



Sangre de Cristo Community Band in Concert

by Larry Luikart

On Sunday afternoon at the Feed Store Amphitheatre, The Sangre De Cristo Community Band under the superb direction of Britton Braddick performed their summer concert.

The band founded by director Britton Braddick in February 2013 with 12 community members has grown to over 30 members for this years concert. The band is composed of individuals in age from fourteen to well above full maturity. The band has a special attitude where any and all levels of performance are welcomed. There is always room for more members so dust off

that instrument back there in the closet and come out and enjoy once again the love of making music.

The band began their concert with the lovely Joy by Frank Ticheli who wrote the piece in honor of his daughter. The second piece from English composer Ralph Vaughan Williams, "English Folk Song Suite," carried the audience through the English countryside with three movements: a march, intermezzo, and march. The first march entitled Seventeen Comes Sunday opens with the woodwinds playing the principal melody. The second section, Pretty Caroline, is a quiet melody followed by a

Bonnie Boy followed by Green Bushes, an English waltz. The march in the third section begins with the folk song, Away the Morning Dew, leading into the bright and lively High German, followed by a little stop for a stop to climb The Tress So High, followed with some John Barleycorn. All of the pieces in the third movement came from the Folk Songs From Sommerset. The next piece, Snakes, takes us to the jungles of South America or the Amazon or maybe your own back yard here in Custer County. This piece contained unusual rhythmic configurations, half-valve brass instrumentation adding eerie sounds, and off tempo percussion noises. A very different kind of music but fun for both the audience and the band. The final number in the first half of the concert featured a quartet of trombone players in the rousing Lassus Trombones.

After a short break the band transported the audience to the grand palaces of the monarchs in the regal and

beautiful Procession of the Nobles, the opening number of the second act from Rimsey-Korsakov's opera/ballet Mlada. The band next played the light and fun Fiddle Faddle, a piece featuring a marimba and xylophone duet. Jessie Hart on marimba, and Autumn Senezal on xylophone, came all the way from Tennessee displaying their considerable musical talents to play with the band. Guest conductor Andrew Straight took us back to the heart of the big band era with a bright and jazzy rendition of favorite Glenn Miller pieces. The band ended the concert with the heart stirring and patriotic rendition of The Washington Post March.

This was Britton Braddick's last concert in the valley. She will be leaving to begin her Masters work in conducting in the fall. A bittersweet moment



The trombone section performs "Lassus Trombones."

Sentinel photo by Carol Clemenson

for the band members and the community was tempered by the presentation of a quilt to Britton made by Margaret Linderer, a beautiful design containing musical notes and signed by all of the members of the band. Andrew Straight, the new band director at the high school has agreed to continue the community band. If you missed the concert this year be sure to come next year. The talent and professional expertise found in this valley is just amazing.

Come and play in the band or come and listen. After all, as Plato said, "Music gives a soul to the universe, wings to the mind, flight to the imagination, and life to everything."



Sangre de Cristo Community Band.
Sentinel photo by Carol Clemenson

VA Scandal
63,869
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Never
Scheduled
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The Lord is on
my side;
I will not fear.
What can man
do to me?

Psalms 118:6
NTV



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Join your fellow Americans
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Psalms 118:6
NTV

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*A different view from
the same mountains!*

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

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

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Our Opinion...

From the Editorial Board

DELUSIONS



Hans Christian Andersen wrote a short story many years ago about the Emperor's new clothes. Actually there were no clothes at all, but those serving the Emperor, the townspeople, and even the Emperor himself were told that if you couldn't see the clothes you were unworthy and something must be wrong with you. So, of course, all those people became delusional as they praised the Emperor's new "invisible" clothes. As he walked in a procession to show off these new clothes the people "oohed and aahed." The Emperor himself was the most delusional of all. He was the one walking naked down the street. It took a child to yell out that "he doesn't have anything on!" "What?", the people exclaimed! "This child says he doesn't have anything on." The people then began to realize the child was right and began to see the truth for themselves, finally admitting what they should have recognized all along. The Emperor has no clothes on. This fabled story points out how easily it is for those in power to fool the people with delusional thoughts and ideas and how easy it is for the people to be fooled. This is the story of present day America. The president is delusional. He has passed his delusions on to the people. Far too many citizens have accepted his de-

lusions for far too long. In today's world the child has to be the mainstream media. However, so far it has failed to expose the "invisible" clothes. Recently there have been a few whispers, a few questions. Maybe, just maybe the "children" are going to finally speak out with the truth. Our country, and the world, is in crisis. Every day another problem, disaster, or scandal pops up. It always seems to catch the president and his administration by surprise. Is anyone else bothered by this? Our country is in peril. It is suffering from a lack of leadership. The people elected a rather inexperienced community organizer with a gift of gab to govern the most powerful economy, military, and force for good in the whole world. The "children" are finally starting to realize that maybe he is not up to the job. That just maybe he has no clothes on. His lack of leadership and governing skills is systematically hurting our country. Can the liberal progressives not see his nakedness? Almost every day another bombshell of a problem happens and his spokesman tells us they just found out about it. This unawareness isn't funny anymore. He is completely tone deaf. He doesn't know when things are important enough to stop playing around and take care of business. When a serious situation happens

he just goes about his normal routines like campaigning, vacations, fundraising, playing golf or making a partisan speech at a college or university somewhere. He knows it is there that he can fool the young people who are being taught by liberal professors to see the "invisible" clothes. Most of these problems are the result of his bad and feckless policies, domestic and foreign. The "child" (aka mainstream media) is starting to shout out and people are finally taking notice. Consider this partial list of his delusions: IRAQ, SYRIA, IRAN, IRS, PUTIN, VA, FAST & FURIOUS, NSA, FREE HEALTH CARE, BORDER SECURITY, and BENGHAZI. Consider some of the silly comments he has made:

About himself: "...we will be able to look back and tell our children that this was the moment when we began to provide care for the sick and good jobs to the jobless; this was the moment when the rise of the oceans began to slow and our planet began to heal; this was the moment when we ended a war and secured our nation and restored our image as the last, best hope on Earth."

"...We are five days away from fundamentally transforming the United States of America."

About citizens: "When it

comes to health care, we don't have to choose between a government-run healthcare system and the unaffordable one we have now. If you already have health insurance, the only thing that's going to change is we're going to help lower your premiums."

"...Once you're older than that (26) and you don't have health insurance on the job you'll be able to buy in and get the same kind of health insurance that members of Congress get for themselves."

About veterans: "...and that they receive the best care and benefits that they have earned when they come home. No more homeless veterans. No more begging for disability payments. We will treat them with honor and respect."

About the deficit and debt: "So as president, I'm going to go through the federal budget line by line, ending programs we don't need, making the ones we do need work better and cost less. We've got to make sure that we are not charging a credit card to the next generation, borrowing from China just to pay off our dependence on foreign oil."

About war: On May 27th explaining the complete withdrawal of troops from Afghanistan he said "This is how wars end in the 21st Century."

About his world view: "The world is less violent than it has ever been. It is healthier than it has ever been. It is more tolerant than it has ever been. It is better fed than it's ever been. It is more educated than it's ever been."

In a recent Gallup poll, when asked if Obama can manage the government efficiently, 60% said NO. When asked if Obama has a plan to solve our country's problems 65% said NO. Since 34% of liberal Americans love everything he does (or doesn't do) these numbers have huge significance. The "children" are waking us up. The president sees not a "smidgen" of problems in these "phony" domestic and global scandals.

Obama is exactly like the delusional Emperor, yet worse. He is not only delusional, he is incapable, untrustworthy, and breaks our laws at will. He is in way over his head. Consider his actions just this last week. Iraq is in serious trouble. It needed our immediate help. He flies to California to play golf and talk about climate change. This is a warning to the people. He has no clothes on! Fellow Americans can you not see this? It is time to listen to the "children." We must all join together and shout out "HE HAS NO CLOTHES ON!"



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National Climate Assessment Report Part II

by Joe Cascarelli

Frankly, I do not think that those who can’t provide an understandable response to these six questions should be entitled to an opinion on the topic of “global warming,” “climate change,” or “climate disruption.” That’s correct, unless one is willing to do a little research, a little critical thinking, or an exercise in a little healthy skepticism, they should just keep their opinions to themselves. To be honest, I’d like to hear from the president, the vice president, and all others in their administration who would like to see America become a Third World Country. All thinking Americans should demand to hear firsthand about their credentials.

As for the Wet Mountain Valley residents, try to respond based on what you currently know about the topic.

1. What is your theory regarding the cause of the Medieval Warm Period (MWP)? Hints: It lasted about 400 years, grapes grew in England, and Greenland was settled and farmed. The world population in 900 AD was about 250 million.

2. What caused the Little Ice Age? Do you think that people panicked because in a few generations the climate went from warm and pleasant to cold and frigid?

3. What is the normal average temperature of the earth and in what year did it occur?

4. If northern hemisphere warming and cooling has occurred many times in the past, what makes you think that this time it is man-made?

5. How did the polar bears

survive for the 400 years during the Medieval Warm Period (900 AD – 1300 AD)?

6. What do you know about solar storms and sun spots and the effect both have on climate?

I do know that there are some in the valley who have bought into Obama version of man-caused-global-warming, hook, line, and sinker. All that I ask is that those “believers” take a rational and scientific look at the issue. After all, all of us will be paying for the increased costs for gasoline, electricity, oil, oil by-product products, and all the increases in manufacturing and transportation expense which will result. We must all keep in mind that all plastics, all propane, and many pharmaceuticals and cosmetics use petroleum as a base ingredient. Just think about all the refrigeration, air conditioning, and electrically driven process equipment that are currently in use in America. All of us will pay the price increases for all manufactured products that will surely continue to soar. This foolish effort will cost plenty. All these sacrifices will be a total waste.

While, I’d love a community debate, maybe my responses to the above six questions will jump-start the process. Let’s give it a try:

1. *What is your theory regarding the cause of the Medieval Warm Period (MWP)? Hints: It lasted about 400 years, grapes grew in England and Greenland was settled and farmed. The world population in 900 AD was about 250 million.*

Response: There is a large body of evidence that points to the sun as the

cause of warming and cooling climate phases. During the MWP, the sun was unusually active. The more active the sun, the more energy is sent toward the earth. The real provocative point is that warm and cool periods have always been common.

2. *What caused the Little Ice Age? Do you think that people panicked because in a few generations the climate went from warm and pleasant to cold and frigid?*

Response: The sun became much calmer following the MWP. This caused the Little Ice Age. We are experiencing a calmer sun today. Some scientists believe that we could be facing global cooling as a result. During these periods, snow and ice contribute to the cooling effect by reflecting the sun’s energy into space. Simply speaking, this is what has caused our ice ages.

3. *What is the normal average temperature of the earth and in what year did it occur?*

Response: There is no “normal” temperature and there never will be. How could there be? The laws of thermodynamics require that equilibrium will occur. Heat moves from the hot to the cold seeking equilibrium. Keep in mind that the earth is 7/10ths water. The oceans absorb and surrender heat much more slowly than the atmosphere. This creates a dampening effect on climate change. Things do not change as quickly as Al and Barack say they do.

4. *If northern hemisphere warming and cooling has occurred many times in the past, what makes you think that this time it is man-made?*

Response: I do not believe that mankind has anything

to do with climate changes. Human activity has an effect on “micro-climates,” however. We know that cities are warmer than less occupied places on the earth. It is also well known that volcanic activity has temporarily changed climate in large portions of the earth. Check it out yourself. Try “Googleing” Pinatubo (the early 1800s) or Krakatau (in 1883).

5. *How did the polar bears survive for the 400 years during the Medieval Warm Period (900 AD – 1300 AD)?*

Response: Simple, they just did. Bears will eat anything. Polar bears eat large sea creatures because they are plentiful. They do not need enormous ice floes to survive. They will do just fine on land.

6. *What do you know about solar storms and sun spots and the effect both have on climate?*

Response: It is well known that an active sun generates more energy. The more sun spots and solar storms, the more energy produced. The quieter the sun, the less energy is generated. Keep in mind that pioneers like Copernicus and Galileo did observe the sun and recorded what they saw. We know with some certainty how the sun has behaved for several hundred years. When one compares recent (last 1000 years or so) warm and cool periods with solar activity, there is an indisputable correlation.

I urge all to review what is in this essay. If you think that Obama’s energy crisis has no merit, it is time to get busy writing your elected officials. If Obama has his way, expect to experience a dramatic change in lifestyle. God help us all.

Sports vs. Souls

by Bill Bailey

I recently heard on Fox News that tickets to see a National Hockey League game went for about \$2,000. That was astounding to me that someone would spend that much just to sit and watch someone else do something they can’t or wouldn’t do. Two Thousand dollars?? I checked online and saw seats for \$300-\$500 for an average game. NASCAR tickets for POCONO Raceway, which is far from Daytona or Talladega (the two top race circuits), cost as much as \$85 for average out-in-the-sun tickets. Again to watch someone else do something they can’t or wouldn’t do. To see the L.A. Clippers cost \$250 for close-in seats.

Now let’s look at what it costs to build a boat in the Philippines to transport a Christian pastor who ministers to many villages. Recently Pastor Dan Dovidio (Westcliffe Community Church) went to the Philippines and helped with a similar endeavor, costing about \$2,000. To send a student to Bible school for a year costs \$1000, a pastors’ salary is \$500-\$1,200 per year. To build a church only costs \$5,000-\$10,000. That equals 5 seats at the NHL playoff games for one night.

So while many sit and

watch sporting events in the luxury of a box office suite at exorbitant prices, people are losing their lives and going to hell, never knowing the salvation available to them, simply for lack of funds and workers.

Meanwhile the good old USofA spends more money on garbage in one day, like \$1 Million bus stops and studies in frog reproduction habits, than all the churches have all year in third world countries.

So are all sports fans atheists? Not really. There are many good people who love sports of one type or another, but this just shows the unequal value placed on men’s souls compared to entertainment. Adding up all the money spent on sporting events would be staggering, possibly billions each year. Add to that what is spent on alcohol, tobacco, drugs, gambling, diet aids, soda, personal cosmetics, gala weddings, hair care, non-essential clothing, frivolous travel, etc., etc. This doesn’t take into account government spending. There is no reason why we in the western world cannot reach the entire world’s people, tongues and tribes with the gospel. After all, if we don’t do it, who will. No other nation of earth has the resources or the will to do so. Maybe America is lacking the will also. Game on!

**...Then you will know
the truth, and the truth
will set you free.”**

John 8:32, NIV



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Something to Consider... on the 4th of July Parade

It has occurred to me that we get all excited to march and carry in the parade. So we go find the most ‘military’ looking firearm available. Do you think maybe uninformed people think we’re all a bunch of militia wannabes? It might be better if people

showed up with lever actions muzzleloaders, or just “ordinary” hunting rifles/shotguns. The uninformed might find it easier to relate to “regular” people. Just a thought.
*Jim Shapland,
Rural Custer County*

It's All About Our CHOICES

A few days from now we will know who will be our new Sheriff, who of the three County Commissioner candidates will be elected, who will be Custer County’s Coroner for the next term and we will have the opportunity to effect the direction of our state as well with voting in who we believe is the best candidate for Governor. Choices.

Some people don’t realize just how special voting is or yet just how special it is to be alive at this specific time in history in this specific country with the freedoms we do have, especially in comparison to the rest of the world. It is by no accident that we are here now, and have as much say in our government as we do have. It surely isn’t by some cosmic chance, but by a cosmic connection. We are here for a specific purpose and to make a positive difference in the lives of others. We have been given the opportunity to do so by one unique

way - voting. This freedom isn’t guaranteed to last, so while it is available I encourage everyone to vote your choice. It certainly does matter and will matter who you choose and how you choose.

What matters in your choice? Truth of right and wrong matters, your vote/voice matters, the character of the candidate matters, transparency of the candidate matters. Why the need to say this? Basically in one word - Agendas. Some people don’t know ‘what truth’ or ‘whose truth’ to follow. That’s easy to understand, we as people can be fooled if we don’t have our eyes open to the place where all truths and characteristics come from; The Real Truth - God’s Truth - God’s Agenda. All will come to face it one day, like it or not, choose to believe it ...or not, choose to acknowledge it ...or not.

Until then, we ‘keep on keeping on’ and we use our

vote to support our beliefs, we use our free speech to voice our beliefs, and we seek God’s Truth(or not), base our beliefs on it (or someone else’s) and make every effort to live it(some don’t). After all, whether you believe it or not, we will have to answer for what we have done with our freedoms and our free choice to choose how we’ve spent our lives during this special time in history, in this special country, with everyone around us and in our lives. While that all fits into our purpose for being here at this special time, we too, will one day get our name officially ‘in’ (or not) based on our own character and how we’ve transparently lived our beliefs in God and His Word (or not). If you don’t know God’s Truth in a personal way, I hope you seek it out, in the meantime during this and all elections; Choose wisely!

