliffe. 4:30 p.m.: Awanas for kids ages three through sixth grade at First Baptist Church of Westcliffe	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
6 p.m. - 8 p.m.: Jammin' band at Mining Company restaurant in Silver Cliff	Friday and Saturday 1 p.m. - 4 p.m.: Share Center adjacent to Hope Lutheran Church in Westcliffe
	Saturday 10 a.m. - 2 p.m.: Library in downtown Westcliffe 10:30 a.m.: Story time for kids at the library.

High Altitude Garden Club Fundraiser

The High Altitude Garden Club is having a fundraiser through April 17. We are selling spring-planted bulbs and bare root plants. A portion of the sales price will go to the club. This money will be used to fund our ten community garden projects. If you would like to order from us, contact a friend or neighbor who is a garden club member or e-mail us at highaltitudegardenclub@yahoo.com and you will be contacted with details. Also, check out our new website at www.highaltitudegardenclub.com. Thanks for helping to beautify our community."

Easter Bake Sale

The Altar & Rosary Society of Our Lady of the Assumption Catholic Church will hold its annual Easter Bake Sale on Saturday, April 19th, in the community center next to the library. The sale begins at 9:00 am and will end at noon. We will offer a selection of pies, cakes, cookies, breads, etc. We are raising funds for our scholarship program. We invite everyone to come join us.

High Country Recycling Paper Shred/Recycling Event 2014

On Saturday, April 26th, in conjunction with Earth Day Week, Sustainable Ways - High Country Recycling has arranged for Mobile Record Shredders to be at the Custer County School parking lot from 10AM to 1PM. This is an opportunity to discard unwanted and no longer needed papers securely and confidentially.

There's no need to remove staples, paperclips, spring-loaded binder clips, rubber bands, etc. Checkbooks can be shredded whole. Other paper products that can be shredded include green bar paper, manila folders, file folders, envelopes (including the plastic window), magazines, hanging file folders, accordion file holders, etc. Carbonless carbon paper is okay to shred too.

Mobile Record Shredders are a full-service, documentation destruction business and are National Association for Information Destruction (NAID) certified. Certificates of Destruction will be provided upon request.

Donation amounts of your choosing will be greatly appreciated to help offset

Mobile Record Shredders' costs and are tax deductible.

One more bit of advice - if you haven't instructed your bank and other financial institutions to replace your paper statements with electronic ones, now is a fine time to do so. This will not only reduce the volume of paper produced, it will also reduce the amount of paper you will have to sort through next year.

For more information email info@highcountryrecycling.org or go to www.mobilerecordshredders.com.

Obituary Gary Allen Henrich

Gary Allen Henrich, 53, passed away March 28, 2014 in Westcliffe, Colorado. The son of William A. and Anita S. (Ryan) Henrich, he was born June 5, 1960 in Cañon City, Colorado.

Gary graduated from Custer County High School in 1978, and attended the University of Southern Colorado in Pueblo. He worked in numerous areas of construction before becoming the maintenance and janitorial supervisor for Custer County School District for the past 21 years.

Gary was an avid sports fan participating in basketball, football, and baseball in high school. He also enjoyed playing Town Team volleyball, basketball, softball, golf, and bowling. Being a big kid himself, Gary enjoyed coaching Little League, Babe Ruth, Middle School football, wrestling, and both boys and girls basketball. He also operated the scoreboard and clock at the CCHS sporting events, and enjoyed hunting and



at 10:30 a.m., Saturday, April 5, 2014, at the Custer County High School Gymnasium in Westcliffe, Colorado, with Pastor Dave Schlabach officiating. In lieu of flowers, memorial donations may be made to the Custer County Cares About Cancer Fund at the First State Bank of Colorado in Westcliffe, Colorado.

Arrangements are under the care of Holt Family Funeral Home. Online condolences at www.holtfamilyfuneralhomes.com

You will increase my honor and comfort me once again.

Psalm 71:21, NIV

JEW★FOR JESUS®

CHRIST in the PASSOVER

SPEAKER:
Larry Dubin,
Washington, D.C. Office

WHERE:
Westcliffe Community Church
(Behind the Bowling Alley)

WHEN:
Wednesday, April 9, 2014
6:00 PM

FREE - Don't miss this valuable insight into the Lord's plan for the ages

Custer County Senior Center Trip to Cripple Creek March 26, 2014



Deer Mountain Fire Protection District Election Information

To request a mail ballot for the May 6, 2014 election of 5 board of directors, please make the request in writing to Patti Myers, Designated Election Official, 6181 CR 28, Cotopaxi, CO, 81223. You

must include the address of the property in the district, your current address, and a phone number. Your request must be made before May 1, 2014. The ballot will be mailed to those that have requested them the

week of April 14, 2014, and must be returned to the official by 7:00 p.m., May 6, 2014. Patti Myers, DEO, Deer Mt. Fire Protection District.

Candidates Forum

The Deer Mountain Fire Protection District, 6181 CR 28 (Copper Gulch Rd.), Cotopaxi, CO, 81223: The Deer Mountain Fire Protection District will be holding a candidates forum April 16, 2014 – at the Deer Mt. Fire Station #1, 6181 CR 28, Cotopaxi. This is the same night as the monthly

meeting – and will begin at 6:00. –All registered voters of the Deer Mt. Fire Protection District are urged to come to the meeting and have the opportunity to question the candidates! – Candidates running for 4-year terms are: Jerry Sibala, Joe Watts, and Barry Cole. Candidates running for 2-year terms are: Karen

McKee, Dennis Sibala, and Skip Moreau. The District board is a vital part of our community – the decisions that are made by the Board will affect everyone living in the District. The polling place for the election is Deer Mt. Fire Station #1 – the polls will be open from 7:00 a.m. to 7:00 p.m.

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Fremont County Bulletin

News, Opinion, Commentary

The Cost of Doing What's Right

by Chandra I. Serfoss

The citizens of Cañon City and Fremont County are reeling from the March 9 murders of three of its residents. The monstrous crimes committed have many calling for District Attorney Thom LeDoux to prosecute suspect Jaacob Van Winkle in a capital punishment trial. At the March 25 Fremont County Republican Committee meeting, Commissioner Ed Norden initiated a discussion on pursuing capital punishment cases in Fremont County. He asked for a show of hands of those in the room who supported capital punishment and nearly everyone in the room raised a hand. Then he asked how many of those would support pursuing capital punishment sentences at any cost. Far fewer raised hands, and several individuals in the room asked Norden for clarification. The commissioner went on to explain that many who support the death penalty don't understand that costs involved in prosecuting capital punishment cases are exorbitant. He asked us from which local budget we the voters would support taking the additional funds if needed to pursue a death penalty sentence. (It must be noted that Norden stated that he was not against the death penalty, but that he wanted to provide food for thought.) This, of course, stirred a fiery debate.

I, for one, had never given consideration to the fact that the cost of doing what is right and necessary is sometimes an obstacle to justice. Naturally, I should have—as a conservative, opposed to those who are not, I understand that nothing is free. Nonetheless, when a fire needs extinguished, I believe that it should be done without the firefighters' first sitting down and considering the cost to the taxpayers.

Late in the evening on December 10, 1996, I received a phone call from local authorities. They told me that I needed to go directly to St. Thomas More Hospital because my grandparents were being transported there. After arriving at the hospital, I was informed by a straight-faced, stoic doctor that he had been unable to save my 80-year-old grandfather. My grandmother, however, was seriously injured but alive.

Earlier that evening, brothers Fred and Nick Ciancio, had decided to go to my grandparents' home, to rob them, and to harm them. After walking into my grandparents' unlocked back door, they proceeded to tie my grandfather to a chair. While one brother repeatedly beat my grandfather, the other looted

the house. After begging them to stop the beating, my grandfather finally succumbed. His heart was simply not strong enough to endure the torture.

Soon after the incident, authorities were able to capture the Ciancios because of my grandmother's eyewitness account and description. The evidence, including items stolen from my grandparents' home, was overwhelming. Thus, the Ciancios agreed to a plea of second degree murder and attempted murder. Neither one was given even a life sentence.

