

Nightmare: Legal Pot Grow Next to You

by Larry Luikart, Reporter
George Gramlich, Editor

Jim and Kay Chambers came to the beautiful Wet Mountain Valley in Colorado nine years ago as a way to split the mileage

shop, and outbuildings with their own two hands settling into living their dream life. Everything went well for a long time.

On September 10, 2012, a nice young man appears

bles on about having ponies, pigs, and goats. He informs the Chambers he will probably fence the entire property. He asked if he might get an easement for electric across the Chambers land. Being decent people who as they said, “people have helped us out from time to time, we just wanted to give back some of the goodwill shown to us.” They gave their permission. After all they thought there was going to be a nice home next door with a nice couple living there. The electric company put in the electricity and then things began to change rapidly.

Unknown to the Chambers, the nice young man was a charlatan and a liar. He was a front man for Pinion Valley Properties, LLC, 11529 Hibiscus Lane, Colorado Springs, CO. The quitclaim deed obtained by the Sentinel shows the transfer of the property next to the Chambers taking place on February 18, 2013.

Within a matter of days a road is built and wells are



This Could Be Your New Next Door Neighbor.
Armed guards patrol the unfenced multi-million dollar pot plantation next to the Chambers 44 acre ranch 24 hours a day.

courtesy photo

drilled. Two of the wells proved to be dry holes but the third was an active producer. A building was erected on an existing concrete slab and it is alleged that Pinion Valley Properties (PVP) had no building permit. A check with the Fremont County Building Department by the Sentinel verified there are no building permits granted for the property at 1785 Kit Carson Trail, Cotopaxi, CO, 81222. This is the address for the property next to the Chambers owned by Pinon

Valley Properties. (One must wonder how such a high profile building lot somehow got a “pass” on getting a building permit from the Building Inspector for a large commercial production facility??? How did that happen?) Pinon Valley Properties, LLC., did receive a final electrical inspection from the State of Colorado. (And how does a property get a state electrical inspection without a

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This photo shows the armed guards’ RV, and the pot drying containers. Note the red flag to the left of the road. This is the Chambers property line. It is only about 50 feet to the pot containers and guards’ RV.

Sentinel photo by George Gramlich

difference between their two families. Kay is from Wisconsin and Jim is from Arizona. They found two stunning 22-acre lots in the Deer Mountain area, built their home, garage, work-

asking about the property next to the Chambers. He tells them he and his girlfriend want to escape the city so they can raise their soon to arrive baby in a safe place. The young man prat-

Sheriff-Elect Byerly Appoints His Undersheriff

by Larry Luikart

Sheriff-elect Shannon Byerly is pleased to announce the appointment of his Undersheriff Christopher “Chris” Barr. Mr. Barr has been an unpaid reserve officer with the Cañon City Police Department since 1993. He was the only reserve officer in the department allowed to patrol without a regular officer. Sheriff-elect Byerly emphasized that Mr. Barr donated hundreds and hundreds of hours to the Cañon City Police Department as a reserve officer. Mr. Barr spent his working life as a Colorado Department of Corrections Officer retiring as a lieutenant with twenty-eight years of service as an intelligence supervisor in June 2014.

Mr. Barr brings a unique and broad skill set with him for the position of Undersheriff. He is currently completing his POST (Police Officer Standards Training) after having a reserve POST certification in Colorado. He points out it was not necessary for him to have full POST certification to be an Undersheriff but he felt the training absolutely

necessary to serve properly in his new position. He will graduate in December. He also has strong academic preparation holding an Associate in Applied Science in Criminal Justice from Pikes Peak Community College and a Bachelor of Science in Sociology from Colorado State University in Pueblo. In 2008 Mr. Barr returned to college where he earned his Masters in Forensic Psychology.

He believes strongly in the community policing model where he emphasized, “We work for the people. Citizens have rights and I believe in firm, fair, and consistent enforcement.” Mr. Barr looks forward to meeting people in the county where he can learn what they expect from their law enforcement. “Shannon and I agree that we want to hear from the people in the community. We want to know what they think.”

My supervisory philosophy is to expect my subordinates to be accountable, understanding that all of us make mistakes. “I believe in giving my subordinates the credit for

doing things correctly. When things go wrong then I feel I am primarily responsible and it is my duty to find solutions to those mistakes so they don’t happen again.” It was obvious to this reporter that Mr. Barr is much more interested in corrective results than punitive action. After all, none of us are infallible, so he brings a supervisory concept of compliance rather than retribution.

Mr. Barr has been married for nineteen years to his wife, Bonnie. She is a General Professional Five in



Chris Barr, Undersheriff to Sheriff-elect Byerly.

Sentinel photo by Larry Luikart

the Colorado Department of Corrections. Mr. Barr has two grown stepsons and two grandchildren, a girl six and a boy four.

Sheriff-elect Byerly asked this reporter to include that Christopher Barr is no relation to James Barr at the Custer County Sheriff’s Office.

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Look to the LORD and his strength; seek his face always.
Psalm 105:4 NIV

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*A different view from
the same mountains!*

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

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

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

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Our Opinion...

From the Editorial Board



MORE ELECTION RESULTS, MORE GOOD NEWS!

Let's review Colorado first. The morning after the election we knew we had won the U.S. Senate race and sadly lost the governorship. Hickenlooper did not deserve another term to lead this state. So we definitely turned a little bit "Purple" from "Blue" – that was the good news. Then late last Friday night we learned that the Republicans had taken control of the State Senate (18-17) when now Senator-elect Beth Martinez-Humenik (R) beat Democrat Judy Solano in a tight race by 876 votes in Adams County. That ended a decade long drought for the Republicans. Conservatives badly needed one leg of the 3-legged stool of state control and that race did it. Republicans gained 4 seats in the State House but fell one short – 33-32 (it was 37-28). This is a huge step in the right direction for all conservative Coloradoans. The overreaching liberal, progressive agenda in our state will now be brought to a complete halt just as taking control of the U.S. Senate will do the same at the national level. These accomplishments in Colorado cannot be overstated in importance and moves the state to more "Magenta" (reddish-purple) from "Purple." A little over a decade ago Colorado was solid "RED." It went solid "Blue" in 2004 and with a little more effort in 2016 will once again return to solid "Red." We must all

remain vigilant in reducing our big, overreaching governments which by its nature infringe on our liberties and freedoms. Liberal Progressive Democrats overtax, overspend, and overcontrol. Thanks to the Republicans grasping control of the State Senate, we hope those actions will diminish or disappear altogether. A few other statewide trends occurred which give us hope that the move back to solid "Red" is really happening. Only 3 counties voted to support GMO Labeling (Prop 105) – Pitkin, San Miguel, and La Plata. Only 1 County (Pitkin) voted to

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keep union negotiations with schools private (Prop 104). And that was only by 40 votes. Not even one county in Colorado voted to allow gambling at Race Tracks (Amendment 68) even though it was promoted on the pretense of "free" money for schools. It's refreshing to know that even

the most liberal counties did not fall for that false and misleading campaign. Sadly, in our view, the Personhood Amendment (67) failed in all but 6 counties. It passed in neighboring Fremont County and we salute those that understand the need to recognize the unborn person. This is long overdue. Many voted no because of the language that the opponents claimed was confusing and might lead to unintended consequences. Our belief is that it's time to protect the unborn's rights and the unintended consequences can be worked out. That logic was okay for Obamacare but not for babies and their right to life we guess.

There was more good news on the national level also. The biggest single accomplishment was the "taking" of the U.S. Senate. The gain is now plus 8 (53 total) with Alaska being conceded late Tuesday night. However, it is almost a certainty that Louisiana will also go Republican for a total of 54. The U.S. House currently stands at 244 Republicans and 184 Democrats with 7 seats still too close to call or involved in runoffs. Republicans lead in 5. If that holds, the Republicans will control 249 seats out of 435, giving them a 63 seat advantage. This is really great news and makes Nancy Pelosi even more irrelevant than she was in the last Congress. According to the experts that control could last for many, many years.

That's how Washington, D.C. looks. How about across the nation in the 50 states? There was great news much like in 2010. 31 states now have Republican governors. In 23 states Republicans have total control of the Governorship and both houses of their legislature. In 31 states both houses of the legislature are Republican, obviously 8 of those have Democrat governors. All in all that is a great deal of "Red" and very good for many Americans. This 2014 election also saw 11 state legislatures turn "Red". A total of 11 states have legislatures totally controlled by Democrats. 8 states, including Colorado, have split legislatures. 31 Red – 11 Blue – 8 Purple is a great breakdown. This broad swath of new conservatism will have great effect in many areas, including approving Supreme Court judges and federal and state judges, redistricting, right to life, same-sex marriage and the right to bear arms.

So how did the President and the Democrats handle the results? Not very well. The President went right on TV to tell us this really wasn't a vote to repudiate his policies or his bad economy. He told us that he "heard" that the 2/3 of America who didn't vote and decided he and his administration just didn't "sell" his policies well enough. What many of us "heard" was that he didn't consider the election rele-

vant and probably wasn't going to change much of anything. Other Democrats like Pelosi (it was only an ebb) and Debbie Wasserman-Schulz repeated the President's view because they just "know" that all Americans support and agree with what they are doing. NOT! They just won't face reality. Maybe the election of 18-year-old Saira Blair (R-WVA) to the State House of Delegates will tell them something. In a solid "Blue" state under Democratic rule for 84 years, Saira was elected as a Pro-life, Pro-Constitution, Pro-2nd Amendment, Pro-Voter ID candidate opposed to same-sex marriage. Young. Single. Female. Conservative. What a great hopeful story for the future of America.

How the Republicans handle this new power in the 114th Congress is very important. Like in most circumstances time will tell. Enough of how it has been. The Obama – Reid gridlock is over. They need to quickly move meaningful legislation, after it has been properly debated, amended, and voted on in the U.S. Senate, to the President's desk. Then we will finally see how Obama plans to govern in his last two years. They must also pass legitimate budgets as is their Constitutional duty and stop the Continuing Resolutions. Republicans must do the right things for the country if they want more success in 2016.

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Retail Marijuana Killed and Life Upheld by Fremont County Voters

by Candy Thompson,
Cañon City

In one of the largest voter turnouts in recent elections, Fremont County voters returned 18,351 ballots of over 28,000 that were mailed out. Of those returned, 122 were not counted because of either missing signatures or signatures that didn't match. An affidavit was then mailed to those voters giving them 8 days to come in and be identified correctly so their vote would count. About half of those 122 are expected to respond to make the necessary corrections and the others are sent to the District Attorney to possibly be investigated for fraud.

One of the election judges commented that she was confident that the system used to validate the authenticity of mail-in ballots was a good one and that there would be little chance of fraud as has been feared by those who oppose the mail-in ballot.

Fremont County voters are more conservative by far than the state as a whole and gave Bob Beauprez a 64.64% lead over Governor Hickenlooper's 28.61%. The win

for the governor with a 2% margin statewide disappointed many in Fremont County. Republicans were most elated with the defeat of Senator Udall by Cory Gardner and in Fremont County over 64% of the voters gave Gardner the thumbs up whereas he won by a much narrower margin statewide.

Fremont County also gave Amendment 67 a whopping 51.22% which would include the unborn in the Criminal Code and Wrongful Death Act in the state Constitution. However, the Brady Amendment failed in the statewide vote 64.83% to 35.17% and criminals who kill a woman's unborn baby in Colorado by homicide or manslaughter will still not be charged with the death of a human being. Planned Parenthood poured huge amounts of money at a rate of over 4,000 to 1 to defeat this amendment making it an abortion issue and denying justice to women who lose their babies by homicide and manslaughter but, the people of Fremont County led by the Christian community, spoke out for it in the face of propaganda from the abortion proponents.

Thank you, KRLN, for featuring this issue on Morning Line and to the *Daily Record* for printing the guest editorial, "Yes" on 67" (the DR did not however endorse this amendment) and, of course, to the *Sangre de Cristo Sentinel* for being one of the very few papers in the state to fully support this amendment.

One consolation to those who are pro-life is the election of pro-life candidates that have replaced the pro-abortion ones all over the nation and in Washington. Cory Gardner is pro-life and won a decisive victory in Colorado in a hard fought race with incumbent Mark Udall whose focus on women's reproductive issues gained him the nickname "Mark Uterus".

Referendum 2D for retail marijuana failed in Cañon City with 61% of the voters rejecting it. The city council decided to put it on the ballot after a lot of pressure from residents at city council meetings. The majority of the council was for the sale of retail marijuana in the city and some even publicly demonstrated with the pro-marijuana group, how-

ever the voters spoke decisively against it. This is a win for the grassroots citizens who spoke out loudly against this issue and demanded that it go to a vote. It also put our city council members in the spotlight and showed the citizens how they are being represented by this elected council. With 5 of the 7 city council members for retail marijuana in the city, some having properties on main street that were going to be rented to perspective retail pot businesses, the people of Cañon City clearly were not being represented on this issue. In two years the voters will get to speak again and will probably have a lot to say to the city council.

As far as other statewide issues, Fremont County voted with the majority by overwhelmingly rejecting Amendment 68 which proposed to fund education from the revenues from horseracing, and Proposition 105 which would require labeling of GMO's. 73% voted "yes" on Proposition 104 which will require school board meetings to be open to the public including those union-organized ones negotiating salaries, etc. With the Common Core issue be-

ing so contentious and unpopular, more openness will be welcome when it comes to the education of our children in Fremont County.

Senator Kevin Grantham and Representative Jim Wilson won easy victories and will be returning to the State Capitol with a Republican Senate majority of one and the House and Governorship still in the hands of the Democrats. Colorado didn't move as far right as some other states but definitely made a move in that direction giving Republicans and conservatives in the state encouragement that our state isn't lost.

Also, prayer has continuously gone up for our state and country that we return to God and His principles and that we elect godly men and women who will uphold the righteous principles we were founded on and who will protect and defend the Constitution. A step in that direction doesn't mean we give up but that we continue to fight for our God-given rights as a free people. The people have spoken. Praise God! Now on to 2016.

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An Open Letter From a Former Liberal

By Tira "Tee" Doran,
Custer County

“Hi. My name is Tira and I am liberal.” They say that healing starts when you acknowledge you have a problem. Mine started when I moved to this beautiful country that I am honored to call home. I want to share my story with you, so you may have faith that not all, but some may be saved.

I lived my first 27 years in Finland. I was happy in my bubble, and was always asking for more free benefits from my government, and was never happy with their decisions. Did I vote? No, and now I have to say “Thank you God for that” because I was what we would call an “uneducated voter.” I had no idea or interest towards politics. What I wanted was what I felt I, only I, needed and I wanted it for free. Then I made a mistake and one summer

I traveled out in the big world called America. Oh, did I forget to tell you that liberals in Europe despise America? Which is why everyone was so surprised that I was going to come here for a vacation! How can you enjoy a vacation when you need to be scared that someone might shoot you wherever you go, and of course those “scary old, gray-haired conservatives” that will force feed Jesus on you.

Well, there has always been a little, or a lot, of rebel in me and I always felt that I don't belong in Finland; however, it was hidden under my hunger for free stuff and free money my government so willingly wanted to give me. I did work, but boy that free money was nice!

So, I went to Florida, the

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Letters to the Editor



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The opinions expressed here are solely those of the author; they do not reflect the opinions held or endorsed by the Sentinel.

Thank you, Tech. Sgt. LaCorte!

During his visit here to Westcliffe, Colorado, my nephew, Stephen, enjoyed reading my Sentinel issues of present and past. So, now he will have his own subscription delivered to his front door in his hometown of Indianapolis, Indiana.

Thank you for your dedicated service to our Great United States Air Force, Stephen LaCorte!

Uncle Joe (Dixon)
Westcliffe, Colorado



New Woes for Custer County

It is done, the voters have spoken. Whether informed or not, the majority voted to give more money to the downward spiraling Hospital District and the majority believed all the propaganda including that properties will now sell. Even with its numerous issues including cutting expenses to work within a budget, many voters believed the propaganda that this was the only way to save the EMS. Woe to the people of Custer County, for it wasn't the only way and their propaganda isn't true, but you blindly believed them and their threat tactics.

Now for one of the repercussions: The businesses will be paying more taxes which will trickle down to the consumers; you and me and all the visitors this community hopes to draw, including new property owners. With the already higher cost of living in this financially depressed community - the majority just voted for it to get higher. Our family budgets will go down and costs will go up. Woe to the people of Custer County, for you did not think this through on numerous levels.