*Candi Sage,
Rural Custer County*

Local Mountain News & Notices

Mutton Bustin’ at the Cowboy Church

by Carol Clemenson

On June 15th the Wild West Cowboy Church had yet another mutton bustin competition. There were eleven contestants and they were all excited to see the sheep. About four or five of the kids had never done mutton bustin’ before but were really excited to try. They registered then get in line for the gearing up. An adult helped them put on a helmet and a safety vest. Then they went into the pen and were helped onto a sheep, and told how to hang on and where to lie down on the sheep’s back. The gate opened and they were on their own to ride as far as they can. When they crossed the orange flag, they have had a complete ride.

There are two judges and not only are the kids judged but also the sheep are judged. So the faster your sheep is, the better your score. Pastor Larry gives the sheep a name while the

kid is getting on. Sometimes when he called a name like “Rattlesnake,” the kids looked a little afraid, but then he/she had to remember to just hang on because shortly after the name was called, the chute was opened and away they went. Most everyone had a complete ride. Some a little faster than others, but that is because the sheep wanted to get the kid off his/her back. This is really great for these kids because they not only learn how to win a trophy, but they also learn what they need to do next time to win. But everyone gets a nice ribbon for trying. And they



Muttin’ Buster!

Sentinel photo by Carol Clemenson

they hit the dirt and they always come up with a great big smile on their face because they DID IT!

A big thank you goes out to Pastor Larry and his wife Jane, along with the all the other people that help make this event so special for these kids. It wonderful to watch them enjoy what they love to do.

RIDE THEM WOOLIES!!!!!! There was a little four-year-old girl named Meiccca Sanderson, and she had never ridden a sheep before. When she saw her older brother ride, she could hardly wait to get on one. She hung on for dear life and had a complete ride to the end of the pen. When she hit the dirt she was so excited she was ready to go again. It was a sight to see. The 1st place trophy went to her brother, Matthew Lennings, with a score of 94. This was his first time riding also.



Muttin’ Busters line up to hear instructions.
Sentinel photo by Carol Clemenson

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Ask a Pro: How to: Check the air in your pressure tank.

These days a lot of people are trying to do things themselves to save money. Setting the pre-charge on your pressure tank is a good idea if you know how. When the air pressure is set right the system operates at peak efficiency saving electricity and extending the life of your system. First your tank must have an operating gauge (\$5.00) then note the pressure that the pump turns off and where it turns on. The differential of the pressures should be 20 psi, i.e.: 20-40, 30-50 or 40-60 psi. Next turn off the pump and drain the tank of all water. Tap or shake the tank to verify it contains no water, if it’s a bladder tank and retains water it is bad! With no water in the tank, charge the tank with air to 2 psi less than the pressure the

system turns on at, i.e. 18, 28 or 38 psi. If the air goes out the drain valve and you have a bladder tank it is bad! \$200.00-\$600.00 for a new tank. For years folks have attempted to set the air in their tank with no idea of what they were doing; hope this helps.
David Nequette /Lic. 1043

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All children who pre-register will receive a T-shirt and be entered to win a bicycle - one for boys and girls. You must pre-register by July 7th. VBS is for 5-year-olds through 6th grade (grade they came out of). Call the church office at 783-2498 and give the child’s name, address, age, grade, shirt size, and parent name and phone numbers.

Our theme is “God Dynasty - Happy, Happy, Happy”.
See you on July 21st!

Local Mountain News & Notices

A Message For Our Troops From Dave Roever

(The following is a transcript of a video that Dave Roever posted online last week-end. The video can be found at www.youtube.com/watch?v=mt6px1g9ueM.)

Hello, I'm Dave Roever. Have you seen the news today? I am very, very angry. As a Vietnam Veteran, and I think I share this with most Vietnam Veterans, we are seeing a repeat of fight, sacrifice, put your body, put your brain, put your whole live on the line for your country, win a battle, and then lose the war. Walk away from all the blood and treasure, the sacrifice, in Iraq that America is leaving behind. Al Qaeda is running around in American Humvees! They're using our equipment against those people over there that we fought to set free. I'm stunned. If you're a veteran of this modern-day war on terror, I want to tell you something as a Vietnam Veteran, I understand your pain today. But I want you to know something: regardless

of the total ineptness of a government that doesn't know how to finish well, I pray that YOU will finish well and YOU will understand, that we, older veterans, have you in mind today. I hated to see this kind of sacrifice wasted. It rips my heart out. If it makes me angry to see Al Qaeda running around in our own equipment, using it against what will one day be our own troops, I have to tell you, it makes me even more angry to know that the blood, the sacrifice, the limbs, the peace of mind that so many of you have given up to win Fallujah, to win Anbar Province, to win Mosul, to win Bagdad, just going up in smoke and we do nothing. In fact, if we try to do something now it's too late. I'm sorry. I'm sorry for your sacrifice that's been blown away with ineptness. Today, I pray for you. I want you to know, you're in my heart. Dave Roever does love you, and cares immensely about you. God bless you. I'm Dave Roever, make sure you know I approved of this message.

EMS Fundraiser Draws Large Crowd

by Paul Sage

The EMS fundraising event held by the Custer County EMS on Saturday, June 14th, brought out a large crowd from the community to show their support for the crew. EMS Director Ellie Czarnota was so impressed with what "an awesome community" this is. Some of the pies baked and donated by local residents were auctioned off for over \$100 each. Silent auction items ranging from gift certificates to restaurants to one of a kind art pieces were also bid on by the attendees. When it was all over the event raised in excess of \$13,000 with an investment of \$1,300 and a lot of sweat equity of the EMS personnel.

A band from the Pueblo Fire Department played for the crowd while they ate up the barbecued pork and sides; and local ambu-



Folks line up for the great food!

lances, the EMS headquarters and a Flight For Life Helicopter were open for the visitors to tour while a bouncy house was available for the enjoyment of the kids.

It was clear that EMS Director Ellie Czarnota and her crew put their hearts into this community event just as they do day by day as the emergency medical

Sentinel photo by Paul Sage

providers for the county. Ms. Czarnota was told by some in attendance "how much the community supports EMS and wants to make sure where the money from the event was going." There have been some assurances from the clinic management that they will not pilfer the EMS account to pay their operating expenses, as has happened in the past.

Fire/EMS Rescue Demonstration Makes Short Work of Car

by Paul Sage

At the EMS fundraiser held this past Saturday, the Wet Mountain Fire Protection District volunteers and the EMS personnel demonstrated for the

crowd the procedure for extracting a victim from a wrecked vehicle. It was a great opportunity to see these two dedicated groups of emergency responders work together close up in

a safe environment like they do on a regular basis in much less ideal circumstances while they go about their life saving work in Custer County.

The entire process of accessing a traffic accident victim from removing windows in a car to prying the doors off the car to removing the entire roof from the car to better access those inside was demonstrated. As the firefighters remove the parts of the car necessary, the EMS personnel step in to assess the victim and safely remove them from the vehicle so they can be stabilized and transported to a hospital to receive the necessary care.



First responders demonstrate how they can extract a person from a wrecked vehicle.

Sentinel photo by Paul Sage



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ANNUAL WESTCLIFFE CONSIGNMENT AUCTION

(All Commissions go to Amish Schools)



Saturday, June 28, 2014 at 10:00 a.m.
Rodeo Grounds in Westcliffe, Colorado
All Consignments Welcome - New or Used
Also taking Consignments on Horses & Fire Arms!

EARLY CONSIGNMENTS

Quilts, Handcrafted Hardwood Furniture including Dining Table, Hickory Rockers and Local Made Log Furniture, Antiques including Buckets, Milk Cans, Ox Yokes, Granite, Crocks, Sleds, Lots of New Tack, Saddles, Harnesses, Pony Cart, Portable Round Pen with Gate, Gooseneck Flatbed Trailer, New Power Tools, DeWalt Cordless Tools, 14' Boat, Gas Powered Air Compressor, Also expecting a Household Disbursement, Leather Couch, Ladder, File Cabinets, Office Furniture, Ice Cream Freezer, Stock Tank, Safe, Inflatable Raft, Quart Jars, Bedroom Furniture, Colt Model 1911 Handgun.

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\$10001.00 and up - 10%
Horses: \$60.00 Consignment Fee Pays up to \$1,000.00
Over \$1,000.00 - 6%
\$2.00 and Under is Donated

Check In:
Friday, June 27th All Day
and Saturday, June 28th
till 9:00 a.m.

Lunch Stand by Amish Ladies - Donuts and Coffee to Start the Day
BBQ Chicken Dinner Starts at 10:30 a.m. - Homemade Pies & Homemade Ice Cream

FOR MORE INFORMATION CONTACT:

JOE RABER: **LESTER RAY YODER:**
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Cell: 719-431-3137 Cell: 719-557-0174

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Be still and know that I am God.

Psalm 46:10

Local Mountain News & Notices

Vintage Iron Goes Flywheel to Flywheel in Silver Cliff

The annual Silver Cliff Tractor Pull was held June 14th at Silver Cliff Park. The event is one of a regular circuit held by the Arkansas Valley Flywheelers Club. In the event antique tractors of every size, type and condition compete to see who can pull a large weighted sled the farthest down a straight dirt track. Kenneth West took the trophy for tractors up to 5500 pounds and Paul King was awarded the prize for tractors rated above 5500 pounds. Despite the strong winds stirring up the dust, the competitors and spectators enjoyed the show of classic tractors displaying their muscle.

Sentinel photos
by Paul Sage



A Painted View Ranch Events 2014

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**Art Nordyke
for Coroner**

RE-ELECT

I WILL CONTINUE TO:

- Implement up to date policies and procedures
- Standardize reporting procedures to ensure that all investigations stand up well in court
- Work with local law enforcement, search and rescue, emergency personnel and funeral homes
- Properly train Deputy Coroners
- Complete all Reports and Paperwork required by the State of Colorado
 - Do the job with the greatest efficiency so that the case can be prosecuted properly if needed

GOALS:

- To maintain a code of conduct and accountability for our office
- Upgrade and maintain a well documented and transparent procedure for collection and disposal of prescription Medications



**Re-Elect
Art Nordyke
for
Custer County
Coroner**

**I WOULD
APPRECIATE YOUR
VOTE
JUNE 24th**

QUESTIONS:
Give Arthur 'Art' Nordyke
a call at (719-783-2747 or
(719) 371-3523
nordykeus@yahoo.com

MY QUALIFICATIONS

- 30 Years of Experience & Integrity
- Certified Death Investigator Since 2000
- 243 Hours of Colorado Coroners Association Death Investigations

I AM

- Dedicated to the office of Coroner and people of Custer County
- EXPERIENCED and young enough to do the job!

I WILL CONTINUE WITH THE FOLLOWING:

Classes & Training

- Civil Rights Discrimination & Harassment Prevention
- Colorado Forensic Epidemiology and Equivocal death
- Incident Command Systems
 - Aero Forensics
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- 16 Hours per year in Continuing Education to maintain certification



**Leadership • Experienced
Honesty • Integrity**

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Local Mountain News & Notices

Lincoln, Twain Come to Westcliffe

Abraham Lincoln and Mark Twain will be taking the stage at the Jones Theater on Mon., June 23, at 7 p.m. to talk about their experiences from the Civil War. Actor Dave Ehlert of Branson, Missouri, travels the country portraying Lincoln and Twain, providing an entertaining and compelling look at that time in the nation's history from the two different viewpoints.



Dave Ehlert, as Twain

courtesy photo

Ehlert, who has been featured on Oprah, CNN, and Fox television for his master impressionist skills, has performed this production for over 200 libraries. The West Custer County Library is presenting



Mark Twain

courtesy photo

this free event as part of the adult summer reading program, though older children may attend with an adult. Ehlert suggests the show is most appropriate for ages 12 and above.

When asked why he became interested in portraying Lincoln and Twain, Ehlert said, "To me the attraction was that Lincoln was the 'Great Emancipator' while Twain was the 'Great Exaggerator'."

"Abe Lincoln, Mark Twain, and the Civil War" is co-sponsored by the Jones Theater. For more information on this event, contact West Custer County Library Director Amy Moulton at 783-9138.



The Expansion of Yoder's Furniture Store

The Yoder's family furniture business is expanding with a brand new building being built on US Highway 69 next to the Westcliffe Inn.

Owner Joel Yoder said the building will be solar powered and completely off the electrical grid. The business's new name will be "Yoder's Mountain View Furniture". They are hoping to be up and running by Labor Day weekend. You can call them at (719) 783-0988 for additional information.

Sentinel photo by George Gramlich

The Right to Vote

is our most precious treasure.

*As this primary season
comes to a close,
I urge all of you who
are eligible to vote.*

*I need and
want your vote.*

*My Word is my bond.
My handshake is my contract.*

I am Bob Kattnig.

*I ask for your vote
for County Commissioner.*

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

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



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- Provide equal treatment for all citizens.
- Institute a presence in the rural areas of the county.
- Increase cooperation with all agencies in the county.
- Institute cooperative training with deputies and the posse.
- Develop a community accountability group with direct access to the Sheriff.

*Your vote counts. Choose the candidate who
has real leadership experience and a true
desire to move the Office forward.*

I ask for your vote on June 24th, 2014.

If you would like to contact Shannon Byerly:

Cell Phone: 371-6678

Email: shanbyerly@yahoo.com

Facebook.com/Byerly for Custer County Sheriff

Paid for by the Committee to Elect Byerly for Sheriff

Local Mountain News & Notices



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The Custer County Weed Advisory Board

Presents the 2014

Custer County Annual Weed Tour

Saturday June 28th from 9:00am to 1:00pm

Presentation held at the Wetmore Community Center.

Tour to follow

This year's theme is the cost of doing nothing in Custer County.

Free Lunch for Registered participants

Please call the CSU Extension Office to register at 783-2514 by June 26th
Or E-mail robin.young@colostate.edu

Sponsored by

The Custer County Weed Advisory Board

Book Review

Cross Roads

by Wm. Paul Young

by Audrey Slator

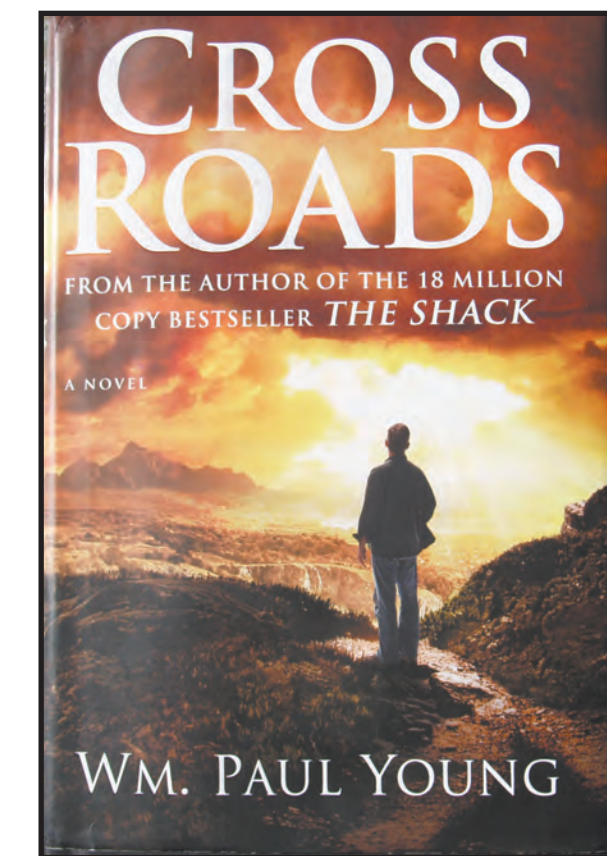
Whether you like "The Shack" or not, Wm. Paul Young's book, "Cross Roads" deserves your consideration.

Anthony Spencer is a 50ish egotistical, arrogant, but successful, business man. He has been married and divorced twice to the same woman. He is a self-proclaimed loner and thinks he likes it like that. He constantly changes his will to spite those who have angered him.

Suddenly, a cerebral hemorrhage throws him into a coma and he finds himself somewhere between life and death. There he encounters others who lead him down a journey where he sees exactly what his corrupt lifestyle has created. You will walk with Tony as he faces the ugly he has created and the emotions that he feels as he is forced to face the consequences that his lack of love, trust, and caring for others has caused.

He is thrown into some very different predicaments, finding himself in other peoples' minds and seeing through their eyes. Papa God, Grandmother, and Jesus are his "tour" guides through his adventures and he is granted a gift. On his journey he can choose to physically heal one person, but only one.

"I can heal someone? Are you telling me that I am



able to heal anybody that I want to?" he asked, surprised. His thoughts, without prompting, immediately returned to Gabriel's beside as the 5-year-old's hand slipped from his, and then skipped to this own body in an ICU room. Anyone! I can heal anyone I want to."

Jesus leaned closer. "You can't actually heal anyone, not alone, but I will be with you and anyone you choose to pray for, I will heal through you."