In my opinion, justice was not served, and our community was not made a safer place. My grandfather, Robert Byer, was not a person without worth whose life was nearly over anyway. A World War II veteran and hardworking man, he was a dedicated husband, dad, grandpa, and great-grandpa. Unfortunately, my family and I must live knowing that Grandpa's last moments were horrific; he was helpless to defend my grandmother, whose head they bashed with the butt of a rifle, and he was helpless to defend himself. My family and I must live with the knowledge that some judge may someday grant my grandfather's murderer parole (one of the brothers died in prison by falling and hitting his head). Worse, because he is still alive, he could escape, or he could hurt others, such as guards or other inmates.

I don't believe in the death penalty because I want revenge. Indeed, I value human life very much. But someone who has such disregard for the sanctity of human life that he/she can wantonly take it away from an innocent loses their human value in my estimation. Murderers do not contribute to society (even though many anti-capital punishment activists point to many instances where convicted killers appear to be reformed)—instead, they are a detriment to our society. Executions of such individuals are absolutely necessary for the safety and well-being of the collective whole. The idea that monetary considerations get in the way of doing what is right is maddening. With all the waste of taxpayer money at every level of government, we voters must become better informed. Many of our elected officials' priorities are all screwed up. We need to vote them out of office and replace them with individuals who understand government's intended role in this country: to defend and protect us.

Be informed!

Get involved!

Cañon City School Board: Not A Place for Questions & Answers

By: Barbara Penezic

The local RE-1 Cañon City School Board makes a provision for the public to address the Board under General Business on the Board of Education agenda. In order to claim this privilege one must show up prior to meeting time and fill out a yellow request form. This form contains the speaker's name and the topic to be addressed. The speaker is then granted five minutes of the board's time. **Requests to address the Board must be submitted to the Secretary of the Board prior to the start of the meeting.** Gloria Decker and I followed these stipulations to the letter and, "YES", we were allowed to address the Board. Imagine our surprise when we were informed that no answers would be forthcoming.

Ms. Decker spoke of her concerns in connection with Common Core. She was allowed to read her very interesting statement but absolutely no response was given by our elected officials on the Board. I pressed the issue in regard to exactly who endorsed Common Core Standards for our community. During a previous Board meeting I had questioned the Board's position in regards to implementing this federal take-over of our schools and this was their response. **Board President Mike Near said the district was "required to do Common Core."** **Dr. Gooldy stated that grade level standards are "mandated by state law."** (The bold text statements were taken from an article in The Daily Record, front page, January 14, 2014 issue.)

When I told the Board that both Rep. Wilson and Sen. Grantham during a recent conversation had informed me that Cañon City Schools do indeed have a choice. We can opt out, and we do not even have to return the "Race to the Top" funds already accepted by this board, so once again my question to the board is, "have we implemented Common Core Standards because of state mandate or because it is the wish of this School Board?" Neither I, nor my question was graciously received. "This is not a question and answer forum and your questions will not be answered here," Mike Near, board president responded, his thinly veiled anger evident in his tone. Well, excuse us, Mr. School Board President. You see Gloria and I are just of couple of citizens, voters, and taxpayers of this county and we did not realize that the school board was not the appropriate venue to have our concerns addressed.

A few telephone calls and many emails later, some new information has begun to see the light of day. Just as Congress was rushed to pass the Patriot Act without reading it, and we are all familiar with Nancy Pelosi and her insistence that we must pass 'The Affordable Care Act', so we could find out what it is all about, now it would seem some states have been willing to hand over the educational future of our children to the Fed's in order to compete in "Race to the Top" and collect a few shiny coins. Hence, Common Core Standards are popping up

all over this great country much like weeds in a farmer's carefully sowed field. Pornographic reading materials, substandard math, and totally biased presentations of our nation's history have been popping up in our children's classrooms from California to Florida and everywhere in between.

Quoting Dr. Gooldy, again from the above mentioned Daily Record Edition, "Any materials we use in this district, we will maintain control." He said the text books and literature books "are going to be decided here." Knowing what happens on the federal level this does not instill me with confidence. These are the same people who said, "If you like your health care plan, you can keep your health care plan, period!" Therefore, may we assume, "If you are opposed to 'The Bluest Eye', we will not allow it in our class-rooms." Translation, **"A copy will be in your child's backpack before lunch!"** Just to be clear, RE-1 school board members and Dr. Gooldy, you have lost credibility.

Mike Pence, Governor of Indiana has said NO to Common Core. Like the good farmer he is busy weeding the classrooms in Indiana of unwanted weeds, setting high academic standards for their schools. You see a state need not capitulate to the Federal Government and Common Core Standard if they can provide adequate standards at the state level. What about it Governor Hickenlooper? Do you not feel that our own state of Colorado, the state, you by the way, are Governor of is as capable as Indiana? Governor, and Mike Near, Cañon City School Board President, as I have sought my answers elsewhere, I am repeatedly hearing, "Common Core Standards are just less work for the school districts, the teachers, and everyone else involved and it is what the government wants." I certainly would not like to believe this is true.

More to the point, I find many fellow parents and even some teachers are still asking, "Common Core, what exactly is that?" Could that be because most of the real business of the local school board is being conducted in 'work sessions' that need only be posted on the door of the School Admin. Office 24 hours prior to the meeting? Meetings that are held at 4 or 4:30 on Monday afternoons when I dare say most working parents are at work. We all know what fun days Mondays are, great way to be transparent!

If you, like myself are tired of being kept in the dark and treated like something stuck on the bottom of their shoe when you would seek answers about the direction of our children's education, I hope you act when School Board Elections roll around. Time to vote them out and install a school board that is there to answer our questions. As the old saying goes "A New Broom Sweeps Clean." Please remember National say NO to Common Core Day is April 5. If you still are not sure what Common Core is, for the sake of our children and our Nation, take the time to find out.

Be informed! Get involved!

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
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6:30 p.m.

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www.royalgorgetea-party.com
or find them on Facebook

Southern Colorado Survivors
1st Sat at 8:30 a.m.
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Respectfully,

Tony Supan
Candidate for Sheriff

Paid for by Committee to Elect Tony Supan Sheriff



The Liberty Tree

Religion, The Constitution & Culture

State, National, & World

The Daily Jot

Daily reporting and analysis of current events from a biblical and prophetic perspective.
NOTE: When writing about God and Jesus, The Daily Jot means YHVH as God and Yeshua Ha Mashiach as Jesus--the actual original names and the true nature and character of them.

Evil in the Skirts of the Black Robes

Since when is a business owner required to pay for employees' birth control? Moreover, since when is the business owner required to pay for pills that abort babies? Ever since godless evildoers and those who have no backbone to oppose them have been elected and appointed to public positions of authority. U.S. Supreme Court Justices Ruth Ginsberg, Sonia Sotomayor, and Elena Kagan shouldn't even be permitted to enter the building to argue a case let alone sit on the highest court of the land--most everything they stand for is antithetic to America and Americans. How did they get there? Evildoers and those who allow them their place. There should be no debate whatsoever on abortion or birth control.

The idiocy of people like Sotomayor and Kagan is exposed on almost every opportunity they have to issue a constitutional ruling. They suggest that if a corporation doesn't like the socialized healthcare, to just pay, what they call "The Liberty Tax." Really? How about if we don't like that the Supreme Court

cannot understand the plain English in the Constitution and Declaration of Independence, that we just tar and feather them? What don't they or their predecessors understand about the words, "We hold these truths to be self-evident, that all men are created equal, that they are endowed by their Creator with certain unalienable Rights, that among these are Life, Liberty, and the pursuit of Happiness"? They are liars and deceivers.

