



FFA Banquet: *What You Do Defines You*

by Candi Sage

The 2014 Parent/Member FFA Banquet was held on April 17. Those attending read the FFA Poster next to the podium, “What you do defines you” and heard the 2013-14 officers recite their goal in unison; “To practice brotherhood, honor agricultural opportunities and responsibilities, and develop those qualities of leadership which an FFA Member should possess.”

Following the opening ceremonies and welcome, Seani Millard presented her district-winning Creed. She will compete at the May FFA State Convention in Alamosa. The Invocation was given by senior Lane Byerly, and then everyone was served tea or lemonade by the class of 2015.

First on the agenda after dinner was the presentation of awards beginning with the Fruit Sale: First Place cash award was to William Brandon for \$100, Second Place to Ed Berry for \$75, and Third Place to Sam Dunlap for \$50.

The recipients of the Green-

hand FFA Degree were asked, “Will you strive to further develop your abilities through active participation in FFA?” Those in attendance responded, “We will.” The recognized Greenhands were: Casey Brandon, Ashley Gillum, David Brinkley, Seani Miller, Symphony Curry, Trish Havens, Andrew Feldmann, Devon Hockaday, Cody Young, Cody Lyons, Ryan Young, and Casey Sullivan.

Mr. Siefkas, FFA Advisor, thanked the parents and advisory board members who joined the FFA teams in their travels. Awards were given to Kylie Ruzanski for the Star Chapter Farmer by raising twenty head, Ashley Gillum for the Star Greenhand for her willingness to participate and strong SAE (Supervised Agriculture Experience), and William Brandon for the Dekalb Award. William received this reward for his premier leadership, strong class participation, personal growth, and career success.

Recognition was given to the Meats Team who will also be going to the State

Competition in May: Taylor Staton, Ed Berry, and Nicole Lorenzen. The Floriculture Design team members; Sam Dunlap, Sydney Feldmann, and William Brandon took Second Place in the District Competition by one-half point and were recognized for their position overall ranking with other teams.

Mr. Siefkas thanked Joe Fawcett, from the Salty Pine for his help with the artistic design. Students that have gone onto the County Fair on their own are: Lane Byerly, Noah Tillotson, Taylor Staton, and Ed Berry who placed with the Grand Champion.

The Dairy Team: Cody Young, Ashley Gillum, Devon Hockaday, Symphony Curry, Cody Lyons, Daniel Brinkley, Andrew Feldmann, Chase Hill, and Casey Sullivan won First Place in Walsenburg and will compete in Ft. Collins. The Range Team: Ed Berry, Ethan Gomez, Noah Tillotson, and Nicole Lorenzen, worked with soil and plants, ranked fourth overall in District competition.



FFA Officers 2014-15; Ed Berry-Secretary, Sam Dunlap-Sentinel, Casey Brandon-Historian, Cody Young-Executive Committee Member Elect, Noah Tillotson-Reporter, Ashley Gillum-Treasurer, Taylor Staton-Vice President, Nicole Lorenzen-President.

Sentinel photo by Paul Sage

Degrees in FFA are ranks in the organization with the highest being the FFA Chapter Degree. The students who have progressed in SAE and in the classroom must also have: a Greenhand Degree, be in the second year in AG, participate in planning three activities, earn \$150, lead a group discussion, demonstrate five Parliamentary procedures, earn good grades, have completed ten hours of community service, and show progress toward individual achievement to receive the Chapter Degree. Those receiving the Chapter Degree were; Taylor Staton, Noah Tillotson, Ethan Gomez, Jus-

tin Walden, Sam Dunlap, Nicole Lorenzen, and Ed Berry.

The FFA State Degree is the highest degree granted by the state and requires students to be a two year member, have earned \$2,500 or completed 750 hours of unpaid labor, earn a ‘C’ or better, completed 25 community service hours, and participated in seven activities above the chapter level. The State Degree was awarded to senior, Lane Byerly, who received a State Degree chain.

See FFA on page 12

The Parades Are On!

The Wild West Cowboy Church is the new sponsor for the Memorial Weekend Parade, the Independence Day Parade, and the Christmas Parade this year!

The Memorial Weekend Parade will be on Saturday, May 24th, beginning at 10 a.m. It is the intention of those planning this parade to return it to an event that honors those who have paid the ultimate price for the freedom and liberty we hold dear. All parade entries are encouraged to support this theme by displaying patriotic symbols, including American Flags and banners to remember the fallen.

The Independence Day Parade will be on Friday, the 4th of July, also beginning at 10 a.m. This will

once again be a huge celebration of the birth of this great country, and the U.S. Constitution. The Southern Colorado Patriots Club will again sponsor the nationally famous 2nd Amendment Rally/Support Our Sheriffs section of the parade that brought in thousands of participants and spectators last year!

More information will be announced later this year regarding the Christmas Parade. Parade Entry inquiries may be made by calling 719-783-2676, and entry forms may be picked up at either the Wild West Cowboy Church (60260 Hwy 69N - one mile north of Westcliffe) or the office of the Sangre de Cristo Sentinel (610 Main Street in Westcliffe).

Although no sculptured marble should rise to their memory, no engraved stone bear record of their deeds, yet will their remembrance be as lasting as the land they honored.

~Daniel Webster

MEMORIAL WEEKEND 2014 PARADE

Saturday, May 24th at 10:00 a.m.
Sponsored by the Wild West Cowboy Church

Entry Applications are available at the
Wild West Cowboy Church (60260 Hwy 69 N., Westcliffe)
or the Sangre de Cristo Sentinel (610 Main St., Westcliffe)
The application and \$10 entry fee must be turned in
by May 19th at either location. Call 719-783-2676 for more info.

*Join us to celebrate the freedom and liberties
that Americans have sacrificed to preserve!*



High Yield
High Altitude
Gardening
page 18

School Play:
“Fiddler on
The Roof”

Photo Feature
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Fremont
County
Sheriff on
Pot: “We’re in
an Impossible
Situation”
page 13

**PATRIOT
ALERT!**
Veterans on
“Secret
Waiting List”
Died While
Waiting for
Care
page 14



*But he said to me,
“My grace is
sufficient for you,
for my power is
made perfect in
weakness.” Therefore
I will boast all the
more gladly about
my weaknesses, so
that Christ’s power
may rest on me.*

2 Cor. 12:9
NTV



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

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

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

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Editorial Board

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

George Gramlich - VP and Managing Editor
George.Gramlich.sdcs@gmail.com

Rob Canterbury - Secretary
Rob.Canterbury@sdcsentinel.com

Mary Seifert - Treasurer
Mary.Seifert@sdcsentinel.com

Key Personnel

Katherine Camper - Assistant Editor / Graphics Director
Kat.Camper@sdcsentinel.com

Anne Crewdson - Office Manager
AnneCrewdson24@gmail.com

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

Reporters

Carol Clemenson
cdclem65@gmail.com

Candi Sage
mountainhighcandi@centurylink.net

Paul Sage
mountainhigh21@centurylink.net

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2013 Associate Member

Our Opinion...

From the Editorial Board

A CHAIN & A MOVIE



Last Sunday afternoon 16 concerned Christian citizens stood along Main Street at the Custer County High School west parking lot and helped connect a "Chain of Life" all across the state. It was overcast and there was a cold wind blowing. Regardless, these Christians braved the elements for 90 minutes to help stop abortion. It was a great and rewarding time. Abortion is being performed in epidemic numbers in America. Since Roe v. Wade 40 years ago approximately 55 million abortions have been performed in America. That's an average of about 3,000 a day. Such a tragedy! Pat Schulze has led this effort locally for the last 19 years. She deserves a lot of credit. The National Chain of Life stands across America each year in October. The next Chain will be Sunday, October 5. We hope and encourage you to participate. Who else will stand up for the protection of those who can't stand up for themselves yet – the unborn children? There has been much progress across America in the last few years. Many states are passing legislation prohibiting abortion after 20 weeks or so. This is a beginning; however, it is not enough. Activist judges rule against these laws ev-

ery day. We can only guess they are bent on upholding the invisible and non-existent right to kill babies that the Supreme Court said was in our Constitution. This is why 9 men and women in black robes are not always right. On the National level much is also being accomplished. The National Right to Life Association (NRL) provides us the following information. "The U.S. House of Representatives has passed the National Pain-Capable Unborn Child Protection Act (HR1797). This act would ban elective abortions after the stage in development an unborn child can feel pain. Compelling medical evidence indicates this is at least by the age of 20 weeks, if not before. This act would save many lives and prevent untold suffering. It is intended to protect babies in every state. Similar bans have already been passed in 10 states." On the national level the House Bill sits without action in the U.S. Senate. Once again Senator Harry Reid is the problem. He will not let the pro-life bill come up for a vote. This is another, and maybe the most important reason we need to ensure the control of the U.S. Senate is taken out of his hands and stop these pro-abortion Democrats from prevent-

ing this bill from becoming law. The NRL continues: "Under Harry Reid's leadership the Senate will never be a welcoming place for pro-life legislation. We need new leadership. Unborn babies need new leadership." They cannot do anything about it because their right to life is being terminated. We, on the other hand, can do something about it. This breakdown in our society's morality is certainly connected to the breakdown of the traditional family. We constantly hear that women have the right to deny their child's right to live. They are called 'unwanted children' or "unwanted pregnancies". Many, not all, but many of these situations would not exist if there was a viable traditional family that the baby could be born into. The government spends a lot of money on poverty in America and there have been little, if any, positive results. Since the "War on Poverty", credited to LBJ some 50 years ago, the U.S. Government has spent \$21 trillion to stop poverty. Think about that – 21 TRILLION DOLLARS. More than the entire outrageous national debt and recent statistics show that the poverty levels are about the same. Poverty has actually increased in the last 5 years. Maybe America

would be better served if some of that money went to helping recreate and stabilize the traditional American family. That's a family with a father, a mother, and children. This type of family unit needs to be held in high praise and needs to be encouraged. Yes, there will always be other family structures. There always has been. That doesn't mean we shouldn't promote and support the traditional family. There are lots of statistics that show the traditional family structure leads to less poverty. A child born into a family with a mother and a father has a much better chance of getting a good education and finding a job. This scenario helped make America's middle class the best in the world. Now we are told that's no longer true. Focus on the Family, located in Colorado Springs, is a faith-based organization. They have started a program to recover, renew, and reclaim the cultural conversation about the family. They along with Pine Creek Entertainment have produced a one-night cinema event called Irreplaceable. It will be broadcast and shown in local theatres on Thursday, May 6, at 7:30 p.m. This movie will be available for viewing at the Tinsletown Cinemark in Pueblo. It will be shown at over 700 theatres across America. You can check your local theatres to see if they are participating. It can also be shown in local churches. Details can be found at www.irreplaceablethemovie.com. This powerful film explores what it means to be a family. We encourage you to check it out.

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A Powerful Sermon on Government Power

by Bill Bailey,
Westcliffe, CO

In a sermon by Henry Benjamin Whipple, 1889, at the centennial of the inauguration of George Washington, he related the words of Patrick Henry from a September 5, 1774, meeting where he said, "I am not a Virginian, I am an American." At this convention there was opposition to opening the session with prayer due to the religious differences of the delegates. Old Samuel Adams said, "Gentlemen, shall it be said that it is possible that there can be any religious difference which will prevent men from crying to that God who alone can save us?" These men, having pleaded with the crown for justice and equality received nothing in return. They had no government, no power, no officers, could not impose customs, had no army, did not own a foot of land, and even used a meeting hall of local carpenters. But they solemnly sought God with fasting and prayers. Thus the originators of the Declaration of Independence resolved to pledge their lives, their fortunes, and their sacred honor. But they did all this on their knees, holding God to be an integral part of the American independence. Washington was a devout man of prayer and Victor Hugo acknowledged that God

had fought for Washington. Franklin appealed to the others in his presence to appeal to the Father of Lights to illuminate their understanding. He had to bring them back to their original devotion and supplications which had since been relaxed. So with his hand on the open Bible, Washington took the oath of office of the first presidency of the United States of America and having done so, bowed and reverently kissed the book.

"Government is a delegated trust from God, who alone has the right to govern," thus quoted Pastor Whipple. "No one," he went on, "has the right to be his brother's master. Take away the truth that government is a trust which comes from God, and you have left nothing between man and man but cunning and brute force." The name of God is not found in the Constitution of the United States; it did not need to be when it was written on the people's hearts. I think the best quote Whipple gave was this: "No nation has ever survived the loss of its religion." The year in which Washington was inaugurated president, France was turned into a hell with its own revolution. Whipple goes on, "No high-sounding words about freedom, no Godless philosophy, no infidel creed

which robs men of homes here and heaven hereafter, can save this nation. There are clouds and darkness on the horizon for the future. I see it in the impatience of law, in the jealousies between class and class, in the selfishness of the rich, and in the misery of the poor, in bribery and corruption in high places, and in the turbulence of mobs. I see it in the foul monster of intemperance and impurity which stalk unabashed through the land. But I see the greatest danger in that insidious teaching which robs humanity of an eternal standard of right which makes morality prudence or imprudence; which limits man's horizon by the grave, and takes from hearts and homes God and Christ and heaven. Yet, I reverently believe that God has set us in the forefront of the nations to be, as our text says, "a beacon on the mountain-top," to lead on in His work in the last time." His sermon goes on about many valuable lessons taught by our forefathers but have since been forgotten by our "progressive" society. I return once again to the words of Whipple, "No nation has ever survived the loss of its religion." God may or may not judge this present day society but one thing is sure, we will implode from within without God as our anchor.