Excerpt from Chapter Six

He visits a children's Cancer ward. There he sees so many that need healing, how can he decide on only

one? He thinks perhaps his best option is to heal himself and then use his money to help more. Will he have the courage to finally take the right path?

This book has made me look into myself, and search, and ask the hard questions? Am I truly living a God centered life? Is my relationship with God as deep and solid as it could be? Am I truly walking the path that God has mapped out for me? It has also brought me to a deeper understanding of how our earthly relationships truly do matter to God.

I suggest you read this book and see where it takes you.



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TOWN HALL MEETING

**Monday, June 23rd,
at 5 p.m.**

with

**Colorado Senator Larry Crowder
& Colorado House District 60
Representative Jim Wilson
at the Lutheran Church
Fellowship Hall**

312 S. 3rd St. in Westcliffe

Local Mountain News & Notices

School Board Report, Money Woes

by Candi Sage

On June 10, School Board Vice President Monty Lee presented copies of the 2014 Custer County School Report to the Community. The report includes highlights and accomplishments of the 2013-14 school year (both academic and extra-curricular) major scholarship recipients, administrative and information including budget appropriations, graduation requirements, accreditation rating and the District Accountability Committee information.

The Custer County School Accreditation score is reported as “approximately in the top 25% of all districts” in Colorado. Also included in this report are the high school statics and comparisons to other high schools in the areas of student-teacher ratios and free and reduced lunch. With a few minor changes discussed, Mr. Lee will have a pdf version available.

Board Member Dr. Terre Davis reported the new changes within BOCES that include a new director and a new Special Education Director, both expected to bring positive changes that will affect Custer

County Schools. The board approved the usual monthly check vouchers and financial reports. Included for and approved was the Budget Priorities policy, Staff Leave policy, Budget and Appropriations Resolutions, and Governor’s Interest free Loan Program Resolution (tied to the Budget and Appropriations). Superintendent Chris Selle explained that the Governor’s Interest-Free Loan Program (and the Budget Appropriations Resolutions) will factor into the overall cash flow for December-February when the property tax revenue that Custer County depends on (which comes in March, May, and June) and will help fund the district with the loan to carry them through that December-February time. When property tax revenue comes in March, the district then pays it back.

Superintendent Chris Selle pointed out that even though the state has taken steps to reduce the “Negative Factor” and the impact of the taking away of funds, the state wants all districts to ‘bottom out’ except for the required Tabor Reserve. Mr. Selle wants the public to understand that despite these moves by the state to

seemingly help the financial position they created for school districts, Custer County Schools and others still are having budget issues. The reserves are better but not where it should be and if they were funded as designed by the state then the ‘negative factor’ would decrease. Currently, it is estimated at \$496,000 depending on enrollment.

Mr. Selle’s report included the 2013-14 fluctuating student count/turnover that showed 47 students leaving and 47 students coming into the district. He updated the board on the Draft of the District Strategic Plan and the progress with the working group, the final approval scheduled for August. Mr. Selle also discussed the K-8 Technology Long Range Plans and the 9-12 grade courses to be offered. The board gave approval for Mr. Selle to obtain and accept a bid for 20 laptops and up to 5 Mac books. The board discussed considering a low interest lease on the needed bus replacement/capital, setting upcoming meeting to set graduation requirements and the superintendent evaluation forms before going into Executive Session.

Express Yourself Papermaking and Clown on a Bike

The West Custer County Library’s free Summer Reading program for all ages continues the week of June 23rd with some artistic recycling and clown antics.

At “Express Yourself Papermaking” teens will be learning how to make their own paper from recycled materials. Teens will experience firsthand the endless artistic possibilities and beauty of this eco-vamped, age-old craft. Space is limited and advanced registration is required. This

event takes place June 25 at 1 p.m. at the library and is open to teens entering grades 6-12. If interested, contact the library to see if there is still class space available.

“Clown on a Bike” is a hilarious and interactive production by Jim Jackson. This event will be held on Thursday, June 26, from 1-2 p.m. at the Hermit Park Pavilion and is open to all kids entering fifth grade and under. No advanced sign-up is required.

Children, teens and adults who have not already signed up to earn prizes for keeping up with their reading and experiencing new things this summer can register at the library Tuesdays through Fridays from 10 a.m. to 5:30 p.m. or on Saturdays from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. The Summer Reading Program and all its events are free.

For more information, please call the library at 783-9138 or visit www.westcusterlibrary.org.

Gymkhana Buckle Series!

At the Wild West Cowboy Church
Saturday, June 21st
Registration begins at 8 a.m.

Pole Bending, Barrel Racing, and many more fun events for you and your horse!
All ages welcome, only \$4 per event
Call 783-2676 for more info.

Fundraising Efforts for Students’ Washington, D.C. Trip

A letter from Mrs. Holycross

Dear Community,

Custer County Middle School students have recently been invited to go to Washington, D.C., for a four-day tour over Spring Break of 2015. While in Washington, D.C., students will have the opportunity to visit many monumental locations including: Capitol Hill; Smithsonian Museums; Lincoln Memorial; WWII Memorial; Korean War Veterans Memorial; Vietnam Veterans Memorial; Arlington National Cemetery; Martin Luther King Jr. National Memorial; Mt. Vernon; and the Holocaust Museum.

Middle school students would be grateful for the support of the community through sponsorship. This trip will be an incredible learning opportunity as students become immersed in activities that reveal the

strength and foundations of our nation.

Amongst other fundraising opportunities, I am seeking to provide a scholarship program to offer to prospective student participants. I am looking for individuals or corporations who would be interested in providing scholarship funds for this cause. Scholarships will be given to students based on a 500 word essay describing the academic and patriotic value of the trip as well as their personal interest in attending. The amount a sponsor may contribute is flexible. You could assist our students, through one of the options listed below.

- \$1,600 – Full scholarship
- \$800 – Half scholarship
- \$300 – Partial scholarship
- Other- Partial scholarship
- All scholarships will be

handled through the Excellence in Education Committee. If you are willing to sponsor a middle school student, you can write a check directly to WMVCF and indicate that it is for the Middle School D.C. trip. Checks can be mailed to Custer County School, c/o Maegan Holycross, PO Box 730, Westcliffe, or dropped off at the school. All donations are tax deductible and donors will be publicly recognized unless you indicate otherwise.

If you have any questions please feel free to contact me at the number below, and thank you on behalf of our students.

Sincerely,
Maegan Holycross
Washington, D.C. Trip Sponsor
719-783-4899
maegan.holycross@ccbobcats.net

KIDS

Friday, June 20, 2014

THE GREAT SEAL OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA

The purpose of The Great Seal of the United States of America is to make sure that certain federal government documents are authentic such as those used in foreign treaties and presidential proclamations. On Independence Day, July 4, 1776, Benjamin Franklin, John Adams, and Thomas Jefferson undertook the task of creating a seal for this country. The Great Seal was finalized and approved on June 20, 1782.

If you look on the back of a \$1 bill, one can see both sides of The Great Seal of the United States of America. Note that the national coat of arms which is the obverse (front side) of the seal is officially used on the United States passport, military insignia, embassy placards, letterhead, license plates, and various flags. The design has a shield, an eagle, an olive branch, arrows, a “glory” with 13 stars on a blue field, and a scroll with the motto, “E pluribus unum.”

The reverse side of the seal has an unfinished pyramid and an eye in the triangle of the zenith.

The Secretary of State is the official custodian of the seal. Under the Secretary of State, the seal can only be affixed by an officer of the Department of State. The Great Seal is displayed in the Exhibit Hall of the Department of State in Washington, D.C.

information source: www.wikipedia.com

Sangre de Cristo Sentinel • Westcliffe, Colorado

CORNER

Local Mountain News & Notices



PREPPER'S CORNER



On the Trail with Barley & Belle Walk-About Salad

by Jeremy Carr

Spring has sprung and a FRESH salad is the word of the day. Step outside and turn a full 360° everywhere you look there is something good to eat. Put on your sun bonnet, cute white sun dress, and take a short walk with that adorable Easter basket that needs a more practical application about now. Everyone who sees you will envy you for looking as if you belong in the ethereal fields of an old masters painting. Now that you're looking spiffy, go out and about and gather lunch. Once you start looking at the flora and fauna in a different light it is amazing how many things you will find in every crack and crevice that is edible. Then you will realize how silly you have been all these years spending money and time trying to get rid of them when God was giving you good healthy food to eat all the time.

Edible Flowers

Dandelion ~ Taraxacum officinale:



Edible parts~ Flowers, leaves & roots

This may have come a little too late in the year but dandelion is best harvested before the flowers bloom when it is young and not so bitter.

Oxeye Daisy ~ (Pin Daisy) Leucanthemum vulgare:



Edible parts~ leaves and flowers, but very bitter, foliage was once used in

soups and stews.

Clovers ~ Fabaceae Trifolium:

Edible parts~ Flowers &



Leaves We all know what Clover leaves look like & the flower comes in white and purple. The leaves and flowers are good in salads. *(If your neighbors have been so kind as to plant them for you)*

Roses ~ Rosaceae:

Edible parts~ Petals & hips.



Roses come in many colors and varieties, and all petals and hips are edible. Soft rose hips can be put through a food press to remove seeds and their hairs. If you wet that pressed mass, you can run it through the process a second time. Dried hips have to be rehydrated to be pressed. The resulting puree is dark red and tasty. It's used to make syrup, jam, chutney, and various sauces. Dried rose hips are used to make a fruity tea that is high in Vitamin C, some 50 times higher than citrus. They also have vitamins A, E, and K. Seeds, the true fruit of the rose, are diuretic. You can also grind the totally dry rose hips into a powder to be added to breads, cookies, cakes and desserts. Now, if your thinking "I'll just eat the entire rose hip," don't eat unprocessed rose hips. It's better to run the processed hips through a filter to remove the seeds. If you

consume unprocessed rose hips you can get what the Aborigines called "Itchy Bottom Disease" from the hair on the seeds. The hairs in the rose hips are the original itching powder.

<http://www.eattheweeds.com/rozes/>

Marigolds ~ Tagetes:

Edible parts~ Petals



There's a lot of internet misinformation about marigolds. All of them are edible from a non-toxic point of view. Tagetes lucida, Tagetes patula, and Tagetes tenuifolia. Their flavor is citrusy. Usually only the petals are eaten. No green parts.

Lavenders ~ Lavandula:



Edible parts~ Flowers

Be careful when using lavender. It has a very pungent flavor. It is not advisable to eat alone due to its strong flavor and if you add too much to a recipe it will feel like you are eating perfume.

Begonias ~ Begoniaceae:



Edible parts~ Flowers and leaves,

The leaves and flowers make a great addition to salads. The leaves reduced to a paste and mixed with sour cream & a little sugar, then baked make a delicious tartlet. You can also fry the leaves into crisps, add a little salt for a tasty snack.

Rocky Mountain Columbine ~ Aquilegia Saximontana:



Edible parts~ The blue-purple flowers are eaten as a snack or tossed into salads. They contain a heavy nectar that makes a good jelly. The other color varieties which are not confirmed to be edible are pink, yellow, and white.

(I suggest waiting until there are no longer any laws before you go picking them as it is the state flower and illegal to pick just now!)

Edible Wild Plants

Chicory ~ Cichorium intybus:



Edible parts~Leaves Chickory leaves look similar to dandelion but the flowers are a light blue. It's a great addition to any salad. Young tender leaves are best.

Plantain ~ Plantago genus:

Edible parts~ Leaves & Seeds



Plantain is a bit like spinach. You have stepped on plantain a hundred and one times and never knew you could eat it. There are several varieties and the leaves look different but they are all edible.

Prickly lettuce ~ Lactuca serriola:



Edible parts~ Leaves

These also looks similar to dandelion leaves when young and even have small yellow flowers but the leaves have a more jagged appearance. Just like dandelion leaves the young leave are tastier and not quite so bitter.

Purslane ~ Portulaca oleracea:



Edible parts~ Leaves

One of Gandhi's favorite foods, this plant has approximately forty different cultivated varieties.

Purslane adds a tiny tart to a salad. The stems are also good pickled. It is another one of those little plants that you have squished many times and never knew you could eat.

Lambs Quarters~ Chenopodium Album:



Edible parts~Leaves Lambs Quarters are everywhere too. They are great as a salad green. The young leaves on this are more tender and tasty.

If all of this isn't enough to satisfy, add a few ordinary items like green onion tops, tomato, arugula, bell peppers, and herbs to spice it up. Some of the plants listed above have additional parts of the plants that are perfectly edible but those parts have been omitted here for the sake of being immediately edible in a salad.

Whether from the market or the field I recommend washing your fresh salad in straight citric acid that can be purchased very inexpensively from a true \$1 retailer who often carries a rather large bottle for that price. Soak your veggies for five minutes or so and rinse REALLY well.

As always, "never substitute your own good judgment for someone else's." Do your own research and be well informed.

<http://www.eattheweeds.com/edible-flowers-part-two/>

Each man must himself alone decide what is right and what is wrong, which course is patriotic and which isn't. You cannot shirk this and be a man. To decide against your conviction is to be an unqualified and excusable traitor, both to yourself and to your country, let men label you as they may.

~ Mark Twain

Local Mountain News & Notices

BLOW OUT: Stapleton Crushes Markey in Treasurer's Race Fundraising

by ColoradoPeakPolitics,
ColoradoPeakPolitics.com

We're used to Republican Colorado State Treasurer Walker Stapleton killing it with fundraising against weak opponent, former U.S. Rep. Betsy Markey; however, a blow out this big calls for a virtual high-five.

Markey raised a paltry \$8,148 to Stapleton's \$45,300. Even better news for Stapleton? He has three times as much in the bank as Markey. Stapleton is at \$555,245 and Markey ended the fundraising pe-

riod with \$181,908 cash on hand.

One wonders why Markey cannot seem to raise money. Afterall, she is a former congresswoman – she should have plenty of friends with money. Perhaps, she is struggling with fundraising because her math skills leave much to be desired. As we noted about a year ago when we gleefully learned Markey was running for Treasurer:

In case, Peak Nation™, you've forgotten, Markey's most memorable financial remark was to declare

the bloated and outsized Obamacare bill a “the biggest deficit reduction bill to come before Congress in more than a decade.”

But, hey, who needs math skills as a state treasurer? What's that, you say? EVERYONE who is a state treasurer needs math skills? Democrats may have a problem.

Reprinted with Permission. Please see: coloradopeak-politics.com/2014/06/17/blow-out-stapleton-crushes-markey-in-treasurers-race-fundraising/

Chamber Knosh and Know Business Education

The Custer County Chamber of Commerce and Custer County Tourism Board are teaming up to offer this month's Knosh and Know. The monthly business education, which is open to Chamber members and non-members, is taking place Monday, June 23, beginning at 5:30 p.m. in the Chamber office/visitors center located inside the All Aboard Westcliffe interpretive center at 110 Rosita Ave. There is no cost for Chamber members; others pay \$5 to help cover the cost for refreshments among other expenses.

The topic for the Knosh and Know is the unveiling of the local tourism board's newly designed website. This website allows local business owners to input information about their business. That information can include the name of business, address, phone number, and a brief description. Additionally, local nonprofit organizations can input contact information and events that are open to the public.

A tutorial outlining how to register and to gain au-

thor status on the tourism board website to input the requested information will be given. Attendees should also bring their laptops to get started. A few laptops will be available for those who do not have their own. For more information about the upcoming Knosh and Know, or to RSVP, call the Chamber office at 783-9163.

The mission of the Custer County Chamber of Commerce is to promote the prosperity of the Custer County area. The organization achieves this objective by fostering and promoting economic and community programs designed to strengthen the business community.

Those who become sponsors of the Custer County Chamber of Commerce through a yearly fee can expect the Chamber of Commerce to promote their businesses through the Chamber website. Community information can also be found on the Chamber of Commerce website.

The Chamber of Commerce also maintains a visitors

center manned by knowledgeable volunteers that is equipped with sponsor information, community visitor's guide, calendar of events, history of the area and relocation information.

Additionally, the Chamber of Commerce holds monthly business educations called Knosh and Knows, and the Chamber sponsors and organizes community events to showcase our Valley. The Chamber of Commerce is always looking for other local organizations to partner with. Most recently, the Chamber of Commerce partnered with CART (Cliffs Action Revitalization Team) doing business as CCD (Cliffs Commercial District) and the tourism board to produce and distribute the Discover Guide over the last two years.

An online version of the guide can be found at www.milesofwow.com. Hard copies of the guide can be found inside the Chamber of Commerce visitor center among other local retailers and government offices. The Discover guide has also been distributed throughout the state.



Cutting in Colorado The Legacy Cup

Above is a sample photo from last weekend's event at A Painted View Ranch. Check out our July 4th issue for a photo feature and the results of the weekend!