Regime attorney Donald Verrilli would not deny that corporations could be forced to pay for abortions. While defending socialist healthcare requirements that companies cover birth control (which include the morning after abortion pill) as part of employee health insurance, Verrilli said it was unlikely the government would demand corporations pay for abortions. Chief Justice John Roberts told Verrilli, "I thought that's what we had before us." Typical of the evildoer and godless mantra, the occupant of the Oval Office's attorney would essentially say the law compels companies to pay for abortion,

but it is unlikely that it will happen. Of course, his boss only enforces the laws that he wants to.

We have laws in this country against murder. If you murder a woman who is pregnant and the baby dies as well, you would be charged with a double homicide. Yet doctors and mothers can murder a generation of Americans with impunity and an illiterate Supreme Court twists constitutional privacy rights into a justification for abortion. And people who know better and are charged with the public trust allow them to do it. Jeremiah 2:34 says, "Also in thy skirts is found the blood of the souls of the poor innocents: I have not found it by secret search, but upon all these." A direct Hebrew translation of the next verse says, "Here, I am passing sentence on you, because you say, 'I have done nothing wrong.'" We must see that these deceivers are removed from the high places as they bring the wrath of God upon the children of disobedience.

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

American Exceptionalism

by Larry Luikart,
Westcliffe, CO

The definition of American Exceptionalism has some fuzzy edges. A generally accepted definition came from a statement made by Alexis de Tocqueville in 1831 and again in 1840 when he described America as "exceptional." American Exceptionalism is a belief. "The United States is qualitatively different from other nation states." America evolved from a revolution becoming what political scientist Seymour Martin Lipset called "the first new nation." The definition does not imply superiority although some neoconservatives, (those who believe in a traditional viewpoint,...a political ideology of free-market capitalism and interventionist foreign policy,) and some other conservative thinkers attempt to promote the term in that sense. This takes the definition too far toward a militaristic and imperialistic national definition. America is not a conquer but a liberator.

In 1989 Scottish political scientist, Richard Rose stated, "Most American historians endorse exceptionalism." He went on to say, "America marches to a different drummer. Its uniqueness is explained by any or all of a variety of reasons: history, size, geography, political institutions, and culture. Explanations of the growth of government in Europe are not expected to fit the American experience, and vice versa."

Is there a problem with the definition of American Exceptionalism? The left-wing academics and certain other political theorists answer, "Yes, there is." They postulate the United States entered into a new historical period after three primary events: "The fall of the Soviet Empire in 1989, the development of new information technology,

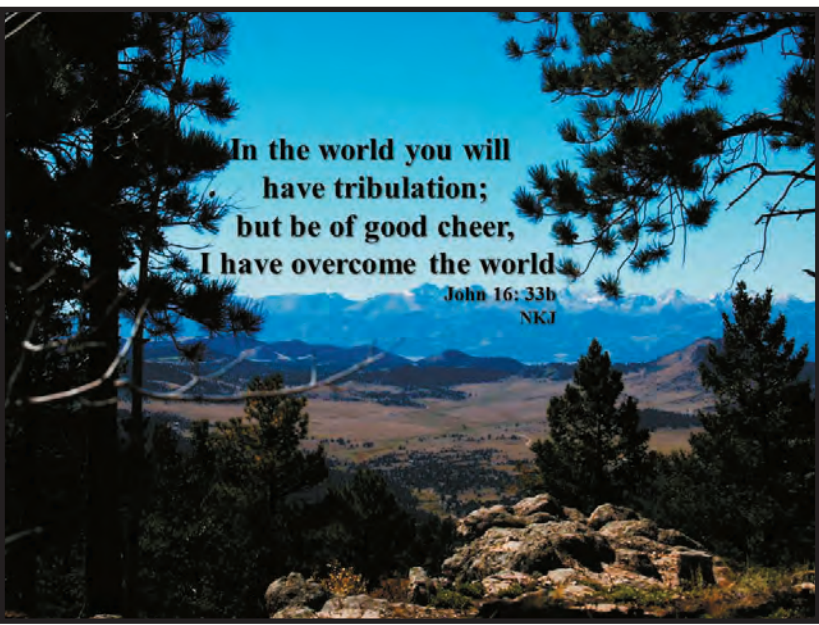
like the internet, and the increased techniques of globalization by corporations." This new period is named Postnationalism and may be defined as, "the process or trend by which nation states and national identities loose their importance relative to supranational and global entities." Postnationalism is not exactly the antitheses of American Exceptionalism but the two terms and their assumptions are nearly opposite one another.

The current administration uses the postnationalism definition to forge "the fundamental change in America" the President has described on so many occasions. During a question and answer session at the end of The NATO conference in September 2009 President Obama was asked by Ed Luce a reporter for the Political Times if he believed like his predecessors in American Exceptionalism making America uniquely qualified to lead the world? Obama answered, "I believe in American Exceptionalism, just as I suspect the Brits believe in British exceptionalism and the Greeks believe in Greek exceptionalism. I am enormously proud of my country... Now the fact that I am proud of my country....does not lessen my interest in recognizing the value and wonderful qualities of other countries, or recognizing that we are always going to be right...or that in order for us to work collectively, all parties have to compromise, and that includes us. And so I see no contradiction between believing that America has a continued extraordinary role in leading the world toward peace and prosperity, and recognizing that this leadership is incumbent, depends on creating partnerships... because we cannot solve those problems alone." Once you strip away the

rhetoric the President said America is no longer capable in this postnationalist world to be "the shining city on the hill" as Ronald Reagan proclaimed. It is now necessary for America to compromise decisions and to defer foreign policy to world organizations such as NATO, The United Nations, the International Monetary Fund, and the World Trade Organization to name just a few. He believes, "international human rights and norms are linked to individuals in terms of their 'personhood' not just their citizenship." This postnationalist view and the conceptualization of nationalism as no longer relevant incubated the scary and insane foreign policy unfolding in the world arena. The President with his postnationalist ideology believes he does not have the authority to stand up to a thug like Vladimir Putin. Instead, he chooses to defer, capitulate, or vacillate American foreign policy within the confines of the international agencies already listed. The President's behavior is dangerous and a real threat to our national security.

Previous presidents have often worked with other nations to achieve a mutually beneficial result in dealing with rogue nations. Cooperation is much different than abdication of your countries identity in the name of world governance. Postnationalism, is just another liberal progressive attempt to weaken America so that individual liberty is replaced with government control. Even worse, postnationalism seeks to make the government something other than our own.

Postnationalism like so many other governing concepts will never work. Countries like human beings are fallible and selfish. If you don't believe that, just look at Putin's behavior in regard to the Ukraine.



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NEW STUDY: When it Comes to Education, We're Paying More for Less

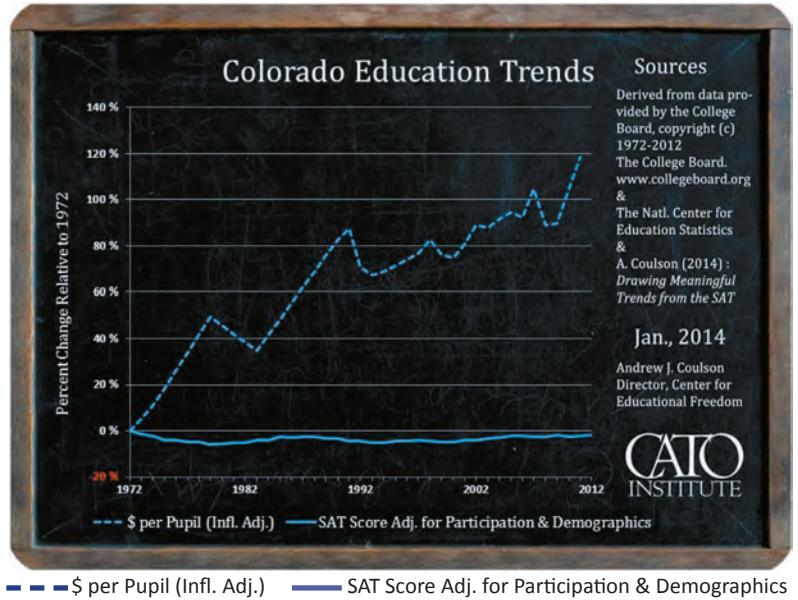
by ColoradoPeakPolitics

One of the greatest lies ever told to the American public – aside from President Obama's "If you like your plan, you can keep your plan" – is the notion that our public schools are under funded.