A Follow-up from School Superintendent Selle

In the April 25 edition of the Sangre de Cristo Sentinel a counter point letter was printed from the editor regarding the article I submitted explaining why employing two principals had been recommended to the Custer County School District Board of Education. The article from the editor contained statements that were not accurate. Specifically, comments stating that reform initiatives come from education bureaucrats and that public education is a monopoly are not accurate. The chart presented referencing spending vs. test scores is not representative of our school district. Furthermore, and of greatest significance, the data cited regarding reading and mathematics scores at our school is incorrect. Should any members of the public wish to discuss specifics of this with me, they are welcome to contact me at chris.selle@ccbobcats.net or 719-783-4951.

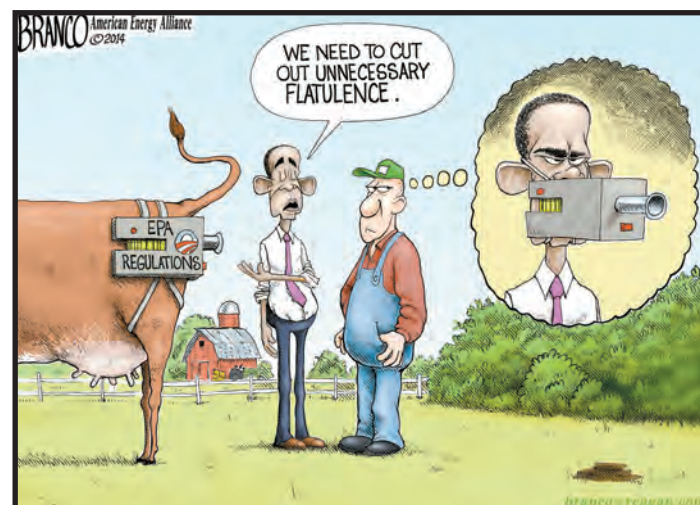
Custer County School District has an obligation to be good stewards of taxpayer dollars. With that obligation comes accountability. While we will embrace that accountability, I would request that the editor utilize accurate information when attempting to scrutinize our school.

Thank you,
Chris Selle
Superintendent
Custer County School
District C-1

(Editor/GG: The reading and mathematics data noted in the article was from the U.S. News and World Report's annual evaluation of all high schools in the country. For Colorado, they use our standard TCAP test scores.

To see the actual Custer County HS report, go to: www.usnews.com/education/best-high-schools and type in "Custer County".)

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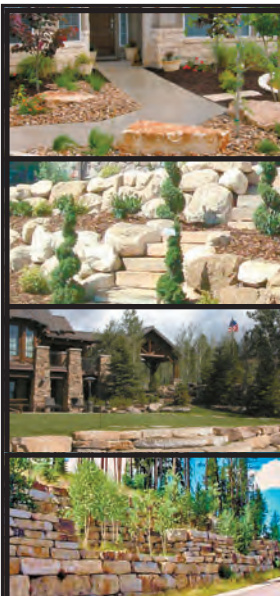
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Letters to the Editor



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Westcliffe Parades: What's in a Name?

Dear Editor:

Are we succumbing to political correctness?

It is my understanding that the Wild West Cowboy Church will be sponsoring the Memorial Day Parade, the Independence Day Parade, and Christmas Parade. The Sangre de Cristo Sentinel and the Southern Colorado Patriots Club are assisting and providing volunteers for the parades. The traditional names of these parades as they are called should be maintained. The Chamber of Commerce and the Town of Westcliffe withdrew their support of these parades because, in part, of liability issues. They washed their hands of the most important

part of the so-called culture of Custer County, let alone the United States of America. These entities and a few other people want to call these parades by a different name. For instance, they want to call the Memorial Day Parade the Memorial Weekend Parade – Spring-Into-Summer. If you want a Spring-Into-Summer Parade then form one, separate of the Memorial Day Parade, no matter what day Memorial Day is observed.

Memorial Day is to honor our soldiers and American pride as well as honoring those soldiers who gave their lives as they fought for your freedom.

Independence Day, as some

of you refer to as Fourth of July Parade, is a day that a new nation was born; bought and paid for with lives for your freedoms—not for one group of said people but for all walks of life that makes up this country's cultures.

Next, the Christmas Parade...A night, or day, that Christ was born to celebrate the birth of Christ.

People. Grow up. These are parades that we honor and grew up with, respect and fought for. If you don't like it, form your own parade and call it what you want.

*Ray PóBlano
Rural Westcliffe
Native Veteran*

On Loss and Love

Editor/GG: My apologies to Tony and our readers. This letter sat in my new Sentinel GMail account for over a week to a technical glitch caused by me.

An extremely sad time came upon our community as we faced the loss of one of our young citizens this past week. My prayers go out to this family and friends as we all begin the healing process.

I would like to take this opportunity to speak to the families of the kids at Custer County school. As a person who was closely involved with the events of that day I feel it is important for you to know that as the day unfolded and went into the next, I saw firsthand the love, care and compassion the entire staff genuinely have for your children. In halls, classrooms, and common areas

the faculty came together as a team to take care of the need of each child, the love that they were shown is something I will not forget.

To Chris Selle and his entire staff I would like to say thank you for handling the situation with grace, professionalism and love, lots of love.

*Sincerely,
Undersheriff Tony Supan,
Custer County*

School Performance of Fiddler on the Roof

Being an avid fan of the musical, Fiddler on the Roof, and having seen it on stage professionally and in community productions as well as on the big screen many times, we walked out of the theater in Westcliffe Friday night after sitting through the Custer County High School Drama production thoroughly delighted! Enchanted, really. We can be so proud of the caliber of talent available

in our school and from home-schooled students in the community. Not one cast member missed a beat! Everything they attempted, they pulled off with panache! Although handled with humor, the weight of religious persecution was the dark undertone to the story of a Jewish family trying to adapt to a new and somewhat frightening age. What carried the day, and the story, was the evi-

dent reliance on a God who holds all things together, even in the most difficult times. All we can say is a resounding THANK YOU to every one of you who performed so convincingly, bringing the community a wonderful night out, and doing a great musical up right! Bravo!

*Don & Sharon Buck
Oak Creek Grade*

Endorsement of Shannon Byerly for Sheriff

I understand that Mr. Shannon Byerly is running for the County Sheriff position in Custer County. I have worked with Mr. Byerly over the last 3+ years, as the Fire Chief for the Cañon City Area Fire Protection District, and I am impressed with his service and dedication to the residents and visitors to Cañon City. We have developed a very positive relationship between Mr. Byerly,

as a representative of the Cañon City Police Department, and the firefighters of the Fire District. We have enjoyed a collaborative working relationship during several events and major incidents, including the Royal Gorge Fire in 2013. I find Shannon's personality and willingness to work collaboratively with other agencies to be a tremendous asset as a public safety professional. If Mr.

Byerly is successful in his election bid it would be a great loss for the residents of Cañon City, but a great gain for the people of Custer County. I believe that Mr. Shannon Byerly would be an excellent choice for the next Sheriff of Custer County.

*Respectfully,
David DelVecchio,
Fire Chief
Cañon City Area Fire
Protection District*

Clarifying Statement:

Jay Printz wishes us to clarify that in last week's front page article on the Chamber of Commerce Candidates' Forum, that his comments on the illegality of praying during the opening of the meeting, were made by him as a private citizen, and not as the Town Attorney for the Town of Westcliffe.



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We are Moving!

First State Bank of Colorado is pleased to announce that on Monday, May 5th, we will open our new office at 102 S. Adams Blvd.!

Please note that our last day of operation at the 1000 Main Street location will be Friday, May 2nd. We will close on Saturday, May 3rd, in order to complete the move over the weekend.



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Ask a Pro: All well testing is not equal. Test the System

A lot of companies do well tests to verify well production but very few and none I know of locally do a system check. The pump and pressure tank together with the various components that make up a water system are checked for quality and condition when we do a well test.

Additionally we note whether the system is suitable for the intended purpose. We recently did a service call for a new home- owner; he had just bought an existing home and was moving in but had no water! His problem: A frozen water line. The bigger problem was; the water system was not designed for year around use. The water line was too shallow to keep

from freezing; a costly-unexpected fix. Certain parties in a real-estate transaction would prefer that we not mention the short comings of the water system but the prospective buyer who is paying for the test should be advised of potential problems.

Well tests are done to protect the buyer from problems with the well; we go a few steps further to protect the buyer.

- David Nequette Lic.1043

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Local Mountain News & Notices

Murder Investigation Underway After Body Recovered on S. Hardscrabble

On Saturday, April 26, around 12:52 p.m., Custer County dispatch received a 911 call from an individual on a cell phone stating that he had discovered a dead body. There was no cell coverage where the body was located, so he had to drive several miles to make the call. Deputies from the Sheriff's Office responded, the individual lead them to where the body was, approximately three miles east of State Highway 165, on CR 297, also known as the South Hardscrabble Canyon. This area is on U.S. Forest Service land and has numer-

ous, undeveloped camping spots.

The body appeared to have been at the location for several days and had been disturbed by small animals. The Colorado Bureau of Investigation was called and they responded with their crime lab to process the scene. Custer County Coroner Art Nordyke responded and the body was taken to the Colorado Springs Coroner's Office for an autopsy. The autopsy was done on Monday morning and confirmed that the body was that of a white male, 5'6" to 5'9" tall and weighed between

145 to 155 pounds, with brown eyes and black hair. Because of the condition of the body, the approximate age is still unknown.

The District Attorney was notified and Deputy DA Rex Kendall and their investigator also responded to the scene.

The incident is being investigated as a homicide. There was no identification on the body, so the work of trying to identify the person is under way at this time. At this time, the cause of death is not being released pending further investigation.

U.S. Flags Welcome Home Legion Commander

by Joy Lowe

If you were wondering why the Main Street flags were flying over the weekend, it was to welcome Commander Carol Kennedy home. The American Legion Westcliffe Post 170 hosted a "Homecoming Dinner" for our own Carol Kennedy on Saturday, April 26, 2014. Carol's term as the Department of Colorado Commander will end on June 23, 2014, at the annual Department of Colorado convention, so her "home" post welcomed her back to Post 170. It has been a whirlwind year and Commander Kennedy faced several very import-

ant issues regarding the American Legion and veterans in general. She has done an outstanding job representing all veterans and the American Legion since June 2013.

The Post 170 Family served approximately 100 people a wonderful spaghetti dinner with four different sauces, salad, rolls, and dessert. We hosted many out of town guests, several who spent the night in our local motels, ate in local restaurants, and shopped. Some of the dignitaries present were: National Vice Commander Doug Woodell (from Aurora Post

23); Department Adjutant (and Emcee) Pat Smith; Asst. Department Adjutant & Past National Commander Tom Bock. Many others came from around the state to thank Carol for her accomplishments this past year. The evening was full of funny stories, gifts, and gratitude.

We felt it if appropriate with the out-of-town guests to 'show our colors' for Carol and lined the street with flags. Our thanks go out to the individual who stopped to pick up one of the flags that came off the pole and turned it into the Sheriff's Office.

Republicans to Host Annual Lincoln Day Dinner on Sunday

Hear Ye, Hear Ye!

All local Republicans and guests are invited to the annual fundraising Custer County Lincoln Day Dinner. The event takes place Sunday, May 4, beginning at 1 p.m. in the Custer County multi-purpose room.

Attendees should bring a salad, side dish, or dessert to share. Meat dishes, table service, and beverages are being provided by the Custer County Republican Central Committee which is hosting the event. Additionally, attendees will pay \$10 which goes into

the local Republican Party coffers.

In addition to lunch, attendees will hear what local, state, and national Republican candidates have to say on a number of issues. To date, those running for county commissioner, sheriff, and coroner will be in attendance, along with David Cox who is running against incumbent Scott Tipton for the Republican nomination for Congressional District 3, U.S. House of Representative. Unopposed incumbent Colorado House District 60 Representative Jim Wilson

has also confirmed he will attend.

The Lincoln Day Dinner will also include a recitation of the Gettysburg Address by local 4-H speech contestant Daniel Phillips, and a live action of an American and state flag among other items.

Call Custer County Republican Central Committee secretary Nora Drenner at 719/371-6124 for more information. Other central committee officers are Chairwoman Sharon Berry, vice-chair Mike Hess and Treasurer Lynn Butler.



Sanctity of Life

Several people in the valley braved the cold to once again make a stand for Human Life. Holding signs that said, "Abortion Hurts Women", "Abortion Kills Children", and "How to Save a Life...Don't Kill that Life, You Have Options", among others.

Most people passing by honked and waved in support and a few stared straight ahead as if there weren't any people there alongside the road and ignored the signs. There were members of numerous churches represented.

Sentinel photo by Candi Sage



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Local Mountain News & Notices

Tragedy to Triumph With Dave Roever of Eagles Summit Ranch

Starting this Friday, May 2nd, you will have an opportunity to see Dave's brand new show from the comfort of your home. Every Friday at 1:30 p.m. to 2:00 p.m. MST "Tragedy to Triumph" will be airing on the DAYSTAR Television Network. (Please check your local cable/satellite provider for the channel in your

area. <http://www.daystar.com/shows/tragedy-to-triumph-dave-roever/>)

In *Tragedy to Triumph*, Dave Roever hosts interviews and stories from his successful program, Operation Warrior RECONnect, that has helped so many Iraq and Afghanistan war heroes.