Sentinel photo by Tessa Brady

Rockets to the Sky Saturday Sampler

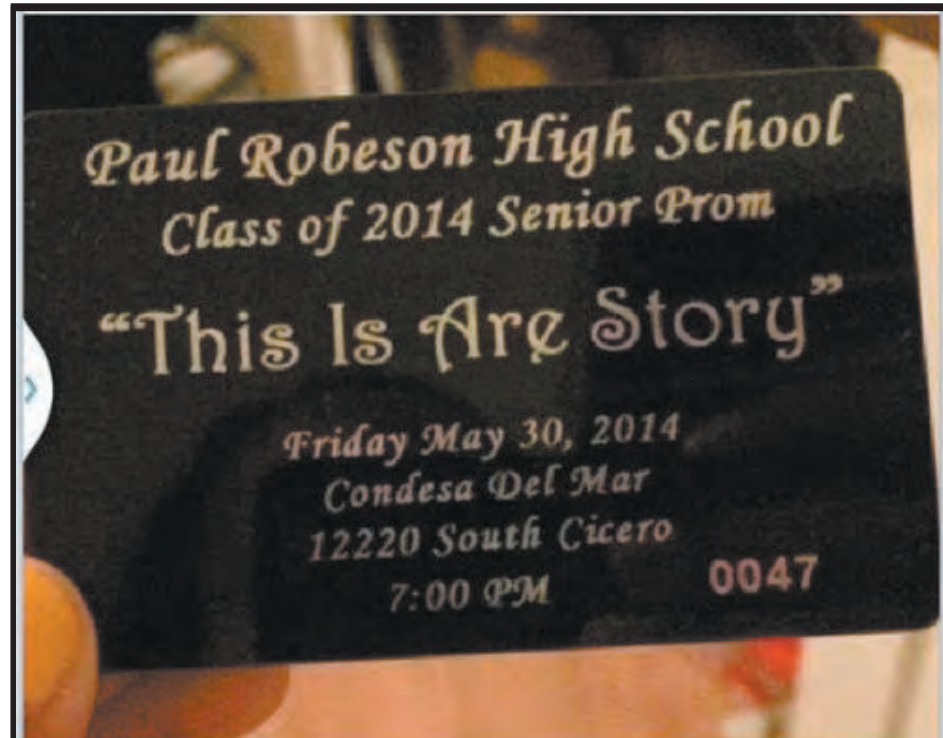
July 5th at 9 a.m.
at the Hermit Park Pavilion

Come join us for a morning and make your own model rocket then launch it skyward. Steve Janssen, of the Pueblo Air & Space Museum, and his crew will instruct you in building your rocket, then launch from the pads.

Reservations are recommended by emailing Steve at: museumcurator@hotmail.com or by phone 719-783-0610

Cost is \$5.00 for each rocket and \$5.00 for the program

We hope to see you there!



American Public Education: A Snap Shot

This is the entry pass for the Paul Robeson High School prom in Chicago. The grammatical error is even beyond Common Core standards. Remember that the Chicago teachers are among the highest paid in the world.

courtesy image

Ranch Rodeo

at the Wild West Cowboy Church
June 28th, at 5 p.m.

The participants need to be in teams of three or four to compete in team penning, roping, sorting, branding, and trailering. The entry fee is \$25 per person, with 70% payback.

Contact Sherri Cayce at 512-308-7711 for details.

Westcliffe Farmer's Market 2014

Every Wednesday through October 8, 9 AM - 1 PM

At Jess Price Park, 315 Main Street



Sangres' Best Grass Fed Beef serving burgers

Courtesy Photo



The Free Range Chickens - from left Drew Horton, Kathy Taylor and Gary Taylor



Lippis Farms organic produce with Joey Lippis



Dustybirds Treats by Jan Hyath



Information Booth with Simone Soucy



Skylor Smith and Kathy Carlisle with jellies



Tomato plants with Penn Parmenter



Colorado State University Extension Booth with Robin Young



Blue Moon Pottery Ranch with Karen LaBlond



Baked Goods by Rebecca Miller



Copper Gulch Designs with Ed and Leah Tuter



A vegetarian lunch at the Information Booth prepared by Dee Ryan and Gushikawa



Bertha May Ellison and Claudia Cole with Jellies and soaps



Mountain Gourmet Fresh Salsa with Monica Dean and Marcy Biddison



Rosita Mary's by Mary O'Connor



Ripleys Treats and Treasures with Rebecca Cardinell



Cloud Valley Cashmere Farm with Joel Kiester and Lyn Censhaw

Local Mountain News & Notices

Classifieds

Help Wanted

Are you inquisitive? Looking for an opportunity to serve your community? Contact the Sentinel if interested in volunteering your reporting skills. Submit interest at submittals@sdcsentinel.com

For Sale

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

FSBO 206 S. 4th St., Westcliffe. \$110,000 1 or 2 Bedroom, 1 Bath (handicapped

friendly), fenced yard. Call for details and pictures (719) 783-0478 or (303) 726-0716

FSBO 5 acres north of Oak Creek Grade General Store. Call or see Jack or Audrey at 783-2245.

Garage Sale

Friday, June 20
8 a.m. - 2 p.m.
842 Aspen Trail

GARAGE SALE

June 27 and 28
Friday and Saturday
9 a.m. - 3 p.m.
4.2 miles on Lake DeWeese
black top.
Turn left at balloons.
First garage on the right.

Portable Sewing Machine to Recumbent Bike and many more items.
783-9464

Estate Sale

From the estate of Terry Salter.
4th and 5th of July, 8AM-3PM
Location: Wet Mountain Valley Saddle Club
90 County Road 241
Items include: Sleep Number bed; lift recliner; marble top cabinet; wine cabinet.
All proceeds dedicated to supporting local Veterans and Veteran's Programs.
For information contact Anna Orgeron at 783-2721

Real Estate

Lori Kastendieck
Independent Broker
Real Estate
Westcliffe Broker.com
719/269-0653

Serving buyers & sellers since 198

Services

NORDYKE SANITATION
(719) 783-2747
Cell (719) 371-3523
Please call **Art Nordyke** for your septic pumping and inspections.
Don't let your septic fail!

CHAINSAW SHARPENING
Accurate sharpening. Multiple chain discount. Overnight service available. Chain loop made to order and repaired.
Ring J.B. 719/783-4448



The Deer Mountain Community Organization will be hosting First Saturday Trade Days, a community market event, at 2995 Copper Gulch Road (CR 27A next to the store) on Saturday, July 5th starting at 8:00 a.m. Vendor booth space is FREE and free ice cream will be available to all vendors and shoppers. Hamburgers and other concession foods will be sold. There will be a silent auction and progressive raffle with drawing at noon. For more information, visit www.DeerMountainCommunity.com or call Linda at 942-4748.

The Cost of Doing Nothing Annual Weed Tour

The Custer County Annual Weed Tour is being held on June 28th at the Wetmore Community Center at 9 a.m. This year's theme is the "Cost of Doing Nothing". Larry Walker, weed specialist from Chaffee County, will be giving the presentation. Daryl Bressan of the U.S. Forest Service will be on hand to give a sprayer calibration demonstration, bring your sprayers if you would like to have it calibrated. Then the tour on the Billington Ranch will follow the demonstration. A free lunch on the ranch will be served to those who register by June 26th. Call or drop by the CSU Extension Office to register. 783-2514.

Berthoud Outdoor Quilt Show June 21, 2014

BERTHOUD, CO – (June 11, 2014) The Berthoud Area Chamber of Commerce is proud to be a part of the Berthoud Quilts, Arts & Craft Show on June 21 in Fickel Park.

Events include a quilt show, quilt raffle, quilt sales, arts & craft show, vendor booths, historic home tour and antique car show. The vendor booth fee for the arts and craft show is \$40. No food booths will be considered.

There is no fee for entrance to attend the event. All are welcome to view the display quilts as well as those for sale. There is a fee of \$5 to display your quilt or \$20 to display five quilts. There is a 10 percent commis-

sion fee collected when a quilt is sold.

The historic home tour and antique car show is hosted by the Berthoud Historical Society. For more information contact Mark French at (970) 532-1916.

There are still openings for vendor booths in the park. Please contact Deanne Mulvihill at 970-532-4200 or bcc@berthoudcolorado.com for more information on having a booth at the event.

For more information about the 2014 Berthoud Outdoor Quilt and Art & Craft Show and the Berthoud Area Chamber of Commerce please call the Chamber office at (970) 532-4200 or e-mail bcc@berthoudcolorado.com.

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.

\$0 Down, 0% A.P.R. Financing up to 60 Months*

Start today! Get your new BX Series — America's top-selling sub-compact tractor for over a decade.

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ROCKY FORD
254-7842
18911 HWY 50

*\$0 down, 0% A.P.R. financing for up to 60 months on purchases of new Kubota BX, B, L, M (excluding M108S/M96S), K008, KX, U, R, S, TLB, ZP, DM, RA and TE Series equipment is available to qualified purchasers from participating dealers' in-stock inventory through 6/30/2014. Example: A 60-month monthly installment repayment term at 0% A.P.R. requires 60 payments of \$16.67 per \$1,000 financed. 0% A.P.R. interest is available to customers if no dealer documentation preparation fee is charged. Dealer charge for document preparation fee shall be in accordance with state laws. Inclusion of ineligible equipment may result in a higher blended A.P.R. Not available for Rental, National Accounts or Governmental customers. 0% A.P.R. and low-rate financing may not be available with customer instant rebate offers. Financing is available through Kubota Credit Corporation, U.S.A., 3401 Del Amo Blvd., Torrance, CA 90503; subject to credit approval. Some exceptions apply. Offer expires 6/30/2014. See us for details on these and other low-rate options or go to www.kubota.com for more information. Optional equipment may be shown.

I can do all things through Christ who strengthens me.

Philippians 4:13

Local Mountain News & Notices

Events Calendar

Friday, June 20, 2014 6:30 p.m.: Shakespeare in the Sangres	Wednesday, June 25, 2014 6 p.m.: Watoto presents African Children's Choir at Custer County School sponsored by First Baptist Church 1 p.m. - 2 p.m.: Library Summer Reading Program: 783-9138. Sixth - Twelfth Grades: "Express Yourself Paper Making" at West Custer Library Community Room
Saturday, June 21, 2014 8 a.m.: Registration for Gymkhana Buckle Series at The Cowboy Church; all ages; Call for event times, 783-2676 8 a.m. and 1 p.m.: Gary Henrich Memorial Golf Tournament at St. Andrews Golf Course or call 269-8608 5 p.m.: Gary Henrich Benefit Dinner at golf course sponsored by Alpine Lodge. Call for reservations 269-8608 6:30 p.m.: Shakespeare in the Sangres	Thursday, June 26, 2014 1 p.m. - 2 p.m.: Library Summer Reading Program: 783-9138. "Clown on a Bike" at Hermit Park Pavillion
Sunday, June 22, 2014 2 p.m.: Shakespeare in the Sangres	Saturday, June 28, 2014 5 p.m.: The Ranch Rodeo at The Cowboy Church has been rescheduled for today. The participants need to be in teams of three or four to compete in team penning, roping, sorting, branding, and trailering. The entry fee is \$25 per person, with 70% payback. Contact Sherri Cayce at 512-308-7711 for details. 10 a.m.: Westcliffe Consignment Auction at rodeo grounds
Monday, June 23, 2014 7 p.m.: Adult Summer Reading Program at the Jones Theater: Lincoln, Mark Twain & The Civil War. Call library for more details, 783-9138. Living history...	

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	6:45 p.m. at Hope Lutheran Church, Post 170 Auxiliary monthly meeting (March-October).
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	Tuesday through Friday 10 a.m. – 5:30 p.m.: Library open in downtown Westcliffe
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.	Wednesday Line dancers meet at the Saddle Club Building from 9:30 to 11 a.m. thru the summer starting June 6. 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 and Thursday 11 a.m. – 5 p.m.: Lighthouse Pregnancy Resources in Silver Cliff open to assist young mothers and families in need. Free pregnancy tests and counseling to pregnant women and more. Call 783-4357	Thursday 5:30 p.m.: Weight Watchers meeting in the Hope Lutheran Church basement. Call 783-4144 Second Thursday of the Month: 10 a.m. - 11 a.m., "Ask a Nurse" at the library
Tuesday 12:30 p.m.: Bridge Club meets in the library community room in downtown Westcliffe. 6 p.m. – 8 p.m.: Jammin' band at The Mining Company Restaurant in Silver Cliff	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
First Tuesday of the Month: 6:30 p.m. at Cliff Lanes - American Legion Post 170 monthly meeting	Friday and Saturday 1 p.m. – 4 p.m.: Share Center adjacent to Hope Lutheran Church in Westcliffe
	Saturday 10 a.m. – 2 p.m.: Library open in Westcliffe

Come and Worship

Christian Science 9:30 a.m. Worship 8 Bassick Place Westcliffe 719/783-4601	First Baptist Church of Westcliffe 9:30 a.m. Sunday School 10:30 a.m. Fellowship 10:45 a.m. Worship 6 p.m. Worship 417 S. 6th Street Westcliffe 719/783-2498	Sangre de Cristo Mennonite Church 9 a.m. Worship 120 Jerry Drive Westcliffe 719/783-0903
Church of Christ 9:30 a.m. Bible Study 10:30 a.m. Worship 1:30 p.m. Worship Wed., 6 p.m. 818 Ohio Street Silver Cliff 719/783-4601	High Country Mennonite Church 9:30 a.m. Worship 10:45 a.m. Sunday School 110 Rosita Avenue All Aboard Westcliffe Bldg. Westcliffe 719/783-9045	Sangre de Cristo Seminary Chapel 10 a.m. Worship 6160 County Rd. 130 Westcliffe 719/783-2447
Church of Jesus Christ of Latter Day Saints 10 a.m. Sacrament Mtg. 12:10 p.m. Sunday School 240 Ridgeline Drive Westcliffe 719/783-9356 719/404-4585	Hope Lutheran Church 9 a.m. Sunday School 10 a.m. Fellowship 10:30 a.m. Worship 3rd & Powell Streets Westcliffe 719/783-9773	St. Luke's Episcopal Church 10:30 a.m. Worship & Eucharist 11:30 a.m. Ffellowship 3rd & Rosita Streets Westcliffe 719/783-2477
Community United Methodist Church 8 a.m. Worship 10 a.m. Worship 202 S. 6th Street Westcliffe 719/783-2511	Oak Creek Grade General Store 4 p.m. Worship Followed by Potluck 12 miles north on Cty. Rd. 255 719/783-2245	St. Patrick's Anglican Church 11 a.m. Worship 401 2nd Street Westcliffe 719/783-2500
Cody Park Community Church 9:30 a.m. Sunday School 10:30 a.m. Worship 517 County Rd. 27A Cotopaxi 719/942-3462 719/942-3526	Our Lady of the Assumption Roman Catholic Church Diocese of Pueblo 11 a.m. Sunday Mass 10 a.m. Tuesday Mass 11 a.m. - 6 p.m. Tuesday Adoration 109 S. 5th Street Westcliffe 719/783-3507	Valley Bible Fellowship 10 a.m. Worship 116 Hermit Lane Silver Cliff 719/783-9050
Cotopaxi Community Church 9:45 a.m. Sunday School 11 a.m. Worship 6 p.m. Worship 20326 Hwy. 50 Cotopaxi 719/942-4185	Our Lady of Mt. Zion Catholic Church 11 a.m. Mass 3rd Sunday of each month 210 S. 2nd Street Westcliffe 719/783-2491	Westcliffe Community Church 10 a.m. Worship 103 N. Adams St. Westcliffe 719/429-4256
<i>Don't love the world and what it offers. Those who love the world don't have the Father's love in them. Not everything that the world offers-- physical gratification, greed, and extravagant lifestyles--comes from the Father. 1 John 2:15 - 16 GW</i>	Wetmore Baptist Church 9:45 a.m. Sunday School 10:45 a.m. Worship 6 p.m. Worship Wetmore 719/784-4197	Wild West Cowboy Church 4 p.m. Worship Followed by Potluck 60260 Hwy. 69 North Westcliffe 719/783-2676

Sheriff's Report...

As of Tuesday, June 17, there were currently nine men in jail.

ARREST

June 16 Kane Larsen, now age 21, of Manitoba, Canada, was arrested in Las Animas County off of a Custer County bench warrant for failure to appear. Larsen is being held on a \$200 bond. The original charge was possession and consumption of alcohol by and underage person.

FATALITY

June 10 A three-wheel motor cycle traveling northbound on Highway 69 was at the intersection of Blue Grouse Circle and Highway 69 when the driver, Syvert Halgrimson, age 79 of Pueblo, didn't realize that a road grader was slowing down and making a right-hand turn onto Blue Grouse. The motorcycle hit the back end of the grader which was driven by Brian Laferty of Westcliffe. The grader is owned by Seifert Construction of Westcliffe. Halgrimson was transported by ambulance to St. Thomas More Hospital in Cañon City. He died shortly thereafter from injuries.