A new Cato Institute study, State Education Trends: Academic Performance and Spending over the Past 40 Years, uses adjusted state SAT score averages to track how educational performance trends compare to state spending over the last four decades. The study's conclusion is appalling:

The performance of 17-year-olds has been essentially stagnant across all subjects despite a near tripling of the inflation- adjusted cost of putting a child through the K–12 system.

Here is what that trend looks like in Colorado:



Reprinted with Permission. Please see: coloradopeakpolitics.com/2014/03/25/new-study-when-it-comes-to-education-were-paying-more-for-less/

Conservatives have been beating this drum for a while, but it's hard for parents to believe them when the school supply list never gets any shorter and fees keep increasing.

The truth is, too much of the money we send to our schools ends up in administration and not the classrooms. We saw this debate play out last summer when Democrats tried to pass Amendment 66, a billion dollar tax increase for education. While the measure failed miserably, it had more to do with the fact that voters were against the billion-dollar tax increase part rather than the spending more money on education part.

But lack of proper funding is clearly not the reason for stagnant results, and it's time that the mainstream media start calling the Left out when they try to make that claim.

'Willing to Go to Jail': Politician Delivers Passionate Speech About God Before Defying Judge's Order and Uttering a Christian Prayer

by Billy Hallowell, TheBlaze.com

(Editor/GG: One lone woman standing up to tyranny.)

Just two days after a U.S. district judge issued a preliminary injunction barring sectarian prayer at government meetings in Carroll County, Maryland, Commissioner Robin Bartlett Frazier ignored the order and opened Thursday's budget meeting with an invocation referencing Jesus Christ.

The Carroll County Times reported that Frazier "seemed near tears" when she openly voiced her dissatisfaction with the injunction, which was signed Tuesday by U.S. District Court of Maryland Judge William D. Quarles Jr.

"I'm willing to go to jail over it. I believe this is a fundamental right of America and if we cease to believe that our rights come from God, we cease to be America," she said. "We've been told to be careful. But we're going to be careful all the way to communism

if we don't start standing up and saying 'no.'"

The prayer Frazier delivered was one she said was written by President George Washington (though some historians later rebutted that the nation's first president wasn't truly the author).

Regardless, the text mentioned Jesus more than once which is a violation of the judge's order that commissioners not use "the name of a specific deity associated with any specific faith or belief," Reuters reported.

The judge's injunction follows the filing of a lawsuit in May 2013 by the American Humanist Association and several residents, claiming that the sectarian invocations posed a violation of the Establishment Clause.

As the Carroll County Times reported, sectarian prayers are halted until the judge makes a determination in the lawsuit against Carroll County.

"Commissioner Frazier

spoke at length in brazen defiance of the federal judge's order," said Bruce Hake, a plaintiff in the case who attended Thursday's meeting.

Monica Miller, one of the lawyers for local plaintiffs, wrote a letter Thursday claiming that she will not seek contempt charges against Frazier over this violation, but that if sectarian prayers continue, the politician won't be so lucky in the future.

"Of course, it's entirely possible that the commissioner wishes to become a public martyr of sorts for Christianity, a celebrity upon whom religious sympathizers can bestow admiration and encouragement," Miller wrote. "If that's the case, and if she therefore ignores both the court and this warning, she will no doubt get her wish."

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Affordable Care Act at Four: Regulatory Costs Exceed Benefits by Twofold

by Sam Batkins, AmericanActionForum.org

Editor/GG: Folks, look at these numbers. Obamacare is the definition of INSANITY. It will destroy our health system and our country. Call your senators and representatives and tell them to stop it now.)

After four years of implementation, countless delays, a website disaster, and constant litigation,

the Affordable Care Act (ACA) celebrates its inauspicious birthday this week. From a regulatory perspective, the law has imposed more than \$27.2 billion in total private sector costs, \$8 billion in unfunded state burdens, and more than 159 million paperwork hours on local governments and affected entities. What's more troubling, the law has generated just \$2.6 billion in annualized benefits, compared to \$6.8 billion in

annualized costs. In other words, the ACA has imposed 2.5 times more costs than it has produced in benefits.

PAPERWORK BURDENS At more than 159 million paperwork hours, the ACA is in a class by itself. To date, Dodd-Frank, an equally transformational law, has imposed "only" 60 million hours of paperwork. Sarbanes-Oxley financial reform legislation,

Most Burdensome ACA Regulations by Paperwork	
Regulation	Paperwork Burden Hours
Small Business Reporting: Form 8941	40.2 Million
Net Investment Income Tax	24 Million
Medicaid Eligibility Changes	21.3 Million
Medicare, Medicaid, CHIP: Transparency	10.5 Million
Individual Mandate Penalty	7.5 Million
Total: 103.5 Million Burden Hours	

passed in 2002, imposed 11.4 million hours.

To put the ACA's paperwork burdens in perspective, it would take 79,518 employees (more than the population of Napa, California) working 2,000 hours annually to complete the ACA's paperwork mandates. These burdens obviously cost states and private

See AFFORDABLE on page 19



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The Second Amendment Corner Liberty's Line in the Sand

2014



Eureka Springs Gunfight Showed Marksmanship of Armed Citizens

by Dean Weingarten,
GunWatch.blogspot.com

Recently, a video of a Eureka Springs, Arkansas, City Council meeting showed them to be a little hostile to armed citizens. It was not always so. Because of that article, I became aware of one of the great examples of armed citizens stopping a criminal gang in the commission of a bank robbery.

No, I am not talking about the James-Younger Gang and how they were shot to pieces in Northfield Minnesota in 1876. One bank clerk was murdered, and one townsman, an immigrant who was believed not to understand shouted warnings, was exposed in the street and killed in the crossfire. Two outlaws were killed in that robbery attempt, and two others seriously wounded.

I am talking about a famous attempted bank robbery that occurred 46 years later, in 1922, in Eureka Springs itself. Here is a contemporary account from the Wichita Eagle that was printed a couple of days after the event:

The Wichita Eagle September 30, 1922

Five bandits robbed the bank the other day and thought things were going about as usual. But just as they headed for their car at the curb, in the customary manner, they suddenly real-

ized that they had made a mistake. They were in Arkansas! No helpless crowd of hopeless citizens stood agape while the dashing bandits sailed right out of their ken like a meteor on a starry night. That's not the way they do it in Arkansas. Two pedestrians on the way to visit a sick friend saw what was going on and stepped inside the bank door in time to open the battle with a few well directed bullets toward the bandit's vital organs. A lawyer in an office overhead said to his earnest client, "excuse me a moment please," stepped to a front window and put a half dozen bullets where they would do the most good. A dentist asked his patient to keep open wide please just one moment, and rested his rifle on the window sill long enough to make sure that at least one of the bandits would fail to leave town that day. A school boy hustling home to lunch whipped out his automatic and joined the attack."

Now the merchants began issuing from the lunch counters and their kitchens. Each individual had his pistol spitting fire and steel as soon as he came within range. And not an innocent bystander was scratched. No wild shooting down at Eureka Springs. Needless to add, not one of the five bandits got away, and all the money, \$70,000, was carried back into the bank.

Later accounts differ a little in the details. A silent alarm was pressed. Alert citizens saw what was happening and disabled the get-away car with gunfire. The town constable, exercising tactics, flanked the robbers and took one out with a head shot. One citizen grabbed his .38, assumed a supported kneeling position, and took out the robber who was providing covering fire for the retreating outlaws. Hostages dropped flat in the street as the robbers tried to run to cover.

It is worth noting, that in this more modern version of the Northfield raid, in spite of dozens of shots being fired by numerous townspeople, not one innocent person was hit. One hostage suffered some powder burns. The bank robbers were hit numerous times. Two of them died in a few minutes, one took four days to expire, with over a dozen bullet wounds. The remaining two outlaws survived serious wounds and were sentenced to the state penitentiary.