Free Vision Screenings Sponsored by the Lions

How well do your little children see?

If you have a child between the ages of 2 and 6 the local Lions Club will be providing FREE screenings at the School Readiness Screening happening Friday, May 2nd from 9 a.m. to 2:30 p.m. in the Multi-Purpose Room at the Custer County School, located at 709

Main Street, in Westcliffe. No appointment is necessary.

The screening is free, takes only moments, requires no preparation or medication and is totally painless. Parental permission is required and there will be a form for parents to fill out before the child is screened and will be available at the

screening.

Why does this matter?

Vision screening is an effective way to detect vision problems that could lead to lazy eye or other vision problems. It is important because one in twenty children has an undetected vision problem that if left untreated can lead to problems in school.

Rockin' W Arena Gymkhana Buckle Series

Mark your calendars for Saturday, May 10th, for Gymkhana at the Wild West Cowboy Church! Registration will be begin from 8:00 a.m. to 9:00 a.m. with the events starting at 9:30 a.m. The Gymkhana will have age classes which are: 6 and under assisted, 6 and under unassisted, 7 to 10, 11 to 13, 14 to 16, 17 to 19, 20 to 30, senior 40 and over.

The events are: Barrels, Poles, Flag Race, 75 up and back, and one special event to be announced at each of

the three Gymkhanas. All events are \$4 each. Buckles will be awarded to 1st place for each class based on highest points out of 3 Gymkhanas. Contestants must enter at least 4 out of 5 events to be eligible for a Buckle. Ribbons will be awarded to 5th place in each event for each group.



Last year's gymkhana at the Rockin' W. *courtesy photo*

A full Snack Bar will be on sight. The Arena is located on the property of the Wild West Cowboy Church at 60260 Hwy. 69 Westcliffe, one mile north of town. Call 719-783-2676 for more info.

Book Review

God's Choice

A journey through high-risk pregnancy, premature birth, and one child's fight to live.

by Joseph and Katherine Comerford

by Katherine Camper

This inspirational book takes readers on the deeply personal journey of the Comerford family that celebrates the power of trusting God. I think few people can imagine having to make the decision of whether or not to terminate a pregnancy – no matter the circumstances. But to have doctors tell you that you should decide 'yes' would be heart-wrenching. Kak and Joe faced being told that – repeatedly. And they stayed strong in the fact that the decision was not

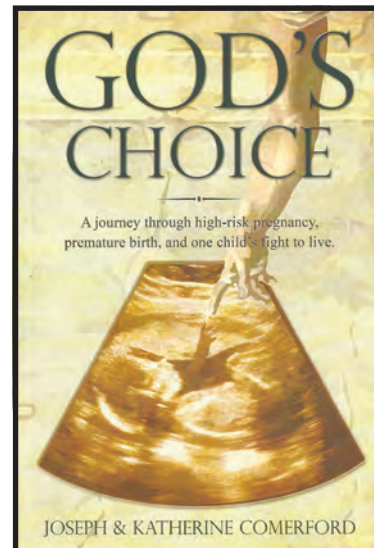
theirs to make. The "choice" was not up to them. It was up to God.

While certainly a challenging journey, this is also incredibly uplifting and inspiring. They reveal the joy and love they share with their son Jacob - now 8-years-old, with each other, and with their oldest son, Luke. They detail the kindness and generosity of strangers, as well as friends

and neighbors.

And they demonstrate the importance of listening to your own heart, even when other people may be pushing you toward a different path.

This is a glimpse into their hearts and minds as they experienced what most people cannot imagine. In doing so, they share how powerful it is to rely



fully on God. In realizing how powerless we really are in this life, we can find freedom and comfort in knowing that each of our lives is in God's hands. If we can trust Him with a life-or-death choice, can't we also trust Him with our every-day choices?

I highly recommend this eye-opening and inspirational book to all readers, and I thank Kak and Joe Comerford for sharing their hearts and their journey with us all!



Jacob and Luke Comerford *courtesy photo*

Book Signing!

Join Kak Comerford on Thursday, May 8th, from 4:00-6:30 p.m. at the Sentinel's office at 610 Main St. in Westcliffe.

Books are available NOW at the Sentinel or online at amazon.com.

Custer County School District Informational Community Meeting

Who: All community members invited

What: Informational meeting regarding the process of developing a strategic plan for the Custer County School District. Information will be presented relative to plan format, community input, focus groups, timeline, etc...

Where: Multi-purpose room (cafeteria)

When: Monday, May 5 from 6 p.m. to 7 p.m.

Please Attend to Learn More!

Local Mountain News & Notices

Bobcats Place High in Two Invitational Meets

by Jim Silver

Once again, The Custer County Bobcats Track Team traveled to 2 invitational track meets in a week. On Thursday, April 24th the destination was Weston, Colorado, for the Primero Invitational, where the Bobcats were one of 20 teams participating. The boys placed 3rd, and the girls placed 5th for their day's efforts. On Saturday, the 26th, the team competed in a smaller meet. Both boys and girls placed 5th of the 12 schools which showed up at the Palmer Ridge Invitational. The individual athletes who placed in the various events at both meets are as follows, and several "Personal Bests" for the 2013-14 season will be noted:

For the boys:

Dillon Wommack placed 5th in 110m and 300m Hurdles at Primero and 4th in 300m Hurdles at Palmer Ridge.
Corey Lewenkamp placed 1st in the 1600m Run both days.
Michael Franta placed 3rd in the 800m Run at Primero.

Smokey Solis placed 6th and 4th in Discus at the respective meets. Smokey placed 2nd in Shot at both meets, and he posted a 45'5" "PB" at Primero.
Casey Nordyke was recently cleared by his doctor to join the track team, now recovered from a football season knee injury/surgery. He placed 5th in Discus at Palmer Ridge.
Brian O'Connor placed 2nd and 5th in High Jump. At Primero, he jumped 6'1" for a "PB." He placed 2nd and 3rd in Triple Jump and posted a 4th place Long Jump at Palmer Ridge.
Denver Mullett jumped at Primero also, placing 4th in High Jump and 3rd in Triple Jump.

For the girls:

Serenity Ham placed 1st in 100m Hurdles at Primero, 2nd and 1st in High Jump, and 2nd and 2nd in Triple Jump for the two meets. Serenity's 17.12 seconds time in the 100m Hurdles and 32'8.5" Triple Jump are "PB"s for the season.

Kaitlyn Freeburg placed 6th and 8th in 100m Hurdles, 5th and 5th in 300m Hurdles, and 4th and 5th in the 200m Dash.
Jessica Sturtevant placed 5th and 3rd in the 3200m Run.
Sarah Gerringer placed 2nd and 7th in the 800m Run and 7th in Long Jump at Palmer Ridge.
Caitlin Johnson placed 7th in the 3200m Run at Primero.

The Bobcats wind up the regular track season the same day this issue of the Sentinel is being read, when they go to the Pueblo Twilight at the CSU Pueblo campus on May 2nd. The following weekend, the destination is the ASU campus in Alamosa for the Regional Track Meet on Saturday, May 10th. This meet is all about qualifying to move on to the next and final level—the State Track Meet! This event will be held at Jeffco Stadium in Lakewood. Some of our Bobcats have been there before, and more will be competing to get there this year.

GO BOBCATS!

Bobcats Sport Schedule

BASEBALL
Saturday, May 10
Districts: place and time to be announced

Saturday, May 17
Regionals: place and time to be announced

Saturday, May 24
State Championship in Lakewood

TRACK
Friday, May 2
12:30 p.m. Pueblo Twilight at CSU-Pueblo

Saturday, May 10
8 a.m. ASU - Alamosa

Thursday - Saturday, May 15- 24
State Championship in Lakewood

GO BOBCATS!

Bobcat Baseball

by Jim Silver

This past week, the Bobcats Baseball Team split a pair in the last conference match-up, a double-header against South Park on Friday, April 25th. In game one, as Head Coach Jay Lont put it, "It was our number-one pitcher against theirs, and we won!" It was a hard-fought game with the Bobcats always ahead through 5 innings of play—4 to 1 in the 4th inning, 5 to 2 in the 5th. And then, South Park bounced back in the 6th inning, outscoring the Bobcats 3-0 to tie the game at 5 each. Custer County was last at-bat in the 7th, and South Park had already put another run on the board, making the score 5-6. With two runners on base, Conner Rowley came up to bat. Conner brought those two runners home to win the game 7-6, and with this, posted 3 RBI's for the game.

At bat for the Bobcats, Rowley hit 2 for 4, Lane Byerly hit 2 for 3, Rowan Bell hit 2 for 4 and scored 3 runs, and Josh Carter hit 2 for 3. The team scored those 7 runs on 11 hits in the game. RBI's were posted by Sam Dunlap, Lane Byerly (2), and Josh Carter, in addition to Conner Rowley, as noted above.

On defense, Conner Rowley was credited with 4 put-outs from the pitching position, and Rowan Bell with 1 from the catchers position and 2 others caught stealing, for a couple players to note in particular. And, Conner Rowley showed up as a formidable pitcher, as usual. He pitched the entire game, throwing 134 pitches, striking out 13 batters and walking only 2.

With a satisfying win un-

der their belts, the team sat back for a few minutes' rest before returning to the field to face South Park in the second game. On the downside, TJ Flynn was icing a pulled quad. It had been decided that he was to sit out game 2, not playing center field, as team captain besides. Lane Byerly played second base both games rather than taking his turn on the mound, since he's nursing an injured elbow on his pitching arm. These injuries were mentioned by Coach Lont as a concern for the days ahead, with the hope that the nearly two weeks will be time for some recovery.

With Byerly unavailable to pitch game 2, sophomore Justin Walden was picked to start—his first time on the mound in high school, according to the Coach. Justin showed up well under the adverse circumstances which gave him that slot with pretty short notice. He and Nate Schreve split the pitching duties, with 79 and 88 pitches thrown, respectively. Each pitcher struck out 5 batters, but South Park managed to score 18 runs on 18 hits, with 13 Earned Runs.

At bat, the Bobcats posted 10 hits with 38 At Bats, and got on base with a walk 10 times, scoring a total of 8 runs.

Coach Lont assesses his team with an optimistic view looking back over the season and looking forward, as well. The Bobcats stand with 8 wins and 4 losses overall, and 5 and 3 in league play. By the time of this issue of the Sentinel, the team will have played a final non-conference game against Center, at the ASC

campus in Alamosa on Monday, April 28th. After that, the team will have nearly 2 weeks to prepare for District on May 10.

The Coach sees this as a time of brushing up on fundamentals, and "We have a lot to work on," he adds. Outfielders need to go after balls they can catch. At bat, it's about laying down bunts when needed and hitting the curve ball. Coach Lont says that something that the coaches and the team will be working on in the days ahead is to capitalize on what they're expecting of the opposing team on defense. The advantage here for the Bobcats is that the "opposing team" in this case is South Park, once again. The winner will go on to face Rye (expected winner of the match-up with Victor-Cripple Creek). This will all be happening on May 10th in Rye. Needless to say, Coach Lont will be "preaching Passion," since District determines who moves on the next week for Regionals.

An additional note of appreciation is expressed by the coaching staff at this time, since the Bobcats have been playing in new uniforms and have had balls to hit, bases to step on, and other supplies--thanks to the following local businesses who each donated \$100 to the baseball program: Watson Land Company, Inc., D & W Services LLC, Mullett's Excavating LLC, Byron R. Beard, D.M.D., Back Country Plumbing and Heating LLC, Westcliffe Supermarket, and Crestone Graphics.

THANK-YOU, from the Bobcats team, and GO BOBCATS!, from the fans.

**Bobcat Menu • May 5 - May 8, 2014**

Monday breakfast Cheese Quesadilla Fruit Milk lunch Soft Beef Taco Rice Choice of Veg. & Fruit Milk	Tuesday breakfast Cheese Omelet W.W. Toast Fruit, Milk lunch Spaghetti w/ Meat Sauce Garlic Roll Choice of Veg. & Fruit Milk	Wednesday breakfast Blueberry or Banana Muffin Loaf W. W. Toast Fruit, Milk lunch Chicken Fried Steak Sandwich Choice of Veg Choice of Fruit Milk	Thursday breakfast Sausage Gravy, Biscuits Fruit, Milk lunch Chicken Egg Roll Fried Rice Choice of Veg. & Fruit Milk
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Elementary - Main dish, bread, milk, choice of 1 veg. & 1 fruit • Salad bar

KIDS

Friday, May 2, 2014

The Men and Women Who Serve

The children were brought to Jesus where he layed hands on them and blessed them. The New International Version of the Bible quotes Jesus saying, "Let the little children come to me, and do not hinder them, for the kingdom of heaven belongs to such as these."

Unfortunately, evil walks among us yet we must have hope. There are men, women, and even children in the world that try to protect you.

A terrible event happened on September 11, 2001. An evil man named Osama bin Laden from the Middle East planned and ordered an aerial attack on four American passenger planes which were hijacked and crashed killing 3,000 people. Two jets crashed into the Twin Towers of the World Trade Center in New York City. Another jet struck the Pentagon building near our nation's capital. A fourth jet crashed into a field in Pennsylvania as passengers attempted to overpower the hijackers on board. Such brave people!