TRAFFIC ACCIDENTS

June 15 At 1520 hours, a 2008 Chevrolet pickup truck driven by Amber Hansen, age 39, of Westcliffe, was approaching a gas pump at 60 Main Street in Silver Cliff when she scraped a parked, unattended 1978 Chevrolet pickup. Minor damage was sustained to both trucks.

June 13 At 8:45 a.m., a 1984 Chevrolet Suburban driven by Terry Carpenter, age 22, of Westcliffe was driving on the edge of County Road 241 and attempted to make a U-turn when he hit a 2014 Chevrolet pickup truck driven by Robert Jolsen, age 58, of Cotopaxi. Both vehicles were traveling northbound. There was minor damage to both vehicles. Carpenter was issued a summons for a left-turn

violation.

June 11 At 12:35 p.m., a 2001 Honda van driven by Ilsia Castro, age 46, of Colorado Springs was eastbound on Highway 96 at approximately mile marker 12 when she lost control of her vehicle. The van veered off of the right-hand side of the roadway then overcorrected and went off of the left-hand side of the Highway and hit a tree. There was heavy damage to the van. Castro was ticketed for careless driving.

THEFT

June 12 Jessica Hill reported that someone took a trash can on the 800 block of Broadway in Silver Cliff.

June 12 Jamie Faulk of Lea Lane reported that someone took down some of her fencing surrounding her residence and broke a solar light.

June 6 Roy Bates of County Road 220 reported that someone had shot the back glass of his 1996 Mitsubishi. Gunshot was believed to have come from the direction of Lake DeWeese. No suspects.

June 4 It was reported by Martin and Tope Real Estate Company that someone had taken a couple of signs from County Road 328. The signs were later recovered on the highway.

AMBULANCE CALLS

There were ten ambulance calls as of June 17.

June 16 At 4:23 a.m., an ambulance was dispatched to the 500 block of Main Street in Silver Cliff for a female patient with medical problems. She was transported to St. Thomas More Hospital in Cañon City.

June 14 At 11:44 a.m., an ambulance was dispatched to the clinic to transport a 61-year-old male to Parkview Hospital in Pueblo. He had been thrown from a horse.

June 14 At 10:35 a.m., an ambulance was dispatched to Kit Carson Lane for a 68-year-old male with

shortness of breath and transported to Parkview Hospital in Pueblo.

June 13 At 1346 hours, Flight for Life was called for a male patient who was believed to have had a stroke and had fallen off of a bicycle in the area of Harbauer R.V. park. He was transported to a hospital.

June 13 At 12:07 p.m., an ambulance was dispatched to 705 South Street in Silver Cliff to transport a female patient to Parkview Hospital in Pueblo for a mental health evaluation.

June 12 At 2253 hours, an ambulance was dispatched to County Road 130 for a 14-year-old female with head injuries. She was transported to Parkview Hospital in Pueblo.

June 12 At 1504 hours, an ambulance was dispatched to the Custer County jail for an inmate suffering from a possible seizure. The inmate was not transported.

June 12 At 1:03 a.m., an ambulance was dispatched to Tydall Road for a 73-year-old male with a high fever. He was transported to St. Mary Corwin Hospital in Pueblo.

June 11 At 11:47 a.m., an ambulance was dispatched to the clinic for an 85-year-old male with a possible cardiac problem. He was transported to Parkview Hospital in Pueblo.

June 11 At 11:30 a.m., an ambulance was dispatched to County Road 140 for a 71-year-old female with abdominal pain. She was transported to Parkview Hospital in Pueblo.

FIRE CALLS

June 14 The fire department assisted with Flight for Life arrival and departure for the EMS barbeque.

June 13 The fire department assisted with Flight for Life arrival and departure for the male who had possibly suffered a stroke and fell off of his bicycle near Hartbauer R.V. Park.

Fined \$206.50.

Casey Cameron Fall was charged with unsafe or defective vehicle, plead guilty. Fined \$99.50

Jared A. Lapante was charged with unlawful sexual contact, a class one misdemeanor. Defendant touched the victim inappropriately without consent. Motion to dismiss granted.

Court Report...

Richard F. Posadas, the defendant, had previously plead guilty to 1 charge: Owner Operated Uninsured Vehicle. He was sentenced to 6 months in jail with 3 months suspended. Jail time reduced to 6 months with work release granted. Fined \$1,494.50. Upon reconsideration jail is suspended and 2 years unsupervised probation order. Defendant

provides proof to the court of valid insurance coverage monthly.

Robert A Heinz was charged with careless driving. Motion to dismiss granted.

Tina M. Fay was charged for speeding 10-19 over speed limit and failure to display proof of insurance. Plead guilty and was dismissed by the DA.

IMPORTANT DATES IN FREMONT

School Board Meetings:

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

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

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

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

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

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

Please let us know about an upcoming event or meeting you would like to see printed here, or covered in an upcoming issue. Submittals@ sdcscsentinel.com



CCPD in Mourning for Two of Their Own

Murder/Suicide Leaves Department in Shock

by: Barbara Penezic

Our deepest condolences are being offered to Cañon City Police Department as they mourn the loss of two longtime employees. The tragedy is deepened by the speculation that this will most likely be proven to be murder/suicide.

Officers were dispatched to the home in the 700 block of Whipple Street at 11:27 p.m. Thursday evening when dispatcher Priscilla Samento failed to check in for her shift. The bodies of 49-year-old Priscilla and her husband, 56-year-old Daniel Samento, were discovered. No further information was known at the time, however, Police Chief Shultz stated at the news conference, “We will thoroughly investigate but, at this point, it appears as if Mr. Samento shot his wife, Priscilla, and then took his own life.”

Priscilla was a 21-year veteran of the force and Daniel retired on October 8, 2011, after serving a little more than 30 years. West Central Mental Health Center is offering support to the community. They have a 24-hour emergency line,

275-2351, and, of course, the office located at 3225 Independence Road is open Monday through Friday. Grief is such a personal thing and it affects each of us differently. If you need some help coping with this community tragedy please take advantage of the services being offered.

Chief Shultz finished by saying, “We are in a deep state of mourning. They were excellent people, excellent employees, and they served the community here exceptionally well. We are, literally in a state of shock.”

Those in the department who are so deeply and personally affected do not always have the same ability as other workers. They can’t simply take a few weeks off and take the time to come to terms with their loss. Their job is still to ‘serve and protect’. Please know that the prayers and well wishes of a grateful community go out to you. We fail to articulate it on so many occasions but we as a community are thankful for your dedicated and difficult service.

God Bless each of you.

Rayburn/McCallister Speak at RGTP

by: Edward Whitcraft

At the scheduled Royal Gorge Tea Party meeting on June 12, two guest speakers were heard as the RGTP continues its quest to get people informed and involved about the upcoming election. Mr. Bentley Rayburn, candidate for 5th Congressional District and Ms. Katie McCallister, candidate for Fremont County Commissioner for District 2, spoke to a group of 85 concerned citizens telling the enthused crowd why they should be elected to the position they are vying for. Each spoke for about 20 minutes and then spent several minutes answering questions from the crowd.

Bentley Rayburn spoke on government in general stating he believes there is a real need for leadership. He also thinks we have drifted from our constitutional standards and feels that a government that doesn’t follow the constitution is out of control. Mr. Rayburn also believes that education should be controlled at the local level and that parents should have a say in what is being taught. He stated, “National Security is a federal responsibility but education should not be up to the feds”. Bentley Rayburn is totally opposed to Common Core. He spoke on immigration and feels the immigration policy is a mess. Mr. Rayburn thinks we should secure our borders. His thinking is that all sovereign nations have borders to identify themselves and they protect them—so should we. While Mr.

Time to Reclaim Our God-Given Rights

by: Barbara Penezic

Did you feel the ground move or the earth shake just a little? Well jump up and shout hallelujah!! It’s the beginning of a Grass Roots movement right here in Fremont, Custer, and Pueblo counties. That’s right, We the People, are putting down the remote and reaching for our keys. All across Colorado small groups of residents are meeting and merging, leaders are coming to the fore and the low key grumble is quickly becoming a powerful roar. Local residents have had enough and then some. They are standing up to tell local, state, and federally elected officials: You are not self – employed. You work for us.

Would it not be ironic if a mind clouding drug such as marijuana becomes the impetus that energizes the people to once again take action? A dedicated force letting their voices ring out loud and strong reclaiming the rights bestowed upon us by a loving God and our Founding Fathers? The rights so many have fought and died for are beginning to disappear at an ever increasing rate. Our First and Second Amendment Rights seem to be under attack on a daily basis. The recall of two senators plus the hasty retreat of a third has sent a strong message to those who would take away our right as Americans to bear arms. Be warned, however; this fight is far from over. Our First Amendment right of free speech is also being challenged. The clergy is being told they should stay inside the church and keep the door tightly closed. There are those who would like to place limits on what the pastorate may say from the pulpit. Using intimidation tactics, they wield code 501(c) (3) and the IRS like a very dangerous and effective loaded weapon. FYI: Separation of Power is in the Constitution; Separation of Church and State is not!

Fremont County Commissioners and Cañon City council members are being faced with increasingly larger crowds. Residents are showing up in record numbers to remind these elected officials, “You Work For Us,” and we expected results. At a recent city council meeting, all councilmembers except Mr. Wied voted to allow the question of retail marijuana to be answered by the voters in November. After the vote was complete Councilman Dennis Wied proclaimed loudly and somewhat angrily from his council seat, I was proud to march up Main Street with the Pro Pot people, he then added and I quote, “I don’t give a (bleep) about taxes!” Question remains Mr. Wied, do you give a (bleep) about the residents of Cañon City? Murmurs being heard at consecutive meetings around town were, maybe it is time to weed the council garden, time to pull The Wied! You see Councilman Wied, you were not elected to this position to fulfill your own personal agenda; you were elected to promote and protect the welfare of this community and its’ residents. Members from the RGTP, PCC, Freedom First Society, RGRW, The Patriots, and even some Pueblo ac-

tion groups are upset with the way some, not all, elected officials have decided the voice of the constituents only matter until election day.

School board members probably feel they were saved by the bell as the school year comes to a close.

Not so! Common Core is becoming increasingly more unpopular as parents are beginning to see how it is affecting their children. Many are angry that such a sweeping change was put in place without their knowledge or consent. We have already lost our local voice here in Fremont County. The local school board refuses to answer questions asked by parents. Maybe that is because they do not have the answers or the authority to make decisions. Therefore, parents and concerned citizens are driving to Denver to protest this intrusion upon the public education system. This is of utmost importance. We do not know how long it will be before the state of Colorado will not have the authority to answer our questions and we will need to go to the Capitol to seek answers to questions that much like Benghazi, IRS, Fast and Furious,... will never be answered. Some of those in power would like to have us believe issues like retail marijuana and Common Core are ‘done deals.’ Not so! Even though Gov. Hickeloooper has worked diligently to establish Colorado as the worlds’ first legal, regulated, and taxed marijuana market for adults, the majority of Colorado communities are opting out. The same is true of Common Core, states that signed on are now paddling back upstream as fast as they can row. When the facts are known with both of these issues, many may decide it is just not worth the relatively small bag of coins being offered. In an election year, it is worth noting that our illustrious Gov. Hickeloooper backed both of these issues like a good little federal soldier without much consideration as to the harm it might bring to the State of Colorado.

Last year on the 4th of July a few good Custer County men and one woman blessed with courage and wisdom decided to fight back. Thanks to them this very paper, the Sangre De Cristo Sentinel, sprang to life on Independence Day, 2013. What a breath of fresh air for residents in the surrounding counties. A chance to hear the other side of the story from a conservative/Christian source. Fast-thinking Westcliffe residents must also be recognized for stepping forward to salvage the community’s Independence Day Parade that year. Thanks to the town of Westcliffe trustees, the parade went on as scheduled in spite of protests from liberals who tried to ban open carry. The Southern Colorado Patriots were allowed to march with weapons. A quick heads up, plan to attend the, 2cnd Amendment Rally and March, this July 4th at the Westcliffe, Colorado, July 4th Parade. You are invited to march with the Patriots and

The Liberty Tree

Religion, The Constitution & Culture State, National, & World

The Daily Jot

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

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

The Occupant's Invasion is a Threat To You

The preamble to the U.S. Constitution states: "We the People of the United States, in Order to form a more perfect Union, establish Justice, insure domestic Tranquility, provide for the common defense, promote the general Welfare, and secure the Blessings of Liberty to ourselves and our Posterity, do ordain and establish this Constitution for the United States of America." Governments are formed to protect the people--for security purposes. In forming government, people give up a small amount of rights for the protection that government provides. The occupant of the Oval Office's willful allowing of the invasion of the United States by illegal aliens is unlawful and unconstitutional. He is in direct violation of the Constitution.

Each day the news is full of stories where thousands of illegals are crossing our borders. The government is knowingly and purposely refusing to enforce border security. The president, whose policies encouraged this invasion, now calls it a humanitarian crisis. Attorney General Eric Holder is moving to have tax-funded attorneys represent the some 230,000 minors expected to have crossed illegally into the U.S. by next year. The lawyers, according to Holder, would assist these children in filing claims for legal status. He said, "We're taking a historic step to strengthen our justice system and protect the rights of the most vulnerable members of society." This is amnesty without consent of the citizenry.

A pointed exchange with a Hispanic Jot reader re-

vealed at least one attitude of the invaders. He said, "Law is law? What a poor perception!!!!...Think about who is creating the law. They are the illegals, plus, if you were born in one of the eight states that the U.S. stole from Mexico, then you are illegal too." He went on to question my Christianity saying that because of "fake believers" like me, "this country is going from bad to worse." In a way, he has a point, but not one which he intended to make. Because of the inaction and confusion among Christians, this country is going from bad to worse. Now we are being invaded at the encouragement of a "president" and lawlessness prevails.

Congress has a remedy. First, We the People must demand that Congress act--not by passing amnesty as the "president" hopes his self-created invasion prompts, but by taking historic action to declare the "president's" administration unfit and a threat to national security. The Bible states in at least five places, the same as Leviticus 24:22, "You shall have one manner of law, as well for the stranger, as for one of your own country: for I am the LORD your God." There is a legal way to become a citizen of the U.S. It is not by invasion and insurrection. That holds true for those who are crossing into the U.S. illegally and the for the "president."

Have a Blessed and Powerful Day!
Bill Wilson
www.dailyjot.com
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**The Lord is my light
and my salvation;
Whom shall I fear?
The Lord is the strength
of my life;
Of whom shall I be afraid?**

Psalm. 27:1
NKJV

Did Bad Decisions in DC Kill Troops on the Ground in Afghanistan?

by Allen West,
AllenBWest.com

(Editor/GG: Answer: Yes. Also, more casualties in Afghanistan during the Obama regime than the entire time before. Obama's Rules of Engagement (ROE) are KILLING our soldiers. Conclusion: Our soldiers are expendable. Obama's vacations and golf days are not. And note Obama's latest drive a few weeks ago to retire the A-10 Warthog, the greatest ground support aircraft ever devised for our troops. Why?)

If we had a commander in chief who had served in the military, the following story would mean more than just a headline. According to a report by NBC-news.com, five U.S. soldiers killed in Afghanistan may have been the victims of a friendly-fire incident. The International Security Assistance Force (ISAF) said five of its servicemen had died Monday during a security operation in southern Afghanistan when their unit came in contact with enemy forces. "Tragically, there is the possibility that fratricide may have been involved," ISAF said in a statement. "The incident is under investigation."

The soldiers were members of U.S. special forces working with the Afghan

military and were conducting security sweeps on polling sites in advance of this weekend's run-off for the Afghan presidential election when they came under ferocious attack from Taliban forces. Yes, the same Taliban forces who just got back their five senior leaders.

When the Special Forces group came under attack, they called in for close air support. The Americans called in an airstrike amid fierce fighting and, according to U.S. officials, the B-1 Stealth Bomber strike somehow went terribly awry.

I know, you're all saying, so what West?

Here is the so what. I spent my 22-year career in the Army as a Field Artillery Officer assigned to infantry units as a Fire Support Officer, meaning I coordinated mortar, artillery, rocket, attack helicopter, and close air support for ground maneuver operations.

I can testify that a B-1 stealth bomber is not the preferred weapon of choice for close air support basically because of the circular error probable (CEP) considerations for the munitions it drops. Close air support is better done with an aerial weapons platform that can come in low over the shoulder of the friend-



A-10 Warthog

courtesy image

ly forces, and with the assistance of colored smoke, direct its munitions directly on the enemy.

Such is the mission of the A-10 Warthog aircraft, the preeminent weapon of choice for close air support, or an AV-8B Harrier, used by the U.S. Marine Corps.

But, if you recall, it was U.S. Secretary of Defense Hagel who announced that not only would he take the Army to pre-World War II levels, he would also retire the A-10 aircraft. (Honestly, I prefer the A-10 rather than waiting for the development of the F-35 system. We could use service life extension programs (SLEP) to maintain this great close air attack platform).