The shootout in Eureka Springs puts the lie to the idea that armed citizens simply fire wildly in a shootout. Dozens of shots were fired. The only people hit were the outlaws.

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Oklahoma Sheriffs Visiting State Capitol Building Ordered to Disarm — How Do You Suppose They Responded?

by Dave Urbanski,
TheBlaze.com

(Editor/GG: Wonder what party the lone Okie senator who asked that the sheriffs' be disarmed belonged to? Very similar to the outrageous disrespect our Colorado democrats showed our sheriffs last year during the gun control hearings. Wouldn't let them speak and shoved them into a room away from the hearings. Democrats sure love our sheriffs.)

Wagoner County Sheriff Bob Colbert traveled to Oklahoma City, the state's capitol, earlier this week with 40 other sheriffs from around the state like they do every year — to meet with politicians and lobby.

Everything was going fine in the state capitol building on Tuesday. More than that, "everybody in that building knew who we were," Colbert told KTUL-TV in Tulsa.

"One of the senators, who

they wouldn't tell us, complained because we were armed in the building," Colbert added to the station.

Then he said the sheriffs were given a choice — disarm or leave.

"So we all packed up and left," Colbert told KTUL.

Colbert said he doesn't know which senator complained, but he has his own beefs about the treatment he and his associates received.

"We're the people that protect these people," he told KTUL.

In addition, Colbert said politicians should be more concerned about improving state business than law enforcement officers who happen to be carrying guns.

"If the state troopers are satisfied that we're OK in that building," he told KTUL, "I'm pretty sure that the legislators should have something else to worry about such as the

economy or something."

While Colbert acknowledged that some lawmakers have called to apologize about the incident, the insult will be felt for a while.

"Pretty sad day for me," he told KTUL.

BizPac Review noted that a different account of the incident was reported in The Oklahoman, a paper which serves Oklahoma City.

When the sheriffs entered the Senate gallery, "the sergeant at arms asked the sheriffs to take off their guns or leave the building," the Oklahoman said. "But a state Senate official says the sheriffs were only questioned briefly before being allowed back into the Senate gallery, still wearing their service weapons."

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We Must All Wake Up!!

by Ken A. Kahn
Antelope Valley,
Westcliffe, CO

The situation here in our country has reached a point that, I fear, will only get worse until we who firmly believe in our Founding Father's reasoning's and research that went into the development of the U.S. Constitution, do something about it. Least of all we believers should not remain silent.

This precious document is being trampled and morphed into something resembling Communist Socialistic or Nazi Fascist dogma. Our executive leadership is Muslim Brotherhood; however is not doing a very good job at hiding it. He bends to blacks, Muslims, Arabs and Russian leaders (i.e. Putin). He ignores any problems resulting with whites, Jews, Christians, Conservatives or Patriots being victims, rekindling the racial riots of the past. In fact he is downright hateful of them. He will not stand by our Allies but has little problem standing by our enemies and/or countries we have learned cannot be trusted. When will the ignorant in this country do anything more than listen to the mainstream media news that put such a pro liberal spin on reporting or don't mention some at all so as to make them anything but objective? The constant and blatant lies spewing from this leader's mouth are critical points. Is anyone keeping track of the accrued number? Do the majority in this country have enough care, concern or energy to do any research into anything that doesn't sound plausible, or didn't even hear it mentioned on network news broadcasts, but have elsewhere? Many to most of them are 'entitled' and overweight (literally) from the easy life of no work. I mean why work when it doesn't pay to, right?

Obama's plan is to systematically DESTROY this country while he and his family are having the time of their lives. He has so far, you have to admit, done a pretty darn good job at it. He is being permitted by our nation a free hand to do pretty much what he wants. He doesn't believe in the Separation of Powers, but does believe in circumventing Congress via Executive Order, uses intimidation on members in both houses of Congress, the Judicial Department and the media to name but a few, to get exactly what HE wants.

He over-regulates our free market economy, which boosts unemployment. Over regulation makes our economy unable to compete with the rest of the

world by handicapping companies, that is no sales growth, no profit. If it was not his intent, he would work more for sound competitive practices seeing that a free market economy works most efficiently and effectively with the government staying out of their affairs other than perhaps for national safety provisions. Then he has the audacity to blame the loss of jobs on the other side of the isle. His intended results, it logically follows, is to collapse our economy by causing many businesses to either fold or move out of the country. Again this logically goes hand in hand with his primary purpose to destroy America via disabling the economy, and who appears to have been Putin's ally all along. Remember that since Reagan's administration destroyed the Soviet Union's economy during 'Star Wars', why shouldn't it also seem logical that he (Putin) have a vendetta against us, as a nation and make it his life's mission to destroy ours in retribution.

There are so many unanswered questions about his past and present. Why hasn't anyone from his so-called college days come forward with anything to say about him (other than being a Communist), let alone any details of this period in his life? Where did his tuition or his world-tour financing come from in his earlier days when he had no job? Why is everything so secretive about him? Why the big secret about his Social Security Number or his birth certificate? Why does he hire so many Islamic people who know nothing about what they were hired for? Why does he disdain and emasculate the military? Why has he relieved so many high ranking officers in the Military? Why is he having so many billions of dollars printed monthly to falsely shore up the Stock Market? Why will he not stand behind our allies (namely Israel)? Why does he keep blaming his problems on the on the non-liberals? Why does he tell so many blatant lies? Why is he constantly attacking the first and second amendments? Why is he spying inward instead of outward from our country? Why do he and his wife defame our flag? Why does he apologize for America when he is abroad? Why does he not speak up when Christians and Jews are killed or tortured by Islamists in the world but will when Islam is criticized? Why is the Homeland Security Department not protecting us from Islamic terrorism while continuing to buy more and more ammunition? Why is he committed to obliterating Christian symbols from

our government? Why is he falsely concerned with 'Green' when there is no money for it? Why is he making it his ambition to close down coal powered electric plants when we, again don't have the money but do have plenty of coal? Why are there so many questions on voter fraud during his second term elections? Why did he tell Putin, not knowing the microphone was active, that things would be much easier in his second term, as if he knew beforehand that he was guaranteed to be re-elected?

As a scientist/engineer for our defense companies during my thirty five year career, I have always relied on logic to work out problems encountered. Logic states, based on critical evidence, that it is this leader's intent and plan to destroy this country. No one could be as totally inept and incapable while hiding so many details of his life as he, if it were not for the fact that this is his intent all along – to purposefully and systematically dismantle and destroy this country.

Many keep ignoring the facts from his administration and ignore the numerous obvious clues. Some perhaps chose to be arrogant and haughty enough to refuse to admit their mistake in their choosing 'Change' without questioning what that change was in the first place. Others possibly wanted the world to know that we weren't bigots and could elect a black to the White House no matter what his qualifications were. Many others want their unrealistic entitlements to continue and hence not need to work for a living. Liberals (and Conservatives) who consent to this receive the added benefit of broadening their election base, to aid the president and their party to continue their destructive ways and hence assure reelection.

I could not fathom the ignorance of the responses to the conservative editorials that some have sent in to the other newspaper. Our Christian, hard working nation has been apathetic far too long and cannot continue to remain so while our Constitution and Amendments are being purposefully misinterpreted, our military being downsized and defunded and our economy destroyed. I know that most of you agree with me but it is up to us NOT to remain silent any longer. We all must do our part to turn this country around and place it back on the path that our forefathers have worked so diligently, intelligently and selflessly on in order to free us from tyranny not so long ago.

Colorado's Health Exchange Boss Makes More Than Most State Cabinet Members

by Greg Cambell,
DailyCaller.com

Colorado's Obamacare exchange, which is facing "dramatic" cuts to come in on budget if fees aren't raised on customers, pays its director more than most state department heads, according to a report in the Denver Post.