This sets in motion a reduction in income for other necessary county services like Fire, Emergency Services (not EMS- but we'll

see), County government, County welfare, Round Mountain water, Custer County Schools, town of Silver Cliff, and town of Westcliffe to name a few. For those who actually do maintain a budget, this is news that will cause scrambling to amend the budget that will not only dip into 2014 (it was retroactive folks) but will also now effect the 2015 budgets around the county and for years to come. Not just in taxes people! Everything in our County will now go up more to help cover the costs of the increase in taxes this mill levy effects.

Not only will our base county services go up, but the cost of gas - even more, dining out, groceries, cost of goods in our towns will also; that is IF businesses decide to stay in business providing that they can stay in business. WAIT, don't they already have this issue? Will such a high priced community really attract people to live here, buy houses, open businesses, or even get jobs?

Woe to the people in Custer County. The majority just voted for a ridiculously high mil levy supposedly to now provide what they already are bound (by their service plan and your prior vote) to provide-EMS services, and you just

gave them a free ride to do whatever they choose with your money, just like they have been doing. You did not vote for the clinic as it stands now and have just given them more means to take from you what they said they already were to provide -EMS!! Maybe this outrageous action in this small community will cause you to pay closer attention to what the Hospital District is doing and get more educated by attending their meetings, or you will find them back in the very same mess you have supposedly helped pull them out of. Now that one MORE board member (that's 3 in the last few months) has resigned, let's see if our money in their pockets improves all their issues including providing EMS. Give them no more than one year, they've had since 1988 to do this, and if it doesn't happen successfully then you should seek to take the mill levy away promptly and take back the clinic to something profitable AND still provide EMS.

Pay attention people, for WOE, you have just had the wool pulled you're your eyes and been BAMBOOZLED!

C. Reid,
Rural Custer County

LIBERAL From page 3

Sunshine State, and guess what? Nobody shot me, and no old, gray-haired men chased me either! I had an amazing time, met great people who turned out to be those scary conservatives that I heard about. I loved it here so much that when I traveled back to Finland I booked a new trip to Florida! Oh, boy, everyone was rolling their eyes at me and chanting, "You American lover", because no European liberal can love or even like what America stands for.

When I decided to come study in America, politics was the last thing on my mind. My proficiency in English was very low and I was barely able to survive the daily tasks, so you can just imagine that I had no idea what political ads told me. I trusted what the Finnish liberal media told me about the presidential elections. Why wouldn't I? They have always told me the truth and nothing but the truth. Obama was just so amazing; he was charming and had amazing pol-

icies, free stuff for everyone! It was 2007 and he was running for the first time. I was excited to see how this country would choose this amazing president who would change the country for the better. And I have to sincerely apologize. I was stupid, ignorant and just had no idea. How could I? Finnish liberal media has never lied to me, so why would it now?

He got elected and I lived my life happily. Slowly but surely while my English skills improved and I made more friends, liberal and conservatives, I started to think independently for the first time, and it felt amazing! Free really isn't free. Somebody will pay for it and I sure don't want to be the one paying for someone's "free" phone. But wait! I did pay in Finland, why it is so different now? Because I had woken up and was no longer ignorant.

Since then I have slowly but surely changed my views, not because someone told me to, but because I sat down with myself and started to think about the consequences

of all those supposedly awesome policies this newly elected president had.

Then I met my husband, this handsome soldier and my life has never been the same since. I have enjoyed our conversations and he has had insight on issues that I never even thought about. I also started to think about policies in my old home country, that I still love dearly, and I am just embarrassed how blind I have been. Sure my life was more mellow then, but there is no such thing as freedom when your government tells you what words you can use in your online blog. There is no sense of personal responsibility; everything you do can be blamed on the government. Being conservative is not just a waking up for me, it is realizing that values and appreciation of family really matters, and that nothing good can come from the government controlling you, and that we all need to take personal responsibility of our lives.

"Hi. My name is Tira and I am a former liberal" and now I am healed!



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Ask a Pro: Things to consider when leaving home...

When leaving your home for vacation you may want to consider the following: Turn off the power to your pump and either close the main water valve or drain the pressure tank (unless of course your neighbor needs to water your horses). Turn off your hot water heater or set it to pilot if it's gas (it's easier than "off" and re-lighting it). Set your house heat to the lowest setting; just enough to keep things from freezing or your plants from dying. Make sure nonessential electrical items are turned off. You may also want to stash your valuables.

Above all don't forget the trash!!! I just love to come back to stinky trash and rotten goods in the refrigerator. If you have to leave your water on; make sure that you don't have a dripping faucet or leaky toilet as these often lead to frozen sewer lines. You may also want to check your clothes washer (things get hectic and forgotten when leaving on vacation).

-David Nequette /Lic. 1043

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Local Mountain News & Notices

NIGHTMARE

From page 1

county-issued building permit??)

This large pot production building, several huge steel Connex containers (for drying pot), an immense RV, and multiple, pole-mounted security cameras and motion detectors appear on the border about 50 feet from the Chambers property line! This is only around 200 yards from the Chambers home. There are no trees in this whole area so everything is visible from a long distance.

A bore machine begins to dig holes in the land on the PVP property. Jim Chambers asked what they were doing and he was told they are digging places for trees. Potting soil and peat moss are worked into the soil. Instead of trees the true nature and intention of this property owner becomes clear. There is no fence around the bore holes or the property. This is a new

Commissioner, have made little progress to date in the practical matter of this ever magnifying legal pot grow next to the Chambers' property. (Jim and Kay Chambers want to thank Mr. Norden for his current efforts to bring these issues to attention at the county level. He has been readily available for discussions

***They hear
people outside
and gunfire
erupts.***

and is trying his best to assist the Chambers with their problem.) Armed guards who stay in the large motorhome patrol the area 24 hours a day carrying pistols and rifles. The Chambers' dog is attacked by the pot growers dog and when Mr. Chambers attempts to discuss the situation he gets cursed at and told to get

stand the amounts of money that one marijuana plant can generate. These marijuana bums have no interest in anything except the money. The medical marijuana argument was nothing more than an excuse to get the legalization of a gateway drug started in Colorado. One excellent marijuana plant can generate as much as ten thousand dollars (a number the State of Colorado uses for its estimates). A thousand plants of that quality would create a potential revenue source of ten million dollars. By his own admission, during a USA Today interview, the owner of the property indicated his operation would produce four million dollars in revenue in that one grow year. The Chambers are living next to an unfenced pot grow worth around four to eight MILLION DOLLARS.

So it is easy to understand that late one night Jim and Kay Chambers are awakened by super bright lights being shown into their house. They hear people outside and then gun fire erupts. Scared for their own safety they begin firing warning shots into their own target berm with their own weapons. It's the wild west all over again! Several days later, some local neighbors informed them that the trespassers were local pot thieves trying to steal pot from one of the many illegal pot farms near the Chambers property!

Another night Mr. Chambers heard what he approximated to be five hundred rounds of gun fire coming from another illegal grow property.

Like rats to cheese the illegal grows have sprouted up around the legal grow operation. There are dozens in the area near the Chambers' property and along with them come the kind of people you only want to see in mug shots. It is rumored the cartels are already in southern Fremont County. These ruthless and absolutely nasty people have already learned that southern Fremont County is a place where they can operate. Deer Mountain residents have told Sentinel reporters of multiple armed pot robberies, gun fights, and biker gang retaliation against pot theft.

***The Chambers
real estate
has a
value of zero.***

A law enforcement officer recently told this reporter, "It is only a matter of time before someone is mur-



This pot processing building is the building allegedly constructed without a building permit from Fremont County. It is about 60 feet from the Chambers property line.

Sentinel photo by George Gramlich

dered over these grow operations."

Besides the emotional and physical issues involved if you live next to this legal grow, the icing on the pot brownie is, so to speak, the unequivocal fact that the Chambers' real estate now has a retail value of ZERO. A real estate broker from the area confirmed the Chambers' property has been poisoned by this legal grow and they could not sell it even if they wanted to. These good people have been victimized, robbed of their dream, and left holding the bag just so a bunch of potheads can get stoned. It is a disgrace and a pitiful commentary on the behavior of those responsible for the creation of the pot laws and administrative regulations and their enforcement (Fremont County is responsible for local implementation of this law re-zoning, etc., and the state for the actual grow regulations).

If you are reading this and you have vacant land for sale next to you, then you should be very concerned. The Chambers were living their dream. Now they live in a nightmare!

If you are one of the many people in Custer County who seems to think the bad stuff only happens to other people in other counties the bubble burst on that thought process. It is especially true if you live in Silver Cliff. The Town Board has already been approached by one marijuana operation to establish a grow operation in the town. It is only a proposal at this time but like the eight hundred pound gorilla in the corner of the room it is there. If you sit back and fail to get involved, you might have a pot operation next to you and a property value of ZERO.

Who is there to HELP the Chambers? Sadly, the answer is almost no one.

The state of Colorado has been explicit in its rule making authority in regard to how plants may be grown, processed, and distributed (medical, recreational, retail, etc.) They have over two hundred pages of administrative regulations covering these grows and distribution outlets. They even require RFID chip technology on each medical plant. It would seem the State of Colorado would be intensely monitoring these legal grows. The results of The Sentinel investigation to date is nearly the opposite. There is an obvious disconnect between what is being done in the grows and what is written on paper in administrative rules.

***"Only a
matter of time
before
someone is
murdered..."***

It is important to understand an administrative rule does not have the same bite to it as a statutory law. Under the Colorado marijuana rules a single violation can result in a one hundred thousand dollar fine and various suspensions or at the most loss of your license. The violations are not brought before a district court but are heard in an administrative hearing by a board. So in essence, these are civil violations and not criminal. You can't go to jail for breaking the administrative rules.

If you just harvested eight million dollars worth of marijuana and get busted for some administrative violation that results in a one hundred thousand dollar fine and a license suspension as the grower you

cut a check, wait out your suspension, and chalk it all up to the cost of doing business. Next year you grow a few extra plants on the side somewhere and get your hundred grand back at the end of the season. It's a win-win situation. You get your money back and the State of Colorado collects a hundred grand. Jim and Kay Chambers and anyone else that lives next to a legal grow just get screwed. Their property values are still zero.

Fremont County government is so far behind the curve on this situation they have not yet started taking applications for pot operations. It is staggering how little they know or care about the havoc these grows are creating. There seems to be a lack of concern and a business-as-usual attitude. It's puzzling to say the least and it smacks of outside interference of some kind or just plain laziness.

Law enforcement in southern Fremont County regarding the illegal grows can only be described as terrible. The Sheriff's Department complains they have no funding to ramp up investigations into illegal grows. The prosecuting attorney uses the same argument.

None of this helps the Chambers and their neighbors feel anymore secure in their homes from potentially lethal encounters in a once peaceful area that has become a drug war zone.

The marijuana statute was designed for growers to generate tax revenue for the state and counties. After all, in the end it's always about the money. More than likely no one thought about the ramifications on property values and the other issues dis-

**See NIGHTMARE 2
on page 20**



This surveillance camera is only 50 feet from the Chambers property. The Chambers privacy has been destroyed.

Sentinel photo by George Gramlich

state licensed **Marijuana Legal Grow** operation. 100 plants are grown in 2013 with little or no problems. (And note that the Colorado marijuana cultivation regulations REQUIRE a stout fence around ALL grow operations. Two years later, still no fence. Where is Colorado's Marijuana Enforcement Division? This is a grievous violation of the law and nothing is happening.) The Chambers now know they are not going to have Mr. and Mrs. Domestic with their cute baby as neighbors. Instead they will have to deal with the implications of this grow operation almost on top of their own land.

Discussions with Ed Norden, Fremont County

off his own property while being told, "That's a good dog. He wouldn't hurt your dog." The guards have no idea where the property is and no fence to keep the dog on the pot farm. A pickup sits at the gate to the property with another armed man inside. The operation has grown from approximately 100 plants in 2013 to over 800 plants in 2014. It is rumored the operation is only licensed for four hundred plants. Calls to Colorado's Marijuana Enforcement Division finally reveal that some kind of "investigation" is on-going. Still, no fence around the pot and the hundreds of possible excess plants still were there.

It is important to under-

Local Mountain News & Notices

Limestone Ridge Prescribed Burn Canceled

SALIDA, CO., Monday, 10 November 2014 – The U.S. Forest Service Mountain Zone Fire has canceled the prescribed burn that was scheduled November 11, 12 & 13 of this week. The weather and conditions on the ground are not conducive at this time. The Dis-

trict will reschedule the burn for some time next spring.

For further information, questions or concerns please contact the John Markalunas the Zone Assistant Fire Management Officer at 719-530-2155 or jmarkalunas@fs.fed.us

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They define a republic to be a government of laws, and not of men.
John Adams - Second President of the United States

Custer County Community Sharing Center, Inc.

The Sharing Center began over 16 years ago in St. Luke's Episcopal Mission. With no handicap accessibility, the Sharing Center was moved to Hope Lutheran Church in 2003, at the invitation of Pastor Wayne Riddering and the congregation, and operated under their 501©(3) when the increased demand for food assistance mandated a partnership with Care and Share of Southern Colorado. With long term unemployment, shortened work hours and/or layoffs and inflation, emergency food assistance nationwide has transformed from a short-term need to a strategy for families and people on fixed incomes to make it through the month.

Shockingly, the latest statistics show that the number of people with hunger issues is the total of the population of the states of Texas and New York combined. Effectively, one in five Americans must choose to buy medication, pay rent or utilities or eat.

The Sharing Center provides food for 600 + people, unemployed, underemployed, disabled, elderly and children on a monthly basis. This number is unduplicated, meaning that it reflects only ONE visit per month, and many come weekly.

The percentage of our local school children receiving free/reduced meals is over 44%. Custer County children are 14.8% ABOVE the state average in food insecurity.

The Center is very much an embodiment of Christ's commandment to his followers to feed the hungry, to clothe the naked and to help the homeless, the widowed and the orphaned. In this way, it serves the community two ways: First, it provides essential items to people who are in immediate need in the community, and just as importantly, it enables everyone to fulfill their desire to help people.

With no government funding the Center is totally dependent upon food/fund drives, community donations and foundational grants for operations.

160,000 pounds of food items were distributed last year (93,000 + pounds were purchased at a low cost from the Care and Share of Southern Colorado). Approximately 40% comes from utilizing "case plus 10% orders" on sale items at the local market, local donations, (churches and individuals), along with the food bag sales at the Westcliffe Super Market where we pack the bags and the community purchases them for the pantry.

The Colorado Assistance Fund of El Pomar for several years was instrumental in helping the Sharing Center meet the needs of friends and neighbors with food insecurity in our area. Other monies have been received from The Colorado Trust, Wet Mountain Valley Community Foundation Spirit Campaign and Sangre de Cristo

Electric, along with the many compassionate residents of this Valley.

The expanded needs of the Sharing Center are a direct result of the economic climate. A new Corporation was recently formed with a 501© (3) umbrella and the elected Board of Directors (all volunteers) represent several of the local churches with the hope that many others will climb on board:

Myron Mullet, President
Sangre de Cristo Fellowship,
formally Sangre de Cristo Mennonite

Monte Hess, Vice President
First Baptist Church of Westcliffe

David Custer, Treasurer,
Hope Evangelical Lutheran Church

Rev. Deborah Christine, Secretary,
Community United Methodist Church

Pastor David McConnell,
Cody Park Community Church

Pastor Larry Smith,
Wild West Cowboy Church

Assoc. Pastor Bradley Reinkey,
Westcliffe Community Church

Marci Gregg,
St. Luke's Episcopal Mission

Joanne Canda,
St. Patrick's Anglican Church

We are extending an invitation to our community to partner with us as we evolve and grow to meet the current and future needs of the Sharing Center and its clients. The new Board of Directors has explored options that would meet these needs. A property has been located, and First State Bank has generously discounted it by \$64,000, making the purchase price \$155,000. Some improvements will be needed, so our total fund raising goal is \$200,000. With this press release we are launching a Fund Drive to raise that amount of money which will be necessary to purchase and renovate the property so the Center can relocate and better assist our community with the distribution of food, clothes and household goods. The Board thanks the community for its past support and for continued support into the future.