Instead, we have five dead U.S. Special Operators because they did not have the appropriate close air support tool. This is why having more veterans of this current battlefield in office

is important. If I were Secretary of Defense, I would transfer all A-10s to the U.S. Army where they can be better utilized and appreciated.

As well, I would develop more AC-130 Specter gunships which would be the Special Operations close air support weapon of choice and immediately available. We witnessed the results of an inappropriate response to a request for AC-130 gunship support during the Battle of Mogadishu during the Clinton administration.

My sincere condolences go out to the families of these fallen warriors. This did not have to happen, and it would not have if we had lions leading lions — not lambs.

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Across America, Police Departments Are Quietly Preparing For War

by Tyler Durden,
ZeroHedge.com

(Editor/GG: A lot here folks. Last two paragraphs sum it up. It's not THEM anymore, it's YOU.)

At first blush, the title of this post could be perceived as somewhat hyperbolic by those who still have an impression of America's police departments as bastions of safety, designed "to protect and to serve" the population of the "land of the free." However, said impression would be promptly washed away upon reading an article in today's NYT which citing Pentagon data, reveals that under the Obama administration, "police departments have received tens of thousands of machine guns; nearly 200,000 ammunition magazines; thousands of pieces of camouflage and night-vision equipment; and hundreds of silencers, armored cars and aircraft."

Which begs the question: just who is America's police force, and by extension the Obama administration, which is behind this quiet militarization of local police forces with weapons that would normally be seen in a warzone, preparing for war against?

And while we already documented America's conversation to a turnkey totalitarian banana republic (confirmed over a year later by Edward Snowden), behold America's conversion to a police state:

In the past we have occasionally covered the slow (but sure) conversion of America's Police force into an army, fully loaded with the latest weapons and equipments, not even we had an idea of the full extent of what was going on behind the scenes. As the NYT describes, all of the above-mentioned equipment "has been add-

ed to the armories of police departments that already look and act like military units. Police SWAT teams are now deployed tens of thousands of times each year, increasingly for routine jobs. Masked, heavily armed police officers in Louisiana raided a nightclub in 2006 as part of a liquor inspection. In Florida in 2010, officers in SWAT gear and with guns drawn carried out raids on barber-shops that mostly led only to charges of "barbering without a license."

Surely in an age when the NSA managed to eradicate all terrorism (oh oops, Boston bombing, we forgot, just ignore that), the mantra that a "weapon unused is a useless weapon" has never rang more true, but dispatching crack police team to handle rogue "barbers"? Sadly, that may be just a harbinger of the crackdowns the US police state will unleash shortly

on anyone even the least bit guilty of violating some law or regulation. Or maybe completely innocent, just guilty of sparking the USPD's curiosity.

Meet the new normal SWAT: new, improved and, well, everywhere:

The number of SWAT teams has skyrocketed since the 1980s, according to studies by Peter B. Kraska, an Eastern Kentucky University professor who has been researching the issue for decades.... The ubiquity of SWAT teams has changed not only the way officers look, but also the way departments view themselves. Recruiting videos feature clips of officers storming into homes with smoke grenades and firing automatic weapons. In Springdale, Arkansas, a

See POLICE on page 22

Which Guy is a Hero?



(Editor/GG: From the facebook page of the wife of Sgt. 1st Class Mark Allen, permanently crippled in action looking for the traitor Bergdahl. Bergdahl is the deserter Obama traded five Taliban big wigs for. They can't wait to kill more Americans. Obama and his minions called Bergdahl a "hero". He is a traitor, maybe that is "hero" to a socialist.)

In a message she posted via Facebook, Shannon Allen, wife of Sgt. 1st Class Mark Allen wrote, 'Meet my husband, injuries directly brought to you by the actions of this traitor. He can't give an account of what went down, because he can no longer speak. Now, which guy is a "hero" again?!? Sick.'

Sgt. Mark Allen and his family.
photo from Facebook page "Bowe Bergdahl is a traitor".

South Carolina Common Core Standards Ended by Newly Signed Legislation

by Joshua Cook,
FreedomOutPost.com
(Editor/GG: It can be done. Think LOCAL.)

South Carolina Governor Nikki Haley signed a bill that will require the state to end the controversial Common Core standards initiative and require new educational standards to be adopted. South Carolina is the second state to drop the Common Core standards behind Indiana.

"Governor Haley and the legislature have taken the first step toward pushing back against the federal government and special

interests and putting South Carolinian citizens back in charge of their children's education," said Emmett McGroarty, Director of Education at the American Principles Project. "This is a great day for America's constitutional heritage."

Common Core is a federally-mandated curriculum which was developed by privately funded institutions. Education experts consider the standards age-inappropriate and inadequate and have growing concerns with many other aspects of the curriculum. Most significantly, the Common Core removes ed-

ucational jurisdiction from parents and teachers and places it in the hands of the federal government.

Actual replacement of Common Core with "new" standards won't take place until the 2015-16 year.

Common core will remain in place in South Carolina for the 2014-15 school year.

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TOLD YOU SO: New Study Shows Healthcare Costs Increasing for Employers and Employees

by ColoradoPeakPolitics,
ColoradoPeakPolitics.com

File this away in the category of headlines that surprised no one and sh*t we all saw coming: "Employers shifting health-care costs to employees"

The Northern Colorado Business Report highlighted a new study that shows employees' health insurance costs rose by 6 percent in 2014, while employers' costs rose by 5.4 percent. Sadly, the resounding response to this news is "well, duh." Everyone but President Obama, Nancy Pelosi, and Sen. Mark Udall knew that Obamacare was going to cause health insurance premiums to skyrocket.

Greeley-based insurance

broker Scott Rankin told the NCBR "the renewals he has seen so far for 2015 show premium increases as high as 50 percent for an Affordable Care Act-compliant plan...." (Peak emphasis)

FIFTY PERCENT! That is outrageous. If you're a small business owner there is no way you can absorb that kind of increase. Rankin even admits that "some employers have stopped providing benefits altogether."

Someone should probably tell Udall that all the bragging he does on his website about how Obamacare is helping families and small



businesses is just as big a lie as when people were told if they like their plan, they can keep their plan.

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VA Scandal: 57,436 Have Waited 90+ Days to See Doctor... 63,869 Requested Appointments That Were NEVER Scheduled

by Dean Garrison,
FreedomOutPost.com

In April, reports began to surface that veterans were dying from serious medical conditions while being put on lists and waiting months to see a doctor.

On Monday, we started seeing some numbers from the VA audits that were triggered by these reports.

According to RT (RT.com), "VA investigators looked into 731 federally-managed medical centers from May 12 to June 3, and found that 76 percent of the patients at those facilities, or roughly 100,000, have experienced long waits."

"Of those, the report found, 57,436 patients had been waiting 90 days or more for an appointment as of May 17, 2014. Additionally, 63,869 patients requested appointments during the last decade that were ultimately never scheduled."

76% is very significant. That number alone proves that long waits are the rule and not the exception.

Gregg Zorroya of USA Today reports that the VA is working to contact veterans and move toward solutions:

The VA says it already has contacted 50,000 veterans trying to get them quicker medical care.

"VA is moving aggressively to contact these veterans," the audit report said.

Late Monday night, acting VA Inspector General Richard Griffin told a House committee that his investigators identified "some supervisors" in the department who ordered manipulations of appointment data. Griffin says his office is reviewing with the

federal prosecutors whether criminal charges will be filed against the VA supervisors.

"Some supervisors" might be an understatement. It is being reported that 13% of VA schedulers have admitted that they were told to falsify dates. Again, keep in mind that this is no longer just Phoenix and Houston that we are talking about. This is data coming from 731 centers, though it is unclear how many schedulers may have been contacted.

The Department of Veterans Affairs on Monday shed light on the depth of the VA scheduling scandal and substantiated claims that rank-and-file employees were directed to manipulate records.

The agency said more than 57,000 new patients have waited at least 90 days for their first appointments and that about 13 percent of VA schedulers indicated they were told to falsify appointment-request dates to give the impression that wait times were shorter than they really were.

The information comes from the agency's internal audit of 731 VA medical centers, which the VA released Monday.

The report said that complicated scheduling practices created confusion among clerks and supervisors, contributing to the problems. It also said the VA's goal of providing an initial appointment within 14 days of a request was unattainable because of the growing demand for care among veterans. Source: Washington Post

The system is broken. The VA cannot handle the demand for veterans' health

care. Rather than admit defeat, they have been busy trying to hide the problem. The system is in dire need of a complete overhaul. If 13 percent of VA schedulers admit that they were told to "cook the books," one has to wonder how many might still be attempting to cover for superiors. Could that number be higher?

According to Census Bureau numbers there are 21.2 million surviving veterans in the United States today. Meeting the diverse and changing health care needs of such a large segment of the population is certainly not an easy task.

What kind of horror stories will we be seeing from the more than other 280 million people as the VA template is rolled out to all of America via Obamacare?

I look for congress to approve a huge chunk of "emergency" funding for Veterans Affairs to try to dig out of this mess. Throwing more money at these situations always seems to be the fix we offer in America. At some point, we have to admit that the entire management team is at fault, not just Eric Shinseki, and the current model does not work.

Putting more money in the hands of bad managers is what got us to this point. The system needs to be optimized and overhauled.

Our veterans deserve much better.

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The Second Amendment Corner Liberty's Line in the Sand

2014



Leave Your Guns At Home (Except Felons, Of Course)

by Karl Denninger,
Market-Ticker.org

Nobody could have possibly read that sign to mean "Robbers welcome; we are unarmed."

We have yet another armed robbery at a Jack in the Box restaurant in Texas just weeks after the chain asked legal gun owners to leave their firearms at home.

Oops -- the bad guys ignored the request (of course), exactly as you'd expect.

We now have yet another object lesson in the futility of trying to use paper or polite requests to stop felons from wielding guns.

There is only one thing that stops a felon wielding a gun -- that would be a

law-abiding citizen with a gun, otherwise known as a good guy.

Whether that "stop" is active or whether it's the mere threat that said good guy might be present (and undetected by the felon) the fact remains that when you hang a sign on the door saying "no guns allowed" what you're really saying is "law-abiding citizens in this location are unarmed; if you're inclined to commit a felony here there is nobody present who is able to offer effective resistance."

And once again that is exactly what said sign is proved to mean, no matter what certain politically-motivated *****s would like to pretend it says.

How many of those

"Moms" advocating for this crap are willing to become human shields to prevent other innocent people from being robbed and/or shot? After all if you stack 'em two or three deep they should slow down any fired rounds to a sufficient degree that those law-abiding citizens standing behind them will be safe from said fire. Why do I suspect the answer is "none", despite the fact that those who wish to argue against law-abiding citizens being able to offer an effective response to a gun-toting j-----s well ought to be expected to shield everyone else from the deadly consequences of their demanded policy.

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Ohio: Gunfight Has Valuable Lessons

by Dean Weingarten,
GunWatch.Blogspot.com

(Editor/GG: The video referenced below can be found at: wkbn.com/2014/05/21/clerk-pulls-gun-shoots-alleged-robbler/)

On 21 May in Youngstown, Ohio, a couple of teenage criminals attempted to rob a Sami Quick Stop a little after midnight. The armed confrontation that ensued resulted in one robber wounded, both captured, and minimum damage to the store. One of the suspects is reported to have dropped a rifle as he fled.

There are several lessons to be learned from the video. As is common, numerous things could have been done better by all three participants.

The first lesson is that you do not have to be a perfect gunfighter to be effective. You simply have to be more effective than the opposition. Most criminals are not well-trained in either shooting or tactics. They tend to believe that everything will go according to plan. When the victim(s) refuse to cooperate, they often are left without a contingency plan, and are unable to react until they go through a decision process. If the victim acts during this period, the criminal has to repeat the process. In the military, this is called getting inside the opponents OODA (Observe, Orient, Decide, Act) loop.

A simple way to look at this is: Action beats Reaction. It takes time to react. The clerk's action beat the robbers reaction.

Only one suspect is seen in the video. It is clear that the second suspect did not aid his fellow criminal in any meaningful way.

It is hard to argue with success, and the defender in this situation was clearly

successful. For purposes of discussion, I will point out a few things that he might have done differently.

First, cover and fake compliance to gain advantage. In the video, the defender in the checked shirt, a clerk at the store, never complies with the robber's commands. He stands his ground, draws his semi-auto to pistol in a fairly slow draw, racks the slide and fires his shot. The process takes about four seconds, from about 2 1/2 seconds on the video to 6 1/2 seconds on the video. The robber is repeatedly shouting "Get in the back, get in the back".

The clerk could have faked compliance by backing up around the shelves to his right, thus putting cover and concealment between him and the robber. Once around the corner, he could have drawn unseen, racked the slide, perhaps moved forward to flank the robber, and engaged him from behind cover. It would have taken about the same time.

By moving and faking compliance he might have reduced the chances of being shot, because the robber would not have seen the draw, and would not be alarmed when he seemed to comply.

From the viewpoint of the robber, he had plenty of time to shoot the clerk while the clerk was drawing his pistol and racking the slide. As the aggressor in the incident, he had significant incentives to refrain from shooting, all of which worked to the advantage of the defender.

Most robbers do not want to shoot someone. It is a much more serious crime that brings more attention from the authorities. Most robbers do not include shooting someone in their contingency plans. They simply believe that everything will happen as they envision it.

We do not know if the robber could have shot the clerk if he decided to do so. Many armed robberies are committed with unloaded guns, guns that do not work, fake guns, toy guns, or air guns.

The robber did not appear to watch the clerk's hands, and he never ordered the clerk to show his hands.

The video illustrates one of the problems with carrying in condition 3, no loaded round in the chamber. If the clerk had made use of fake compliance and cover, the sound of racking the slide could well have alerted the robber to the fact that he was armed, even if he did not see the clerk draw. Easing the slide forward quietly is not an option in this situation; that action often results in a failure to feed, is very difficult to do under intense pressure, and takes an unacceptable amount of time in this situation.

It appears that the clerk used proper technique to rack and release the slide. Under stress, people tend to do what they are trained to do. After releasing the slide, he let his left hand fall to his side and shot one handed. Most instructors believe that two handed shooting is a bit more effective, but it appears that the clerk was not trained to shoot with both hands.

The video also illustrates how criminals avoid carrying guns openly, and find ways to conceal even full sized rifles or shotguns. In this case it appears that a book bag and the shooter's clothing were used to conceal the long gun until it was brought out for use inside of the store.

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Father Guns Down Armed Men Who Were Using His Daughter As Human Shield

by Mac Slavo,
SHTFPlan.com

Contrary to popular belief guns can actually save lives. That's the lesson we can learn from a recent armed abduction that left one perpetrator dead and another wounded.

Had a husband and wife from St. Louis not had firearms in their home, then things could have gone much differently Monday night, reports the St. Louis Dispatch.

According to police, when the couple's 17-year-old daughter stepped outside of their front door to retrieve something from her car she was approached by two armed men wearing masks. Later identified as Terrell Johnson, 31, and Cortez McClinton, 33, the men pointed a gun to the teen's head and made their way to the front door using her as a human shield.

The girl's mother and father both witnessed the abduction and immediately retrieved their firearms. Without negotiation or hesitation the father fired several shots at the attackers as they entered the home, striking both of them.

Things didn't end well for Terrell Johnson who quickly collapsed in the living room and was pronounced dead at the scene.

His partner, Cortez McClinton, who reportedly had an impressive rap sheet and had been previously charged with murder, was wounded but got away. His brother transported him to a hospital where he was treated for a gunshot wound to the chest and both of his legs. He was later arrested by police and has been charged with second-degree murder (felony murder), kidnapping, burglary, and armed criminal action. He is currently being held on a \$1 million bond.

As the debate over gun violence in America rages on, with gun owners often being painted as lunatics and extremists, it's stories like these that further reinforce the need for Second Amendment rights for law-abiding American citizens. Had this household not been armed there could well be a murdered family of four in St. Louis (there was reportedly a 5-year-old child in the living room at the time the incident

occurred). Moreover, the two men who perpetrated this crime would still be on the streets stealing, robbing, and murdering other innocent victims.

Instead, the world is a safer place and all because these homeowners chose not to be victims of the random violence that has taken the lives of so many others who had no way to defend themselves when confronted by gun-wielding criminals.

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*Blessed be the Lord my Rock,
Who trains my hands for war,
And my fingers for battle-*

Psalm 144:1, NKJV

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The Tiny Three Percent that Remains Vigilant in the Face of Tyranny

by David Risselada,
FreedomOutpost.com

During the Revolutionary War against the British, it is said that only three percent of the population were involved in trying to win the nation's freedom. That number reflects the percentage of patriots that actually volunteered to fight. There were many others, of course, that supported the cause, and contributed in other ways, but sadly, there was a huge percentage of Colonial Americans that sat on the sidelines with no opinion on the matter. There were even those who wished to remain loyal to the British Crown. While that may be difficult for some to fathom, it is true, and in some ways we find ourselves in an eerily similar situation today.