On May 2, 2011, ten years later, U.S. Special Operations Forces killed Osama bin Laden during a raid on his secret compound in Abbottabad, Pakistan.

information source: historyplace.com

Sangre de Cristo Sentinel • Westcliffe, Colorado

Corner

Local Mountain News & Notices

Classifieds

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FOR SALE: Miscellaneous gun stuff: powder, target stands, bore guides, etc. Call or email for list. Mike, 783-0258; n0mik@centurytel.net

Help Wanted

Like to greet people and share our community with them? Then consider volunteering one day a week in the Custer County Chamber of Commerce Visitors Center. Training is provided. Call 783-9163.

Seifert Enterprises is seeking an Accounts Payable Clerk/Administrative Assistant. Successful candidates will have general office and AP experience. Inventory and/or fleet management is a plus. This position requires an organized, detail-oriented individual with the ability and desire to multi-task within a team environment. Résumés are being accepted by mail only: Attn: HR; PO BOX 210; Westcliffe, CO 81252

The Custer County School District is accepting applications for the position of head middle/high school cross country coach, head middle school volleyball coach, and head high school girls basketball coach for the 2014-2015 school year. For more information, please call Greg Cravens at 783-4948 or pick up applications at the administration office at 709 Main Street in Westcliffe between the hours of 12:00 p.m. - 4:00 p.m., Monday-Thursday. CCSD is an equal opportunity employer

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NOW ON DAY #907

TERRORIST ATTACK IN BENGHAZI FOLLOWED BY RELENTLESS LIES AND COVERUPS.

NO ACCOUNTABILITY YET!

NOW ON DAY #598

IRS TARGETING OF CONSERVATIVE GROUPS ADMITTED BY LOIS LERNER.

NO ACCOUNTABILITY YET!

NOW ON DAY #357

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

NO ACCOUNTABILITY YET!

NOW ON DAY #214

The deadline for getting your information into the Classifieds is Tuesday at Noon for that week's edition. Call (719) 783-3360 to place your ad.

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It is time for serious negotiations between the Board of County Commissioners and Bill Geipel.

Any conflict of interest must be avoided.

My Word is my bond.

My handshake is my contract.

I am Bob Kattnig.

I ask for your vote for County Commissioner in the June Primary.

This ad is paid for by the committee to elect Bob Kattnig.

To contact Bob, call 719-783-0738 or email 1drrdoc@gmail.com.

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Tour the ranch house • Check out the historic barn

Watch horse training exercises

Take a sample horseback ride - or just pet and brush horses

Relax & make new friends

Bring your guitar or other instruments and strike up a tune

Local Mountain News & Notices

Events Calendar

Friday, May 2, 2014 9 a.m. - 2:30 p.m.: School Readiness Screening for all children ages 3 to 5 5 p.m. - 8 p.m.: First Friday Art Walk in Cañon City at The Artists' Gallery, 416 Main Street, Cañon City 7 p.m. - 9:30 p.m.: Country Western Dance at Wild West Cowboy Church. Fee involved. For more info, call Sherri Cayce at (512) 308-7711. 7:30 p.m.: The Jones Theater: "Noah"	School multi-purpose room 1 p.m.: Mutton Busting at Wild West Cowboy Church for children 65 pounds and under. \$3 per ride or see ad 2 p.m.: The Jones Theater: "Noah"
Saturday, May 3, 2014 6:15 a.m.: Christian Motorcyclists Assoc.: Run for the Son. Meet at Fremont Motorsports, 600 E. Main St, Florence 7:30 p.m.: The Jones Theater: "Noah"	Monday, May 5, 2014 4:15 p.m. - 5:45 p.m.: Accountability Committee Meeting 6 p.m. - 7 p.m.: Open to public - info meeting regarding development of strategic plan for Custer County Schools
Sunday, May 4, 2014 1 p.m.: Lincoln Day Potluck Dinner at Custer County	Tuesday, May 6, 2014 6 p.m. - 8 p.m.: Ag Advisory Committee Meeting in Ag Classroom Saturday, May 10, 2014 8 a.m.: Registration for Gymkhana at Wild West Cowboy Church. Call 783-2676 for more information.

Recurring Events and Business Hours

Monday 6 p.m.: Closed step study 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 open in downtown Westcliffe
Monday through Friday 8 a.m. – 5 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 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, Tuesday, Thursday Noon: Lunch served at Custer County Senior Center located on first floor of Silver Cliff Town Hall. Call 783-9508 to RSVP by 9:30 a.m.	Thursday 5:30 p.m.: Weight Watchers meeting in the Hope Lutheran Church basement. Call 783-4144
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	Friday 6 p.m.: Open discussion Alcoholics Anonymous meeting at St. Luke's Episcopal Church. Call Jim at 783-2053 or (360) 509-9172 or Lisa (719) 783-0809
Tuesday 12:30 p.m.: Bridge Club meets in the library community room in downtown Westcliffe. 4 p.m.: Awanas for kids ages three through sixth grade at First Baptist Chuch of Westcliffe	Friday and Saturday 1 p.m. – 4 p.m.: Share Center adjacent to Hope Lutheran Church in Westcliffe
6 p.m. – 8 p.m.: Jammin' band at Mining Company restaurant in Silver Cliff	Saturday 10 a.m. – 2 p.m.: Library open in downtown Westcliffe 10:30 a.m.: Story time for kids at the library till 5/3

Community is Invited to Thank You Event by Bomgardner Family

On Wednesday, May 7 at 6:30 p.m. the Bomgardner family is hosting an informal dessert bar to honor and thank the local first responders at the Fire Station. It was one year-ago on May 2 that Brooke Bomgardner was in a serious accident and flown by Flight for Life to Memorial Hospital.

The Bomgardner family would like to invite the community to join in the event to honor the Fire Department, EMS, and Sheriff's Department as they were all involved in assisting with the accident.

Christian Motorcyclists Association

On Saturday, May 3, 2014, motorcyclists from all over the United States and Canada will participate in the 26th Annual Run for the Son. Our plan is to spread the light of Jesus around the world as a result of the work leading up to this day.

Those participating in this event will raise money by seeking individuals to sponsor them on a 100-mile ride, usually taken with their chapter. The joint efforts of thousands of motorcyclists will make this run a successful endeavor.

Every penny promptly goes to work. CMA does not lose sight of the fact that this money is entrusted to the ministry to be used to spread the Gospel. Donations are tax-deductible CMA uses these funds for our outreach to motorcyclists, the Jesus Film, Open Doors and Missionary Ventures International.

As members of Cañon Crusaders CMA Chapter #815, we are committed to raising funds for these worthwhile ministries. For more information about our organization, please come to Hermit Park around noon on May 3rd and visit with our members, have your motorcycle, car, truck, bicycle or even your house blessed!

The ministry of CMA was founded out of a desire to reach out to others with the love of Jesus. From the very beginning the vision of CMA has been to change the world, one heart at a time.

If you would like to take part in the Run for the Son ride, we meet and start in Florence at Fremont Motorsports at 600 E Main. Kick stand up at 9:15 a.m.

For more information contact: Syndy Nordyke at 719-225-9053 or a3rd-timesacharm@yahoo.com, or Pam Gaunt at 719-269-0855.

JACK CANTERBURY

For

CUSTER COUNTY COMMISSIONER



- ATTRACT BUSINESS GROWTH THAT CREATES YEAR-ROUND JOBS**
Actively identify, invite and welcome new businesses
Encourage and help existing businesses and provide them with the tools they need to succeed
- PROACTIVELY FACE CURRENT ISSUES AND FIX PROBLEMS PROMPTLY**
Pursue forward thinking solutions to issues, eliminating potential problems
- WORK EFFECTIVELY WITH OTHER LOCAL GOVERNMENT AGENCIES**
Work closely with the towns and special taxing districts so the County Commissioners can best provide assistance or support
- PROMOTE AND PRESERVE THE LIFESTYLE WE NOW ENJOY**
Our lifestyle is our biggest asset and the best way to promote business growth, so preserving that lifestyle is a priority
- ENSURE FISCAL RESPONSIBILITY**
Always represent taxpayers who are providing the funds to support the county and use funds judiciously to achieve maximum benefit
- TESLEY "JACK" CANTERBURY**
I am a rural Colorado native, have owned and operated a business on Main Street in Westcliffe for 14 years, care deeply about our future and have a proven track record as a community business leader. I promise to bring this passion and skill to the County Commissioner's Office if elected. I appreciate your consideration and vote.

783-9052; 429-5411 jack@westcliffecolorado.com

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The Custer County High School Drama Class Presents

Fiddler on the Roof



The Cast

The fiddler: Cynthia Corella
 Tevye, the papa: Bennet Zeller
 Golde, the mama: Rachael Schneider
 Tzeitel, a daughter: Rebecca Tillotson
 Hodel, a daughter: Brenda Wilson*
 Chava, a daughter: Kristine Henrich*
 Sprintze, a daughter: Noelle Zeller
 Bielke, a daughter: Hannah Kennedy
 Yente, the matchmaker: Madeleine Woods
 Motel, the tailor: Peter Zeller*
 Perchik, the student: Henry Watson
 Lazar Wolf, the butcher: Ed Sandoval
 Mordcha, the innkeeper: Adam Koudsi
 The rabbi: Wesley Kagan
 Mendel, the rabbi's son: Justin Reno*
 Avram: Collin Rafferty*
 Grandma Tzeitel: Amy Selden
 Fruma-Sarah: Madisen Henrich*
 Fyedka, the soldier: Michael Batson
 Shaindel, Motel's mother: Rylie Rinks
 The Constable: Beau Parmenter*
 Villagers: Jenna Henrich, Kayli Short,
 Alysha Benoit, Savannah Cordova,
 Joe Schneider, Jess Franta

*Denotes members of International Thespian Society



The Band

Director: Brittan Braddock
 Violin: Monica Backsen
 Flute: Lynne Tabb
 Clarinet: Brittan Braddock
 Trumpet: David Collins
 Trombone: Andrew Straight
 Cello: Kim Millett
 Guitar: Don Pinnella
 Bass: Dan Epperson
 Piano: Cheryl Pinnella
 Drums: Chris Selle



Director: Lissa Miller*

Assistant to the director: Cynthia Corella

Set construction: Steve Miller*

Stage manager: Beau Parmenter*

Assistant stage manager: Layne Geroux

Sound and lights: Kaylan Stoering*,
 Ashley Schlabach* and Willy Brandon

Properties: Madysen Paxton*

House manager: Skylor Smith

Poster design: Amanda Schmutzler*

With Sincere Thanks!

The parents and guardians that helped in so many ways

Nancy Varney, Joanna Sturtevant, Beth Anne Zeller, Beverly Schneider and Margaret Linderer for sewing costumes

Lorie and Stuart Short for set construction

Joanne Sturtevant for lending us authentic pieces from the Ukraine

Joanie Leibman for her thoughtful discussion of Jewish traditions

Lynne Tabb for choreography of "Little Bird"

To our patrons: Barb Jones, Paul and Candi Sage, Linda and David Neimeyer, Susan and Tom Frostman, Beth and Dan Green, Don and Phyllis Bishop, Beverly Allen, Betsy and Michael Banks, Lori and Carl Batson, Pam Bishop, Eula Strayer, Jodie and Dave Heppe, Ruth Epperson, and Lorie and Stuart Short



Sheriff's Report...

As of Tuesday, April 29, there were currently eight (8) men in jail.

April 19 Between 2 p.m. and 8 p.m. Some Where Saloon reported that a speaker was stolen from the stage area. There are no suspects at this time.

April 24 Barbara Buskirk, age 40, of Silver Cliff was arrested in Larimer County off of a Custer County bench warrant for failure to appear. She is being held on a \$750 bond. The original charge was fraudulent check-writing.

April 25 A male juvenile, age 14, was arrested in Silver Cliff off of a Custer County bench warrant for failure to appear. He was taken to the Pueblo Youth Center. The original charge was a Class 2 misdemeanor for theft.

April 26 Roy Dickens, age 58, of Westcliffe, was issued a summons for dumping trash on city property and accumulated trash on personal property. The case is filed in the Westcliffe Municipal Court. Dickens is to appear in court on May 20.

AMBULANCE REPORT Two (2) ambulance calls as of April 29.

April 24 At 2131 hours, the ambulance was dispatched to the 200 block of South Third Street in Westcliffe for a 31-year-old female with difficulty breathing. She was sent to St. Mary Corwin Hospital in Pueblo.

April 27 At 10:45 a.m., the ambulance was dispatched to County Road 198 for a 26-year-old male with a finger injury. He was transported to Parkview Hospital in Pueblo.

FIRE CALLS There was one (1) fire call as of April 29.

April 28 At 1433 hours, a fire truck was dispatched to Ute Road for smoke investigation. It was chimney smoke blowing low to the ground.

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George Washington - First President of the United States



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FFA

From page 1

The “Parli-Pro” team; Sydney Feldmann, Willie Brandon, Sam Dunlap, Noah Tillotson, Ethan Gomez, and Nicole Lorenzen are also District champions and will be participating in the State Competition in May. Mr. Siefkas gave each member suspenders in preparation for their upcoming competition.

Honorary members are those outside of FFA and may include a superintendent, principal, members of the Board of Education, businessmen and others who have helped or are helping advance agricultural education. The 2014 Honorary Members were thanked for their time, energy, willingness to serve, as well as their attitude and

their belief that young people can achieve. Steve and Shalene Hart and Kirk Ruzanski were recognized as the 2014 Honorary Members.

FFA Scholarship winner was Senior Kylie Ruzanski who will receive \$1,500. Mr. Siefkas presented the FFA Sash to seniors: William Brandon who is seeking Pre-med at UCCS, Lane Byerly who is joining the Navy, Sydney Feldmann who will attend UCCS for a degree in Education/Special Education, and Kylie Ruzanski who will attend CSU for a Veterinarian Degree.