To contribute to the Center, make checks payable to the Custer County Community Sharing Center, Inc. and mail to P.O. Box 1592, Westcliffe, CO, 81252. Tax exempt status qualifies the Center for participation in the Spirit Fund Campaign of the Wet Mountain Valley Community Foundation. If you prefer, channel your donation through the campaign (eligible for matching funds). The Spirit Fund kickoff is around Thanksgiving. FULL PANTRY, FULL LIVES – there's a place for YOU at this table.



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***“The King will reply,
‘I tell you the truth, whatever you did
for one of the least of these
brothers of mine, you did for me.’***

Matthew 25:40, NIV

Local Mountain News & Notices

IT Controversy Boils Over at School Board Meeting

by Larry Luikart

The regular meeting opened with the Pledge of Allegiance lead by President Gaide.

Guests were recognized and several minor corrections to the agenda were made and accepted. The minutes from the October 14, 2014, meeting were accepted along with two resignations from staff positions. Ron Crotzer, bus driver, is leaving the valley and Sandra Dodson, school nurse, is moving on after a brief tenure at the school.

Students from the newly formed Business Club presented an overview of their organization along with presentations by the various officers in the club outlining their functions. The club presented short and long-term goals they hope to achieve. Dr. Davis complemented the members and their advisor, Mrs. Selle, on the creation of the club. She indicated this was something the school needed for a long time to help integrate the school into the community. Transportation will be by district bus.

Andrew Sraight, Band Director, asked the Board for permission to take band members to a concert of the Trans Siberian Orchestra in Colorado Springs on Sunday November 16th.

Mr. Straight pointed out the importance of music students actually hearing live concerts and the educational benefits that such performances generate. Approved by the Board.

Excellence in Education reported they are gearing up for their Spirit Campaign beginning November 18th and ending on December 31st. They will have three delegates attend the Colorado Common Grant Writing Seminar on December 2nd. This is a tremendous opportunity to pick up the skills necessary to write grant requests from Colorado. This programs is an extension of DOLA.

President Gaide and Superintendent Selle attended a CASB (Colorado Association of School Boards) conference regarding what to expect after the recent elections. The conference focused on what might happen with funding and other issues important to school boards.

The Board approved the following personnel hires. Betsy Banks as the Robotics Coordinator Carol Franta as the VOICE coordinator.

inator, Gail Frickell, and Lissa Miller as substitute teachers.

Paying of the bills and financial reports were approved. The purchase of a new school bus sold by Colorado West and manufactured by Bluebird Bus Company for \$105,000 was approved by the Board. Superintendent Selle was complimented by the Board for his work on finding a quality bus that met the needed requirements at a very competitive price.

Two procedural issues required Board action. The Policy AD (Educational Philosophy / School District Mission) third reading was approved. The Policy CBI-R (Evaluation of Superintendent – Regulation) second reading was also approved.

Holly Anderson, Elementary School Principal, reported the parent / teacher conference held on October 24th went well with a 98% participation rate. The new elementary report card was presented at the conference. It will change from a percentage-based rating scale to a standards-based rating scale. She indicated there was a great deal of enthusiasm and fun for Halloween. The Scholastic Book was a big success. She thanked the Veterans who came to the school to talk with students and she offered her thanks to those attending the meeting who served our country.

Barb Jones was absent from the meeting, but she did include a written report. CMAS tests were given for 12th Grade Science were given on this date and CMAS 12th grade Social Studies are being given on Wednesday. The FFA Creed Speaking event results included

First Place to Elizabeth Mullet, Second Place to Riley Smith, and Third Place ties to Hailey Lemons and Mckenzie Penkhoff. Letters have been sent to twenty high school students and nine middle school students regarding unacceptable attendance for the first semester. The Halloween Carnival was successful.

Superintendent Selle reported that the October count for students was 388. Some students have moved away recently. The Governor's budget has significant increases in funding for K-12. About half of this number is recurring for inflation and growth. It does nothing to address the

negative factor on a permanent basis only for 2015-16 school year. The Science and Social Studies results were included in his report. Custer County students did slightly better than the state average in Science for 5th and 8th grade and slightly worse than the state average in Social Studies for 4th and 7th grade. Better and worse being relative terms to state results which were abysmal.

Custer County students did slightly better than the state average in Science for 5th and 8th grade and slightly worse than the state average in Social Studies for 4th and 7th grade.

Better and worse being relative terms to state results which were abysmal.

The issue of IT (Information Technology) for the district and the continuation of the current provider, DD Wireless, were discussed. A vigorous debate resulted when two Board members, Bob Jolley and Dr. Terre Davis, indicated they found the proposed Memorandum of Agreement for \$4,833.33 per month for IT Network Support and Backup Broadband Service unacceptable. Mr. Jolley indicated he needed to exercise his fiduciary responsibility to every taxpayer in requiring the best service possible for the most reasonable price. Dr. Davis, in citing examples of other possible services, believed the District was paying too much.

Countering those arguments came from Monty Lee who indicated the Board did a poor job in its preparation for an RFP (Request for Proposal) leaving the District in a precarious position if there was no IT service available for the District. Brenda Gaide pointed out that trying to change IT service in the middle of the school year could result in severe problems. There seemed to be general consensus among the Board members that DD Wireless is not innocent in its behavior in this matter. DD Wireless bears responsibility for a "stick it to them" attitude in the pre-

sentation of their proposed MOA.

Mr. Selle indicated he had no other options. But he might be able to find some new possibilities. The Board voted as follows: Mr. Jolley - No, Dr. Davis - No, Mr. Lee - Yes and Ms. Gaide - Yes, creating a tie which by Board rules is a "No" on the issue. Ms. Rowland resigned last month and she has not been replaced.

It should be understood, while the current IT MOA with DD Wireless has been terminated, the District does have other options. The Board recognizing the situation gave Mr. Selle some latitude during this non-contract period to keep the IT in the District operating. The Board will hear in December any new proposals for a permanent IT provider.

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'No arsenal, or no weapon in the arsenals of the world, is as formidable as the will and moral courage of free men and women.'

- Ronald Reagan

Veterans Go To School

Custer County School District C-1 hosted Veterans Day recognition activities on November 11. American Legion Post 170 conducted a flag ceremony followed by the recitation of the Pledge of Allegiance and singing of the Star Spangled Banner. After the students proceeded to class, veterans visited the classrooms telling stories of their time in the military and the history of Veterans Day. They also explained flag etiquette while presenting each classroom with a booklet on the subject. This is the first time in eleven years that the entire school has participated in the Veterans Day program.



Local Mountain News & Notices

Bobcats Volleyball Finishes Season

by Coach Cravens

With the close of the volleyball season comes the end-of-the-season awards, and the Custer County Bobcats are well represented. The Bobcats won the West Central League Championship, and several members of the team were honored with All Conference awards. Madeleine Woods was voted 2A League MVP. Woods finished the season leading the team in kills with 162. She also led the team in blocks with 44. Madeleine finishes her high school career with 261 kills and 65 solo blocks. Woods has also been voted to play in the Colorado Coaches of Girls' Sports All-State Games. Class 2A is represented with 18 players voted to the

team. The two teams will practice on Saturday, November 15, and then play at 10:30 am on Sunday, November 16, at Arvada West High School.

Kristian Curtis was voted onto the All Conference team. Curtis led the team in assists with 381. She was voted as an alternate to the Colorado Coaches of Girls' Sports All-State Games. Serenity Ham was named All Conference also. Ham ended the year with 69 kills, 34 aces, 209 assists, 360 digs, and what she is most proud of-- 4 blocks. The league coaches saw the "youth moment" on the team this year also. Ninth graders McKensie Penkoff and Hannah Schlabach were voted on the All Conference team. Schlabach

led the team in Aces with 34 and a serving average of 90.3%. Penkoff ended the season with 117 kills which was second highest on the team.

Emily Crossley, Jordan Beach, and Tish Schlabach were voted Honorable Mention this year. Tish led the team in digs with 497. That is the most digs in a season since 2009. The stats before 2009 cannot be found.

Coach Cravens is very proud of how far the team came in three short months. "There is nothing that makes me more proud than when coaches from other teams notice how hard our players play the game and how well the team gets along. To me, that is a successful season."



Good Citizenship Awards

Presenting the recipients of the Good Citizenship Award for the second quarter at Cotopaxi Elementary School. Front Row: Kindergartener Josey Kaiser, First Graders Eli Schwarz, and Alex Oberosler, Second Grader Jayden Frye. Back Row: Fourth Grader: Emily Miller, Third grader: Marsha Jo Simpson, Fifth Grader David Oberosler.

Courtesy photo by Lauren Buss

Bobcat Youth Basketball Sign-Up

Sign-up is starting NOW for the 2015 Bobcat Youth Basketball season. Registration forms are available at the main office at the school or you can call Kristen Foster at 783-0142 to get a form emailed to you or if you have questions.

The season will begin December 6th and run through February 28th with a break for Christmas.

There will be two divisions:

Junior: Co-ed 1st grade – 3rd grade boys and girls and 4th grade girls

Senior: Co-ed 4th grade – 6th grade boys and 5th grade – 6th grade girls

Registration fee:

\$30 by November 14th

\$35 after November 14th (post mark)

\$17 for each additional sibling

LAST DAY TO REGISTER IS DECEMBER 6th!

The earlier the better though, so we can gauge numbers.

Annual Oyster Fry and Member Sale

**Saturday, November 15,
at 5:30 p.m.**

in the west gym of Custer County School.

**Rocky mountain oysters and chicken breasts
will be available before the auction.**

The meal will cost \$10 for adults and \$5 for students.

Thirty members will be auctioned off to the highest bidder for eight hours of work, as well as assorted auction items donated from local stores.

**Come and enjoy an evening
with the Custer County FFA!**



Bobcat Menu • Nov. 17 - Nov. 20 2014

**Monday
breakfast**
Pancakes
Sausage Links
Juice, Milk
lunch
Spag. w/ Meat Sauce
Garlic Roll
Choice of Veg. & Fruit
Milk

**Tuesday
breakfast**
Bagels, Cream Cheese
Ham
Juice, Milk
lunch
Chicken Patty Sandwich
Birthday Cake
Choice of Veg. & Fruit
Milk

**Wednesday
breakfast**
Scrambled Eggs
W.W. Toast
Fruit, Milk
lunch
Cream of Chicken
over Rice
Choice of Veg. & Fruit
Milk

**Thursday
breakfast**
Sausage Gravy
Biscuits
Fruit, Milk
lunch
Cheese Pizza
Choice of Veg.
Choice of Veg. & Fruit
Milk

Elementary: Main dish, bread, milk, choice of 1 veg. & 1 fruit • Middle & High School: Salad Bar

KIDS Friday, November 14, 2014

Vietnam Veterans Memorial: Dedicated November 13, 1982

April 30, 1975, marked the fall of Saigon. In July 1980, Congress authorized 3 acres near the Lincoln Memorial for placement of the Vietnam Veterans Memorial. By March, 1981 the winning design was selected, and the winner of the \$50,000 prize was Maya Lin, a Yale architecture student. Just over a year and a half later the work on the memorial was completed, and thousands of Vietnam War veterans marched to its site for the dedication ceremony on November 13, 1982.

The design of the Memorial was a simple V-shaped, polished, black-granite wall inscribed with the names of the Americans who had died in the war. The design was not well received by veterans groups at first, since it did not have the usual statues and inspirational words. In the months that followed the dedication, however, a shift occurred in public opinion. It is best here to simply say what the Wall brings to mind for its viewers. One called it a "sacred precinct." A veteran said that "it's the parade we never got." The viewer sees his own reflection, thus the past and the present are brought together.

The Wall listed 58,191 names when it was completed in 1983. By 2011, about 80 more names had been added, including 8 women. The names are listed in order by date of death spanning the years of 1959 through 1975. Unlike other military memorials, there is no mention of rank. Also included are the names of the POW and MIA.

In November 1984, a bronze statue entitled, "The Three Soldiers," was dedicated. They appear to look from a distance onto the Wall and their fallen brothers. Finally, in 1993, to complete the Memorial, the Vietnam Women's Memorial was dedicated which is a statue of a kneeling woman holding an empty helmet.

About 3 million people visit the Vietnam Veterans Memorial each year.

Source: History.com and Wikipedia.com

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Bling for the Holidays!

The Artists' Gallery, 416 Main Street, Cañon City, is presenting a very special one day only, hand-crafted jewelry show designed for inspired gift-giving this holiday season. "Bling for the Holidays!" will be held on Saturday, November 15th, from 2 to 8 p.m. What better gift than fabulous, one-of-a-kind jewelry crafted by a local artisan? Enjoy cookies and coffee while you shop. Our talented list of jewelers includes:

Virginia Ames, who stitches seed beads around cabochon stone settings to create earrings, bracelets and necklaces in intricate patterns and elaborate color combinations.

Sue Davis wraps base-met-

al wire into finely crafted, uniquely designed earrings, bracelets, rings, and necklaces of her own creation.

Jan Fead combines unusually shaped semi-precious stones and turquoise beads to make harmonious designs for simple classical earrings, bracelets, and necklaces with sterling silver fittings.

Linda Ouellette and Lin Ward, enhance their lovely necklaces with bold, striking stones that capture the modern flavor of today's Southwest.

Kathleen Pinover has a gift for making sparkling, delicate bracelets, earrings, and necklaces, uniting crystals and stone beads with precise, tiny, hand-wrapped,

links of her own design.

Laraine Wright weaves seed beads into colorful easy-to-wear Southwest-inspired bracelets, earrings, and necklaces utilizing her own original patterns.

This event is a one-day opportunity, however, the gallery showcases an exciting array of local artists working in a wide variety of medium; Clay, Glass, Fiber, Jewelry, Sculpture, Wood, Photography, and Paintings, as well unique hand-crafted gift items such as soaps, lotions, and art cards. The Artists' Gallery is open daily from 10 am to 6 pm. For more information visit our website, www.theartistsgalleryonline.com, or call (719)345-4070.

Where Will You Get Your Christmas Tree?

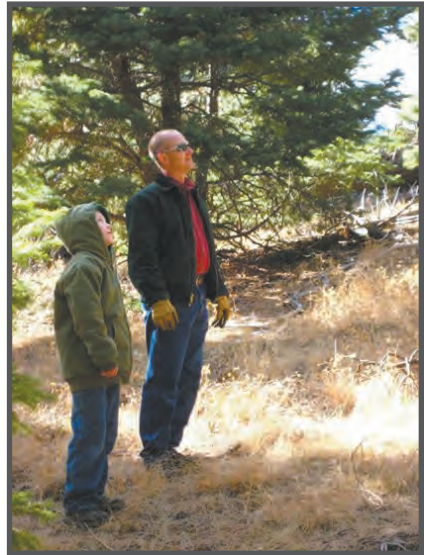
The Bureau of Land Management and the U.S. Forest Service are once again offering Christmas tree permits for sale. The cost of a permit is \$10 with a limit of two permits per household. Permits are valid only for the areas of the state in which they are purchased.

"We have a variety of tree species to choose from depending on the elevation you would like to go," said Ken Reed, BLM Royal Gorge Field Office Forester. "You may cut a douglas fir, ponderosa pine, lodgepole pine, piñon pine, white fir, spruce, or a Rocky Mountain juniper."

Tree cutters must have a valid permit with them while cutting and transporting their trees. No one may cut a tree within a Wilderness area, Wilderness study area, timber sale area, or at administrative sites such as developed campgrounds. More guidelines, tips, and maps of suggested cutting areas are available where permits are sold.

Christmas tree permits may be purchased at any of the following BLM and USFS offices:

- BLM Royal Gorge Field Office and San Carlos Ranger District, 3028 E. Main St., Cañon City, Mon. through Fri. from 8 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. Contact: 719-269-8500.
- BLM permits may be purchased at the Arkansas Headwaters Recreation Area Office, 307 West Sackett Ave., Salida, Mon. through Fri. from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. Contact: 719-539-7289.
- USFS permits may be purchased at the Pike and San Isabel National Forests and Cimarron and Comanche National Grasslands Supervisor's Office, 2840 Kachina Drive, Pueblo, Mon. through Fri. 7:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. Contact: 719-553-1400.
- USFS permits may be purchased at the USFS offices in Westcliffe (719-783-2079) and La Veta



Father and son searching for the perfect Christmas tree.

courtesy photo

(719-742-3681). Please call prior to stopping by the offices as they do not have established office hours.

