

All Aboard Wild Bill's Toy Run

by George Gramlich

At 511 Main Street, Westcliffe, the offices of K&L Log Homes and the Veteran Services Office, there is a back room that you can see from the front offices. Come fall for the last few years it becomes Custer County's "Santa's Work Shop" as Wild Bill Miller and his elves gather toys, clothing, and other presents for our valley's children for Christmas.

Wild Bill, a distinguished Vietnam War combat veteran, started the Toys For Kids toy drive years ago to help our less fortunate valley families with Christmas gifts for their children. Due to Bill's and his helper elves' dedication and hard work, and the tremendous generosity of our citizens, the project has been a great success every year.

Due to an increase in demand, we need to dig a little bit deeper this year to make sure all of our kids in the valley have a fun Christmas morning. Last year, Bill and his elves helped 85 valley families with 182 kids getting gifts.

Bill informs us that this year they will need gifts for an additional 30 kids or so, bringing the total kids needing presents this year to around 210. That's a lot

is looking for the whole gammit of gifts including regular toys/dolls for younger kids, to soccer or basketballs, books for all



The Comfort Quilters: (left to right) Pat McGranor, Donna Huebner, Sherrie Smith deliver quilts to Wild Bill (back) for the Toys for Kids Christmas project.

Sentinel photo by George Gramlich

kids folks, and that means Bill needs more presents for these children. And it is up to us to get these to him.

Bill says to keep the cost of each gift under ten or fifteen dollars (but don't be afraid to splurge a little on something nice) and don't wrap them. He

age groups, winter gloves, winter hats and scarves, baseball gloves, balls and bats, volleyballs, etc. You can also make a cash donation which is very helpful as often there is a sector unfilled at the end of the drive, and this leaves Bill with the cash to simply buy what is needed.



Wild Bill and his elves, Lorraine Silva and Tammy Lackey, at "Santa's Workshop" at 511 Main St.

Sentinel photo by George Gramlich

Special thanks has to be given to the Comfort Quilters of Custer County. As shown in the picture to the left, they donated a large number of beautiful, hand-made quilts and accessories (such as pillows) to the Toys for Kids project last Tuesday at 511 Main Street. The amount of work that goes into making these special gifts is simply amazing.

You can drop the gifts off by December 15th to 511 Main Street, the Sentinel (610 Main Street), the Sil-

ver Cliff Mountain Inn and Restaurant, the Westcliffe Super Market, Nacho Mama's restaurant, the Family Dollar Store, and First State Bank. Cash or check donations should be dropped off at 511 Main Street or First State Bank, payable to Toys for Kids.

All it takes is a little effort, a few dollars, and you can put a smile on the face of one of our kids this Christmas morning. And if you see Wild Bill, tell him thanks and God Bless.

Cañon City Banks Partner With Police to Stop Scammers

by Candy Thompson

The voice on the phone asked, "Are you the Candace Thompson who lives at (address)?" I almost said "Yes" but hesitated and asked, "Who is this?" I didn't recognize who he said he represented. So I asked, "Why do you want to know?"

He said that he had some important information to give me and needed the last four digits of my social security. Red flags waved before my eyes saying, don't do it; it's a scam. Then I really was suspicious and told him in no uncertain terms that I wasn't giving him that information and he could take a hike. I'm one of the lucky ones in Fremont County, it seems.

Jen O'Connor, the Crime Prevention Coordinator for the Cañon City Police, verified the above attempt as a scammer when I called about the community seminar, "Fraud, Scam, and Identity Theft" she is

holding on December 3 at 9 a.m. - 10:30 a.m. at E-Free Church in Cañon City. Since November 16-22 was International Fraud Awareness Week and the local residents are reporting increased fraud, Jen is holding this FREE seminar open to the entire community to raise awareness.

The Cañon City Police Department and 11 local banks have partnered together to help make citizens aware of how to protect themselves and what to do if they are a victim of fraud, a scam, or identity theft. Locally there has been an increase of reports to police from victims of these crimes with large amounts of money stolen from bank customers, etc.

The scammer who called me, Jen said, was trying to connect my name with bits of information, like

See SCAMMERS on page 6

Santa Claus is Coming to Town!

Santa will be at the Silver Cliff Town Park

Saturday, December 6th at 1 p.m.



There will be hot dogs, hot chocolate, and marshmallows to roast!

Santa will then head to All Aboard Westcliffe from 4 p.m. - 7 p.m.

Join Santa and Westcliffe Mayor Veltrie at 5:45 p.m. to light the Christmas lights at the Jess Price Park



Colorado Fends Off Attack on Day of Prayer page 14

Ponzi Scheme: \$1 Trillion in New Debt in 8 Weeks

page 16

Obamacare: \$3000 Incentive to Hire Illegals! page 19

PATRIOT ALERT!