The vast majority of Americans have absolutely no idea what is going on in this country, nor do they even care. Among these people, are those who believe in centralized authority and support causes that undermine the very freedom our forefathers fought to secure for them; a system of government, I might add, that protects their rights to do so. These people are feverishly working to replace our constitutional republic with a so called "social democracy," which, in all honesty, is just a nicer way to say "socialism."

Just as it was in the late 1700's when a brave few had the courage to declare people should be free, only a few are aware of the perils we face today. As we attempt to bring attention to the massive usurpations of power committed by our government, they attempt to demonize and ridicule us by calling us terrorists and extremists in an effort to win a public relations war.

Unfortunately, the masses are so inundated with entertainment propaganda, and have been so conditioned to just go along instead of questioning authority, that they are falling for it. Their attitudes towards the nation and the freedom our troops have fought for is contemptible, and as we face the ever encroaching grip of authoritarianism, I can't help but feel that's what this nation deserves because it has forsaken all that our relatives have fought and died for. No American service

member ever volunteered for war, believing they were fighting for socialism, folks. There are some very disturbing events occurring in our nation and in this article I am going to discuss the latest developments.

Those paying attention, the tiny three percent, realize that we are rapidly becoming a militarized police state. This is one promise that President Barack Hussein Obama (the name sends a chill down my spine) has kept. He has created a civilian security force that is just as well funded, and just as powerful as the United States military by arming every single government agency. The latest to join the ranks is the United States Department of Agriculture. They recently requested "submachine guns" with 30-round magazines and ballistic body armor. How the majority of Americans are not alarmed by this is disturbing in and of itself, but that's beside the point. They did not request this armament for target practice folks. You would think that liberals, and their phony quest for human rights, equality, and freedom would be up in arms over this. The silence, however, is deafening. While many people may scoff in disbelief by this alarming news, or ask why the USDA would need such weapons, the reason is obvious to those paying attention, the tiny three percent.

In Morgan County Indiana, a Sheriff Deputy inadvertently let the cat out of the bag by describing the reasons the Sheriff's Department needs to have militarized, mine-resistant vehicles. During an interview, Sgt. Dan Downing said the department needs these vehicles because of the combat vets returning home that could use IED's to defeat police. (Uhh, he said what?) What does that mean?

Did Sgt. Dan Downing just admit that there will be a move made against war veterans? That would be consistent with the attitude the current administration has displayed towards the nation's defenders. Since Barack Obama has been in office, veterans have been considered a potential threat to national security. America, pull your head out of the sand a mo-

ment and realize that only a government that seeks to undermine the very system that sustains you would consider those that have defended it a "threat to national security."

Rightwing Extremism: Current Economic and Political Climate Fueling Resurgence in Radicalization and Recruitment, a report released in 2009 by the Obama Department of Homeland Security, calls veterans potential terrorists for several reasons, one of which is returning home to little or no economic opportunity. Why is this not something America is concerned about? It's probably because American Idol is on tonight. As is the case with everything else, only the tiny three percent seem to give a d---.

In Mexico, one of our Marines is being held prisoner because he got lost and accidentally crossed the border. He had legally owned firearms in the trunk of his car. Mexican authorities arrested him and threw him in a jail cell, and our state department has done nothing.

This is a government that bends over backwards to accommodate illegal immigrants, many of whom have committed horrific crimes in our country. They talk down to us and act as if we should be ashamed for suggesting they follow the rule of law and secure the border. Yet, one of our combat vets is being held in a Mexican prison and they do nothing. What makes it worse is the fact that I called Congressman Jim Bridenstein's (R-OK) office and the girl who answered the phone was completely clueless that this was even happening. On top of that, she had the nerve to talk to me as if I was rude for suggesting that perhaps she should know. What are we paying these people for? Why would anyone care about one Marine vet being held prisoner in Mexico? After all, there are more important issues like amnesty to deal with, right America? Don't worry, the tiny three percent will speak for him.

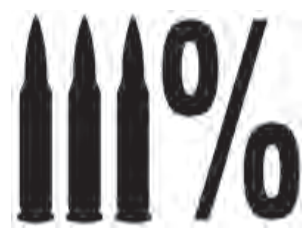
Finally, if this isn't enough to get you to understand just what we face, then you deserve what you get. At the latest "White Privilege conference," speaker Amer Ahmed says that resisting jihad is racist. America,

Muslims are murdering Christians overseas, (read another instance of this here,) demanding the implementation of Sharia Law in America, and demanding that we abandon our culture, while they come here and attempt to make us seem racist for opposing their radicalism. America, if you are so blind that you cannot see where this is going, then you deserve it, period. If you are so bogged down by political correctness that you believe the people concerned about this are "Islamophobic" or "racist" then you are a fool; you are the byproduct of a system that set out to numb your minds so you wouldn't be paying attention.

Many of you are probably not even aware of any of this. Others will call me a radical or an extremist for discussing it. Yet, the only people, at this point, whose opinion I even care about anymore are those that have been brave enough to take a stand; those who have stood to speak the truth about what is going on. We are not radicals or terrorists. In fact, we want what you want. We want our children to be able to grow up in a prosperous America without the burden of a \$17 trillion debt on their shoulders. We want to live in a world where there is peace, and people respect the opinions and rights of others.

Sadly, the system, left to us by our founders, cannot exist if the masses are not paying attention to what is happening in the nation. Freedom requires vigilance and commitment to holding those we send to represent us accountable for what they do. We have actually reached a point where the selfish desires of the population have caused them to forsake the freedoms we once enjoyed for false promises of security, and sadly, just as Benjamin Franklin said, we are now left with neither. Don't worry, there are people who are committed to exposing fraud and corruption, and standing for liberty in the face of tyranny, the tiny three percent.

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Hillary Clinton Claims She and Her Husband Were 'Dead Broke' When They Left the White House — See Some of the Numbers for Yourself

by Jason Howerton,
TheBlaze.com

(Editor/GG: Don't forget the Clinton's didn't pay a dime for eight years while Bill was reigning over us. All expenses paid by the taxpayer for eight years. The number of outright, in-your-face lies by these people is mind numbing. No questions asked by the main stream media. But you CAN read it here, folks.)

Hillary Clinton claims she and her husband were "dead broke" when they left the White House. In an interview with

ABC's Diane Sawyer scheduled to air on Monday night, Clinton claims she and former President Bill Clinton didn't even have enough money to cover debts and their daughter's education.

"We came out of the White House not only dead broke, but in debt," Clinton told Sawyer. "We had no money when we got there and we struggled to, you know, piece together the resources for mortgages, for houses, for Chelsea's education. You know, it was not easy."

Clinton's claims have raised some eye-

brows considering that she reportedly received an \$8 million advance for her memoir "Living History" just before she left the White House and a 1999 tax return shows her husband made \$416,039 in one of his last years as president. The Clintons also reportedly bought two homes, one in Washington, D.C., and one in Chappaqua, New York, according to Time.

An NPR report suggests the power couple made \$109 million from 2000 to 2007 due mostly to speaking engagements and book deals, NPR reported. Bill Clinton has re-

portedly earned \$106 million on his own from speaking fees since he left the White House, according to a CNN report.

Further, Hillary Clinton has reportedly earned \$5 million in the last 15 months. She is believed to charge \$200,000 for every speaking appearance.

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DOWN THE RABBIT HOLE: Detailing Udall's "Big" Accomplishments

by ColoradoPeakPolitics,
ColoradoPeakPolitics.com

Sen. Mark Udall and his campaign got their panties in a bunch yesterday after people would dare to call Udall old (which he is, 63), tired (that's how we'd describe this interview, if not muddled), and dour (you'd be dour too if you thought your birthright was being usurped from you). Yet, the most bizarre part of the whole episode came at the end of this piece by The Denver Post's Lynn Bartels: given the chance to really tout what Udall has done for Colorado over the past six years, these were the top three things Udall's campaign spokesman was able to come up with:

"Whether it's fighting to secure new air tankers to fight wildfires, standing up to the Obama administration over NSA abuses, or climbing one of Colorado's 14ers, Mark doesn't stop fighting

until he has done what he set out to do," spokesman Chris Harris said.

You'd write all of that down PeakNation™? Let us reiterate. Given the chance to tee-off on a soft ball prompt, Udall's veteran campaign spokesman said Udall's greatest hits for being reelected were:

1. Securing new air tankers
2. Udall's ability to write ineffectual letters on the NSA
3. He climbs mountains

We kid you not; those were the best arguments Udall's campaign has for his reelection. Just wait. It gets better when we dive into the details on how Udall "secured" those air tankers. One thing is clear: he certainly is no Steve King.

The rabbit hole:

On May 20th of this year,

Udall issued a press release where he sang his own praises of "leading" the fight to secure new air tankers. His justification for claiming he "led" the fight? A previous press release from May 13, 2013. In this press release, he claims he "fought to obtain" next-generation air tankers in 2012, using another press release as evidence of his hard-fought victory. This is probably the best one as Me-Too Udall claims not only did the president sign the bill into law so quickly because of Udall's urging, but that it was also Udall's letter to House Republicans that got them to pass it. It's not even his bill! He's merely a co-sponsor on it, and, his all that "hard fought" and "fighting" must have been extremely tiring as this seemingly contentious bill actually came out of the Senate on a unanimous voice vote. Udall's not exactly breaking arms here

to get things done for Colorado. LBJ, you are not, Udall.

This wouldn't be a big deal, except for the fact that Udall's campaign spokesman lists it as one of Udall's greatest victories for Colorado. Talk about a grandiose disillusion. Colorado could have had a potato representing us then, and this bill would have still come out. Given enough time and press releases, we truly believe Udall and his office could spin this one incident into his eventual triumphal grappling victory over the mouse-king who lives at the center of our cheese-made moon.

Forget whether Udall is old, tired, or dour; he's just plain incompetent.

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Aussies to Form Alliance to Thwart Obama's Climate Goals

by Michael Bastasch,
DailyCaller.com

Australia's Prime Minister Tony Abbott is seeking out "like-minded" countries to form an alliance to thwart climate policies being pushed by President Obama and other world leaders.

Abbott announced his intention to stymie efforts to push climate policies on unwilling countries as he met with Canadian Prime Minister Stephen Harper on Monday. Abbott said he seeks to build a conservative alliance with Canada, Britain, India, and New Zealand.

All are Commonwealth countries that were formerly part of the British Empire and are led by center-right governments, according to the Sydney Morning Herald.

President Obama's recently

announced regulations on power plants have gained international recognition from the United Nations and some European countries. The White House hopes its new regulations will give the U.S. leverage when negotiating a new international climate deal in 2015.

But Abbott's planned coalition aims to counter Obama's push to get the international community to adopt climate policies, like carbon taxes and cap-and-trade schemes.

Abbott's conservative Liberal-National coalition won a landslide victory in Australia's elections last year, on a limited government platform that included repealing the country's carbon tax and cutting green energy and global warming spending.

Abbott's government is set to slash global warm-

ing spending by 90 percent over the next four years. Efforts to repeal the country's carbon tax have also moved forward as Labor Party Senators have begun to buckle under pressure to get rid of the tax.

"The carbon tax is an act of economic vandalism," Abbott said in March. "You can't trust [Labor] anywhere near an economy."

A study from last year by Dr. Alex Robson, an economist at Griffith University found that after just one year, the carbon tax increased taxes on 2.2 million Australians while doing nothing to decrease the country's carbon emissions.

Robson's study also found the carbon tax raised electricity prices 15 percent while the country's unemployment rate shot up by 10 percent after the carbon tax was implemented.

But while Australia has been ditching its climate policies, the U.S. has been pushing ahead. The Sydney Morning Herald reports that U.S. officials have been pushing the G20 to include global warming on the agenda for the group's meeting in Australia this fall.

Even though Abbott is targeting conservative governments for his anti-Obama alliance, it may be difficult to find takers. Britain and New Zealand both have cap-and-trade schemes. British Prime Minister David Cameron has also stressed his support for tackling global warming.

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RECLAIM From page 16

others to 'Restore the 2nd Amendment in Colorado.' Bring your rifles and holstered handguns it is time to uphold our Constitution. This is a family fun event so be sure to bring the whole family! Let's remind the children what the 4th of July really means. Be sure and say Thank You, to the Westcliffe Patriots and others who took a stand against tyranny and made this event possible. There will never be a more appropriate time to stand with your neighbors and

say this is our Country. We are proud of our American Heritage. According to The United States Constitution only Congress has the authority to make laws. So why is the President and others making laws? Simply because "We the People" don't know the Constitution! If you are a parent or grandparent it is up to you to be sure your child knows and understands this important document. The schools (not the teachers) are doing a very poor job of teaching The United States Constitution to our young.

**Be Informed,
Get Involved!**



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POLICE

From page 17

police recruiting video is dominated by SWAT clips, including officers throwing a flash grenade into a house and creeping through a field in camouflage.

The rationale for the weaponization of the U.S. police force is simple: it's yours if you want it. Also, it's free.

Congress created the military-transfer program in the early 1990s, when violent crime plagued America's cities and the police felt outgunned by drug gangs. Today, crime has fallen to its lowest levels in a generation, the wars have wound down, and despite current fears, the number of domestic terrorist attacks has declined sharply from the 1960s and 1970s.

Police departments, though, are adding more firepower and military gear than ever. Some, especially in larger cities, have used federal grant money to buy armored cars and other tactical gear. And the free surplus program remains a favorite of many police chiefs who say they could otherwise not afford such equipment. Chief Wilkinson said he expects the police to use the new truck rarely, when the department's SWAT team faces an armed standoff or serves a warrant on someone believed to be dangerous.

In South Carolina, the Richland County Sheriff's Department's website features its SWAT team, dressed in black with guns drawn, flanking an armored vehicle that looks like a tank and has a mounted .50-caliber gun. Capt. Chris Cowan, a department spokesman, said the vehicle "allows the department to stay in step with the criminals who are arming themselves more heavily every day." He said police officers had taken it to schools and community events, where it was a conversation starter.

Not everyone agrees that there is a need for such vehicles. Ronald E. Teachman, the police chief in South Bend, Indiana, said he decided not to request a mine-resistant vehicle for his city. "I go to schools," he said. "But I bring 'Green Eggs and Ham.'"

The people are said to be-

lieve the explanation:

"When you explain that you're preparing for something that may never happen, they get it," said Capt. Tiger Parsons of the Buchanan County Sheriff's Office in northwest Missouri, which recently received a mine-resistant truck.

You mean like the fed stepping back from propping the global capital markets? Or like Caesar taking over Rome and only then handing over the power to the people?

But however you explain it and whatever you call it, don't call it overkill, no pun intended. Actually call it overkill.

In the Indianapolis suburbs, officers said they needed a mine-resistant vehicle to protect against a possible attack by veterans returning from war.

"You have a lot of people who are coming out of the military that have the ability and knowledge to build I.E.D.'s and to defeat law enforcement techniques," Sgt. Dan Downing of the Morgan County Sheriff's Department told the local Fox affiliate, referring to improvised explosive devices, or homemade bombs. Sergeant Downing did not return a message seeking comment.

The police in 38 states have received silencers which soldiers use to muffle gunfire during raids and sniper attacks. Lauren Wild, the sheriff in rural Walsh County, North Dakota, said he saw no need for silencers. When told he had 40 of them for his county of 11,000 people, Sheriff Wild confirmed it with a colleague and said he would look into it. "I don't recall approving them," he said.

Funny how that happens. Because that's the whole point: if the police department is there to protect the people, shouldn't the people decide how the police is armed? Apparently not. Then again, the light bulb did go over some heads.

At the Neenah City Council, Mr. Pollnow is pushing for a requirement that the council vote on all equipment transfers. When he asks about the need for military equipment, he said the answer is always the same: It protects police officers.

"Who's going to be against that? You're against the police coming home safe at night?" he said. "But you can always present a worst-case scenario. You can use that as a framework to get anything."

Chief Wilkinson said he was not interested in militarizing Neenah. But officers are shot, even in small towns. If there were an affordable way to protect his people without the new truck, he would do it.

"I hate having our community divided over a law enforcement issue like this. But we are," he said. "It drives me to my knees in prayer for the safety of this community every day, and it convinced me that this was the right thing for our community."

Great, absolutely. Now just open it up for a vote and let the community itself decide!

Which brings us back to the original question: as the New York Times succinctly summarizes the situation, "as President Obama ushers in the end of what he called America's "long season of war," the former tools of combat — M-16 rifles, grenade launchers, silencers and more — are ending up in local police departments, often with little public notice."

Perhaps that sentence needs some qualification: as Obama, humiliated on the international arena by everyone, from Assad to Putin and back, and desperately seeking to avoid future embarrassment, redeploys weapons of mass murder, why is he seeking to put said weapons - many of which are of the offensive kind - not out to pasture but in America's very own back yard? Just who does Obama plan to wage his next, and hopefully last, war against? The good news is that everyone will get sufficient advance notice before said war begins by the squadrons of weaponized drones sent out to test the ground, and inflict the "accidental" collateral damage casualty.