Foresters remind the public to plan ahead for any tree-cutting trip. Remember that while the temperatures may be mild at lower elevations, the high country may be experiencing winter conditions. The public should wear warm clothes, bring the appropriate maps, and let someone know your planned destination and return time.

Pre-Holiday Yard Sale

The Lighthouse Pregnancy Resources will be having a Pre-Holiday Yard Sale on Saturday, November 15, from 8 a.m. - 3 p.m. at 417 Cliff Street in Silver Cliff. Many items are available including children's books and toys, Christmas items, furniture including beds and dressers, desks, household items, adult and youth clothes and shoes, dishes, various kitchen items, pictures, skis, and other treasures.

The Lighthouse Pregnancy Resources provides many free services to the com-

munity including pregnancy tests, an ultrasound clinic, peer counseling, mentoring young women and men, a clothing exchange for new mothers and families of young children, baby needs including food, formula, diapers, baby accessories and furniture, a layette for newborns in the community, scholarships, opportunities for volunteering, and more. The cost of yard sale items are received as donations to the Lighthouse Pregnancy Resources which helps these services continue to be provided.



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yourselves with compassion, kindness,
humility, gentleness and patience.

Colossians 3:12 NIV

Local Mountain News & Notices

Your 2015 Royalty Court

by Carol
"Scoop"
Clemenson

On October 11, 2014, the Wet Mountain Valley Saddle Club held their Royalty Pageant. There were fourteen contestants in all. The contestants that were trying out for Queen had to be ages 16-19. Miss Stampede had to be ages 13-15 and the Princess had to be ages 9-12.

There were five categories for the indoor portion. The contestants gave a personal introduction, a speech, modeled, answered impromptu questions, and underwent a judge's interview. Each category began with Queen/Attendant contestants, then the Miss Stampede contestants, and finally the Princess Contestants.

They were evaluated on their personality, confidence and overall self-presentation during the entire indoor portion. The Queen/Attendant had to give a 3-5 minute speech about "What is a Rodeo Queen in your eyes?" including commenting on her role inside and outside the arena, duties, characteristics of a queen, and horsemanship. They could only use note cards as reference. Miss Stampede had to make a 2-3 minute speech about what western heritage is to them such as Westcliffe history, cattle history, settling in the west, horsemanship, and how to keep the heritage alive. Again, only using note cards as reference. The Princess contestants did not have to make a speech.

Self-presentation was an opportunity to show their confidence and cowgirl style. They had to create a model script to read while they walk. This is the modeling part of the competition in front of the judges. Then they were asked some impromptu questions.

After modeling and questions each contestant would meet with the judges privately for a short interview and more questions of how much knowledge they had about horses and rodeos.

The outdoor portion of the contest, which consisted of 3 categories: pattern and horsemanship knowledge, queen's wave, and flag lap. They were evaluated on how well they rode not the skill level of their horse.

The Queen is required to attend the Stampede Queen's Ball (which is new in 2015), attend the Royal Gorge Rodeo the first weekend in May in Cañon City, the 4th of July parade in Westcliffe, Collegiate Peaks Stampede Rodeo the second week of July in Buena Vista, the Westcliffe Stampede Rodeo in July, the Rodeo Parade, and aid in moving cattle during roping events and all sponsorship flags. They have an option between the Ranch Rodeo in La Veta the Saturday closest to the 4th of July or Chaffee County Fair and Rodeo, the first weekend of August in Salida.



Your 2015 Queen is Katlyn Freeburg, Queen Attendant is Brittane Bohannon, Miss Stampede is Grace Flynn and Princess is Brook Flynn. Very proud of our new Royalty Court. Congratulations to all of you.

*courtesy Photos by Mountain Shot Photography-
Brianna (Livengood) Cozzetto*

She is also required to write press releases and letters to the editor reporting their activities. Furthermore, the Queen is required to attend Saddle Club meetings the first Mondays of May, June, July, and August, and have a report prepared to give the membership at each meeting. They must be a member of the Saddle Club. Their benefit is a \$500 scholarship to be paid by the Saddle Club to the college of the queen's choice and she gets to keep the buckle, tiara, and sash.

Requirements of Attendant, Miss Stampede and Princess are almost as much as the Queen. They have to attend the Stampede Queen's Ball, the 4th of July parade in Westcliffe, the Westcliffe Stampede Rodeo, one out-of-town appearance (but they are not limited to only one), attend saddle club meetings June, July, and August, and must be a member of the Saddle Club. They also keep the tiara, dash and buckle.

Stephanie Miller has volunteered to mentor these young ladies. She typed the handbook basing it on the one from the Miss Colorado Rodeo. She is very devoted to helping these young ladies to be the best they can be and have a good time.



Stephanie Miller, former Rodeo Queen and new mentor to the Saddle Club Royalty.

*Sentinel photo
by Carol Clemenson*

Stephanie and the girls would like to give a special thank you to Pam and George Koons along with Peggy and Steve Case for their donation to buy the tiaras, sashes, and buckles for the Royalty Court. Many thanks to the Saddle Club for all they do for the community including offering a mentoring program, youth programs, dressage, obstacle courses, ranch rodeos, and so much more.

Our appreciation to Stephanie Miller for her time and effort as royalty "mentor/coach" in teaching these young ladies to represent our Saddle Club and our county. But Stephanie says, "It's all done with the help of The Lord".

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

This profound prayer is brought to you by
St. Patrick's Anglican Church of Westcliffe
so that our voices may join together to ask God to heal us and to bless our land
For more information about St. Patrick's Anglican Church, please call 783-2500
Services are held each Sunday at 11 a.m.
We are just starting a Bible Study of Exodus Wednesday mornings at 10:30
You are cordially invited to join us!

Timberline Band

Saturday, November 15
Dance: 8:00pm to Midnight
Tickets \$7

Food and Beer will be available for purchase from 7:00 to 11:00pm

**At the Wet Mountain Valley Saddle Club
In Westcliffe**

**There will be arts and crafts for sale and a live auction during the first band break.
EVERYTHING will go to the HIGHEST BIDDER!!**

**Sponsored By: the Wet Mountain Valley Saddle Club,
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**Craft Booth space may be reserved or
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Wet Mountain Volunteer Fire Department Ongoing Training



Photo feature by Barbara Napolitan

Local Mountain News & Notices

Classifieds

For Sale

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

FSBO House 208 S. 4th Street, Westcliffe, CO. One bedroom, one bath, loft, appliances, deck, fenced yard, mountain view. \$118,000
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3 BR Mobile Home: new pellet stove and fridge. Includes washer/dryer, stove, 250-gal propane, 6 bags pellets. Needs new carpet in LR & Hall, and 3 window panes. \$7,000. (702) 321-0501

2 BR Mobile Home needs to be finished remodeling. Have all materials there to complete. \$2,700 (702) 321-0501

Help Wanted

EXTRA! EXTRA! READ ALL ABOUT IT!
Looking for a few good men, women, or youth interested in volunteering their writing/reporting skills and talents. Please contact the Sentinel by calling 783-3360 to arrange an appointment or submit intent of interest to sdcsentinel@gmail.com.

In-home elderly care needed 2-3 days/week, days & nights. Cooking, light cleaning, and general assistance needed. 783-9174 or 269-7882.

Custer County School District C-1 is accepting applications for school bus drivers. Applicants that possess a Colorado Class A or B driver's license with a P (passenger) and S (school bus) endorsement will receive first priority. Training will be available for interested

applicants that do not possess the correct license endorsement(s). Starting salary for this position is \$12.74 per hour, but open to negotiation based on school bus driving experience. This position also provides a full district benefits package. For more information please contact Dave Bennett, Transportation Director, at 719-660-5004 or 783-9779, or pick up applications at the Administration office at 709 Main St. in Westcliffe. Applications are also available on the school district website, custercountyschools.org. CCSD is an equal opportunity employer and does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, creed, national origin, sex, age, or handicap in employment..

The Custer County School District is accepting applications for a **school nurse**. Starting salary for this position is \$12.55 per hour, but open to negotiation based on previous school nursing experience. Full health insur-

ance and PERA benefits will be provided as well. Typical working hours will be from approximately 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. Monday through Thursday. Applicants with any type of nursing certification will be considered. This position will remain open until filled. Classified staff applications are available at www.custercountyschools.org or the Administration office at 709 Main St. in Westcliffe Monday-Thursday from 8 a.m. through 4 p.m. CCSD is an equal opportunity employer and does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, creed, national origin, sex, age, or handicap in employment.

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LEGAL NOTICE

BOARD OF DIRECTORS VACANCY

Round Mountain Water and Sanitation District is seeking candidates for the Board of Directors Vacancy. A registered voter applicant must be a Resident of the District for not less than thirty (30) days, or the owner (or the spouse of the owner) of taxable real property situated in the District. Self-nomination forms may be picked up during business hours at 59000 Highway 69, Westcliffe, CO or you may mail a "Letter of Interest" to RWMSD, PO Box 86, Westcliffe, CO. 81252
Deadline is November 28, 2014, or postmarked by November 26, 2014 if mailing.

First Published on:
November 14, 2014

The deadline for getting your information into the Classifieds is Monday at 5 p.m. for that week's edition.

LEGAL NOTICE

School Board Vacancy Announcement

Custer County School District is seeking a qualified individual to appoint for the current Board of Education vacancy in director district one. Director district one consists of the town of Westcliffe. The appointee will serve until the next regular school biennial election in November 2015.

Qualifications:

To be eligible for appointment, a candidate must:

1. Be a registered elector of Custer County School District C-1 at least twelve consecutive months prior to the date of appointment.
2. Must not have been convicted of a sexual offense against a child.
3. Must be a resident of Custer County School District C-1 director district one.

Timeline:

Application Deadline: 4:00 p.m. on November 17, 2014

Interviews: December 9, 2014

School Board action to fill vacancy: December 9, 2014

How to Apply:

Qualified candidates must submit a letter of interest including brief biographical information. Qualified candidates must also complete an "Affidavit of School Director Candidate for Appointment on Qualifications for Office." The affidavit may be obtained at the Custer County School District C-1 district office. The letter of interest and completed affidavit should be submitted to superintendent Chris Selle prior to 4:00 p.m. on November 17, 2014. Qualified candidates may contact superintendent Chris Selle at 719-783-2357 should they require clarification of the process to fill this vacancy.

Changes on the SilverWest Airport Advisory Board

At the regular AAB on Thursday, November 6th, two letters of resignation were submitted by Johnny Smith and Mary Seifert and subsequently turned over to the BOCC. They both expressed their reluctance to leave with both also listing other commitments as the reason for their departure.

There have been several projects completed after the change of the Board from authority to advisory: 1. Crack seal, fog coat, and paint the runway; 2. Weather station installed and work-

ing - this shows current conditions at airport; 3. Surveillance cameras installed and working.

There is another major improvement to the airport that is sorely needed and will be a great aid to pilot and airplane safety. An AWOS (automated weather observation system) is in the planning stages, hopefully to come to fruition in 2015. Also, the World Aviation Museum is proceeding towards construction, with a few items to be worked out.

There can be up to 7

members on the Board. With the departure this year of Anderson, Geary, Smith and Seifert, only Bob Koester and Bob Jolley remain. There have been 3 letters of interest submitted to the Commissioners for approval, Peggy Collins, Bill Geipel, and Dan Green. A full Board would be advantageous to the smooth operation of the airport, "the more the merrier", and Bob K and Bob J are a hoot to work with. Letters can be submitted to the Custer BOCC for their consideration.

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Local Mountain News & Notices

Events Calendar

Friday, November 14 7:30 p.m.: Jones Theater: "This is Where I Leave You"	his life and times by Gene Johnson, Red Herring Productions
Saturday, November 15 5:30 p.m.: Annual Custer County FFA Oyster Fry and Member Sale at CCSD's west gym 7 p.m.: Timberline Band Dinner and Dance fundraiser for Deer Mountain Community Center at the Saddle Club 7:30 p.m.: Jones Theater: "This is Where I Leave You"	2 p.m.: Jones Theater: "This is Where I Leave You" 3 p.m.: Jones Theater: In Concert presents Opera Theatre of the Rockies: Make a Scene II 4 p.m. - 6:30: Middle School's Washington, D.C., fundraiser dinner held at The Silver Cliff Mountain Inn; Tickets at door or from student traveler, \$10 adult, \$5 child under 5
Sunday, November 16 2 p.m: Program at Shepherd of the Hills Lutheran Church: Buffalo Bill Cody and	Friday, November 21 7:30 p.m.: Jones Theater: "The Boxtrols"

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. Post 170 Auxiliary monthly meeting (March-October) at the Saddle Club.
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; 783-9138
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 am	Wednesday Line dancers meet at the Methodist Church from 9:30 to 11 a.m. 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 6:30 p.m. - 8 p.m.: Custer County Community Band practice in band room at high school
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 Second Thursday of the Month: 10 a.m. - 11 a.m., "Ask a Nurse" at the library
Tuesday 12 - 4:30 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 at 308 S. Third Street adjacent to Hope Lutheran Church in Westcliffe
	Saturday 10 a.m. – 2 p.m.: Library open in Westcliffe

Sheriff's Report...

As of Tuesday, November 11, there were 3 men in jail.

OFFENSES

November 9 Michael Conway, age 63, of rural Westcliffe was arrested in Silver Cliff for driving under the influence of alcohol. Conway posted \$1,000 bond and is scheduled to appear in Custer County court on December 11.

November 7 The Sheriff's Office received information about a possible methamphetamine lab on Rubel Road. (The owners have two homes on their property. One house is a rental. When they entered the premises to clean after the tenant had left, they recognized what they saw as a possible lab and exited the property.) After investigation, it was found that the rental property had been used as a lab. On November 8, at about 1330 hours, Hazmat, Colorado State Patrol officers, the Wet Mountain Fire Department, and the local ambulance corps were on standby in the event, while processing the scene, there was a chemical problem that could pose a threat. It was determined that it was meth, and thus, was tested, decontaminated,

and turned over as evidence to the Sheriff's Office for court purposes. Entities left about 6 p.m. The investigation continues but the unidentified person has left the state. A warrant for arrest is expected; once located, the person will be extradited back to Custer County. The charge is for the manufacturing of methamphetamines.

November 7 Jennifer Murray, age 32, of Westcliffe was arrested again for disorderly conduct in violation of a protective order. She returned to court on November 7 and granted release on a \$250 bond, however, Murray remained in custody until November 10. She is to appear in Custer County court at a later date.

November 5 Jennifer Murray, age 32, of Westcliffe and Kyle Murray, age 35, of Pueblo West were both arrested in Westcliffe for third degree assault, domestic violence, and criminal mischief. After being advised in court, they were released on a \$1,000 personal recognizance bond. Both Murrays were given protective orders to stay away from one another and to appear in Custer County court at a later date.

AMBULANCE CALLS

November 9 At 1805 hours, an ambulance was dispatched to Bas-sick Lane for a 74-year-old male with abdominal pain. He was transported to Parkview Hospital in Pueblo.

November 7 At 1330 hours, an ambulance was dispatched to Rubel Road and placed on standby where an investigation of a methamphetamine lab took place.

November 7 At 1545 hours, an ambulance was dispatched to the clinic for an 81-year-old female. After evaluation, she was transported to Parkview Hospital.

November 6 At 1933 hours, an ambulance was dispatched to the clinic for a 45-year-old female having a panic attack. She was treated at the scene and not transported.

November 5 At 1121 hours, an ambulance was dispatched to the clinic for a 66-year-old male with back pain. He was transported to Parkview Hospital.

November 5 At 0905 hours, an ambulance was dispatched to the clinic for a 60-year-old





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Rick Fortner

Be strong and courageous.
Do not be afraid or terrified because of them, for the LORD your God goes with you; he will never leave you nor forsake you.

Deuteronomy 31:6, NIV

November 7 At 1543 hours, a fire truck was dispatched to the proximity of mile marker 7 on Highway 69 North where a small grass fire was quickly extinguished along the highway.

November 5 A fire truck was dispatched to the clinic to assist in the landing of the Flight for Life helicopter to transport a 60-year-old male with a possible heart attack.

November 7 At 2136 hours, a fire truck was dispatched to Hazel Lane in response to a carbon monoxide alarm. It was a false alarm.

FIRE CALLS

November 7 At 2136 hours, a fire truck was dispatched to Hazel Lane in response to a carbon monoxide alarm. It was a false alarm.