The "Do Anything" Rifle page 15



The LORD is good to those whose hope is in him, to the one who seeks him; it is good to wait quietly for the salvation of the LORD.

Lam 3:25-26 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

DID FERGUSON GET JUSTICE?



We believe so. But according to many Americans justice is in the eye of the "beholder" and in some cases "Eric Holder." Justice is certainly not always achieved in our courts. Years ago in another high profile case covered incessantly in the news a man who was clearly guilty of murdering his wife was found not guilty. Much of America was outraged at that verdict but it stood. We remember someone trying to explain how and why such a thing could happen. He explained it like this so we could all understand. "In America" he said, "we don't have a justice system, we have a legal system." That really does explain much of the insanity that comes out of courts and judges. Webster defines the kind of justice we are talking about like this: jus-tice (jus'tis) impartiality, fairness, the quality of being right or correct, sound reason, the use of authority and power to uphold what is right, just, or lawful, the administration of law. We believe we can all agree that that definition is not always reached. We suggest the federal government rename the Department of Justice the Department of Legal Actions. And with respect to what happened in Ferguson, Missouri, Obama went on TV and fanned the flames of discontent and distrust. Instead of strongly defending law enforcement and the lawful grand jury decision he suggested that justice wasn't served to the black community and he completely understood their reactions. That was tantamount to flipping on the "green light." That was the worst thing the President of the United States could have said. His wishy-washy statement of support for the Grand Jury decision en-

couraged what went on to happen, not only in Ferguson, but around the country. Was that justice? We think not. A leader wouldn't tell other Americans their unlawful behavior was understandable. Yes, he uttered some words about violence being wrong and that the lawless would be punished but the damage was done. It empowered those that wrongly believe they don't ever get justice to conduct violence. It empowered them to destroy, loot and burn. Even Michael Brown's family called the police officer a "killer" and the step-father encouraged others to "burn the *itch down." We presume he meant Ferguson. The mother even said on TV that she was convinced that Officer Wilson was intent on killing someone that day. Was this justice? No. Should the president have condemned that type of hate speech? Yes. What led to the death of Michael Brown that day? Some would have us believe that a young, innocent black teenager, minding his own business, was first harassed by a police officer, and then brutally, and without justifiable cause, murdered him. Witnesses even testified that Officer Wilson stood over Brown and fired multiple shots into him. When the three autopsies proved that was not true those witness disappeared or changed their testimony. When Michael Brown's friend who was with him was first questioned he told a story of how Brown had raised his arms and become submissive and Officer Wilson shot him in the back. He has been rendered completely discreditable by other black citizens who also witnessed what happened. They decided to tell the truth which sup-

ported the Officer's initial statements. Will Michael's friend be brought to justice? Probably not. He may be more responsible for the violence and destruction than anyone else. The facts in this case just don't justify the attention this story is getting across this nation about bad policing. There are legitimate examples of improper police force but this isn't one of them. The young boy in Cleveland, Ohio is one that needs to be looked at. However, this Ferguson police officer was in that neighborhood helping to get medical attention for a small child. He heard the call about the robbery and the very distinctive description of the thief. The size of Brown and the colors of the clothes he was wearing told the officer this was indeed the thief and he had to confront him. Yes, it's a tragedy police have to shoot anyone to get them to comply or to protect themselves or others. But let's review what happened here. Michael Brown robbed a convenience store and then bullied the manager. This is all on tape and undeniable. Does that evidence speak to the character and behavior of the young giant of a man? Yes, it does and he wasn't an innocent young man. When confronted by Officer Wilson, who clearly suspected him to be the thief, and told to get out of the middle of the street he chose not to. Instead he chose to assault the officer who was still in his car by punching him in the face and trying to steal his gun. Who really caused the series of events that led to Brown's death? Is it reasonable to assume that Officer Wilson would have simply handcuffed him and peacefully arrested him if Brown had followed instructions?