Executive Director Patty Fontneau, who was criticized last year for requesting a raise and a bonus even as the health care exchange failed to meet its goals, is also paid more than exchange directors in three other states examined by the Post.

The paper reported that a fifth of the exchange's employees make more than \$100,000 per year, and that almost half make more than \$80,000.

Fontneau is paid \$190,549 per year for leading a staff of 36 employees. The Post noted the salary is \$35,000-\$40,000 more than what almost everyone in Gov. John Hickenlooper's cab-

inet is paid. And it's more than exchange directors in Nevada, Minnesota, and Washington make per year, three states the Post chose for comparison because the cost of living in their metropolitan areas is similar to Denver's.

Earlier this month, Fontneau asked the Connect for Health Colorado board to consider raising the per-customer fee on those who buy health insurance through the site, citing lower than projected numbers of people signing up by early 2015. Without the fee, she warned that budget cuts would be necessary to keep the exchange operating on its \$26 million annual budget.

"I'm not sure the board understands how dramatic our expense cuts are going to be to hit \$26 million [in annual operating costs]," Health News Colorado quoted Fontneau as saying.

Those fees are meant to keep the exchange self-sufficient and they're also used to pay salaries.

Fontneau and others defended her salary to the Post, saying that since the exchange is set up to operate as a private entity, it needed to compete for employees with high salaries.

Fontneau's "philosophy is to pay a little more but hire really good people at a higher level of experience to do the management," Democratic state Rep. Beth McCann told the paper.

"I'm comfortable with the way the exchange is operating," she said.

But Republican Rep. Kevin Lundberg said he thought the exchange staff was "top heavy." He told the Post, however, that while the legislature has some power over who is appointed to the exchange's board, it has none when it comes to staff salaries.

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Treacherous Path To Oblivion

by T.L. Davis,
ChristianMerc.Blogspot.com

The conflict between the government and the people over the Second Amendment is being misunderstood. Those in possession of firearms are not asking the several governments if it is legal for them to have such weapons, they are telling these governments that they are legal and any attempt to confiscate them will be forcefully resisted. This is a conflict that supporters of constitutional rights across the nation are watching with great interest because it affects every citizen of every state. If Connecticut officials think they are only going to be dealing with citizens of their own state, they are mistaken. Everyone has a stake in constitutional rights.

The police departments, legislators, and governors appear to be under the misconception that they, or the courts are in charge of deciding what rights the people have. The truth is much more stark: the people decide that by deciding which rights they will defend with their lives. Once blood is shed by the government, that decision comes much easier to make. The governments can come to grips with that in their own time or they can push the issue and find out what little power they actually possess.

They have not thought it through. Like most government agencies they are too accustomed to handing down orders and people scrambling to comply, because no one wants to go to jail. But, there is a point where society has been so devastated by this approach that every new order will be enforced at the cost of lives.

That realization is coming to the forefront in Connecticut, but it is a realization that will be coming to many other government agencies in the next few months as each state takes a swing at oppression. Second Amendment activists are not the only Americans who feel this way. There are Fourth Amendment activists who are just waiting for the festivities to begin. There are First Amendment (religious freedom) advocates who are also watching the confrontation in Connecticut wondering if this is the chance they have been waiting for to push their agenda. Once it starts, there are all sorts of special interests who will take the opportunity to press their case.

The dangerous militarization of police departments has raised alarms among numerous citizen groups who have watched the police deal lethally with the homeless, the mentally handicapped and innocent citizens who found themselves the victims of mistaken identity. This is not

isolated to any state and it is not going unnoticed. This video has been making the rounds (Editor/GG: It is on YouTube: www.youtube.com/watch?v=kuinzEynAxM.) and should be taken seriously as it is a response to the abuses that have already taken place and a sign that citizens are starting to wake up to the fact that they can no longer trust the government, especially the police departments.

Initially, the governments who have always encountered a compliant citizenry, will be confident they can put down the resistance. They think they know what they are doing, but they have not seen American resistance for a very long time. Americans are inventive and in positions to cause all manner of havoc in ways that don't even occur to those in government agencies, yet. Anyone could be an agent of the patriot; anyone could be an informant to the patriot; anyone could be a saboteur. No one even knows how infiltrated the police departments are at this point.

There are many orders that will be given by politicians desperate to exert their control, as it begins to slip that will put the lives of officers in harms way. At some point the officer starts to question those orders when he has witnessed the deaths

See OBLIVION
on page 10

Oh, Look, It's Back! (Sustainable Development)

(Editor/GG: Mr. Denninger is one of the smartest guys on the planet. He is one of those rare geniuses that actually has common sense. Take your time with this one. It is worth it.)

by Karl Denninger,
Market-Ticker.org

How did this manage to find its way into print?

Civilization was pretty great while it lasted, wasn't it? Too bad it's not going to for much longer. According to a new study sponsored by NASA's Goddard Space Flight Center, we only have a few decades left before everything we know and hold dear collapses.

The report, written by applied mathematician Safa Motescharrei of the National Socio-Environmental Synthesis Center along with a team of natural and social scientists, explains that modern civilization is doomed. And there's not just one particular group to blame, but the entire fundamental structure and nature of our society.

This is definitely worth reading, but do make sure you bring your saltshaker -- full -- with you. The conclusions and analysis are sobering, but whether they pan out is, of course, open to question, as is the timeline.

Back in the 1990s when I was running MCSNet I was asked to attend a few meetings of a bunch of folks who are much smarter than I am -- and who were dedicating a fair bit of their brain power to this analysis. Essentially, the premise boiled down to the carrying capacity on the planet for we humans on a long-term, sustainable basis. That wasn't precisely how they were looking at it, but it was the inexorable conclusion I reached about an hour into my association with them.

The way Policymic presents this is:

The two key solutions are to reduce economic inequality so as to ensure fairer distribution of resources, and to dramatically reduce resource consumption by relying on less intensive renewable resources and reducing population growth.

Uh huh. The guys writing pieces like this seem to forget a few things, so let me remind everyone of them lest they get drowned out in the flower-children nonsense:

- There is a substantial percentage of the population, perhaps even a supermajority, who will do as little as is possible to "get by." This is a serious problem because in order to "reduce inequal-

ity" one must take from those with more capability and give to those with less. This inevitably results in anyone in the group that will do as little as possible doing less than they did before, and then the cycle repeats. This is how the USSR and essentially all other socialist systems have failed through history, including, I remind everyone, Bradford's Mayflower group that nearly exterminated itself.

- While technology is not a panacea there is one factor that has to be considered and rarely is -- energy is the lynchpin without which we immediately and precipitously return to a roughly 1500's-era lifestyle. There is no free lunch in this regard, and "renewable" energy sources are a crock in the main, because in most cases the end-to-end energy return poorly compares with the end-to-end energy investment. Solar, for example, sounds great right up until you start counting the energy required to mine the materials to make the solar cells and remediate all the environmental damage you do getting the material. I point out that the so-called "leaders" in this space, such as Tesla, would be bankrupt but for stealing from other people through tax credits and similar; see the first point for why this is a self-defeating set of policies.

- We use liquid hydrocarbons not due to some jackbooted desire to destroy the environment but because they are the only known means by which you can store roughly 100,000 BTUs of energy in a container requiring only a bit more than a tenth of a cubic foot of space and a mass of less than 10lbs. A very fit individual can probably produce about 1/6th of a horsepower -- for a very short period of time. Your car requires about 20 horsepower continuously, or that of 120 fit men, to cruise on the highway, but those fit men would have to be replaced every 15-30 minutes at best were you to try to use human power for this endeavor. (As an interesting aside the most-efficient means of human transportation known today, in terms of energy efficiency, is a bicycle.)

- On balance the most-likely to reproduce individuals are those who are subsidized to reproduce. We subsidize people with children who have no ability and/or desire to cover the cost of those children on their

own via WIC, EITC and more. This is self-defeating behavior and yet it is part and parcel of the so-called "equality" that is being advanced here (again, see the first point for why.) If we don't deal with this problem the end point will likely include some form of eugenics, and that should be plenty of incentive for us to put a stop to that crap right now.