November 4 At 1236 hours, an ambulance was dispatched to Grandma's House, an apartment at Second and Main Street in Westcliffe, for a

male with a possible heart attack. Flight for Life transported him to Parkview Hospital.

November 5 At 2340 hours, an ambulance was dispatched to Junkins Loop for an 86-year-old female with severe pain. She was transported to Parkview Hospital.

November 7 At 1330 hours, an ambulance was dispatched to Rubel Road and placed on standby where an investigation of a methamphetamine lab took place.

November 7 At 1545 hours, an ambulance was dispatched to the clinic for an 81-year-old female. After evaluation, she was transported to Parkview Hospital.

November 6 At 1933 hours, an ambulance was dispatched to the clinic for a 45-year-old female having a panic attack. She was treated at the scene and not transported.

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November 5 At 0905 hours, an ambulance was dispatched to the clinic for a 60-year-old

Fremont County Bulletin

News, Opinion, Commentary

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**

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Survivors
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Mugs
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Lack of Code Enforcement in Rural Fremont County has Residents Fighting Mad

by Barbara Penezic

The residents of rural Fremont County say, “We are out of sight so we are out of mind.” These taxpayers feel this is a clear cut case of ‘Taxation without Representation,’ and they’ve had enough! Commissioner Norden said he had spoken to several residents in the past few months who have been frightened to talk to him out of fear their neighbors will find out and retaliate. Norden further suggested, “If they are growing illegal marijuana, make it clear through the media that their neighbors are watching and you’re tired of it, and you’re sharing their addresses with Sheriff’s deputies.” During that same meeting Sheriff Beicker told the residents, “All tips about the illegal grow operations are being looked into by narcotics investigators, as well as the Federal Drug Administration.” However, he confessed that not only is local law enforcement overwhelmed, state and federal agencies are also overextended.

Commissioner Norden is suggesting these residents draw a big target on their backs, while Sheriff Beicker has made it clear that assistance from law enforcement most likely will not be available. Beicker very honestly explained to the endangered residents, “We have to abide by ‘Illegal Search and Seizure’ when you give me a tip we can’t just go running onto the property” he said. Law enforcement must abide by the state and federal constitutions, and narcotics investigations take a tremendous amount of time. The Commissioners were invited to be taken out on a drive through Western Fremont County. According to Mr. Garrou, Commissioner Norden told him flat out he couldn’t do that. Could it be that the residents who were afraid to speak with the Commissioner are not alone when it comes to fearing these illegal cartel type growers? Is it fair to ask the taxpaying citizens to ‘out’ these thug-type illegal growers when they know it will take months



“You tell me how to do it and we will do it; you tell me how!” Mr. Sapp explained.

Sentinel photo by Barbara Penezic

of investigation before law enforcement can make a move?

The residents of Deer Mountain and surrounding areas are not only concerned with the lack of action regarding the illegal pot grows. Scott Hanlon spoke at the Commissioners’ meeting about his frustration with the county living off the honest builder. He followed all the county codes and paid for his permits but he must drive down the road and look at a house that has been rotting and decaying for nearly eight years. The house was partially built and then abandoned. As I spoke with county residents from these rural areas I found that they were all upset and one name kept resurfacing time after time, Code Enforcement Officer Robert Sapp. Mr. Sapp was contacted for an interview and he graciously accepted.

Sapp started by saying, “It didn’t get dirty overnight and it won’t get cleaned up overnight, people get upset about that and want to take my name in vain, that’s fine. At least they know my name! Just for your information,” he added, “All the pictures they’ve got, we’ve got files on.” We don’t traditionally invade people’s privacy. We take pictures from the road. If there is a fence with a lock, we won’t go on but what we will do if there is a violation, we will work with the folks. After a momentary pause Mr. Sapp continued, “You have to understand the folks up there, complaining, they want something done, (a loud clap of his hands) now!” Sapp’s frustration

was evident as he continued, “You tell me how to do it and we will do it; you tell me how!” Mr. Sapp explained in some detail the process he and his partner, Ronald Zenisky, follow when complaints are filed. It is a four-part plan, but in the end, it relies on voluntary compliance. Ronald Sapp said, “The County has said, “Voluntary Compliance” is what we’re asking and that is what we want.”

The only real action to be taken it seems is to attach a Notice of Violation on the property. However, this measure can’t even stop the property owner from selling the property. If the property owner refuses to cooperate the last recourse would be to go to court. Mr. Sapp said that he has only been to court twice or maybe three times in the 11 or 12 years he has been in this position with Fremont County Code Enforcement. “It’s not cheap to go to court.” He added, “We go to court based on what the County Attorney and County Commissioners say. They make decisions, not us. All we do is package things up, present the case, they make the decisions.” Mr. Sapp additionally offered, “My job, and my partner’s job, is to enforce the County Regulations as they are written to the best of our ability to achieve the goal that the County Commissioners have set.”

We were ready to conclude the interview when Mr. Sapp began speaking again, “If everyone is so upset

**See ENFORCEMENT
on page 24**

Thanksgiving Dinner VFW Style

by Charlotte Burros

VFW Post 4061 Commander Ernesto Solano stands by while Bill Klammes prepares to cook a turkey for the traditional Thanksgiving Day dinner at 215 N. Cottonwood Avenue. They’ve been cooking for many years, but cooking the meals for Thanksgiving at the VFW is special to Lloyd McGinnis and Bill Klammes.

“I started cooking for my wife when she got sick,” said McGinnis, 95. “I cook for myself mostly.” But when the VFW Post needed a cook, for Thanksgiving dinner he jumped at the opportunity. Along the way, Klammes also joined in the venture. “I started cooking about 45 years ago,” he said. He has cooked at Cañon Inn, which later became the Quality Inn and for himself, but he also enjoys cooking the weekly breakfast at the VFW, as well as the holiday meals.

“(For the breakfast,) Lloyd cooks the pancakes and I cook the rest,” said Klammes, who currently cooks for Cañon Inn. “We enjoy cooking together,” McGinnis said.

This year the two will help lead the charge when the VFW Post 4061 members serve a traditional Thanksgiving meal from 11 a.m. to 2 p.m. Nov. 27 at 215 N. Cottonwood Avenue.

The meal will consist of turkey, ham, mashed potatoes, gravy, cranberry sauce, vegetables, yams, stuffing, dessert, beverages, and more.

“Usually on Thanksgiving, we serve about 500 people,” said Commander Ernesto Solano.

It’s somewhat less on Christmas, but nevertheless, the members and volunteers plan to have more than 400 meals ready on the big day. Also, those who would like to have carry-outs are asked to call in advance, then pick the meals up between 10-11 a.m. on Thanksgiving.

In the meantime, the organizers also encourage those who are interested to donate food for the holiday meals which include turkeys, green beans, sweet potatoes, stuffing, and other food to make up the meals. Although the dinner is free, Solano said the post appreciates donations.

The VFW have served Thanksgiving and Christmas dinners for more than a decade. Prior to that, the Cañon City Masonic Lodge prepared the meals for the community. But when they had to give it up, the VFW members decided to take over the tradition.

“This is our way of helping all the people who are less fortunate or can’t afford a dinner,” Solano said. Many of those attending are alone and prefer to spend time with others, he said.

Volunteers are needed to help with decorations, set up tables, dish and serve the meals, as well as handle other details. For more information or for carry-outs, call 275-9886.



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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 Perils of Cleaning House

The last time we cleaned house - during the Reagan Revolution - we voted out the scalawags and turned Congress over to the hirelings. Then we went on about our business thinking those who we supported would take care of business. But over time, they eventually pillaged the storehouse, which is us. We The People have only accomplished a baby step by voting out the evildoers. We have to take the leap in holding these scoundrels accountable. Boehner and McConnell have done nothing in six years to combat this evil before us. In fact, they have aided and abetted it by their lack of opposition. We simply must, like the citizens in the founding revolution, hold them accountable, and that will take vigilance.

The message I sent yesterday to Mitch McConnell and John Boehner: "We gave you a Republican majority to reverse, revoke, and repeal the bad Marxist government of [sic "the president"], not to find common ground with him, as he seems to think you will do. It cannot be business as usual, you must do a better job as an opposition leader." The message I sent to each member of the Senate and House leadership: "We gave you a Republican majority to reverse, revoke, and repeal the bad Marxist government of [sic "the president"], not to find common ground with him. McConnell and Boehner need to be removed as [sic "the president"] seems to think they will work with him rather than take a stand. It cannot be business as usual. Please do the right thing."

Yes, we have cleaned house, but when the leadership that remains says

they will do what they can to work with the "president," they have already forgotten the message that was so earnestly sent the night before. They only regard our effort that they have gained more power. If we the voters let up even a breath, they will sink into their fleshly existence. Time to put the spurs on and ride these horses into the battle. We need to commit them to a war against common ground--a war from which they cannot back out. These officeholders need to stand on the island of Courage, Righteousness, and Common Sense. And We The People need to burn the ships so they cannot escape from the island.

We cannot afford to fall asleep at the switch or we will lose what we have gained. Establish accountability teams in every district and hold these that we elected accountable on every issue. Like Nehemiah who rebuilt the wall--set up shifts, assign issues, and keep the sword to their backsides. There is a Biblical principle here found in Luke 11:24-26, "When the unclean spirit is gone out of a man, he walks through dry places, seeking rest; and finding none, he says, I will return unto my house from which I came out. And when he comes, he finds it swept and in order. Then he goes, and takes with him seven other spirits more wicked than himself; and they enter in, and dwell there: and the last state of that man is worse than the first." Don't allow our nation to be that man.

Have a Blessed and Powerful Day!
Bill Wilson
www.dailyjot.com
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Colorado's "Official" Judicial Performance Evaluation System Lacks Transparency, Covers Up a Politicized Judiciary Key Player is Local Democrat Activist

Published November 1, 2014 | By CTBC Director, ClearTheBenchColorado.org

(Editor/GG: Another foul smelling, democrat-controlled "review" process that is simply shameful. No wonder these judges always get reelected. And SURPRISE, surprise! One of the State Commission of Judicial Performance Commission appointees (which is completely dominated by democrats) is our own valley resident Roland Williams, the head of our freedom living Custer County Democrat Party. Roland is also the spearhead for the local democrats anti-2nd Amendment and anti First Amendment effort to destroy Custer County's July 4th Independence Day Parade celebration.

Colorado's "official" system of judicial performance evaluations is, contra the propaganda propagated by the system's apologists, among the least transparent and opaque such processes in the nation and serves to cover up (and perpetuate) existing politicization of the state's third branch of government.

Far from being a "model" or "one of the best" judicial review systems, Colorado's program (administered by the Colorado Office of Judicial Performance Evaluation (COJPE), a government agency) is a fraud foisted upon the citizens and voters of Colorado (at significant taxpayer expense).

Colorado's "Official" Judicial Performance Evaluation System Explained

Colorado's courts are administered, at the trial court level, under 22 judicial districts (most, although not all of which include multiple counties). Each judicial district has a review commission consisting of 10 political appointees (6 non-attorneys and 4 attorneys). As noted on the COJPE website,

Appointments to the commission are made by the Chief Justice, Governor, President of the Senate, and Speaker of the House.

The state's appellate courts (Colorado Court of Appeals, Colorado Supreme Court) are "reviewed" by the "State Commission of Judicial Performance" - another 10 political appointees (also 6 non-attorneys and 4 attorneys) appointed by the Chief Justice, Governor, President of the Senate, and Speaker of the House.

The commissions supposedly gather information from a number of sources - interviews, observations, and (primarily) survey results - to generate "reviews" of judges published as a "narrative" beginning with an "official recommendation" on whether the rated judge should be retained in office (notably, **not once in the entire decades-long history of the state review commissions has there been a "do not retain" recommendation** for a judge at the statewide, appellate-court level; and "retain" recommendations account for over 98% of judges reviewed at the district/county levels).

Why do we have **political appointees telling Coloradans how to vote?**

Partisan Bias on Review Commissions?

It should be noted that, **in contrast to** the judicial nominating commissions and the process for nominating appointees to judicial office, which includes a legal requirement for partisan balance among members and for nominations, judicial performance evaluation commissions have **NO requirement for partisan balance**, and are often (usually?) dominated by members of a single political party.

Unsurprisingly, the 2014 "State Commission of Judicial Performance" is completely dominated by Democrats - **ALL** of the attorney members, and all but one of the non-attorney members (who is officially unaffiliated) are not only Democrats, but **major Democrat contributors** (first and foremost, naturally, to Colorado's Governor Hickenlooper himself):

1. Bradley A. Levin, Chair (Democrat; contributor

to Hickenlooper, several Democrat legislative candidates - McLachlan, Kagan, et al - and the Colorado Trial Lawyers Association PAC)

2. Christina M. Habas (former Denver District Court judge; Democrat, contributor to Dem Don Quick for AG and left-leaning Colorado Trial Lawyers Association Small Donor Committee)

3. Heather R. Hanneman (Democrat; contributor to Hickenlooper, Don Quick for AG, One Colorado, CTLA among others)

4. Edward F. Harvey (Democrat; Hickenlooper contributor)

5. David A. Kaplan (Democrat; contributor to Hickenlooper, Don Quick for AG among others)

6. Michael J. Maday (Democrat; former Dem SD11 legislative candidate, contributor to numerous Democrat candidates, incl. Joe Neguse for Secretary of State, Mike Merrifield, Pete Lee, Tony Exum, and others.

7. Joe D. Martinez (Democrat; Hickenlooper contributor)

8. Roger D. Sherman (Democrat; Hickenlooper contributor; gave over \$28,000 to Democrat candidates and Democrat-affiliated groups)

9. William E. Sobesky (unaffiliated, but last major contribution was for Mike Feeley (Democrat for governor)

10. Roland Williams (Democrat; contributes primarily to local Democrat party organization)

The partisan makeup of the majority of Colorado's 22 judicial performance review commissions is similarly unbalanced.

"Survey Says!" Methodology Suspect, Statistically Invalid

The commissions rely heavily on surveys distributed to a selected subset of "attorneys who had cases before the judge, other judges, court staff, jurors, and court users." In other words, the surveys are



Westcliffe's own Roland Williams.

Photo from www.coloradojudicialperformance.gov/commission.cfm?id=8

overwhelmingly distributed to people with a vested interest in the existing system.

The lack of statistical validity for survey results as a method of analysis (due to small sample size, rate of return, even sample bias) has been noted by numerous sources - including the commissions themselves. The lack of statistical validity is particularly acute at the appellate court level - as even some of the major apologists for the current system have also admitted.

The survey sampling bias can also be politically manipulated by the commissions - as appears to be the case in one of this year's (exceedingly rare) "do not retain" recommendations from the 20th Judicial District (Boulder County) commission "reviewing" District Court Judge Karolyn Moore.

As noted in a recent Daily Camera article, "Flaw in system led to 'do not retain' recommendation for Boulder County judge"

1. An examination of the report shows that of the 297 attorneys to receive the confidential surveys, none was classified as a prosecutor. The report showed 91 criminal defense attorneys turned in surveys, along with 19 civil attorneys. Two respondents were classified as "other attorneys criminal."

There is no other plausible explanation for such "sampling error" than deliberate manipulation of the surveys.

Other criticisms of the "survey methodology" have

See JUDICIARY on page 23

We demolish arguments and every pretension that sets itself up against the knowledge of God, and we take captive every thought to make it obedient to Christ.

2 Corinthians 10:5, NIV

This is What Hope Looks Like

by Ann Barnhardt,
AnnBarnhard.biz

(Editor/GG: Ann is a former live-stock commodities broker and lives in Colorado. Her cynical take here on the Republican victory is harsh but grounded in decades of similar political situations where NOTHING gets done. I can't say I disagree with her much.)

So let me lay out some simple TRUE PREMISES, and then ask a follow-up question.

A.) The constitutional republic referred to as the United States of America no longer exists. TRUE. B.) The Rule of Law is no longer in force in the former United States. TRUE. C.) The Constitution of the United States and the system of government it defines is therefore no longer in force. TRUE. D.) The body going by the name “United States Congress” has been rendered meaningless in praxis. TRUE. E.) National-level representative politics in the former United States is a completely false facade, kabuki theater, designed to entertain and mollify the masses who are of average intelligence, and to launder looted money and enrich the oligarch class. TRUE. F.) Given the reality of the true premises above, any person who holds or seeks to hold national-level public office is, by definition, morally, intellectually, and/or psychologically unfit to hold public office (The Barnhardt Axiom). TRUE.