Yes, it is. But, whatever his reasons were Brown chose to threaten the officer and make him fear for his own safety. Michael Brown was 6'6" tall and about 300lbs. He was obviously angry and belligerent. That makes for a very dangerous environment. Who knows why Michael threatened the officer or why he came charging back at him after being shot in the initial scuffle. No one. Officer Wilson was forced to shoot Brown to stop him and protect himself. Any officer would have had to do that. Eye witnesses corroborate this. What happened that day is all on Michael Brown. There is no doubt he robbed the convenience store. There is no doubt he didn't obey the officer's instructions. There is no doubt that he attacked the police officer. In any case there is no doubt that his actions that day led to his death. Why? Those reasons need discussed. Not the actions of Officer Wilson. We believe justice was served in not indicting the officer. We believe he did what he was trained to do and what he had to do. Once attacked he had no choice. Let's move on and have a real discussion on why this happened. It isn't because Officer Wilson is a cold blooded killer. Stop the violence. Stop the destruction. Focus on the real tragedy in America. 331 citizens have been killed in Chicago alone through October of this year, mostly young and mostly black. This is where the energies and resources of the Department of Justice and other community leaders need to be placed. Distorting the facts serve no one.



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On the West Custer County Hospital District's Budget... From One Who Knows

Over the past several months, the West Custer County Hospital District Board of Directors and its volunteer advisors spent considerable time to convince Custer County voters that they needed a 3 mill levy increase to operate a fully staffed ambulance service with EMTs that were paid fair wages and benefits in order to attract, train, and retain EMS personnel. Two public forums, presentations to various community groups, letters to voters, and newspaper ads were a few ways they used to get their message out. They promised transparency and separating the bookkeeping of EMS and Clinic finances. On November 4, the voters passed the mill levy which is expected to give the hospital district over \$300,000 per year of additional tax revenue.

Special districts like the hospital district are required by law to develop and publish a budget for the next year by December 15 each year. Once the hospital district knew they had the mill levy increase, they developed a 2015 proposed budget which they released on November 25. It would be fair to assume that this budget would show separate figures for EMS and the clinic as was promised by the board during their forums. However, the budget does not separate the two business lines. Notes released with the budget state, "Appropriate accounting for and allocation of the new 3% EMS Mill Levy and resulting specific ownership taxes will be adopted in 2015 with counsel from HD auditors". Was

it too difficult to develop a budget that would reflect an accurate representation of what the 2015 accounting will look like? It took me only a few minutes to take their budget and separate the two business lines. (Apologies in advance for throwing out a bunch of figures but it's difficult to explain in a letter.) Their budget indicates a district profit of \$62,456. It also shows property tax revenue of \$780,120, specific ownership tax of \$80,359, and treasurer's fees of \$41,059 (5% of the taxes collected). If the hospital district abides by their promise that EMS will get 3.5 mills (or 44.26%) and the clinic will get 4.409 mills (or 55.74%) of the tax revenue, this gives EMS \$363,455 and

the clinic \$457,734 in tax revenues. If you allocate the treasurer's fees using the same percentages, EMS would pay \$18,172 and the clinic would pay \$22,887. Now take the rest of their budget, split out the other revenues and expenses of EMS and the clinic, and you arrive at a \$166,811 profit for EMS and a \$104,355 loss for the clinic. At forums the board presented a figure of \$102,000 of "administration costs" that EMS would have to pay to the clinic such as portions of the salaries of the executive director and CFO, malpractice insurance, legal, and auditing. Much of this \$102,000 figure was already allocated to EMS and is shown allocated to EMS in their 2015

budget such as billing, vehicle, and fire insurance, and workmen's compensation. Conservatively, these "administration costs that they want to allocate to EMS should be closer to \$45,000 which gives EMS a profit of around \$122,000 and the clinic a loss of around \$60,000 (still a \$62,000 district net profit). The board's goal has been to separate EMS from the district but if they do, these figures indicate that the clinic would operate at a loss greater than \$60,000 which may result in cutbacks in service, closure, and/or bankruptcy. The district (or more so the clinic) may be reluctant to part with EMS because they may want to use the new mill levy to operate

the clinic, although that would violate the mill levy increase.

However, the above figures do not show the whole picture. What their 2015 proposed budget also reveals is a 3% across-the-board raise for clinic staff (they already received a raise back in September). But even more disturbing is that the budget DOES NOT show any employee benefits for EMS personnel. During the forums the board promised EMTs would be benefited employees so they could receive medical/dental insurance, paid vacation, and paid sick leave like most clinic personnel receive today.

What promises were made by the hospital district before the election that they

are willing to renege on now? Transparency? Their website minutes, financial statements, or their proposed budget have not been updated in months. Separate accounting? Their budget shows no sign of that. Fair pay for EMTs starting January 1? EMTs may not receive their promised wages until March per the forum. Benefits for EMTs? No signs of that either in the budget. EMS getting one half mill of the current mill levy? The clinic may need it back. Advanced Life Support personnel on every first-out ambulance? The community may not know the answers to these and many other questions for some time to come.