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A Sheepdog Barks!

Obama is not only delusional; he is a socialist ideologue. Only in his ridiculous, liberal progressive America would the good citizens be subjected to the following headlines: five Taliban Generals for one U. S. Army Deserter and "Lost" IRS emails and Miranda Rights for a Terrorist and 1 Million Acre Pacific Ocean Preserve. Are you kidding me? There are too many of these types of nightmarish headlines to put in one column. What the hades is going on and more importantly why are we allowing it to continue. WOOF! This sheepdog has had enough. America is in crisis because of this incompetent, inept, amateurish, delusional, lying, arrogant, ego-maniac. And these are the printable words that we can use to describe him. How stupid can one be to trade these five despicable mass murderers for one potentially undeserving deserter? Yes we should even get back American deserters, but not at such a high price and high risk to other Americans whether they are civilians or other servicemen and women. Obama also broke the very law he signed when he did it. He also lied about why he had to do it. There was nothing urgent here and Bergdahl's health doesn't appear to be an issue. Meanwhile, a good Marine who really served with honor and distinction rots in a Mexican jail. Delusional and stupid! WOOF!

Lost IRS emails. They are not kidding us. They are insulting our intelligence. Obama is a liar. He said there is not a "smidgen" of corruption or criminal wrong doing here. Actually, he's right! There are "truckloads" of corruption and criminal wrongdoing in the IRS. Just like he said that Obamacare wouldn't add a dime to the national debt. Right again. It will add trillions of dollars, not just 1 single dime. Get it. He's laughing at us every night. Ha, Ha! Fooled the infidels today once again. HOWL! This is far worse than the Watergate scandal that brought a president down. Didn't the LPSDs have a problem with an 18-second gap in the White House tapes? How do they feel about 18 months' worth of lost emails – millions of very important words? We need to know what those emails contain and more importantly who was saying what to whom.

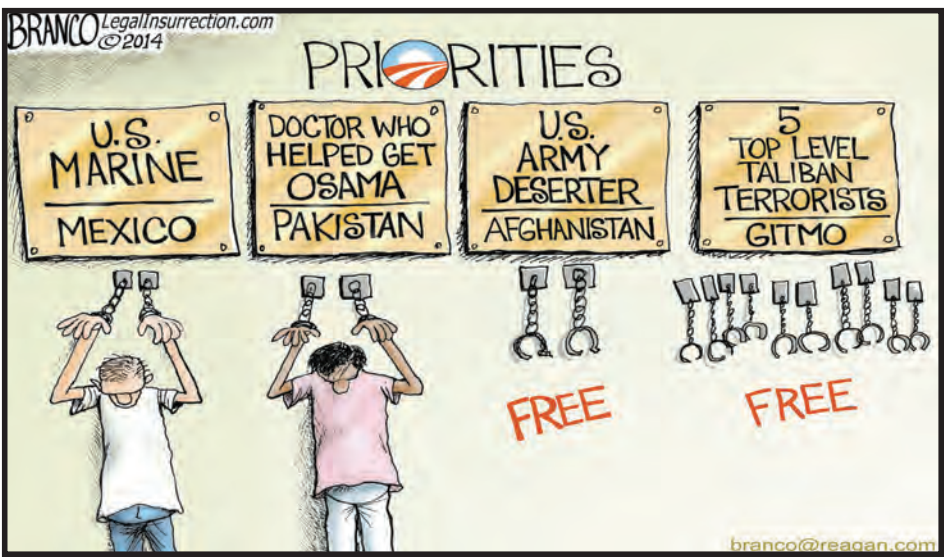
This is impeachment material. Using the IRS against one's political opponents, the Tea Party organizations, is much worse than simply spying on the other party. Arrogant and Criminal! WOOF! Now follow this bouncing ball. On Tuesday we are told that the Commander in Chief authorized the arrest of a man who might be responsible for the attack on our Benghazi Consulate. Hooray! Finally! We were also told the FBI has been watching this man since the video protest (aka terrorist attack) and violence on September 11, 2012. WHAT? Do you think Obama may have been holding this card up his sleeve for a time when he might need a diversion from something else – like IRAQ? Did he bring Bergdahl back in such a hurry when he needed another diversion from the VA health care scandal? NAH! Obama wouldn't do something like that. Remember he doesn't rest until those responsible are hunted down and justice is served. Right? How stupid does one have to be to "arrest" a terrorist who participated in the killing of four Americans including our Ambassador and then bring him to America, read him Miranda rights (to which he is not entitled), give him an attorney and then grant him all the protections available in the Constitution of the United States. This scumbag should be in a CIA black site while every possible ounce of information and intelligence is "coaxed" out of him and he should never see the light of day again. Where the hell is Jack Bauer when we need him? Instead we have Obama and Eric Holder, the most racist and worthless Attorney General the United States has ever had. Spare me the logic about how our citizens and soldiers might be treated if captured. We already know that answer. Check out the German POW camps, the Hanoi Hilton, the bamboo cages of the Viet Cong. Nobody but the Americans, and maybe the British, give a darn about the Geneva Convention. Look at the ridiculous situation at GITMO. Soccer fields, communal living, flat screen TVs, 200 cable channels (think they get Al Jazeera?), Islamic newspapers, Korans and ethnic food. Foolish and delusional, WOOF! Last weekend this is how Obama handled the latest world crisis. Iraq is under siege by the most evil,



violent Islamists one can imagine. Even the Al Qaeda and Taliban say "these are really bad guys." Thousands of Americans are in that country and the capital Baghdad is threatened. And what does Obama do. Just like during the attack in Benghazi, he just climbs on Air Force One and goes to a fundraiser. Oh yeah, throw in a few rounds of golf and a captured young liberal audience and bellow about climate change. Really? Arrogant, delusional and irresponsible. WOOF!

And remember this. Obama is always unaware. He always seems to be surprised. Why is that? He supposedly has the assets to be kept informed, CIA, NSA, DIA, FBI and countless other agencies. Yet we are expected to believe he heard all about Crisis X, Y or Z from the press. Jay Carney's oft repeated line: "The President learned about it at the same time you (we citizens) did." BULL POOP! They lie. They (the president and his advisors) know they can lie and get away with it. Obama lies every day to us and he breaks the law in almost everything he does: Obamacare, Dream Act, EPA regs, etc. Lies and breaks the law! Why do we tolerate this? Why does Congress tolerate this? Okay, we know why the Senate does. Why does the House of Representatives tolerate this behavior? Because they are cowards! Let me repeat this. They are cowards plain and simple. The House controls the purse strings. Why haven't they brought this rogue president down? We impeached a president for lying under oath about sex. That was well deserved as lying by the President of the United States has to be intolerable. Clinton should have been removed from office by the Senate but once again the cowards prevailed. Obama has lied and violated the law and our Constitution countless times. Once again the cowards are in charge and look the other way. WOOF!

May God have Mercy on America! JMH



America Arms Jihadists in Syria – Then Fights Exact Same Jihadists in Iraq

by Dean Garrison,
FreedomOutPost.com

If I could pick one word to describe Barack Obama’s foreign policy, it would be “chaos.”

I am not sure how many Americans actually realize that the people we are now going to fight in Iraq are the same men that Barack Obama and congress have funded in Syria. Though this would not be the first time that our own soldiers have been shot at with guns we provided, this is now far beyond the point of insanity.

Fox News is drifting more and more left every single day. They reported yesterday that ISIS has American-made Stinger Missiles.

U.S. officials with access to the latest U.S. intelligence on Iraq told Fox News it “appears likely/probable” that U.S.-made Stinger missiles have fallen into the hands of Sunni insurgents.

It is possible that the Islamic State of Iraq and Syria (ISIS) fighters acquired them from army bases they have taken over in recent days, the sources said.

This just in! There is another possibility as well. Anyone who thinks that these terrorists have to beg, borrow, or steal Stinger Missiles is a complete idiot. The CIA was running Stingers through Libya, and those missiles were making their way to Syria. That is how we were funding the rebels before we officially funded the rebels.

And now those same rebels become our enemy, but only if they cross the Iraqi

border. Those inside of Syria are still our friends. And if any of those in Iraq should take a break to head back to Syria, they become our friends once again. Any questions?

Furthermore, the same Iranians, whose motto is “Death to America,” are now clearly our friends, but only inside the borders of Iraq. Actually, with Obama, that is not the case. He loves Iran. For those of us with common sense, we are now being asked to consider Iran an ally, but only within the context of this new Iraqi conflict. We will all kill each other later.

You don’t hear much truth from the news media in America. But for anyone with any doubts, I’d like to share with you with a quote from the CBC:

You only have to look at the ruined towns northeast of the Syrian city of Aleppo to understand what happened in Iraq’s Mosul.

The names of “martyred” fighters line the walls, alongside invocations to obey Sharia law, through miles of crumpled buildings, rubble, and unexploded ammunition.

“These people use different names, so if one is defeated the other can claim victory,” says Col. Mohamed Saleh of the Syrian army as he surveys the wreckage of a factory in which 27 of his soldiers were killed.

“They call themselves ISIL, al-Nusrah Front, Deach, but they are all the same.”

These very same jihadis — which the Syrian forc-

es have been defeating — are now surging towards Baghdad, some of them, perhaps, the very same men who fought Bashar al-As-sad’s regime in northern Syria.

Is it all crystal-clear now?

If you choose to believe this narrative that we are only supplying aid to the “good rebels” or “moderate rebels” in Syria then be my guest. Either way, they have weapons that were made here and will use them to try to kill our people. If you want to believe that they stole them from the “good rebels,” or from those they conquered, then I will respectfully disagree, but it does not change the fact that this was bad foreign policy.

It isn’t much different than the Stingers that were “stolen” in Libya or the M-16s that were “stolen” in Kuwait. At best it is incompetence. At worst it is complicity which spells TREASON.

This is America. We expect results.

Before you jump on the “Bush did this...” bandwagon, please save your breath. Bush did his fair share of damage. We have to find a way to deal with what is happening now. This is about having a leader who is not doing his job.

Obama has to go.

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WE ALL PAY: Colorado Clean Air – Clean Jobs Mandate 400% More Expensive Than Predicted

by ColoradoPeakPolitics,
ColoradoPeakPolitics.com

Hang on to your wallets: Another bill is coming due for former Governor Bill Ritter’s ill-conceived “New Energy Economy.” And, of course, it is middle-class Colorado families who are shouldering the burden of these expensive policies.

Sadly, the economic fallout from the the Colorado Clean Air – Clean Jobs Act, signed into law by Ritter in 2010, will last throughout this decade and beyond. One of the major consequences of this law is either the retirement of perfectly serviceable coal-fired electric plants and replace them with natural gas fired plants or add pollution capturing equipment.

We always find it instructive to examine the costs that the creators of big government programs predict for pet projects during the legislative process, and then compare those to what actually happens. So let’s turn back the clock to 2010....

Shortly after the Colora-

do Clean Air – Clean Jobs Act was passed, the Denver Post reported that “the program will add about two percent, or \$14 to the average annual residential bill by 2020.”

Oops. It appears that they were a bit off, to the tune of 400%.

This week, the Denver Business Journal reported that Xcel is looking for approval of an increase in base rates that would amount to \$3.96 per month for the average ratepayer. On top of that, the utility wants to add a surcharge that will increase the average bill by \$1.06. These new costs, totaling more than \$60 per year for the average ratepayer, are designed to cover more than \$1 billion worth of changes and upgrades that the utility needed to enact in order to comply with the Colorado Clean Air – Clean Jobs Act.

There are also a number of hidden costs associated with this disastrous legislation. The Denver Business Journal article noted that Xcel is now the largest property taxpayer in

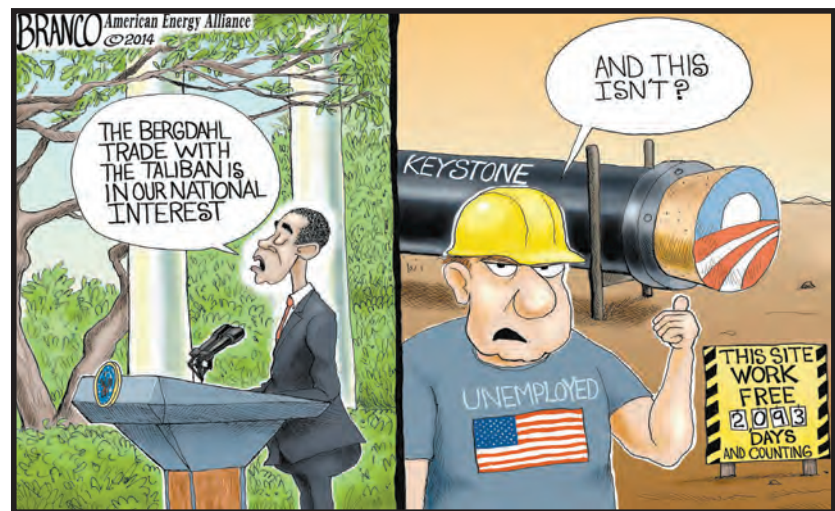
the state, and the improvements mandated by the Colorado Clean Air – Clean Jobs Act have pushed that tax bill higher. Guess who ultimately pays that?

Another hidden cost related to an increased reliance on gas fired plants has to do with the relatively high volatility of gas prices over time, when compared to the price patterns of coal.

Obviously, these costs will be passed on to consumers as well.

It is unlikely that Xcel will face any meaningful push back from their regulators for these two items. Maybe Governor Hickenlooper who has time and time again proven himself to be a supporter of expensive energy, can channel Jimmy Carter and tell us to save energy this summer by setting our thermostats to 80 and walk around the house in our boxers.

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It's Obama's Country and We're Just Living In It

by Chad Kent,
TheBlaze.com

During the Constitutional Convention, Benjamin Franklin painted a great picture of the type of relationship that elected officials should have with the people of this country [emphasis in original]:

"It seems to have been imagined by some that the returning to the mass of the people was degrading [our representatives.] This, he thought, was the contrary to the republican principles. In free governments the rulers are the servants, and the people their superiors & sovereigns. For the former therefore to return among the latter was not to degrade but to promote them – and it would be imposing an unreasonable burden on them, to keep them always in a State of servitude, and not allow them to become again one of the Masters."

What he's saying here is, in this country, when you take an elected office you are not taking a step up to start ruling people. You are taking a step down to start serving them.

Unfortunately, most of our politicians believe that the exact opposite is true. The people running Washington, D.C., are convinced that they are in charge and the rest of us should just do what we're told without asking any questions.

President Barack Obama perfectly illustrated this government-as-our-superiors mindset recently when he was commenting on the prisoner swap involving Sgt. Bowe Bergdahl. While defending his decision to make the swap he said:

"It was a unanimous decision among my principals in my government..."

Whoa... hold up there, chief. Your government?!

With all due respect Mr. President, you don't have a government. We, as citizens, have a government. We have given you the privilege and the honor of administering that government on our behalf.

This is yet another point where Obama's mindset is in direct conflict with the principles that our nation was founded on. In his worldview, everything starts with the government at the center and works outward from there. By contrast, our nation was created with the individual at the center and everything else works outward from that.

This is an absolutely essential point when it comes to protecting a free society. In the United States, we are a people who created a government. Not the other way around. Because of that, our government – that includes you, Mr. President – only has the powers

that we have granted to it and absolutely nothing more.

In other words, there aren't any powers that our federal government has just because of the fact that it's a government. Again, the Constitution is essentially a permission slip from the citizens of this country to the federal government. If something isn't listed in the Constitution, our politicians do not have our permission to use that power.

The Constitution is a permission slip from the citizens of this country to the federal government.

During the North Carolina Ratifying Convention, Richard Dobbs Spaight made the same point:

"The powers of Congress are limited and enumerated. We say we have given them those powers, but we do not say we have given them more. We retain all

those rights which we have not given away to the general government... It is as plain a thing as possibly can be, that Congress can have no power but what we expressly give them."

So this idea that any president would make reference to "my government" is absurd. It demonstrates that Obama has a flawed worldview that is incompatible with the principles that our Constitution was based on. Perhaps that's why he has no problem with trashing our Constitution in order to get his way: the law is not the law. He is the law. After all, it's his government.

This is more than just semantics. Our Constitution was designed to secure the rights of citizens and protect them from government oppression. But because President Obama believes that it is "his" government, he sees nothing wrong with expanding

the size and power of the government; and in doing so, endangering the rights of every American. But that's not how it works in this country. Here, the politicians don't get to decide how big the government will be; the people do.

That's why it's so important for all Americans to understand this concept of the Constitution as a permission slip. It clearly establishes that in this country the relationship between the people and the government is exactly what Benjamin Franklin described. We have representatives who are servants of the people. And as such, they can only use those powers that we give them permission to use.

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