Okay, so now my question. What exactly are you people agog about? Have we learned NOTHING? NOTHING AT ALL? It still hasn't sunk in? Do you not remember the 2010 midterms and how that was going to put the brakes on Obama once and for all? DO YOU REMEMBER THAT? Yeah. And what did they do?

Flip-all. Zippo. Nada. I don't give a c**p if the “US Congress”, both houses, are UNANIMOUSLY republican. What the hell does it matter? No. Stop. Stop and think. Answer the question, because it is not rhetorical. You tell me. WHAT DOES IT MATTER?

Oh boy! I'm so excited! Now there are a few more psychopathic imbeciles and whores who wave the flag with the elephant on it who will do exactly nothing to stop anything that the Washington DC regime does. Run up debt, debase the currency and loot the Treasury to the tune of a TRILLION dollars per year? NOTHING. Dissolve the Mexican border? NOTHING. Run guns to and reform the islamic Caliphate? NOTHING. Sic the IRS on enemies? NOTHING. Actively attempt to bring viruses and plagues into the country? NOTHING. Aggressively force and promote a culture of sodomy and child slaughter? NOTHING. But the godless sell-outs and larcenous hacks will all now, instead of capitulating to everything, suddenly stand tall and put their proverbial foot down! Really? And also the sun will rise in the west tomorrow morning. Give me a break.

You can't, you just CAN'T be that obtuse. The former United States is being run by a shadow regime, who has full power and control with ZERO check or balance. Have you not been paying attention to ANYTHING that has happened for the past six years? The former U.S. is being run by executive fiat, which is carried out by an ideologically purged and compliant bureaucracy, judiciary, military, financial industry and with a fully compliant media/propaganda arm. The executive is not Obama the man, who is less than nothing but a puppet front, but a Supreme Soviet of oligarchs. And I mean that literally.

A Supreme Soviet of oligarchs. The Legislative branch is a troupe of very, very highly paid shills and cretins who, I'm sure, will perform their little hearts out for you. Hands will be wrung. Frowny faces will be made. Billions of breathless, personalized emails begging for contributions to their money laundering fronts, aka PACs, will be sent. Balance sheets will inflate by eight figures for no apparent reason.

I'm sorry, but I cannot, in good conscience, engage in any sort of conversation or commentary that is not based upon reality and true premises. This is another way of “going along to get along” that I simply refuse to do. It is massively harmful to others to confirm them in their delusions or false premises. Just to be sociable? Just to be included in the conversation? Just to be liked? Nope. Can't do it. Won't do it. It's a sin against Charity.

Look, you can tell me about how the United States is “turning it around” when abortion is a capital offense and sodomy is recriminalized. You can tell me all about how the U.S. is on the road to recovery when there are people in the streets weeping and sobbing on their knees begging the Triune Godhead for His mercy and forgiveness for spending the last fifty years proverbially kicking God in the crotch non-stop. You can tell me about how there is hope for America when there are dead bodies of these oligarchs hanging from the lamp-posts after their trials and executions for crimes against humanity with full due process in accord with the Rule of Law.

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Please see: www.barnhardt.biz/2014/11/05/this-is-what-hope-looks-like/

Let Them Eat Fried Chicken (If They Vote Democrat)

by Tyler Durden,
ZeroHedge.com

(Editor/GG: This is so precious. Our kids are starving in school with Mooochelle's lunch nazi rules, but if you vote for a commie, KFC is fine. And if a white guy had said this, Attorney General Eric (“There is an inner racist in every white man”) Holder would have him indicted for Unspecified and Outrageous Racism While White, Third Degree. Extra crispy please, ma'am.)

First Lady Michelle Obama - tireless advocate for healthy eating and exercise - appears to have reached her ethical limit when it comes to ‘getting out the vote’. It is no longer enough to offer free phones if the good people of America vote for Obama's Democrat party. Now the self-confessed food-Nazi is suggesting fried chicken if people vote Democrat today:

Obama gave her fried chicken blessing during an interview Monday with Roland Martin on News One for Black America (Transcription by Kristinn Taylor)

Martin: So can we, if we go out to the polls, can we say, we have ‘souls to the polls’ on Sunday, can we do ‘soul food after we vote’?

Obama: Absolutely, I give everyone full permission to eat some fried chicken after they vote only after - if you haven't voted...(laughter.)

Martin: Just checking!

Obama: You make a good point because I am, I do talk about health. But I think that a good victory for Democrats on Tuesday, you know, should be rewarded with some fried chicken.

* * *

So if you like your fried chicken, you can keep it, as long as you vote Democrat.

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Secular “Brownshirts” Try to Silence Churches

by Allen West,
AllenBWestc.com

Many were disturbed and disgusted when ISIS gave an ultimatum to the millennia-old Christian communities in Syria and Iraq to convert, submit, or be killed. Well, there's a very thin line between such a life-threatening ultimatum and the recent threat issued by a secular humanist atheist group, Americans United for the Separation of Church and State.

As reported by our hometown BizPac Review, “Americans United for the Separation of Church and State, an organization that seeks to do exactly what its name says, has sent letters to thousands of pastors ahead of the midterm elections reminding them that they can be punished by the IRS if they speak out, according to Fox News.”

The unholy alliance between progressive socialists and secular humanists never fails in its design to rule by way of intimidation and coercion — right there with the Islamo-fascists. Part of the letter sent read, “If the IRS has determined your place of worship has intervened in an election, it has the power to revoke your tax exemption. It can also levy significant fines on an offending congregation or its leaders.” Father Jonathan Morris told Fox News that the organization wants to intim-

idate places of worship into total silence when churches should only be reminded that they cannot endorse candidates.”

Funny thing, I still remember former U.S. Congressman Robert Wexler hand-carrying Barack Hussein Obama to just about every Jewish synagogue in South Florida back in 2008 — where was this group then? Or how about when John Kerry and Hillary Clinton were busting down the doors in black churches? And oh by the way, I know of many black churches where the pastors were telling their congregation to go out and vote for Obama — and y'all know exactly what I am talking about. Not a word of protest.

You see, the duplicitous hypocrisy is laughable and simply reflects a Democrat Party concerned about losing the midterm election. We reported about the progressive group in Fayetteville, NC that placed flyers on cars of black churchgoers depicting the despicable image of a lynching to advocate voting for Democrat Senator Kay Hagan — separation of political activity?

I believe these actions will backfire against the progressives and the secular humanists. Don't forget it was the Democrat Party who had to vote to put God back in their platform at the 2012 convention.

The action by this ill-named group is all about voter intimidation and suppression, and borders on violating the First Amendment rights of selected Christian churches. Certainly there were no letters sent to those black churches busing Democrat voters as part of the “souls to the polls” effort— nah, they are good to go. We reported yesterday about the plight of Rev. Corey Brooks of the New Beginnings Church of God in Chicago who made the mistake of endorsing the GOP candidate for Governor in Illinois, Bruce Rauner.

The jackboot tactics of threatening calls and having \$8,000 stolen from his church are just an indicator — and he made his endorsement not from the pulpit but as a private citizen. You can bet the IRS will not be far behind.

The time is coming when men and women of God find their courage and strength and refuse to be scared, intimidated, and coerced by the hate-filled political machine of the liberal progressive socialists and their secular humanist “brown shirts.

As I said, there is a very thin line between this tactic and that of ISIS — yep, I said so. How dare this group send letters threatening churches before an election — a blatantly obvious action attempting to force political submission. This is not what our Founding Fathers intended for

America — this tyranny against our freedoms and liberty. This is not about “separation of church and state.” This is about the decimation of religious liberty and freedom in America — the destruction of our Judeo-Christian faith heritage, and the ability of Christians to participate in the electoral process in America.

So what is next? Who will be the new progressive socialist Emperor Nero to usher in a new era of Christian persecution? Once again we are being taught what the meaning of “tolerance” is for liberal progressive socialists and secular humanists.

But we shall not take this and I urge Evangelical Christians from all across this land to make the stand, fight back, and get out and vote. And pastors, be the leaders that God has called you to be, “render unto Caesar that which is Caesar's, but unto God that which is God's” — and that means a just government so God continues to bless America.

The response to Americans United for Separation of Church and State is simple: Molon Labe!

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90-Year-Old WWII Veteran Faces 60 Days In Jail For... Feeding The Homeless

Submitted by Tyler Durden, by Mike Krieger via Liberty Blitzkrieg blog, at ZeroHedge.com

Drop that plate right now!
 – Florida police to 90-year-old WWII vet Arnold Abbott as he tried to feed homeless people

Last week, I reported on the very disturbing fact that a Boynton Beach, Florida, police officer had been accused of raping a 20-year-old woman at gunpoint while on duty. A week later, we learn that police just 33 miles south, in Fort Lauderdale, raided a 90-year-old World War II veteran and two clergymen and charged them with feeding the homeless. Under a new law, these three humanitarians face penalties of up to a \$500 fine and/or 60 days in jail for, well, being humanitarians. No, I’m not making this up.

We learn from WPLG Local10:

FORT LAUDERDALE, Fla. – Fort Lauderdale police charged three men — including two pastors and a 90-year-old man — for feeding the homeless in public on Sunday, the first such cases made by the city after the a new ordinance effectively banning public food sharings took effect Friday.

The first to be charged was homeless advocate Arnold Abbott, 90, who has been feeding the homeless in Fort Lauderdale for more than 20 years. Also cited were two Christian ministers — Dwayne Black, pastor of The Sanctuary Church in Fort Lauderdale, and Mark Sims of St. Mary Magdalene Episcopal Church in Coral Springs.

All three men face up to 60 days in jail and a \$500 fine.

“One of the police officers said, ‘Drop that plate right now,’ as if I were carrying a weapon,” said Abbott, who runs a nonprofit group called Love Thy Neighbor, Inc. **“It’s man’s inhumanity to man is all it is.”**

“I don’t do things to purposefully aggravate the situation,” said Abbott. “I’m trying to work with the city. Any

human has the right to help his fellow man.”

The Broward Palm Beach New Times adds some additional color on the situation, particularly with regard to the area’s history of mistreating the homeless:

Benjamin Waxman, ACLU lead attorney in the landmark Pottinger v. City of Miami settlement agreement, calls Fort Lauderdale’s treatment of the homeless “evocative of conditions in Miami before the Pottinger case began” back in 1988.

The Pottinger case established limited protections against criminalizing homelessness in Miami and last year withstood an effort by that city to eliminate its core protections, including ones related to food-sharing and camping. **Prior to Pottinger’s original filing, official police abuse of Miami’s homeless, often carried out by its so-called “bum squad,” had become notorious and included such acts of cruelty as the seizure by Miami Police Department officers of homeless persons’ property, which was then burned as they were forced to watch.**

The confiscation of the property of six homeless persons in Fort Lauderdale that was overseen by an as-yet-unidentified FLPD officer, alleged to have occurred on the morning of September 24, is just one of countless incidents of abuse reported by homeless people in recent months that justify the comparison with Miami.

An inquiry a week after the incident allegedly occurred to FLPD’s property room manager, Dawn Ramage, confirmed that no property had been turned in despite a requirement that all seized property be stored for at least 30 days. Nor were the home-



Here’s the face of an American “criminal” in 2014. Meanwhile, still not a single bank executive behind bars.

courtesy photo

less folk who spoke about the theft of their property, including one woman whose breathing medication was taken, given a 24-hour notice as the personal property ordinance mandates. **The woman, Renee (full name withheld for fear of retribution), who suffers from COPD, wound up in Broward General Hospital for three days because she couldn’t access her medication.** Seven bags of recyclables, which the homeless had been collecting to exchange for cash, were also seized in that incident.

Yep, makes sense. Homeless people have basically nothing, so may as well take what little they have. That’ll show em.

Arnold Abbott’s take was the same melodic riff he’s been trumpeting for years: **“I went through World War II. I fought in the Civil Rights movement. This won’t stop us. All this did was move us to court earlier than we had planned.”**

Truly sad it takes a 90-year-man engaging in civil disobedience to demonstrate to the rest of us how apathetic and spineless we have become.

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Someone Noticed the Corruption?

by Karl Denninger, Market-Ticker.org

It’s not an error, it’s fraud.

And this fraud is killing you. Literally.

The top scientist guiding the U.S. government’s nutrition recommendations made an admission last month that would surprise most Americans. Low-fat diets, Alice Lichtenstein said, are “probably not a good idea.” It was a rare public acknowledgment conceding the failure of the basic principle behind 35 years of official American nutrition advice.

The problem is that there was never science behind any of it. The so-called “science” was cooked, manipulated, and the data selected to show a

desired outcome.

That’s fraud.

But this scam didn’t just cost you money, although it sure as heck made a lot of medical providers very rich (at your expense.) It also made you sick and killed many of you through heart disease, diabetes, obesity, and more.

Yet most Americans are still actively trying to avoid fat, according to a recent Gallup poll. They are not aware of the USDA’s crucial about-face because the agency hasn’t publicized the changes. Perhaps it did not want to be held responsible for the consequences of a quarter-century of misguided advice, especially since many experts now believe the increase in carbohy-

drates that authorities recommended has contributed to our obesity and diabetes epidemics.

These people, and the doctors who lapped this **** up without question and dispensed advice that factually killed millions of Americans, should be prosecuted for their intentional falsehoods.

They won’t be -- but they should be.

However, this points out something you ought to pay attention to -- other than patching holes and cutting things off, which medical science is very good at (it’s darn hard to not understand what’s going on when you broke your leg!) most of what is called “science” in the medical field and the rec-

ommendations that flow from it should be taken with an entire shaker full of salt -- on your food.

These are compelling reasons for Congress to ask the USDA and HHS to reconstitute the Dietary Guidelines Committee so that its members represent the full range of expert opinion. The committee should then be mandated to fundamentally reassess the Guidelines’ basic assumptions based on the best and most current science.

No.

What we need to see is incarceration, and lots of it.

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**Then Jesus said to his disciples:
 “Therefore I tell you, do not worry
 about your life, what you will eat; or
 about your body, what you will wear.
 Life is more than food, and the body
 more than clothes. Consider the ra-
 vens: They do not sow or reap, they
 have no storeroom or barn;
 yet God feeds them. And how much
 more valuable you are than birds!
 Who of you by worrying can add a
 single hour to his life? Since you
 cannot do this very little thing,
 why do you worry about the rest?**



The Second Amendment Corner Liberty's Line in the Sand

2014



Book Review

"In the Name of Self-defense: What it costs. When it's worth it."

by Marc MacYoung

by J. Cascarelli

If Sentinel readers recall, several weeks ago, I wrote a letter to the editor regarding the "biker" incident near Hardscrabble Canyon back in September involving a tourist. The question I posed to local law enforcement, local judges, and local attorneys was what they thought about the beating that the victim took during the attack. Only Shannon Byerly (Sheriff-elect) and a private citizen, Regis Frank, offered responses. I was looking for advice regarding options that a private citizen has if faced with a similar situation.

I did take Byerly's advice and purchased a membership in an organization which provides legal help in the event of a matter concerning the use of a weapon to protect one's self. But, I was still a little concerned with what a person who protects himself from attack will face. This book is one that I would recommend to anyone who has a firearm in the home for defense or who holds a CCW (Carry Concealed Weapon) permit. I would like to say that what I learned about "self-defense" from the book was shocking, but "shocking" doesn't describe what happened to me.

I've lived in the valley for 15

years. Like many others, I believe that the rural life in south-central Colorado was relatively safe from many of the dangers that those who live in cities and some suburbs face on a daily basis. After all, according to the Justice Department's latest published information: Mexican drug gangs operate in 1,000 American cities, 20,000 gangs with membership of at least 1 million members are embedded in our country from coast to coast, and Chicago alone has more than 100,000 street gang members (according to CBI, Denver has 110 gangs with 12,741 members). Informed Americans know that thousands of hardened criminals are being released from prisons all over America. Our porous southern borders, where criminals of all kinds can seek a haven in the USA, are a reality that informed Americans are painfully aware. Can peaceful, low population communities like ours be exempt from these realities? The "biker" incident is just the latest reminder that many dangers lurk under the radar.