Chuck Ippolito,
Silver Cliff

Hospital District 2015 Pro Forma Budget to supplement letter to the editor									
	EMS	Clinic	District						
Mills	3.500	4.408	7.908						
Percentage	44.26%	55.74%	100.00%						
Property Tax	\$ 327,879	\$ 412,941	\$ 740,820	Clinic Pt Fees	\$ 1,277,809	Other Clinic Revenue	\$ 597		
SO Tax	\$ 35,566	\$ 44,793	\$ 80,359		\$ 33,180		\$ 25,000	(\$39,000-\$14,000 Bluegrass)	
					\$ 65,000		\$ 40,000		
Total Tax Revenue	\$ 363,445	\$ 457,734	\$ 821,179		\$ 285,000		\$ 9,540		
					\$ 399,360		\$ 40,240		
Net Pt Fees	\$ 198,000	\$ 957,867	\$ 1,155,867		\$ 9,500				
Other Revenue	\$ 14,000	\$ 115,381	\$ 129,381						
Total Revenue	\$ 575,445	\$ 1,530,982	\$ 2,106,427	Total	\$ 2,072,849	Total	\$ 115,381		
				Less Disallows	\$ (1,114,982)				
				Net Clinic Pt Fees	\$ 957,867				
				Clinic Collection Rate	46.21%	Expenses to allocate to EMS	33% to EMS		
Total Expenses	\$ (2,043,971)	\$ (2,043,971)				Malpractice	\$ 20,972	\$ 6,921	
EMS only expenses	\$ (390,462)	\$ 390,462	\$ -	EMS Collection Rate	33.00%	Audit	\$ 22,800	\$ 7,520	
Treasurer's fees for EMS	\$ (18,172)	\$ 18,172	\$ -			Legal	\$ 14,400	\$ 4,752	
Other EMS expenses	\$ (25,000)	\$ 25,000	\$ -			D&O	\$ 7,800	\$ 2,574	
District Admin	\$ (20,000)	\$ 20,000	\$ -			Total District	\$ 65,972	\$ 21,771	
	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -			Allocate to EMS	\$ 25,000		
Total Expenses	\$ (453,634)	\$ (1,590,337)	\$ (2,043,971)			(throw in a little extra for good measure)			
Profit/(Loss)	\$ 121,811	\$ (59,355)	\$ 62,456						
EMS Overtime	\$ (25,908)			10% EMT salaries plus FICA, Unemployment					
EMS Benefits	\$ (64,000)			Per forum presentation					
Profit/(Loss)	\$ 31,903	\$ (59,355)	\$ (27,452)						
If EMS gets OT and benefits									
as promised to voters									
Notes:									
- EMS expenses (\$390,462) include vehicle and fire insurance, workmen's comp, billing									

Prepared by Chuck Ippolito
Budget2015ClinicEMS.xlsx



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Letters to the Editor



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Rules: We will print, at our discretion, the thoughts and ideas of our fellow citizen-patriots. Please limit your offerings to 250 words or less. No profanity or vulgarity, no personal attacks, and please sign your name. Also, please give us the general location of your residence and phone number or email - for confirmation only. *The opinions expressed here are solely those of the author; they do not reflect the opinions held or endorsed by the Sentinel.*

On the Hospital District's Mill Levy Increase: Stay Vigilant

Ballot Issue 4A to increase the property tax mill levy to help fund the local EMS has been approved by the Custer County voters. I encourage all citizens, property owners and voters to keep a vigilant watch on how these increased funds are expended. The West Custer County Hospital District (WCCHD) previously pledged to provide the community with twenty- four hour emergency services and ambulance care as stated in their 1988 Service Plan with the County. This service plan was a key component to the development of the Special District and the voter's approval for

the original mill levy funding. That commitment was not kept or upheld and, when questioned, the Hospital District Board and the Executive Director had one excuse after another why they were not capable of providing the services or why our community was not receiving these emergency services. Excuses don't save lives and as many of us know, emergency services and ambulance care are crucial and depended upon in our rural area so let's make sure we're getting what we approved this time.

Kris Lang
Rural Westcliffe

Going to Pot....

Not being officially a resident of Custer County, my comments really don't amount to much, unless being a resident of the greater community holds some sway. The Sentinel published a story three weeks ago about the negative effects of "legal" pot farming in Custer County, not the least of which were devalued properties, sleepless nights, and growing fear.

Anyone in Silver Cliff who can read must – MUST – read that article and put themselves in that scenario. Do you really think legal pot is the proverbial pot of

gold at the end of the rainbow for Silver Cliff and Fremont County? No-one really knows who backs the dream-weavers and story tellers promising Fremont County and Silver Cliff the moon in the guise of tax revenues.