The 2013-14 Officers: President-William Brandon, Vice President - Sydney Feldmann, Secretary - Kylie Ruzanski, Treasurer - Kody Aldrich, Reporter - Edward Berry, and Sentinel

- Nicole Lorenzen were replaced by the new 2014-15 Officers: President - Nicole Lorenzen, Vice President - Taylor Staton, Secretary - Edward Berry, Treasurer - Ashley Gillum, Reporter - Noah Tillotson, Sentinel - Sam Dunlap, Historian - Casey Brandon, and Executive Committee Member Elect - Cody Young.

President William Brandon’s retiring address just before closing ceremonies entitled, “Wallflower,” spoke of how he felt like a wallflower before becoming involved in FFA and how the experience has given him confidence in who he is and to pursue his goals no matter the obstacles. Congratulations to all the students in the Custer County FFA Education and the accomplishments they have achieved!

After-Prom Fundraising is Approaching Goal

The 2014 After-Prom is wrapping up fundraising this week and it looks like it will be a big party for CCHS students. “The community came together again in a big way,” stated STUCO sponsor Troy Bomgardner. “At last count we were closing in on our goal of \$5,000!”

After-Prom will begin, Saturday night at 12:00 midnight at Maverick’s where students will gather and then travel by bus to Horn Creek Activity Center. A number of activities will

take place at Horn Creek and then the students will bus to the Cowboy Church for more activities. After-Prom will end back at Maverick’s with breakfast and the big prize drawing at 5:30 a.m.

The After-Prom concept is to give students a safe, drug and alcohol free party to attend. The activity is sponsored by CCHS STUCO and supervised by adults. If students decide to leave during the activity, parents will be contacted by Bomgardner.

Bomgardner also noted that TV’s, I-pods, Kindle’s, Play Stations, outdoor gear, gift certificates, and many other prizes will be awarded during the night. “Our students had a great time last year and there seems to be a lot of excitement again this year, we look forward to another successful After-Prom!” said Bomgardner.

If parents have any questions, they can call Troy Bomgardner at Custer County Schools, 783-4927.

DEER MOUNTAIN NEWS: Election Canceled, Health Fair

by Carol Clemenson

This is to notify all registered voters of the Deer Mtn. Fire Protection District that the scheduled election of the board of directors, May 6, 2014 has been canceled. On Friday, April 11, two candidates withdrew their names from the ballot. This resulted in two candidates remaining for three positions of 4 year term, and 2 candidates remaining for 2 year term.

Therefore, pursuant to state law, the election was canceled and the remaining candidates were declared elected by acclamation at

the monthly meeting April 6th.

There is one position on the board available which will be filled by appointment when the newly elected board is sworn in and seated May 21, 2014. The person will serve on the board until the next regular election which will be held in May 2016. Qualifications for this position are the same as those that were self-nominated: must be a registered voter in Fremont County residing in the district, and the property that they reside on, whether rent or own, is part of the DM-

FPD.

Second: The Deer Mountain Volunteer Fire Dept. is holding its fifth 9Health Fair Saturday, May 3. Hours for the fair are 7:00 a.m. to 10:30 a.m. The location is 6181 CR28 which is the Deer Mtn. Fire Station #1. No long lines and a nice snack will be provided. If you missed the other Fairs, drive on up and see us. The same day, May 3rd, is our annual spring Pet Clinic – from 1:30 – 2:30 p.m. Also at the station Dr. Scott Gillespie from Westcliffe will be present to care for the animals.

Mutton Busting 2014 at the Wild West Cowboy Church

Bring your kids and join us for our annual Mutton Busting Pee Wee Woolly Riders

The fee is \$3 per ride, unless you are attending the church service at 4 p.m., followed by the potluck, then your entry fees are waived. Participants must weigh less than 65 pounds. Ribbons will be awarded.

Join us Sundays, at 1:00 p.m. on the following dates:
May 4th & 18th July 6th & 20th
June 1st & 15th August 3rd & 17th



Fremont County Bulletin

News, Opinion, Commentary

From Politics to Blossom Fest *Cañon City is a Hornet's Nest of Activity*

by Barbara Penezic

Spring is always a busy time of the year and when you combine the bustle of spring with the tension of a very important election year, things really start to pop. The splashes of color and the delightful smell of wildflowers on the evening breeze seem to be telling us it is time to ‘Stop and Smell the Roses,’ even as the politics and everyday problems of our fair city are screaming, ‘The Time For Action is Now!’

The 76th Annual Cañon City Music and Blossom Festival Parade will be held on Saturday, May 3rd. The theme for this year’s parade is, “Still Standing Tall,” an appropriate honor for The Royal Gorge Bridge which as we all know is also “Still Standing Tall.” The parade will begin at 12:30 p.m. with numerous floats from various organizations and, of course, high school bands and the Blossom Queen accompanied by her court of lovely young hometown ladies. Horses and other animal entries will be included in the parade but please ‘NO BULLS.’ Open carry is allowed and discharging of firearms with blank ammunition is permitted with proper notice to The Cañon City Music and Blossom Festival Parade Committee. Some participants may be carrying signs to show their dislike of Common Core and possibly a few signs that read ‘Standing Tall against Marijuana.’

According to City Attorney John Havens, the City Council could vote on the issue of recreational marijuana as early as May 5th. Many residents are questioning the ethics and indeed the legality of having possibly three of our council members voting on this issue while they are in a position to see significant financial gain by giving a yes vote. This issue has the power to forever change the face of Cañon City and not in a way that all citizens see as positive. Cañon City Chief of Police Shultz thinks his department will be able to handle the challenges of a city where this drug use will be condoned. Sheriff Beicker, however, sees the situation in an entirely different light. The sheriff says that the cost of maintaining law and order will be equal to or even exceed any tax monies that may be gained from such sales. The Sheriff would appear to make a good point here.

Corvet Griffin was recently arrested and charged with a class four felony of contributing to the delinquency of a minor. She was also charged with one count each of four misdemeanor charges of providing alcohol to a minor, reckless endangerment, child abuse, and obstructing an officer in the performance of his duty. The police were called to a house in the 1900 block of North 9th street where it is alleged there was an underage

marijuana and drinking party. A baby was found in the house surrounded by marijuana pipes and empty alcohol bottles. An underage male was transported to St. Thomas More after being found unconscious in the home. Reports say 24 young people were in the home and several were as young as 14. The legalization of marijuana will only make it easier for our children to become involved in such unsavory situations. Sheriff Beicker points out that this is a business about greed and there is going to be violence associated with it as well.

Senator Grantham and Representative Wilson were in town last week to participate in the Chamber of Commerce’s Legislative Hour. Rep. Wilson spoke out about the ever increasing cost of license plates and the negative factor associated with educational funding. He explained that the state had to reduce funding several years ago and that money he said, “is not coming back.” Rep. Wilson feels that Career Pathway may be a viable way to help students find a career in manufacturing. There are between 6,000 and 9,000 jobs available for individuals to earn somewhere around \$50,000 to \$80,000 a year. There is a project that works with community colleges and pays for counselors to go out and meet with high school and college students about the positions that are available in manufacturing. There’s an idea, maybe Cañon City could work to increase tax revenue through good old fashioned work like manufacturing. Then we wouldn’t have to worry about hiring more law enforcement to deal with things like drug cartels and related violence. Speaking of marijuana, Sen. Grantham discussed two bills that are currently in the senate. Both bills are aimed at keeping pot out of the hands of our children, specifically pot that comes in the edible form. This is really a serious matter; it is impossible to tell the difference between a pot gummy bear and the very popular children’s candy, gummy bear.

The regular meeting of the RGTP did not escape without incident this past week either. It seems that when you put incumbent Coroner Carlette Brocius and Candidate for the Coroner’s Office Randy Keller in the same room, sparks fly. The differences between these two candidates obviously goes deeper than educational background. Differences that should be fully investigated before we step into the voting booth. That is after all what the process is all about. We the voters deserve and need to know the candidates we are choosing to run our local government. Look for more to come on this particular subject in the near future.

Be Informed,

Get Involved!

Fremont County Sheriff on the Marijuana Problem *“We’re in an Impossible Situation”*

by Candy Thompson

Tuesday evening, at the April 22nd Central Committee Republican meeting, Sheriff Jim Beicker spoke passionately to a crowded room about the problems that law enforcement is already having in Fremont County from the legalization of marijuana.

Sheriff Beicker described how their hands are tied by laws that hold them responsible for damages if they confiscate plants from criminals and destroy them. He said that they are put in “a horrible, horrible position” between the state Constitution and federal law and it’s “killing law enforcement.” Officers can only take pictures and get small samples of illegal plants. They also must deal with health hazards, possible violence, and an influx of criminals with laws that are ambiguous and contradictory or just absent.

Witnessing the lives that are being destroyed by drugs in Adult Drug Court is a disheartening scene and yet offers some hope for the many addicts that are struggling to get their lives together, the sheriff explained. He related a story of one lady who had been on every drug imaginable, but who told that it was the marijuana that she had been on since she was 12 that she couldn’t kick. “If someone tells you how harmless marijuana is, I say bs!” Beicker exclaimed.

“I’ve got a picture of an 8-month-old baby with a marijuana pipe being held in its mouth taken off of a cell phone from a storage unit that was confiscated and auctioned off...” the sheriff continued with one example after another of serious problems that legalization has brought to our county.

He went on to say that our kids are going to pay a price that we can’t even imagine. He agreed that it’s about money but also that it’s not worth the money and that what we

have going on is far beyond a medical need being met by medical marijuana implementation. The question of the effects on property values also came up which is a concern to those near the approximate 18 greenhouses in Penrose. Even though there is a moratorium on additional growing and building in the county, those who had permits before the moratorium can continue their construction. Recreational marijuana in the county has been permanently banned, but not in the city limits.

One situation some time ago that the sheriff told about was a man who had a “grow” of 5,000 plants and wanted security because he had stolen the plants from someone else and his life had been threatened. Beicker also said that he knew of murders that had happened already because of it and that one medical marijuana facility here in Fremont had already had drug cartel checking them out. The owners told the sheriff that they were afraid. “This business is about greed and there’s going to be violence associated with it,” Beicker said.

Sheriff Beicker told the group that the costs of regulating and enforcing and dealing with the consequences of crime and usage are going to eat up any money that may be gained from taxes. He is seeing first hand the effects on the citizens of Fremont County. The sheriff is solidly against the legalization of a substance that he views as dangerous and harmful to the lives of the people that he is charged to protect but is finding it almost impossible to do so.

The future of Fremont County and the effects of Amendment 64 cannot be told at this time, but our sheriff is not optimistic about the outcome. Many questions remain unanswered and the picture is that this will get worse before it gets better.

“In the larger sense, however, the personal ownership of firearms is only secondarily a matter of defense against the criminal.

Note the following from Thomas Jefferson: The strongest reason for the people to keep and bear arms is, as a last resort, to protect themselves against the tyranny of government. That is why our masters in Washington are so anxious to disarm us.

They are not afraid of criminals.

They are afraid of a populace which cannot be subdued by tyrants.”

~ Jeff Cooper

IMPORTANT DATES IN FREMONT

School Board Meetings:

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

Florence-Penrose

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

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

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

**Royal Gorge
Tea Party
2nd & 4th Thursday
of each month
6:30 p.m.
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Cañon City
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The Daily Jot

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

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

America's Place in Prophecy

I truly believe that while we cannot stop the march of prophecy, we can determine our place in it. Americans do not have to go the way of the world, however, it seems that we are destining ourselves to do so. To me, verses like Romans 12:21, "Be not overcome of evil, but overcome evil with good" and the parable told by Jesus in Luke 19:13 where the nobleman told his servants to "Occupy till I come" are excellent instruction. Even Peter and the apostles in Acts 5:29, "We ought to obey God rather than men" and Jesus in Matthew 29:19-20, "Go ye therefore and teach all the nations...to observe all things whatsoever I have commanded you..." should erase apathy in the hearts of disciples of Christ.

Our forefathers settled the United States seeking freedom of religion in the name of Christ Jesus. We are blessed today with freedom of speech and of religion and a representative form of government based on laws derived from God's laws because of prayers, work, blood and toil of those who came before us. Very few seem to care. Self interest, instead of motivating good government, has reversed citizenship responsibilities of self government. We have allowed hirelings to sooth our souls with vain and deceptive words resulting in the very tyranny that our forefathers fought so hard against. A rebellion was sparked over a two-cent tax on tea, but today we accept government taking 40% of our labors in taxes.

A Rasmussen survey of 1,000 likely voters conducted on April 15-16 re-

vealed that only 16% of voters believe the federal government today has the consent of the governed. Some 54% consider the federal government a threat to individual liberty rather than a protector. As recent as December 2012, 46% described the federal government a threat to liberty, meaning that people are increasingly seeing that government does not serve the interests of the people. This, according to Rasmussen, is consistent across majorities of Democrats, Republicans and unaffiliated voters--that the government itself "has become a special interest group that looks out primarily for its own interests."

Americans are experiencing government tyranny as not since British rule. As a nation, we always have been that refuge for God's people--both Jew and Gentile. We always have been the nation that reaches out to other nations with the message of Christ. Today, we have attracted the satanic and instead of rebuking it, those who are our leaders embrace it. Some say America is the Great Mystery Babylon, others say America is the safe haven. There is no mention of America in the Bible--as far as location, the Bible is a Middle Eastern, Jerusalem-centric document. As citizens, we have the power and authority to replace evil with good. Our place in prophecy awaits. Our choice collectively teeters between who we were and who we are.