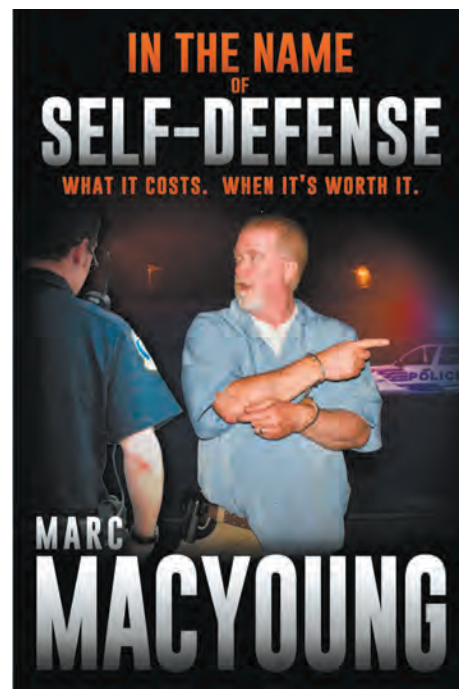
In the Name of Self-defense is a long read, nearly 600 pages, chock full of information that all gun owners should know. MacYoung patiently moves through all the pit-falls that one can en-

counter if they have to protect themselves from a violent attack. He goes through a treatment of violence as a stand-alone topic, how to avoid a violent encounter and what to do after a violent attack. The most useful information was his description of the legal system that many will face if they have the misfortune to kill an attacker. The author cautions the reader that admitting to "self-defense" is admitting to a crime. Most of us can see that a majority of the U.S. population believe in the old cliché that, "Violence is never the answer." Spend some time reading about remedies for the school shooter debate. That old saying that "I'd rather be judged by 12 than carried by 6" has its own problems. Keep in mind that many in America's "justice" system believe that "if someone is killed that someone must go to prison." Putting the dead mugger in prison is problematic, so most focus by the courts is on the survivor, the one defending himself.

MacYoung suggests that most attorneys do not know how to defend someone who truly defended himself...the innocent one. Law schools do not cover the defense of innocent victims of a self-defense encounter. Judges are lawyers, too, and graduated from those same law schools. He

points out that most lawyers, judges, and jurors know what they know about self-defense incidents from movies and TV. Dirty Harry Callahan never was suspended for killing a robber, never had to find a lawyer, never had to spend a hundred hours filling out paperwork and giving depositions, never had internal affairs crawl up any handy orifice, and was never sued by the robber's family for wrongful death. None of these would "make his day."

I learned that by saying, "I believe that my life was in danger" is not a panacea that will get the case dismissed. If for some reason the media takes interest in the incident, well, all heck will break loose. It is very important to remember that what the responding police officer writes in his/her incident report will have a great deal to do with how much trouble you are in and how much it will cost to remedy the matter without doing hard time. Killing someone who is trying to do you harm is bad enough, but the aftermath of the incident can be much worse.



This is why the author recommends that when one calls to report the shooting, two ambulances should be requested; one for the bad guy and one for you. The trauma of the aftermath has been known to result in a heart attack or at very least severe emotional trauma.

This is a must read for all who own firearms. The Kindle version only cost me \$7.99, a real bargain given what I learned. Plus, I can read it again, which I plan to do.

Guns Banned in Yellowstone Park Restrooms for "National Security" Reasons

by Dean Weingarten,
Gunwatch.Blogspot.com

The "Warning: Firearms Prohibited" sign was reported outside public restrooms in Yellowstone Park by stephenwright.com.

In 2005-7, intense lobbying by grassroots activists resulted in a move to change National Park Service (NPS) regulations so that state rules for concealed carry permits would apply in the National Parks. The push for a rule change became strong enough that the NRA became involved. It appeared that the new rule would go through in the last days of the Bush administration. But the disarmists in the government pushed the bureaucrats in the National Park Service to keep extending the rule-making period. The Second Amendment supporters had played by the rules to make the change happen. All participants understood that the rule would be changed. Instead, the change was killed just after the 2008 election.

A majority of Senators had pushed for it, and they were not happy. Shortly after the election of Barack Obama, the majority of Senators, pushed by Senator Coburn, and lobbied by the NRA and others, essentially said, alright, if you want to play, we can play. Instead of a rule change by the NPS, they pushed an amendment to a credit card bill that Obama wanted.

The amendment went quite a bit further than the rule change that had originally been lobbied for. It simply took discretion away from the NPS, and said that state rules applied to carry of firearms in the National Parks, not just for concealed carry permit holders, but all state carry rules. Obama wanted the credit card bill badly. He signed it, and it became law. The first rollback of disarmist regulations in National Parks was a big one.

I recently was reading the Intermountain Region Gun Regulation for the National Park Service. When the legislation was passed, an oversight was that the law did not roll back a general prohibition on the carry of arms into "federal facilities", which applied to federal offices. This allowed the NPS to regulate the carry of firearms within federal "facilities" enclosed in National Parks.

The Park Service has used this oversight to ban the carry of guns in most National Park buildings, including restrooms in Yellowstone! I was surprised to see the reason given in the Intermountain regulations. Apparently, your ability to carry a personal firearm into a National Park restroom is considered a matter of national security. Here is the quote from the IMR NPS pdf.

For national security reasons, guns cannot be carried into federal facilities within national parks. Notice of this rule will be clearly displayed outside all federal facilities. If you are unsure if a park building is a federal facility, look for a sign or ask a park ranger.

Perhaps with time, the number of "facilities" that ban personal firearms in the parks will decrease. I doubt that the Senate meant for people with personal pistols to be forced to pee behind a tree. When President Nixon used the "National Security" all purpose excuse, people laughed. I think it is far funnier when applied to the National Park Service. Yes, it sure is a matter of National Security when a person can legally carry their defensive firearm on one side of an unlocked, unsecured restroom door, but not do so legally on the other side!

When unelected bureaucrats dig in their

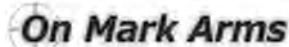
Warning: Firearms Prohibited

Federal law prohibits the possession of a firearm or other dangerous weapon in this Federal facility unless specifically authorized. 18 USC 930(a) possession violations are subject to fine and/or imprisonment up to one year, while 18 USC 930(b) possession violations with an intent to commit a crime are punishable by a fine and imprisonment up to five years.



heels, this is the kind of stupidity that results.

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Swedish Police Release Extensive Report Detailing Control Of 55 'No-Go Zones' By Muslim Criminal Gangs

by Matt Danielsson,
DailyCaller.com

(Editor/GG: Ah, yes, Islam, the religion of peace. Twenty years ago you could walk anywhere in Sweden without a problem. Muslim immigration has destroyed the country. If you think our inner cities are bad now, just wait.)

Swedish police have ceded control over 55 “no-go zones” to predominately Muslim criminal gangs.

An extensive report mapping out 55 no-go zones was released October 24, showing where law enforcement has all but handed control to criminal gangs.

Officers frequently face outright attacks when trying to enter the areas, which is a step up from the previous problem with attacks on mailmen, fire trucks, ambulances, and similar services. Fire trucks and ambulances had to wait for police escort to enter the areas, but now the police themselves need protection.

The no-go areas heavily

coincide with the map of the 186 “exclusion areas” aka. crowded, predominantly Muslim immigrant ghettos where education is low, employment is lower, and the only local business thriving is drug dealing.

As the real law backs away, organized crime emerges to take its place. The police report notes “a wider clientele [in the areas] is increasingly turning to the criminal authorities for justice” in a godfather-like fashion. Unofficial courts and punishments are often meted out according to the codes of the home cultures of the dominant gangs. The report also points out that there are vehicle checkpoints at the borders of some of these areas. The bad news is it’s not the police doing them; it’s the gangs securing home turf against law enforcement and rival gangs.

The gangs try to keep a semi-low profile in many areas so as not to interfere with the “business” of dealing drugs, protection rackets, and similar illicit activity.



“Swedish” muslims burn cars in one of the country’s “no-go” police zones.

Others seek active confrontation with police to establish absolute dominance.

A pair of policemen in May were in pursuit of a suspect and unwisely entered the no-go zone of the southern city of Landskrona. Their car was rammed and the officers were forced out of the car. They were cornered by a crowd of some 50 hostile thugs and drew their weapons to hold them back and called for immediate backup.

Several nearby patrol cars

responded to the call and sped towards the scene, only to be ordered to stop half a mile away — just outside the no-go border. The police commander didn’t send the backup units in, fearing escalation and all-out war. The cornered police officers were left to fend for themselves. As luck would have it, one of the officers knew a few residents who interfered and convinced the thugs to let them leave.

In response to these no-go

zones, the Swedish police is expanding its soft approach of dialogue and understanding. After the extensive 2013 Stockholm ghetto riots with hundreds of burned cars and buildings, police responded by mostly staying away and sending forth special “dialogue officers” to grill halal hot dogs with the miscreants and make them see the errors of their ways.

Starting next year, the Stockholm Policy Academy will be moved to Söder-

törns Högskola, where the new curriculum will be “progressive” with more focus on cultural sensitivity, ethical awareness, gender issues, and more. The aspiring police officers will achieve “greater understanding of the intercultural perspective.”

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Colorado Springs Woman Survives Home Invasion Thanks To Her Gun

by Bob Owens,
BearingArms.com

A Colorado Springs woman who lives alone in a rented home is shaken up but fortunate to be alive after being forced to shoot and kill a home invader that wouldn’t stop advancing upon her, even after she fired a warning shot.

The criminal—which the media is referring to only as a burglar, despite there being no information suggesting that was the reason he was in the home of a woman living alone—first attempted to breach the back door. When he failed to break through the door, he then broke a window with a brick to enter the home.

That was his next to last mistake.

“She said she just heard some crashing, and got up and saw that this guy was climbing through her window,” said homeowner Linda Orist of her tenant.

Orist said her tenant was upset and shaken up but was relieved that she was OK.

“She was upset that she had to kill someone to protect herself,” said Orist.

Orist said the man initially tried to get in through the back door. When he was unsuccessful, Orist said he broke a window with a brick and tried to climb in.

“She warned him that she had a gun and to go away but he, I don’t know, for whatever reason, he kept coming, and she shot a warning shot into the wall

and he kept coming so she had to shoot him twice,” said Orist.

There was absolutely no reason at all that the renter needed to fire a warning shot, and, as we’ve noted repeatedly, warning shots are a horrible idea and are generally illegal (as a practical matter, you are either justified in using deadly force against an attacker or you are not; a warning shot is therefore often successfully prosecuted by anti-gun district attorneys as assault with a deadly weapon). Nonetheless, the home invader did keep coming after the warning shot until the renter fired two more shots which finally persuaded him to attempt to flee.

Police responding to the 911 call found the man outside the home, and he was reported dead at the hospital.

The lawyer who was questioned for the story said that the renter might attempt to justify her case with the state’s so-called “Make My Day” law, which is a large steaming pile of bovine excrement.

This was a classic self-defense case under castle doctrine, which was the prevailing law in the English-speaking world since before the United States was even a country.

As a side note, never trust a defense attorney who does a television interview wearing a hoodie.

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Weather Channel Founder: Man-Made Global Warming is “Baloney”

by Patrick Goodenough,
CNSNews.com

On the same day that the U.N. Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change issued a major new global warming report, John Coleman, a founder of the Weather Channel, appeared on CNN Sunday to reiterate his stance that “climate change is not happening.”

Describing himself as a “skeptic,” not a denier — “that is a word meant to put me down” — the veteran weather forecaster told CNN’s “Reliable Sources” that the news network was promoting an inaccurate view on the issue.

“CNN has taken a very strong position on global warming, that it is a consensus,” he said. “Well, there is no consensus in science. Science isn’t a vote, science is about facts.”

“And if you get down to the hard, cold facts, there’s no question about it: Climate change is not happening, there is no significant, man-made global warming now, there hasn’t been any in the past, and there’s no reason to expect any in the future. There’s a whole lot of baloney.”

Coleman said climate change has become part of the Democratic Party platform, adding that he regretted that the issue has become “political instead of scientific.”

“But the science is on my side,” he declared.

Challenged on the assertion that “97 percent of climate scientists” are in agreement on the issue, Coleman charged that the figure was “manipulated.”

Since the government only funds scientists who put out results “supporting the global warming hypothesis,” he claimed, “they don’t have any choice.”

“If you’re going to get the money, you’ve got to support their position. Therefore 97 percent of the scientific reports published support global warming. Why? Because those are the ones the government pays for and that’s where the money is.”

Weather Channel CEO David Kenny also appeared on the show, and distanced himself from Coleman’s views.

“We’re grateful that he got it [the channel] started 32

years ago, but he hasn’t been with us in 31 years, so he’s not really speaking for the Weather Channel in any way today,” he said.

“Our position is really clear, it’s scientifically-based and we’ve been unwavering on it for quite some time now.”

Last week the Weather Channel reissued a 2007 statement giving its position on climate change.

“More than a century’s worth of detailed climate observations shows a sharp increase in both carbon dioxide and temperature,” the statement says.

“These observations, together with computer model simulations and historical climate reconstructions from ice cores, ocean sediments and tree rings all provide strong evidence that the majority of the warming over the past century is a result of human activities. This is also the conclusion drawn, nearly unanimously, by climate scientists.”

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Politics & The Bible

From Pastor Jim

Jim Modlish has been in the ministry 48 years, pastoring churches large and small from upstate New York to western Washington. He holds a doctorate in theology, but frequently states: "I have education, but I got over it."

Southern Colorado natives, Jim and his wife, Linda, were happy to return to their home state in 2006. They started the Huerfano Community Bible Church in Walsenburg six years ago, and that work has experienced excellent growth and the blessings of God. Pastor Modlish believes the Bible is the greatest political science textbook on earth, and that all current events should be examined under the searchlight of Scripture.



God's Inconsiderate Allocations?

God must have been exceptionally busy the day He lettered the Ten Commandments. At the very least the Divine Writ should have included an addendum to the truth, "Thou shalt not covet." Perhaps it should read: "Your resistance against heavy taxation so that others may enjoy the fruit of your labor is a violation of this Holy instruction." If that codicil was incorporated, there may be less opposition by the ACLU to publicly display the Decalogue. The re-distribution of wealth is one of the primary themes of liberal ideology which has a variety of tentacles to reach into the billfold of the unsuspecting.

Mr. Obama regularly camps on the theme of minimum wage, suggesting that it needs to be raised to a living income. To fulfill that dream I would suppose that twenty dollars an hour, particularly when withholding is factored in, would be essential. Prices would then have to be raised proportionately which would automatically reduce the number of consumers. It's already a strain on many families to take an occasional trip to McDonalds. The intended consequences would result in fewer employees needed and more Americans living at the pleasure of the government octopus.

Not only is minimum wage essential for the economy, but it also serves as a very necessary requirement to provide incentive to the ambitious. These jobs never satisfy the motivated but simply serve as temporary training for future betterment. If enticement can be stolen from the worker, a larger segment of society turns into drones which is a perfect platform for socialism.

Once again, the Scriptures rise to the occasion and provide some com-

mon sense. In Matthew 20 Jesus told a parable about a man who owned a vineyard and hired laborers to work a shift. Being short of workers, he periodically went into the marketplace throughout the day to hire others. At the end of the day the employer gathered the laborers together and passed out equal paychecks regardless of how long they toiled. Needless to say, the group which worked the longest were infuriated, feeling they were cheated!

Some would use this ac-

**To remove
all of the
speed bumps
was never
God's plan.**

count as a Godly directive for re-distribution, but as you might expect that crowd doesn't hang around for the end of the story. The protestors are met with this line of reasoning: 1.) Was not your wage agreed upon before you started? No one held a gun to your head and forced you into slavery. 2.) "Is it not lawful for me to do what I will with mine own?" So-called "fairness" is a doctrine that usually concentrates on the receiver but ignores the giver, unless, of course, the contributor is the government.

The larger picture of the teaching is clear: God is often accused of being unfair because He does not distribute according to human expectations. Only a handful are given the physical attributes that allow them to play in the NFL or NBA. Very few can actually make an Olympic team. A limited number possess great intelligence while most are ordinary or less. I wish I had perfect pitch and the ability to be a concert pianist, but when God

was passing out musical brains, I thought he said train, and I got the caboose.

In an effort to compensate for God's "unfair distribution," leftist theology mandates efforts to equalize God's inconsiderate allocations; therefore, it becomes the primary duty of government to institute concessions and level the playing field. This rationale is extremely destructive because even the average person can possess ambition and initiative that needs to be challenged to reach its full potential.