We have serious issues facing us; the idea that we can have ridiculously cheap energy, for example, is just plain false and, yet, we have built our nation around this lie to a large degree. However, what we can do is secure known-priced energy in a format that we believe will be reasonably-defensible for hundreds of years. The only means of doing so is nuclear, and thus far the best argument in that regard is made for molten-salt thorium-based reactors, as I have repeatedly argued for. We know they work at an experimental level because we built and ran one for several years at Oak Ridge. We also know that there are engineering challenges with them and costs, but this is true of all energy technologies.

At the same time we must stop pretending that agricultural "engineering" such as GMO crops is some sort of panacea. Nature finds a way and if we put our eggs in genetic non-diversity we are asking to take it long and hard when nature finds that way adverse to what we have selected for. There is a very good reason that natural diversity exists in the world; it increases the odds that a species will survive adverse events. We do serious harm to that premise when we engineer out diversity, and we've been doing that in spades over the last few decades when it comes to our foodstuffs. The odds of this coming back and biting us hard are quite significant, and if it happens we won't like the consequences one bit.

Finally, we must put a stop to the subsidizing of those who insist on breeding like rabbits. You're certainly entitled to have all the children you'd like, but only those you can afford to raise unassisted. If we do not get this pattern under control we are asking for an outright disaster -- and we will get it. You're not going to realistically stop people from having sex; if it wasn't enjoyable none of us would be here. But what we can do is put an end to the perverse incentives for people to reproduce solely due to their ability to steal from others as a consequence of doing so -- and

See **SUSTAINABILITY**
on page 19

A Sheepdog Barks!

March 31st 2014, another day which will live in infamy (apologies to all WWII vets). Last Monday was the deadline for Obamacare enrollment, or was it? Obama and his cronies reported that over 6 million had "signed up" and enrolled in Obamacare, or did they? They also said it has the right mix for success or does it? They talk like all are newly insured, or are they? We don't really know because Obama won't let us know the breakdown of the numbers. In line with his normal methods there is no transparency. Do I believe the numbers they are releasing? Absolutely not. WOOF! But lest we focus on their initial enrollment period it's all unimportant. Obamacare is and will always be a failure because it is not sustainable. Americans cannot afford this unaffordable law. It may take a few years but the disaster will finally come to be. Consider these facts. Obamacare was supposed to insure all those 30-40 million that didn't have insurance. The best this 4-year-old law has done is MAYBE insure 1-2 million who didn't have any insurance and look at all the pain and suffering it has caused. The rest of the 6 million either haven't paid their premiums or already had insurance but had to change their plans and/or change their doctors because of Obamacare. So this is success? MAYBE 2 million are covered out of the 40 million while leaving a path of destruction behind it -- higher premiums, higher deductibles, lost coverage, and more taxes. The "cost" of Obamacare has been staggering to accommodate a very few Americans. Only fools believe this "success" story. And Obamacare has been changed so many times and watered-down so many times, to lessen the anger out here in real America that we are actually dealing with Obamacare-Lite. SHEEPDOG NEWS ALERT! I just forced myself to watch Obama's White House statement on Tuesday, April 1st. It was very hard to watch. He was arrogant, condescending, and smug. Because of a late surge the number was now 7.1 million. Of course, there was still no breakdown of what the numbers

mean. He pronounced success, his "Mission Accomplished". He told the media to stop all the negative reporting. He told the Republicans it was over, that there was no stopping Obamacare now. HOWL! I know I don't believe any of his crap. These numbers are "cooked". How can anyone believe this man? He has been so untruthful on every front. This is simply a president and an administration that can't be trusted. These initial numbers are really not relevant. Overtime the reality of the cost of Obamacare, especially the costs to the taxpayers, will come out. It's all based on a non-working premise. All of you should keep this in mind -- The president said all this bull stuff and presented all these phony "cooked" numbers to all Americans on APRIL FOOL'S DAY. That is not a coincidence. This has been done to help the Democrats get re-elected and retain power in the Senate. It will still fail. Obamacare caused a major turnaround in 2010. It looks like it will again in 2014. Because of this unpopular law causing so much trouble 14 Democratic Senate seats are in play. The Republicans need a net gain of 6. Most pundits believe this is very, very possible and very probable. If the Republicans gain control of the U.S. Senate then along with the House they can provide meaningful and smart healthcare insurance reform. It would be very difficult for Obama to veto it. He might anyway, but at great peril to the Democrats' plan to put a bad woman in the White House. We can do our part right here in Colorado as the feckless LPSD Udall is on the ropes. He supported this terrible Obamacare 100%. We must help him into early retirement. At the county assembly Representative Jim Wilson said there was a program to do just that -- Udall in a U-Haul. Let's help make it happen. Before I move on to some local politics there are two other tidbits I wanted make sure you had heard of. Maryland might cancel their state health exchange altogether because it's been a colossal failure. Colorado's exchange is well under its goals also. But California takes the cake this week. Its state exchange



"Covered California" sent out voter registration forms to their applicants PRE-MARKED to register as a Democrat. HOWL! The LPSDs would have us believe this was an accident. They can't be trusted anywhere!

It looks like on the local ballot in June there will be 3 commissioners, 3 sheriffs and 2 coroners. It's good to know there is so much interest and desire to serve the local citizens. Some got on the ballot using the caucus system. Some got on the ballot just gathering signatures of their fellow citizens on petitions. And some got on the ballot doing both. If one fails to garner enough delegates at the caucuses to be automatically placed on the ballot, yet receives at least 10%, they can continue on by petition if they choose. Two candidates did that. So we have lots of choices in the Republican Primary in June. Many do not like the caucus system. It has its flaws. There are some in the community that wrongly believe it causes a "rigged" election. There is an accusation going around that only 30 people pick who is on the ballot. That's simply not true. There is more than one way to have one's name placed on the ballot as I described above. In reality about 750 or more local citizens decided who would be on the ballot. That's fair. What isn't fair is that so many local Democrats (aka LPSDs) like to play in the Republican Primary process. We must be aware of this influence in a low-voter turnout Primary. It is extremely important for all Republicans to vote this primary season. Otherwise the local LPSDs could select our next Sheriff. More on this later. WOOF, WOOF, WOOF!

May God Have Mercy on America! JMH



AFFORDABLE

From page 15

entities time and money which could otherwise be devoted to productivity, not regulatory compliance.

These burdens have had a notable impact on the paperwork budgets of the Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) and the Department of Treasury. When President Obama signed the Affordable Care in 2010, HHS's total paperwork burden was 541 million; today, HHS imposes more than 631 million hours of paperwork, an increase of roughly 90 million hours. Perhaps more remarkably, Treasury, which has had to implement several of the most burdensome mandates and penalties, has undergone an even more profound jump in regulatory requirements. In 2010, it imposed 6.3 billion hours of paperwork; today, it imposes more than 7.8 billion hours of paperwork, an increase of 23 percent.

MANDATES

In the past year, the administration implemented the individual mandate and parts of the employer mandate. Examining the statutory language, it would appear that mandating health insurance would impose significant burdens on in-

dividuals and employers. However, the administration's analysis largely punts on these questions.

The only regulatory analysis of the individual mandate is through the Paperwork Reduction Act. The administration estimates that 36 million Americans would spend 12.6 minutes complying with the mandate, for a total of 7.5 million hours annually. Beyond that figure, however, there are no other estimates for the regulation's economic impact.

The employer mandate dodged regulatory analysis completely. The Small Business Administration (SBA) criticized the paucity of analysis: "Specifically, the SBA Chief Counsel for Advocacy stated the proposed regulations imposed a collection because they require employers to maintain records." There are no listed costs, benefits, or paperwork requirements in the employer mandate regulation. The administration ignored the SBA, and the public has little knowledge of the law's broader impact.