Have a Blessed and Powerful Day!
Bill Wilson
www.dailyjot.com
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Veterans on "Secret Waiting List" Died While Waiting for Care

by Lily Dane,
FreedomOutpost.com

Long waiting times for appointments have led to the deaths of at least 40 veterans who were patients at the Phoenix Veterans Affairs Health Care System.

Many of those veterans were placed on a "secret waiting list" that was part of a scheme designed to hide how long patients actually had to wait for appointments. An estimated 1,400 to 1,600 veterans were forced to wait months to see a doctor.

A recently retired top VA doctor and other high-level sources helped CNN expose the scheme:

Dr. Sam Foote just retired after spending 24 years with the VA system in Phoenix. The veteran doctor told CNN in an exclusive interview that the Phoenix VA works off of two lists for patient appointments:

There's an "official" list that's shared with officials in Washington and shows

the VA has been providing timely appointments which Foote calls a sham list. And then there's the real list that's hidden from outsiders where wait times can last more than a year.

"The scheme was deliberately put in place to avoid the VA's own internal rules," said Foote in Phoenix. "They developed the secret waiting list," said Foote, a respected local physician.

Foote said the VA requires its hospitals to provide timely care to patients, usually within 14 - 30 days.

He said evidence was shredded in order to hide the long list of veterans waiting for care. VA officials also told staff not to schedule appointments in the computer system:

"They enter information into the computer and do a screen capture hard copy printout. They then do not save what was put into the computer so there's no record that you were ever here."

That hard copy, if you will, that has the patient demographic information is then taken and placed onto a secret electronic waiting list, and then the data that is on that paper is shredded."

So the only record that you have ever been there requesting care was on that secret list. And they wouldn't take you off that secret list until you had an appointment time that was less than 14 days so it would give the appearance that they were improving greatly the waiting times, when in fact they were not."

Foote said the wait times that were reported to authorities in Washington were completely made up:

"So then when they did that, they would report to Washington, 'Oh, yeah. We're makin' our appointments within -- within 10 days, within the 14-day frame,' when in reality it had been six, nine, in some cases 21 months."

CNN also reported that

emails they obtained show that Phoenix VA Director Sharon Helman knew about the secret list and the actual wait times, and even defended its use to her staff.

Foote has sent letters to officials at the VA Office of the Inspector General to report the secret electronic waiting list and the large number of veterans who died waiting for care. He and other sources told CNN that the IG has interviewed them about the scheme.

U.S. House Veterans Affairs Committee in Washington chairman, Rep. Jeff Miller, has been investigating delays in care at veterans hospitals. Congress has now ordered all records in Phoenix be preserved for an upcoming investigation.

Reprinted with Permission. Read more at <http://freedomoutpost.com/2014/04/phoenix-va-scheme-exposed-40-veterans-secret-waiting-list-died-waiting-care/#JpGAR7T3V2is-VWzb.99>

Lawyers Deliver First Amendment Lesson After Parents Accuse Teacher of Banning Child's Bible

by Billy Hallowell,
TheBlaze.com

The parents of a second-grade student in Texas are accusing a teacher of banning their child from reading the Bible during independent reading time.

The student in question was purportedly trying to read the holy book during "read to myself time" at Hamilton Elementary School in Cypress, Texas, when the educator allegedly said the book was inappropriate.

The parents, who wish to remain anonymous for fear of reprisal, claim that the teacher asked the child not to bring the Bible back to school.

Liberty Institute, a conservative legal group, is now representing the family, calling the teacher's actions unconstitutional.

"We expect [Cypress Fairbanks Independent School District] officials to resolve this unfortunate incident quickly and amicably by informing us that they have addressed this matter with District employees, and by assuring us that this will not happen again," Michael Berry, a Liberty Institute attorney, said in a statement.

Berry added that the Supreme Court has ruled in the past that children do not need to shed their First Amendment rights once they enter schools; he affirmed his belief that the child in question had ev-

ery right to read the Bible during the independent reading time.

The Liberty Institute also penned a letter to the Cypress Fairbanks Independent School District in support of the family, claiming that the teacher's alleged censorship violated the U.S. Constitution as well as state and federal laws.

"The First Amendment to the Constitution prohibits public schools from treating religious activities and materials less favorably than non-religious materials, as long as such materials do not create a substantial disruption to discipline or the academic environment," the letter reads in part.

It continues, "If students at

Hamilton Elementary are permitted to read non-religious materials of their choice, then the Bible must also be permitted."

The exact nature and parameters surrounding "read to myself time" are not known, though Liberty Institute claims that the Bible fits available descriptions of the texts allowed during independent reading time.

The Cypress Fairbanks Independent School District said in a statement provided to TheBlaze that officials were made aware of the incident through local media and that an "initial investigation" has not been able to substantiate the al-

See BIBLE on page 17

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Is This Why So Many CO High School Students Can't Write?

by Linda Gorman, CompleteColorado.com

Why can't some Colorado students write? Maybe it's because some people are too busy indoctrinating them instead of actually teaching them how.

A public high school junior in Littleton, Colorado, was assigned an in-class essay in AP English using pre-packaged materials from the College Board. Students were to explain what "key issues" leaders "should consider when making policies that may affect global warming." The student argued that leaders should consider "how much money, time, and effort" can be spent on fighting global warming without compromising efforts to resolve other key issues.

The teacher from the school did not correct basic spelling or grammar errors. The teacher did not suggest any structural improvements. After making ill-informed and overtly political comments disagreeing with the student's approach, the teacher told the student to redo the assignment.

No wonder American high school students can't write.

Few people have the talent to learn to write without at least one teacher who is willing to take the time to meticulously evaluate their efforts. The student completed the assignment. A professional teacher would have at least taken the time to promote learning by correcting obvious errors. A professional school administration would insist on the same thing.

College Boards' source materials were to be used in writing the essay. They

read as if they were specifically chosen to convince students that manmade global warming is an accepted fact. The student wrote that signing the Kyoto Protocols would have threatened the U.S. economy, and that it would have reduced income from the auto and oil and gas industries. The teacher's comments insinuate that such concerns are simple-minded. "Think logically," the teacher exhorts, "if changes need to be made—This creates New industries! Just Because the U.S. didn't sign—(Because They were controlled by A Republican President totally tied to The Oil Industry) doesn't mean the U.S. Shouldn't have!... (Car industries have Responded Very well to the new realities! Hybrids, electric car—etc—They get it.)"

In fact, the car industry doesn't "get" anything other than massive government subsidies to produce electric cars that few people want. Anyone with a modicum of common sense, or who has sat through an introductory economics course, can explain why "New industries!" do not make up for the harm caused when arbitrary political limits distort market behavior. Students of the U.S. Constitution would also note that under Article II, Section 2, Clause 2, treaties have the force of law only if "two-thirds of the Senators present concur" and that the Kyoto Treaty was unanimously (95-0) rejected by the U.S. Senate in 1997—more than three years before George W. Bush took office.

Then there is the topic. Why is the College Board biasing its essay prompts with sources that amount to

propaganda for manmade global warming? Why are high schools so willing to assign such overtly political materials from the selection of sample AP questions? Most high school juniors understand neither the global warming debate nor the evaluation of public policy. Assigning topics that students cannot possibly understand does little more than provide practice in stringing other people's words together. Without outside help, what can a student do but repeat and rearrange the bromides that pop to the top of a Google search?

If the goal is practice in making logical arguments that persuade, why not have students write about why they would buy a particular car, detail why a good reputation is important, or describe why self-discipline is essential to success?

The humanities are in bad shape in American high schools and colleges. If this case is any guide, the reason may be that schools simply fail to teach them. An obsessive focus on contemporary issues discourages real, reasoned, debate about politics, religion, or morality. And as George Washington University associate professor Samuel Goldman has pointed out, humanities courses that neglect reasoned debate on politics, religion, or morality end up making humanities practitioners "deaf to moral dissent," a trait on full display in this teacher's comments.

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DAILY DOSE OF OUTRAGE: IRS Paid Bonuses to Employees Who Owed Back Taxes

by ColoradoPeakPolitics

The latest news about the IRS had us spitting up coffee this morning. The Washington Post is reporting that the government's most loathed agency paid more than 1,100 employees who owe back taxes more than \$1 million in cash bonuses and more than 10,000 employees in extra paid vacation. From the Post:

Like many companies and government agencies, the IRS sweetens the deal for its employees by giving bonuses based on performance. But, at the IRS, breaking the federal tax laws you were hired to enforce and running afoul of other agency rules aren't considered relevant to performance-based awards.

Abuse of power and breaking the rules is becoming second nature to the IRS. Just last year, the agency was guilty of discriminating against conservative groups seeking tax-exempt status, including groups that operate in Colorado.

When the government compels its citizens to fork over a depressing chunk of their hard earned income, how can the agency that collects that money get away with this kind of despicable behavior? Government should make it their priority to spend every last penny of OUR money as responsibly and efficiently as possible. And let's face it, no one in his or her right mind could reasonably argue that gov-

ernment is either of those things.

This is why nothing disgusts us more than #Proud-ToPay and liberals who try to make people feel good about paying their taxes, or worse yet, try to make people feel like they're not paying enough. Yes, we're looking at you Progress Now. Next time Democrats feel like forcing another debate about raising taxes, we urge them to look inward and tackle every last abuse before turning to the people with their hand out.

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Obama's Domestic Terrorist Chart



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Texas: Victim Attempts Disarm, Is Shot in Foot

by Dean Weingarten,
GunWatch.blogspot.com

While it appears that victims are generally better at disarming criminals than criminals are at disarming victims, it is a very dangerous business that should not be attempted lightly. From Houston, 14news.com:

Henderson Police say the suspect tried to rob the victim at gunpoint, but the victim fought back and tried to get the gun.

Police say the gun went off during the struggle and the victim was shot in the foot.

It is possible that being shot in the foot was an acceptable trade-off. There is not enough in the story to determine if that were so, and it is a subjective judgment.

The general advise is, if you are within five feet, and believe that you are going to be shot in any case, look for your chance to do a disarm. Practice is advised. If you think that all that is wanted is money, most would judge that a disarm technique is not worth the risk.

From personal experience, practicing disarming techniques has a fair amount of risk involved. One friend suffered a nasty cut (not knife related), an old girlfriend ended up with a strained, but not broken, finger. Use mock guns for these techniques, and gloves. It is harder to do a successful disarm on a small gun than it is a large gun. There is simply more leverage to use on a larger gun. If you must do it, act fast and ruthlessly. Concentrate on the weapon, and realize that you may take some punishment in the process.

Another old adage: rush a gun, run from a knife.

If you are on the other side of the equation, do not let your adversary get too close, and do not hold the gun out there where they can grab it easily. If you have a pistol, hold it close to the body and use your off hand to prevent a disarm attempt while shooting the person attempting the disarm.

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Georgia Governor Signs Unprecedented “Guns Everywhere” Bill: Carry at Schools, Churches and Government Buildings

by Marc Slavo,
SHTFPlan.com

The State of Georgia has just signed an unprecedented new law that removes all handgun carrying and possession permissions to allow lawful residents the ability to carry their concealed firearms just about everywhere including schools, churches, government buildings, nightclubs, and bars. The National Rifle Association hails it as the “most comprehensive pro-gun reform legislation introduced in recent state history.”

Critics have appropriately dubbed it the “Guns Everywhere Bill” with former Rep. Gabrielle Giffords (D-AZ) calling it the “most extreme gun bill in America.”

But proponents of the legislation say it's exactly what residents need to protect themselves from criminals.

Georgia Governor Nathan Deal signed into law today what supporters call a his-

toric victory for the Second Amendment.

The new law, called the “Safe Carry Protection Act”, vastly expands where guns will be allowed in the state.

As of July 1st, licensed gun owners in Georgia and visitors from 28 other states will be allowed to bring a gun into a bar without restrictions and carry a firearm into some government buildings. Under the law, school districts will be able to decide whether they want some employees to carry a firearm, and religious leaders can decide whether to allow licensed gun owners to carry guns into their church, synagogue, or mosque.

Deal said the following about the bill:

“People who follow the rules can protect themselves and their families from people who don't follow the rules. The Second Amendment should

never be an afterthought. It should reside at the forefronts of our minds.”

While signing the bill, he said:

“Our state has some of the best protections for gun owners in the United States. And today we strengthen those rights protected by our nation's most revered founding document.”

In addition to allowing licensed owners to carry in more places than ever, the bill also eliminates the fingerprinting requirement for renewing weapons carry licenses, prohibits the state from creating and maintaining a database of licensed weapons carriers, and repeals the state-required license for firearms dealers.

Via The Daily Sheeple

While New York City Mayor Michael Bloomberg recently launched a new \$50 million campaign to disarm the citizens of his high-

crime city claiming his efforts “will protect innocent children and innocent people,” Georgians realize that the only people who will be protected by disarming a law abiding public are the criminal predators who prey on those who have no way of defending themselves.

Georgia's unprecedented legislation is not only a victory for protecting the founding principles of the Second Amendment, but for the law abiding citizens who no longer have to live in fear of violent offenders or a government that would punish them for exercising their right to protect themselves when faced with the threat of injury or death.