When the great Polish pianist, Ignace Paderewski, first chose to study piano, his music teacher told him his hands were much too small to master the keyboard. When the great Italian tenor, Enrico Caruso, first applied for instruction, the teacher told him his voice sounded like the wind whistling through the window. When the great statesman of Victorian England, Benjamin Disraeli, attempted to speak in Parliament for the first time, members hissed him into silence and laughed when he said, "Though I sit down now, the time will come when you will hear of me." Henry Ford forgot to put a reverse gear in his first car. When F.W. Woolworth was twenty-one, he got a job in a store, but was not allowed to wait on customers because he "didn't have enough sense." Walt Disney was once fired by a newspaper editor because he was thought to have "no good ideas." An editor told Louisa May Alcott that she was incapable of writing anything that would have popular appeal.

Failures, repeated failures are the fingerprints on the road of achievement. To remove all of the speed bumps was never God's plan.

A Sheepdog Barks!

Plop, Plop! Fizz, Fizz! Oh, what a relief it is! The 2014 midterm election results were like a giant Alka-Seltzer for America. However, it only provided some relief; it didn't make our severe national headache go completely away. Obama, of course, is the severe, pounding, migraine-type of headache for America. He's been tamped down just enough so we can survive until 2016 - maybe. His press conference the day after we took the Alka-Seltzer gave us all great pause for seeing much change while he is still around.

Shortly after the elections Obama spoke at a Press Conference and also in an interview with CBS. We learned a lot about this man, actually we just re-confirmed a lot about this Junior Varsity player. It was made perfectly clear that he remains egomaniacal, arrogant, delusional, defiant, and a radical socialist ideologue. WOOF! Several years ago he told then House Minority leader Eric Cantor that "I won and elections have consequences." But when the shoe is on the other foot he actually refuses to acknowledge that! He has no intentions of working with the Republican-controlled 114th Congress starting in January 2015. WHY? Good question. He said it was because he "heard" the 2/3 of the American people who didn't vote, and by golly, they all support him and his harmful policies. I call it the "stealth" vote! With that kind of clairvoyance it's strange that he didn't glean what Putin, Assad, and the Iranian leaders were and are up to. He should have "heard" them. WOOF! In six years he has yet to work with the Republicans and won't in his last two years. Here's the real Obama. During the press conference he said he would like to have a Kentucky Bourbon with Mitch McConnell (R-KY), the new presumptive Senate Majority Leader. Sounds good on the surface, right? However, in the next sentence he said that he didn't know what Mitch's preferred choice of beverage was. No one

in the media seized on that "informative" sentence. It reveals the real problem. After six years he should darn well know what Mitch drinks. He never cared to sit down with the Republicans and never will. He repeatedly said he wanted to work with the Republicans. But he always finished his sentences with "if they bring me something 'I' like, 'I'll' sign it." REALLY? Something "HE" likes? How about something the American people would like and that would be good for them. Obama is focused only on amnesty, climate change regulations, Obamacare and his legacy. Don't expect much. Three days after the election he invited the Congressional leaders to the White House for lunch. The day after the election he invited Al Sharpton to the White House for lunch. Tell you his priorities? You bet it does. Barack & Al - new BFFs. WOOF! Just before the election he said his policies were "on the ballot." Right after the good ole fashioned butt-kicking, he said they weren't really on the ballot. He just felt he and his administration had not sold them well enough. It was the message, not the policy. REALLY? This sheepdog believes it was clearly the policies. During his six years the median annual family income has gone down \$2,848. That is the middle class folks. Yet he says all his efforts are to improve the middle class. He spent a lot of money and not much happened. \$376 Billion for bailouts, \$840 Billion for a Stimulus package, and \$3.6 Trillion in free stimulus money from the Federal Reserve so far, and what does he have to show for it? Not much but phony unemployment numbers, the smallest work force in American history and scandals galore. He is simply a failure. He told CBS he would "reach out" to Republicans and needed to better "sell" his ideas and "persuade" them to do things his way. Notice Obama NEVER said he would "listen" or "accept" any of their ideas. Obama-Reid gridlock is dead. Obama gridlock is very much alive. The Republicans need to be smart



and force him to govern for once in his two terms. It won't be easy, but they need to make the effort. The GOP needs a methodical plan to send one bill after another to the president's desk. They need to reform taxes, approve the Keystone pipeline, end excessive regulations, pass budgets, scrap ridiculous EPA rules, stop the war on coal, eliminate the IRS, dismantle Obamacare and replace it with common sense reforms, reduce corporate tax rates and repatriate the money that is overseas. And they need to address and reform legal immigration. It's a tall order but must be worked on diligently if they want to retain and gain even more power in 2016.

Let's end today with a little about the president's trip to China. What's with the wearing of the Tunic and bowing once again to a foreign leader! It's not our culture. It's their culture. Let them do it. The President of the United States should be polite, respectful, and exhibit American values. And stop with the gum chewing and smacking. It's tacky and rude. He looked clueless, foolish, and embarrassed. Oh, wait!

The bottom line of the 2014 election is that it gives us a sense that hope is alive and well. However, we must all stay committed, active, and vigilant. If we don't, the LPs will rise up and go after our money, our personal responsibilities, and our liberties and freedoms, especially our 1st and 2nd Amendment rights. All you sheepdogs need to stay on the alert and double your efforts to warn the sheep of the dangers all around us. WOOF!

May God Have Mercy on



Real Life Sticker Shock: I'm Getting Reamed by Obamacare

by Allen West,
AllenBWest.com

You know how it is when you read about bad news happening to other people, and you think, yeah, but that's not going to happen to me?

Well, it IS happening to me, and it may well be happening to you very soon.

I'm getting reamed by Obamacare.

Today I received a letter from Cigna, my current health insurance provider, saying the plan President B. Hussein Obama promised me over and over I could keep... is being cancelled.

The letter says, "We have decided not to offer your current health coverage again next year. Your current coverage will end on December 31, 2014."

But Cigna very helpfully suggests a new plan that's similar to my current plan. It will be **EIGHT HUNDRED AND FOUR DOLLARS A MONTH**. That's nearly a 30 percent increase over what I'm paying now.

Also included is a "Consumer Notice" which explains the impact of Obamacare on health plan costs. I'm including it here so you can enjoy it, too.

Cigna explains I'm going to have to take it up the wazoo price-wise because now health plans:

- Must offer new benefits.
- Must cover everyone even if they have pre-existing medical conditions
- Must pay new taxes and fees which add to health plan costs.
- Must charge the same health plan costs to men and women.
- Must limit how much your age can af-

Consumer Notice
The Impact of Federal Health Care Reform on Health Plan Costs*

Federal health care reform may change health plan benefits and costs. After January 1, 2014, health insurers and HMOs:

- Must offer new benefits.
- Must cover everyone even if they have preexisting medical conditions.
- Must pay new taxes and fees which add to health plan costs.
- Must charge same health plan costs to men and women.
- Must limit how much your age can affect health plan costs.

Below is an **example** using one of our company's most popular plans and the cost of a new plan showing the impact of federal health care reform. This is an example only and it does not show differences in co-payments and deductibles. Your health plan costs may not change in the same way. Your health plan costs may be reduced if you qualify for federal tax credits or subsidies.

This example compares the health plan monthly cost for Open Access 2000/80% before federal health care reform to the health plan monthly cost for the new myCigna Health Savings 1900 health plan offered after health care reform.

	Ages 21-29		Ages 30-54		Ages 55-64	
	Male	Female	Male	Female	Male	Female
Open Access 2000/80% Monthly Health Plan Cost before Federal Health Care Reform	\$ 161	\$ 205	\$ 306	\$ 356	\$ 658	\$ 616
myCigna Health Savings 1900 Monthly Health Plan Cost after Federal Health Care Reform	\$ 302	\$ 302	\$ 429	\$ 429	\$ 777	\$ 777
Portion of Monthly Health Plan Cost due to federal health care reform:						
Cost of new benefits we must offer	\$ 17	\$ 22	\$ 32	\$ 38	\$ 70	\$ 65
Cost to cover everyone, even those with preexisting medical conditions	\$ 39	\$ 49	\$ 69	\$ 85	\$ 145	\$ 137
New taxes and fees we must pay	\$ 21	\$ 21	\$ 30	\$ 30	\$ 55	\$ 55
Cost to charge the same for men and women and to limit how age can affect plan costs	\$ 63	\$ 4	\$ (8)	\$ (80)	\$ (151)	\$ (96)
Dollar Difference in Health Plan Costs	\$ 141	\$ 97	\$ 124	\$ 73	\$ 119	\$ 161
Percentage Difference in Health Plan Costs	87.1%	47.1%	40.4%	20.6%	18.1%	26.2%

*The Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act, Pub. L. No. 111-148, as amended by the Health Care and Education Reconciliation Act of 2010, Pub. L. No. 111-152, and regulations adopted pursuant to these acts.

fect health plan costs.

There's even a handy chart that breaks down the before and after differences in health plan costs for different age groups. I may be smarting from my nearly 30 percent increase, but the real pain will be felt by young men, age 21 to 29, who may realize an increase of 87.1 percent. Those lucky men age 55 to 64 may see an average increase of only 18.1 percent.

And I know our Dear Leader said the "Affordable (HA!) Care Act" would reduce health costs, but I can't find anything on that page that looks like a reduction – not even in teeny, tiny, fine print. Nope, it all just looks like a giant one finger salute to me.

What superb timing that I should get this letter the day before Election Day, the day before President Obama's policies are on the bal-

lot. Of course he did his best to postpone these changes until after the midterm election, but those pesky insurance companies sent the letters out anyway.

Not that it mattered to me. I voted against his policies on the ballot early by mail – that's assuming my vote is even accurately counted.

No, I can't keep my plan if I like it. I probably can't keep my doctor. And the Affordable Care Act is just an act – like so much in this administration.

So keep an eye out for your own personal nasty surprise. And feel free to share your stories with me. Misery loves company.

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Please see: allenbwest.com/2014/11/real-life-sticker-shock-im-getting-reamed-obamacare/

JUDICIARY From page 17

come from across the political spectrum; a recent Boulder Weekly article ("Bench Bias") raises the specter of institutionalized "gender bias" in the review commissions (the "old-boy network" in action?)

A Durango Herald article ("When grading judges isn't blind") also alleged bias in the commission reviews.

Whether the bias(es) are of political, gender, racial, regional, or any other origin – the lack of transparency in the current system serves to cover up and perpetuate such problems.

Reform, Accountability, Transparency to DE-politi- cize Colorado Courts

Apologists for the current, non-transparent and unaccountable state-sponsored system support a continued cover-up of the existing politicization of Colorado's judiciary. They are complicit in a fraud perpetuated on the citizens of Colorado.

In contrast, **Clear The Bench Colorado's** approach supports substantive evaluations of judicial performance based on documented reviews of their primary "work product" (the rated judges' written opinions, which are posted as a reference for readers to review) – **a vote for transparency and accountability.**

Don't be "tricked" by the incestuous Legal Establishment apologists – and the partisan political appointee "review" commissions they are complicit in foisting on Colorado voters.

There is a clear public need

and demand for substantive, independent evaluations of judicial performance – but, just as clearly, the "official" CO-JPE "rubberstamp reviews" and consistent recommendations to reflexively retain incumbents (99% overall, and a staggering 100% "retain" recommendation record at the appellate court level) is NOT a credible solution.

Clear The Bench Colorado has shown the way towards a method of substantive, informative, well-researched, and extensively documented evaluations of judicial performance - a model that could (and perhaps should) be emulated nationwide.

Clear The Bench Colorado will, with your support, continue to promote transparency and accountability in the Colorado judiciary, informing the public to increase awareness of the substantial public policy implications of an unrestrained activism and political agendas in the courts. We will continue to work to educate voters and provide information of relevance related to the judicial branch, and to provide useful and substantive evaluations of judicial performance.

However, **we can't do it alone** – we need your continued support; via your comments (Sound Off!) and, yes, your contributions. **Freedom isn't free -nor is it always easy to be a Citizen, not a subject.**

Ultimately, though – it's worth the effort.

Please see: www.clearthebenchcolorado.org/2014/11/01/colorados-official-judicial-performance-evaluation-system-lacks-transparency-covers-up-a-politicized-judiciary/

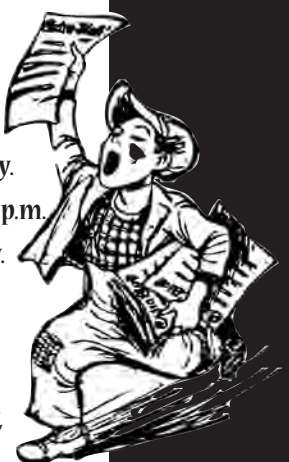
**Therefore submit to God.
Resist the devil and
he will flee from you.**

James 4:7, NKJV

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Local Mountain News & Notices

ENFORCEMENT From page 16

about it then tell me what we can do to help. Don't walk in here and say," he hits the desk with his fist, before continuing, "It needs to be cleaned up right NOW! O.K. what is right now? With the resources we have available, you tell me how to do it. You are asking me the questions you ought to be asking Mr. Garrou the question, what are you doing? As a Homeowners Association they should have done this a long time ago. They should be the ones enforcing their own regulations, not letting it get to the point where it is and then asking the county to take care of it. We will not enforce their regulations, we won't do that. My name was brought up at a meeting saying I don't do anything, nothing could be further from the truth. A thousand tires up there, there ain't a thousand tires up there. We have this guy under violation right now. We're going to take more action. Matter of fact, Ron and I just discussed it this week, and last week. We are trying to figure out how we can get them removed, but I can't get them removed unless I get the property owner to agree with us to get them removed, or we go to court." That is a decision that can only be

made by the County Attorney and the Commissioners.

Denise Garrou said in response to Mr. Sapp's remarks, "The book of pictures we gave him, had only two listed from Glen Vista. We addressed the whole of western Fremont County at the last meeting, knowing that they think this is just our issue. One last item I would like to reiterate," Sapp told my husband, John Garrou, that he would give up after three months, (What does that say about Mr. Sapp and his office?) that was a year ago. This is a learning curve for all residents," she added, "We ARE learning, We have NOT gone away, we are gaining momentum, and we don't plan to give up. The more they stonewall us the more incentive it gives us. You can't govern from behind your desk and blaming residents for the problems of county government is just not kosher. This entire area of Fremont County is a powder keg, and it won't take much to set it off. These taxpaying residents are asking for help, they will be at the county commissioners meeting again, pleading their case. Maybe the public should plan to attend as well and make their own informed decision about what their elected officials are or are not doing.

Be Informed,

Get Involved

NIGHTMARE 2 From page 5

this article while the bill was being written. Recognizing unintended circumstances is no benefit to the Chambers. They still reside inside the sphere of the grow nightmare.

Like Obamacare, the answer here is to throw out the Colorado pot law altogether. Or, at the very least, re-write the laws to criminalize violations of the regulations and give the cops the power to seize illegal plants (at a legal grow site) and arrest offenders for violations.

This situation should serve as a warning to any government entity in Custer County that is considering marijuana cultivation or sales has far more implications than tax revenue. Growing pot is not the same as growing corn. The people involved in these operations, as demonstrated in this article, are not the kind of people anyone wants to

have for neighbors.

Jim and Kay Chambers could be any of you, dear readers. Their 44-acre, beautiful Colorado mountain ranch has turned into a constant day and night nightmare.

***Like rats
to cheese
the illegal
grows have
sprouted up.***

Whether it is an indoor pot grow, an outdoor pot grow, a "medical" pot store, or a "retail" pot store, the criminality surrounding these endeavors quickly becomes visible. Property values drop for the WHOLE community and those liv-

ing next to these horrible entities find their properties worthless. Law enforcement costs rocket upward. All this because the politicians want a few tax dollars! Notice the fact that no Fremont County officials live near this legal pot grow.

Locally, take notice Westcliffe Town Council and Silver Cliff Town Council. Your quest for tax dollars from the devil could devastate your property tax base and increase your Sheriff Department's law enforcement costs (that you are complaining about NOW) by multiples of ten. Contact Sheriff-elect Byerly for his opinion and hear it from him in person. Flooding our beautiful rural area with legal pot will have a tremendously negative impact on our economy (what business would want to move here with pot shops or grows around) and make this gateway drug even more available to our children.

Jim and Kay Chambers have seen the devil. Take notice, fellow citizens.

***The most terrifying words
in the English language are:
I'm from the government
and I'm here to help.***

~Ronald Reagan

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