For what the administration has released, the public knows the law has \$6.8 billion in recurring annual costs, compared to just \$2.6 billion in monetized benefits. For comparison, higher

taxes from the "American Taxpayer Relief Act of 2012" will impose an additional \$42 billion in burdens this year. ACA regulations will compound that figure, resulting in close to \$49 billion in burdens from new taxes and ACA implementation alone.

EMPLOYMENT IMPACT

Plenty of ink has been spilled over the employment effects of the ACA. The Congressional Budget Office fueled the debate when it released a report estimating the law would "reduce the total number of hours worked, on net, by about 1.5 percent to 2.0 percent." The administration spun the report as good news, as the ACA was going to eliminate "job lock."

However, the CBO report was anything but good news for the administration or for the labor force. As AAF President Douglas Holtz-Eakin noted, "[The ACA] raises wages needed to lure those recipients from their homes to the workplace – ObamaCare makes those 2.5 million jobs too expensive to be profitable and effectively kills them off."

SMALL BUSINESS IMPACT

The policy implications of the employer mandate, the parts that have been imple-

mented, and the meager tax credit are well known. Perhaps less obvious are the numerous occasions when the administration conceded its ACA rules would impose significant costs on small businesses.

Under the Regulatory Flexibility Act and its amendments, agencies must determine if a regulation would impose a "significant economic impact on a substantial number of small enti-

ties" (SISNOSE). Agencies do not explicitly define this term, but HHS states that if a rule reduces revenue or raises prices by 3 to 5 percent within a five-year period, it imposes a SISNOSE. Regulations rarely trigger this threshold, but to date, the ACA has published 11 regulations that would have a significant economic impact on small businesses.

The listed costs of \$1.9 billion and 11.3 million

hours are as reported by the agencies, taking everything listed in the Federal Register at face value. However, the reality for millions of affected firms is a regulatory tax of 3 to 5 percent, a burden the administration admits. These burdens will appear nowhere on CBO's fiscal tables, but they will undoubtedly affect health insurance coverage, consumer products, and the amount of time Americans spend completing federal paperwork.

CONCLUSION

Last year, AAF predicted: "If past is prologue, the 2014 report on ACA burdens will catalogue higher costs, more paperwork, and additional layers of red tape on the U.S. healthcare system." The results are in: \$4.5 billion in higher costs and 48 million more paperwork hours. Without significant reforms, expect similar results in 2015.

[1] According to the rule, "These requirements are exempt from the PRA [Paperwork Reduction Act] in accordance with the provisions of the Affordable Care Act." 75 Fed. Reg. 72238.

ACA Press Release. Please see: americanactionforum.org/research/affordable-care-act-at-four-regulatory-costs-exceed-benefits-by-twofold

OBLIVION

From page 17

of his fellow officers and had to look their families in the face and admit that their partner died serving a questionable warrant.

No, I don't expect police officers to come to the rescue and refuse the orders, not while they feel like they are going to win. The problem comes when they realize that they are going to lose; that they are already losing and then the question becomes whether their lives are worth protecting the politicians who consid-

er them nothing but rabid dogs to be sicced on the enemy, i.e. their neighbors. At that point the smarter ones have to recognize the price being paid is not worth the benefit.

Unfortunately for these government stooges, there is no way for them to back down. It is not in their DNA. They are bullies and have relied too long on deadly force to get their way. They are busily making the case and providing cover for any action Constitutional rights groups might take against them, because they are slowly alienating

the average citizen.

Anonymous (in the video above) is not even a Second Amendment group. Who knows who they are, except they are just one of millions of disaffected citizens who feel the government is out of control. When a government frees itself from restraint it embarks on a treacherous path to oblivion. Sadly, there is a lot of blood that will serve as paving.

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SUSTAINABLE

From page 18

there are a hell of a lot of those people right here in the United States.

I am not in the "doomer" camp, but I do recognize that we have done a terribly poor job when it comes to longer-run planning, particularly in the energy paradigm. The premise that

natural gas fracking will save us, or shale will do so, is idiotic. While we have plenty of both the return on energy invested is falling and that presents a huge problem as the economics of recovery are driven by that ratio and cannot be altered.

But, while I'm not a "doomer," I am deeply pessimistic -- primarily because what I've outlined here is seen as

political and social poison

If you doubt me try discussing any of this, especially the energy and social welfare policies, the next time you're hanging around having cocktails and see how well the topic is received.

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"There would be a rifle behind each blade of grass."

~ Admiral Yamamoto to Emperor Hirohito, on why not invade the U.S. after attacking Pearl Harbor.

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for your information...

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WHO'S COUNTING?

US NATIONAL DEBT

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SCANDAL SCOREBOARD

FAST & FURIOUS: FIRST CAME TO THE ATTENTION OF THE PUBLIC WITH THE DEATH OF BORDER PATROL AGENT BRIAN TERRY.

NO RESPONSIBILITY YET!

NOW ON DAY #1,207

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 #879

TERRORIST ATTACK IN BENGHAZI FOLLOWED BY RELENTLESS LIES AND COVERUPS.

NO ACCOUNTABILITY YET!

NOW ON DAY #570

IRS TARGETING OF CONSERVATIVE GROUPS ADMITTED BY LOIS LERNER.

NO ACCOUNTABILITY YET!

NOW ON DAY #329

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

NO ACCOUNTABILITY YET!

NOW ON DAY #186

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

From: Representative
Jim Wilson – HD 60
March 30, 2014

A million here, a million there -- after a while it adds up to real money! Real money in this case being the approximately \$24 Billion in the state budget! The budget battle is over in the House (for now) but the war continues. After a long day Thursday spent entirely on the Long Bill (the state budget) the gavel finally dropped at 10:20 PM. After 581 pages and 43 amendments, HB14-1336 passed second reading! Friday morning, the bill faced third reading on the House floor where it passed on a 37-27 vote. (The only Republican voting for the bill was Rep. Gerou who was committed to support it because she is on the Joint Budget committee.) The rest of the R's were holding out to get additional money for schools to restore more of the negative factor. So what happens to the Long Bill now?

The Long Bill now goes to the Senate. The process then starts over – the Senate will strip off the House

amendments and begin to work on the bill from square one. The Senate will offer its own amendments, vote on the bill and send it back to the House. The House will (are you ready for this?) strip off all the Senate amendments and the budget battle will be moved to a Conference Committee between the two houses. From the Conference Committee will come the recommended (and amended) plan for spending approximately \$24 Billion of the peoples' money...

There were two different approaches to the budget debate in the House. The Dems were looking to protect the dollars they had already committed to spending on various projects, including \$150M for “pre-blessed” legislation (meaning the funding for some bills that have not yet been introduced). The Republicans were trying to amend the bill to protect rural Colorado and to find ways to put more of the budget dollars to reduce the negative factor for schools. When the dust finally set-

tled on the battle ground, rural issues were ignored and no more money was allocated to buy down the negative factor for schools.

One rule for those of you who use “social” media – be careful what you Tweet! During the budget debate, House Dems tweeted in response to the Republican amendments to restore the negative factor “that restoring cuts is ‘lavishing’ money on K-12 education.” After being cut nearly 28% since 2008 and being asked to do more with less, schools are not feeling the “lavish” so much...

Personally, I scored a mini-victory during the budget debate in the House. I ran an amendment to fund my Advanced Placement bill in the Long Bill. I felt it necessary because most of the 70+ bills waiting in the Appropriations Committee are doomed to die because the money has already been promised. My amendment was killed, but I planned to run it again as a part of the Committee of the Whole report. However, while I was preparing my “COW” amendment,



the Speaker approached me to ask if I would cut the fiscal note down a little. He assured me that if I did, he would make sure the AP Bill would go through appropriations. I am excited that my bill, to make Advanced Placement courses more available to rural and at-risk students, has a good chance to make it into law this year! Sometimes, out of major battles come small victories...

Feel free to call (303-866-2747) or e-mail wilson-forhd60@gmail.com or james.wilson.house@state.co.us.

Yours for HD 60 -- Representative Jim Wilson

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