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Wisconsin Sheriff Reveals the Seven Words He Would Use to Change the Second Amendment

by Jonathon M. Seidl,
TheBlaze.com

INDIANAPOLIS

Sheriff David Clarke Jr. may not be a household name...yet. But he's well on his way after his rousing speech at the 2014 NRA convention. Consider the standing ovation he received after revealing the seven words he would add to the Second Amendment: “Keep your hands off our guns, dammit.”

Milwaukee County Sheriff David Clarke (Source: TheBlaze)

Clarke, the outspoken gun proponent who heads the sheriff's office in Milwaukee County, Wisconsin, was easily one of the most popular speakers during the convention's leadership forum. His comments about amending the Constitution

were aimed at former Supreme Court Justice John Paul Stevens, who said in his recent book that he would change the Second Amendment by adding five words in the middle: “A well regulated Militia, being necessary to the security of a free State, the right of the people to keep and bear Arms when serving in the militia shall not be infringed.”

“My reaction was, ‘What!’” Clarke said, adding, “Just what part of ‘shall not be infringed’ does Justice Stevens not understand?”

That comment drew another standing ovation.

But he wasn't done there, going on to say he was sick of the Second Amendment being the “bastard child of the Bill of Rights.”

“The armed citizen made

America free and the armed citizen will keep America free!” Clarke said, also calling the armed citizen the “great equalizer” and giving examples of three such instances in his area.

“Those firearms in the hands of law-abiding citizens saved people's lives,” he added, declaring he “damn well meant it” when he took his oath to defend the Constitution.

“We're partners now,” he said in closing after calling on people to join pro-gun groups. He also warned them that the fight to defend the Second Amendment will be a tough, nev-



Sheriff David Clarke, Jr.

courtesy photo

er-ending one.

“Are you ready?”

The answer seemed to be found in a final standing ovation.

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Arab Winter Comes to America

by Pamela Geller,
FreedomOutPost.com

Robert Spencer's blockbuster new book was released this week. It's not put-downable. Spencer nails it. Despite 9/11, the Times Square bomber, the Fort Hood jihad, the Christmas day bomber, the Christmas tree lighting bomber, the Boston bombing, etc., and hundreds of thwarted attacks, we are further back now than we were before 9/11. Robert Spencer's Arab Winter Comes to America spells out how it came to this. In it, Spencer lays out how leftist and Muslim groups waged a jihad on truth and got Obama's FBI and DHS to scrub counterterrorism training materials of all mention of Islam and jihad (not that Obama administration officials needed great persuasion: Spencer includes here multiple quotes from CIA Director John Brennan, showing how positive and enthusiastic he is about Islam and jihad).

Chapter after chapter, Spencer shows how, after every jihad terror attack on American soil, American authorities rush to assure the American people that the attack had nothing to do with Islam, even when the attackers themselves point to the Quran to justify their

murderous actions. Meanwhile, he goes into detail about how Islamic groups tied to Hamas and the Muslim Brotherhood, such as the Council on American-Islamic Relations (CAIR), work to shut down every effective counter-terror program in place anywhere in the country, and to smear, discredit, and marginalize every single person who stands up against jihad violence and Sharia oppression.

The result is that our government and law enforcement establishments, as well as the enmedia, refuse to talk honestly about the problem we face if they talk about it at all. Clearly, they don't even properly understand it themselves. That is a recipe for disaster. And that disaster will surely come.

Spencer concludes the book with a series of solid, common-sense recommendations on what can be done to avert it, but they will only be adopted if there is a massive change in the political and media culture. That change is not on the horizon. How many more jihad mass murder attacks will it take before people wake up and turn out the officials who have betrayed us, and left us so much more vulnerable to

Islamic jihad than we were before Barack Obama became President?

I loved the book. Get it at Amazon.com. I asked Robert about the book:

Geller: What possessed you to write this book now? Why?

Spencer: The denial of the nature and magnitude of the jihad threat is near-total. The only people who speak honestly about the threat we face are ostracized from mainstream discourse, vilified, ridiculed, defamed, and marginalized. Even the government and law enforcement officials are, as a matter of policy, ordered to ignore, deny and downplay the motives and goals of jihad terrorists. This is a recipe for disaster, and that disaster will surely come unless there is a substantial turnaround. I wrote this book to that end. Not that I think it will affect that turnaround in itself, but by chronicling the extent of the denial, as I do in the book, I hope to move some people to act to clear away the fog of deception and institute some more realistic policies.

Geller: You've made this the whole of your work for well over 15 years. What changes in the past 10 years have encouraged you? Dis-

tressed you?

Spencer: I'm afraid it has been mostly distress, although now I am way beyond distress. In the early years, I thought that there would be strong response not just in the U.S., but in the West and in non-Western nations that were also targets of jihad, against jihad terror and Islamic supremacism. I did not expect the massive and international capitulation to Islamic supremacist intimidation, such that while 25 years ago, when the Rushdie fatwa was first issued, there was a huge outpouring of support for the freedom of speech, now that freedom's ostensibly foremost guardians readily agree that self-censorship is in order so as to avoid offending Muslims. We are well on our way to adopting, under the guise of avoiding and criminalizing "hate speech," Sharia restrictions on criticism of Islam, thereby establishing Muslims (including jihad terrorists) as a protected class of which criticism is not allowed. And that will be the death of free society.

Geller: Are we winning this war?

Spencer: Not at all. Muslims riot and kill over cartoons and videos, and

instead of telling them to grow up and explaining the cardinal importance of the freedom of speech to them, Western leaders (chief among them Obama) declare in ringing tones that speech that offends Muslims indeed should not be allowed. The implications of this capitulation have yet to be felt. But they will be, when free people wish to speak out against tyranny and find that all their avenues for doing so have been blocked in the interests of stopping "hate speech" — which is in the eye of the beholder in any case.

Geller: What's the biggest failing of the West?

Spencer: Ethnocentrism. And the chief ethnocentrists are the multiculturalists. They naively assume that the whole world thinks like they do, and wants what they want. It's a false assumption, drastically false, and the fallout of its falsehood could bring down the West altogether.

Geller: What's the biggest changes under the Obama administration?

Spencer: Although Bush proclaimed Islam a Religion of Peace, he did not stop the truth about Islam and jihad from being taught to military personnel and FBI agents (by, among

others, me). But Obama foreclosed on that teaching after pressure from Islamic supremacist advocacy groups, many with ties to Hamas and the Muslim Brotherhood. This is another decision with consequences that will be disastrous, and that have yet to be felt.

Geller: How has sharia moved into the American marketplace of ideas?

Spencer: As I explained above, it is now taken for granted even by the media that speech that offends Muslims must not be countenanced. Likewise, the idea that Islamic law and culture must always be accommodated, even at the expense of American law and custom, has gained widespread traction. The danger of this is that there is always more Sharia to accommodate, and as the only ones who are opposing this are branded and dismissed as "bigots" and "Islamophobes," there is no one I can see who can or will stop the headlong rush to total capitulation.

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SNEAKY, SNEAKY: Ferrandino Blocks Stapleton From Task Force on Retirement Savings

by ColoradoPeakPolitics

You know Democrats are up to no good when they set up a task force to study the state of Coloradans' retirement savings, yet they deny the state Treasurer a seat at the table. Treasurer Walker Stapleton is the only statewide official who sits on the board of the Public Employees Retirement Association (PERA), and his expertise would be invaluable to the task force. So why block him from participating?

Turns out, Stapleton isn't bought into the task force's pre-determined agenda. House Bill 1377 which was introduced at the last minute by House Speaker Mark Ferrandino creates a task force that is supposed to make recommendations for the establishment of a state-run retirement plan for private sector employees.

The prospect of such a move is downright terrifying. The state can't even manage PERA properly, and we've seen what a di-

saster Social Security has become. Why on earth would anyone in his right mind think the creation of another government-run retirement plan is a good idea?

As Stapleton put it in his recent release:

"Under no circumstances would I support a Colorado run retirement plan for private sector employees. Frankly, it frightens me that Democrats are even asking for such recommendations. Our current public employ-

ee plan, PERA, is \$26 billion in the hole. We should start by turning the titanic away from the iceberg before we start placing more passengers on the ship."

Stapleton is exactly right. Democrats should be focused on fixing PERA not trying to launch a government takeover of private sector retirement plans.

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BIBLE From page 14

leged infraction.

That said, officials said they are still investigating.

"As a school district, our policies clearly support the First Amendment rights of all students," the statement read.

It added, "During a student's independent reading time, students are required to read a book that is 'Just Right.' A 'Just Right' book is when the student can read most of the words, comprehend the text and

that the book is appropriate for the type of text or genre that is being taught."

If the Bible meets these specifications for students, then it would be considered acceptable, the district noted, adding, "We take any allegation involving the civil liberties of our students seriously and will continue to address all concerns reported."

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A fear of weapons is a sign of retarded sexual and emotional maturity.

~Sigmund Freud



PREPPER'S CORNER



High-Yield, High-Altitude Gardening

Editor/GG: Readers and fellow preppers, please send us your articles and photos on what you are doing to be self-sufficient.

by JoAnn Silver

We both retired October 2008 and were able to fulfill our dream of moving to our home in the Wet Mountains. We were living in Denver where Jim had been a chemist and I, JoAnn, an accountant. We were married in 1987 and had always lived where we could enjoy a garden – at least a small, urban garden.

Then in the early spring of 2010, I noticed an article in the local newspaper announcing that Penn and Cord Parmenter were having classes on High Altitude Mountain Gardening. “Whoa! What’s this about?” Jim and I went together to several classes, came home inspired with ideas.

That year we enclosed our garden area which is 32’ x 35’ with a 7 foot fence. We were able to find the ideal spot not far from our back door. The dirt was good dirt that had washed down from the hill behind, and not very rocky. We did not have to bring in any purchased dirt. The garden sits in a spot surrounded on three sides by short trees which protect from the wind and somehow even protects from frost. We have friends who get a devastating frost and our garden keeps going. It gets good early morning sun, full overhead sun, but the short trees partially shade the hot west sun in late afternoon.

Jim then began digging 3 beds, each one 4’ (easy to reach across) by 24’ long. That would be a total of 288 sq. feet of planting area. Each bed was lined with cinder block to help warm the soil in the spring and define each bed. We did the “double dig” method taught by the Parmenters. Rather than turning over the soil you try to “twist” the soil keeping the original layers so as not to disturb the already established structure of the soil. It loosens and aerates the soil. We added some purchased compost and some manure.

Oh, and rule #1: after the beds are prepared, you never, ever, ever, EVER walk on your beds.

Jim also made the first of the hoops that we put over the beds to keep in warmth, filters some of the intense sun that we receive in the mountains, and protects



Green beans under a hoop and snap peas growing under a hail guard.

Sentinel photo by Jim Silver

from wind and hail. They are made from 2”x4” boards as the base, flexible 3/4” PVC tubing, and garden film (purchased from Farm Tek). Most hoops are 8’ long and 36” tall. For tomatoes, we have one tall hoop that is 5’ tall and a square tomato box that is 4’ by 6’. Between the two of them, we will usually plant 12 tomato plants. Every year we have had a wonderful tomato crop.

Peas, because they are tall, and squash, because they expand beyond our beds, are not grown within the hoops. Jim has made hail guards to protect them. They are a wood frame, with wire screening, and then wired onto metal T-posts in an a-frame style. They can be made to be different heights - so the guard over the peas is quite tall while the guards over the squash are only tall enough for me to reach under to pick the bounty.

When we begin to plant in the early spring, we put water-filled, gallon-sized milk jugs around inside the beds and close to any plants that are being transplanted in. The water heats up during the day from the sun and then expels that heat during the night which keeps the hoops warm in the inside. We add shorter wire hoops so that we can pull a frost blanket over the plants also. So, the picture is: water jugs with warm water around the plants, covered by a frost blanket, and then covered by the larger hoops. This won’t get us through the winter, but we have had the garden survive temperatures dropping to the mid-20’s. As

the summer warms up, we discontinue the frost blanket and for cool weather crops we don’t even bother to close up the ends of the hoops at night. However, come fall and cooler night temperatures, both practices are re-established. All the hoops are opened up and raised during the day for ventilation and at night we lower them and close up the ends to protect from the cool night air.

We had a good garden the first year and felt encouraged that we could successfully continue.

The second year, 2011, we added raised, wood beds around the inside perimeter fence along one end of the garden. These were only 2.3’ wide beds, but 40’ in length so that gave us another 92 sq. feet of planting space. Jim also came up with a way to cover them in the early spring and late fall with the garden film. When we take the film off after night temps are consistently higher, we add a cover of flexible plastic door screening. That then allows us a way to offer shade to plants that don’t need so much sun such as lettuce and greens, and gives protection from hail. In these beds we plant carrots, beets, kohlrabi, turnips, lettuces, greens, etc.

We are “intensive space gardeners” so we don’t think in terms of rows, but how much room a single plant needs. So, if you think of beets needing 3-4” to grow, you plant a seed every 3-4”, and staggered

**See GARDENING
on page 19**

A Sheepdog Barks!

A sheepdog question just occurred to me. What’s the difference between Obama’s Foreign Policy Doctrine and the Tooth Fairy? That’s correct - neither one exists! LOL! Consider the state of the world right now. Obama told us he was going to be loved around the world and if we just sit down and talk to each other everything will be okay. He was going to go around the world and push reset buttons with everyone because Bush had made such a mess of everything. Well, let’s review his work. The Arab Spring he started is a disaster. Libya is a disaster. The Iran nuclear deal is in shambles. The Syrian chemical weapons and genocide deal is in shambles. The Israeli – Palestinian “peace” talks have collapsed (as expected) and Putin is an unchecked bad boy bully (but he has been warned). And when Obama is asked about all this weakness and failure he first throws a tantrum about how FOX News never covers any of his good stuff and then he uses a baseball analogy to describe his policy. Will he ever regret that one? Oh, yes, he will. Let’s review. Obama wants to suggest that he hits singles and doubles and doesn’t make any errors. Oh, he also suggested that he hits an occasional home run. WHAT? WHERE? WHEN? It would be nice if he even got on base once in a while! Who is he trying to fool? The answer to that is the sheep in America. They can be and usually are fooled. BAAA! He doesn’t fool me or any of the other sheepdogs in America. His baseball analogy goes more like this. He’s the pitcher. He rarely strikes anyone out but he whiffs every time he’s at bat. His pitching record is 0 for 5.5 years, his infield (his administration) is like some high school junior varsity trying to play in the big leagues and his chance of making the Hall of Fame is about the same as the Chicago Cubs winning three World Series in a row. Ain’t gonna happen. WOOF! So when he was criticized about all these messes he got mad. He told Ed Henry, “You got me all worked up.” Really? He is such a narcissist that he cannot believe everyone

doesn’t love everything he does. Rather than explain, he attacks. Poor little old Barack. FOX News is so mean to him. Why can’t they love him like everyone else? Why do they have to keep bringing up the truth and all those nasty old facts? But, hey let’s move on. Let’s review some more false promises Obama continues to make. On 28 April he said he was upset about the cover-up and treatment of veterans at a hospital in Arizona. He promised us his administration was going to get to the bottom of it. He told us he has ordered another self-investigation and someone would be held accountable. HOWL, HOWL, HOWL! Boy have we heard that one before. Another false promise by this insincere professional politician! WOOF! This VA treatment of veterans is just a small taste of socialized medicine. There are millions of bad anecdotes. Smacks of the national healthcare that is coming with Obamacare. Just wait and watch. A retired Army sheepdog buddy of mine just called me and after fighting the VA for a knee replacement for so long and being treated so badly, he just gave up. Told me he would never again even visit a VA facility for help. This is a common complaint. Yes, some get good help but it’s a limited care agency and the backlog is huge. There are far too many horror stories of no help or no treatment. Let’s see what Obama’s investigation reveals and what is done about it. This overwhelmed system and its rationed care is exactly what will happen when Obamacare forces the loss of doctors and hospitals from the free and subsidized healthcare system now in place. Let’s review another broken promise. Obama told us he was going to rid America of the burden of over regulation. He was going to cut through the red tape that costs businesses and average Americans so much money. Well, the Competitive Enterprise Institute just released some figures on the cost of Obama’s regulations. 80,000 pages of new regulations last year! Cost to the average family is \$13,000 a year to comply. The Obama Administration



is responsible for 4 of the top 5 highest annual page totals ever. Just another broken promise! Doesn’t surprise many of us does it? WOOF! So a little yet significant piece of the Benghazi cover-up came out this week. Judicial Watch got their hands on a memo through the Freedom of Information Act (FOIA). It was written 3 days after 9/11 by Ben Rhodes, then in White House Communications, now a Deputy National Security Adviser to Rice, and was intended to prep Susan Rice to go on the Sunday shows. It said, “The goal is to underscore that these protests are rooted in an Internet video and not a broader failure of policy and to re-enforce the President’s and Administration’s strength and steadiness in dealing with difficult challenges.” WOOF! This is the big LIE to save Obama’s reelection campaign. This is tying the smoking gun to the White House. This is the beginning of the cover-up. Even Hillary was too smart to go on TV and say this crap. Susan wasn’t because she had been promised the Secretary of State job. SHAME on them ALL. LIES! Of course Obama’s continual lies are why he is in trouble in the polls. Many American sheep are starting to take notice. Here are his latest DISAPPROVALS in a Washington Post/ABC News poll. Job Performance – 52%, Economy – 54%, Obamacare – 57%, Ukraine – 46%. These are very high. His approvals are in the 30s and low 40s. These are in many cases record lows. The sheep are beginning to smell out the wolf. And that should be good for America in November of this year. All you sheepdogs need to keep barking out loud strong and non-stop. WOOF!

May God Have Mercy on America! JMH



GARDENING

From page 18

in a formation that would look like the 5 dots on a # 5 domino tile. So, in one 8-foot section of my wood beds, even though that would only be 16 sq. ft. of growing area, and using simple math, I can grow approximately 250 beets. That's not bad! We use the same concept when we plan how to plant carrots, broccoli, cabbage, lettuce, tomatoes, etc. We use a heavy layer of straw as a mulch when we plant and then when the plants grow bigger their leaves form an umbrella of shade. This really reduces how much watering you will need to do, and how many weeds you will pull.

When we built the wood beds, we realized we had gophers in the area so we lined the bottom of the new beds with 1/2" galvanized wire. That was good planning on our part. By the end of the 2011 season, we were sadly aware that the gophers had found our big beds with a vengeance and were eating everything in

sight. We used all the usual "tried and true" methods of gopher control: bubble gum in their tunnels, moth balls, smoke bombs, solar powered sonic stakes, caster oil pellets around the perimeter of the garden, borrowed used kitty litter in their tunnels and around the perimeter of the garden, and even purchased a trap that we couldn't figure out how to set.

During the winter months we debated if we should use poison as an option. Ugh! And it really was never an option. Then one evening Jim said he had a plan he was willing to carry out. He would completely dig up all three beds, line the bottom with the same 1/2" galvanized wire, and line the beds themselves with another row of cinder block which would encase the beds on three sides but still allow for good drainage. Seemed like a lot of work! But, with the arrival of spring and thawed ground, Jim once again put the shovel to the dirt! Two growing seasons later, I can happily say we have not had another gopher in the garden.

Also, we added about 30 potato grow bags that were "gifted to us" that also line the perimeter fence. They don't do so well with growing potatoes (and I'm thankful for neighbors who share), but they have been great for perennial herbs, onions, and an extra cabbage or two, and for germinating seeds that I will eventually transplant in the bigger beds to replace those already harvested.

So, this is early May, 2014, and I'm really thinking garden season is about to be upon us and my palms are itching to be playing in dirt. How about you? I have seeds started and under grow lights all over the house. They have popped their little heads and all seem to be smiling at me. I started tomatoes at the beginning of April and hope to transplant them outside the first part of June. Others I started in mid-April and would plan to transplant them out in the garden by mid-May. Last year I planted the cool weather plants on May 10th. The cool weather plants that I have started are cabbage, broccoli, and cauliflower.

I like to plant all at one time, so I choose different types that have a variety of maturity dates. For example, Golden Acre cabbage matures in 58 days, Dead-on Savoy matures in 105 days. In total, I plant about 24 heads of cabbage using 7-8 different types with

the first batch is all picked, the second batch is ready to be harvested, and in the place of the first batch I can now fluff up the soil, add a little compost and plant a third batch of seeds for a fall crop. Crops in this category would be Asian greens, bok choy, arugula,

Johnny's Selected Seeds. Both offer short season, cool climate, frost tolerant seeds.

Last year, for the first time we produced enough compost to add to all our beds without having to buy any commercially. Hooray!!



Carrots and onions under hail guards, in raised boxes.

Sentinel photo by George Gramlich



Tomatoes, still green, but the fall harvest was bountiful! Tomatoes grown in the tomato box.

Sentinel photo by Jim Silver

staggered maturity dates between 58 days and 105 days. That way, we harvest a variety of cabbages all summer long. Also, a fun tip is to plant lettuce around the broccoli and cauliflower plants. They grow tall on a stem and the lettuce can be grown around and under them and receive some shade. This has worked really well and uses the space between the bigger plants efficiently. I also have started kale and chard. My experience is that the original plants will produce all season - especially kale, it just keeps going, and going, and going!

Other plants won't produce all season so I start some seeds now inside to get one crop going and at the time I transplant them outside, I also plant some seeds directly in the ground of the same crop. When

mustard greens kohlrabi, turnips, and lettuce. Some crops just plain do better directly seeding them in the ground after the ground temperature has warmed. With the cinder blocks lining our beds and the use of the hoops, our ground temperature warms up pretty quickly. This type of crop would be carrots and beets (again choosing a variety of maturity dates will stagger the harvest over the season), peas (try growing spinach between the rows. The peas shade the spinach which delays bolting) green beans (I do stagger planting every 10 days to spread out the harvest) and cucumbers and squash (I've tried starting indoors, but quite frankly, plants where seeds have been directly sown in the ground do better in the end). For a note of information, I get most of our seeds from Seeds Trust and

Other than compost and manure, we don't really add much more to the soil. Cabbage, cauliflower, and broccoli are heavy nitrogen users so I may add a little blood meal at the beginning of the season to their beds, and root crops like a little additional potassium. For fertilizing during the season we mostly use seaweed/kelp/fish emulsion type liquid fertilizers mixed with water. We were concerned if the bears or cats would be attracted to the "fishy" smell, but we have not had any problem, so we continue on. I NEVER use Miracle Grow (except in outside flower pots).

For insect/pest control, my new BFF is neem oil. My favorite go-to book is

See GARDENING PT 2 on page 20

FYI...

for your information...

The Sangre de Cristo Sentinel is published every Friday.

Our office hours are Monday-Thursday 9:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m.

Friday 9:00 a.m. - 1:00 p.m. Closed Saturday and Sunday.

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Local Mountain News & Notices

GARDENING PT 2 From page 19

“Rocky Mountain Vegetable Gardening” by Robert and Cheryl Gough. It has good, easy information and great pictures.

People often ask, “How much do you have to water?” Well, that’s not a short answer in our dry, sparse-rain area. The upside of the defined beds is that you only water the plants (not the walkway), and you can water close to the ground so there is not water evaporation. The hoop covers help retain the moisture and shield the soil from the heavy sun. The downside of the hoops is that you don’t get benefit from the little rain that we do get. Using the heavy layer of mulch helps tremendously and you shouldn’t skip that step. So, with this all in mind, I’d say it depends on individual plants and beds. Deep rooted plants like tomatoes and squash only need to be watered twice a week. Green beans

like to be kept moist and cucumber’s composition is mostly water, so I probably will water them a little each day. Beds not under hoops get the effect of wind and dry out sooner. The real test is sticking your finger in the soil to see if the soil is dry or moist. It can’t be more simple than that.

Gardening is fun and we look forward to spring each year. Gardening can be full of challenges and yet so rewarding, full of successes and always a few failures. No two years are ever the same. There is no “magic” method. If you have even the slightest inkling towards gardening, be brave, step in, take a Parmenter class, buy a good shovel, get a little dirt under your nails, and give it a try. You might really like it and your produce will taste so, so good! If you are a seasoned gardener, share some of your information and encouragement.

Good luck and good gardening!

From: Representative
Jim Wilson – HD 60
April 27, 2014

Ten days to the adjournment date of May 7th and the bill count keeps climbing, we are now at 606 – up 18 more from last week! The word is that there are still over 100 bills in each chamber to be heard and who knows how many more will be introduced in the last flurry. Last year’s bill count of 619 may be history as you read this! One has to stay alert in the closing days of the session as some members attempt to slip something “under the radar”...

In last week’s column, I mentioned SB14-029: Architectural Paint Stewardship Program. The bill would require all architectural paint to have a fee charged for recycling paint. I noted in the column that a firm mentioned during the discussion of the bill (Paint Care) seems to have a multi-state monopoly on running the recycling program – remember? We debated the bill on the House floor where the fallacies in the bill were pointed out.

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

Rep. McNulty (R-Highlands Ranch) pointed out that we already have companies in Colorado that collect paint, re-process it and sell it to such groups as Habitat for Humanity. He called SB14-029 a “subsidy in search of a problem”. The House sponsor, Rep. Fisher (D-Ft. Collins), said that the bill would “kick start” the program. As many of you are aware, kick start is how you start a motorcycle. If the motorcycle is already running, it is not good to use the kick starter – bad things happen! Kind of like a paint recycling program that is already running – it probably does not need a kick start (i.e. a fee that is passed on to consumers...).

Before I get really fired up about some of the other “interesting” bills we have seen recently, let me address another topic. This past week we observed Sportsmen’s Day at the Capitol. Sen. Tochtrop and I co-chair the Colorado Sportsmen’s Caucus. The Caucus focuses upon the interests and issues of sportsmen across Colorado and the nation. In March

we heard a presentation on the possible closure of the Federal fish hatcheries in Colorado. The fish hatcheries were established in return for the federal government being allowed to build dams. Now, many years removed from the original agreements, the Feds want to turn the hatcheries over to the states. That is government-speak for “we are backing out on our agreement – you are on your own!” The Colorado Department of Parks and Wildlife does not have the resources to absorb the stocking programs provided by the federal hatcheries. This is one of several issues the Colorado Sportsmen’s Caucus will be addressing in the future. If you utilize and enjoy our great outdoors here in Colorado, be sure to stay in touch with this group that is looking out for your interests!

Just another FYI from last week – I was notified of my appointment to the Colorado High School Activities Association Governing Board. I will fill the position reserved for a member of the General Assembly on the Board. Several years



ago I served on the CHSAA Board as the representative of the Colorado Superintendents of Schools. CHSAA is the regulatory and supervisory organization that oversees all extra-curricular activities of all classifications of member schools across Colorado. I consider it an honor to return to the CHSAA Board. This will be another opportunity to serve the students and school districts in our great state.

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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