It's about time some feet get connected to some backbones in the Wet Mountain Valley, and people start standing up for what they want and what they know is right. It's about time that the over-inflated dollar stops being the god before people bow and some kind of sanity takes hold of the

parents, business owners, and property owners here. It's about time that one little community takes a deep breath of the still-pristine air we breathe, and huffs, and puffs, and blows the smoke back down the mountain before everything we work for and enjoy and value literally goes up in smoke!

Wake up, Custer County! Don't let your lives be swallowed up in the greed and wheel-squeaking of a minority you can't even identify!

Sharon Buck,
Rural Fremont County

Is More Commercial Dog Breeding Coming to Custer County?

There is a Public Notice for an agenda item at the Custer County Board of Commissioners and Planning Commission Meeting on December 9, 2014, at 1 p.m. at the Custer County Courthouse.

This agenda item is for a proposal by Martin Troyer for a commercial dog breeding facility at 1017 County Road 118, Westcliffe, on property owned by Martin and Esther Troyer.

A commercial dog breeding facility/building is any formal set up

for dog breeding on a for-profit basis.

This commercial facility/building runs counter to the stated and written goals of Custer County Zoning Regulations and Mission Statement. Dogs are not "livestock" as in our current agricultural industry. You can read the Custer County Zoning Regulations regarding Home Occupations and Special Use Permits on the internet under www.custercounty.gov (see the section called planning and zoning).

In addition, current government agencies, including the Pet Animal Care and Facilities Act (PACFA) and the United States Dept. of Agriculture (USDA), are simply not able to provide adequate oversight at this time while the Applicant states that he will operate as licensed and inspected.

PACFA told me that they are not able to handle licensing complaints for at least 5 months. A USDA Inspector General Audit Report has outlined significant inadequacies in its animal wel-

fare enforcement and inspection, and, according to the report, they haven't been consistently effective in deterring breeding violators. This doesn't make for good reading.

The public can also read on the USDA website under the Animal Welfare section the many, many citations that have occurred across the country when the USDA does get to inspections. It doesn't make for good reading.

Again, any USDA limited in-

volvement doesn't mean that dogs are "livestock" so as to try and fit this under our Agricultural Zoning. Purebred dogs such as bichons and cavaliers are companion animals.

The next meeting, a Public Hearing, is scheduled for February 5, 2015 at 1 p.m. at the Custer County Courthouse.

Thank you.
Rebecca Bredehoft
Rural

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Local Mountain News & Notices



Be a World Changer

About 55 men attended the "Be a World Changer" conference on Saturday, November 27th, at Eagles Summit Ranch. Program graduates, Ron Taylor of Eagles Summit and keynote speaker Brad Hearon (pictured here) were featured in this "first annual" event.

Sentinel photo by Jim Silver

Silver Cliff Town Board Meeting

by Larry Luikart

The Silver Cliff Town Board meeting began promptly at 5:30 p.m. with the Pledge of Allegiance lead by Mayor Weber. There being no Old Business the Mayor moved directly to New Business.

A request for approval of the State Historical Society (SHS) Assessment of the Silver Cliff Museum was reviewed by the Board. Roger Camper reported the SHS proposal contained additions not previously discussed and their assessment of costs to perform the construction tasks were much higher than expected. After doing some foot work in checking with local contractors Mr. Camper discovered the work could be preformed at a nearly 60% savings from the SHS cost projection. Mayor Weber polled the Board and it was decided to withdraw the request for approval with the Town proceeding on its own with the Drainage Improvements for now. The door rehabilitation at the museum will be considered at a later date.

The auditor selected from those who chose to bid for the work for 2015 will be

Holscher, Mayberry, and Company, LLC, located in Englewood, Colorado. The cost of the audit for 2014 will be \$4,900. The firm included an irrevocable offer through 2018 listing their fees for those years in advance. The Board felt this fee structure presented a positive means to budget over the next several years.

The town Christmas Party will be held December 17, at 5:30 p.m. at Nacho Mama's. The town will absorb the cost of the dinner. Alcoholic beverages will not be included.

The Board approved signing the Upper Arkansas Area Council of Government Agreement at the same rate as last year of \$540. Cyber coverage insurance was added at no cost to the town for 2015.

Mayor Weber closed the regular meeting at 5:45 p.m. for public comments on the 2015 proposed budget. There were no comments and the regular meeting resumed at 5:48 p.m. with the adoption of the 2015 budget (vote 5 for, 2 against) and the approval of appropriating the money for the 2015 budget (unanimous).

The certification of the mill levy of 3.186 mills was approved for 2015. This levy is the same as 2014. The current amount is the maximum permitted. Mayor Weber indicated that an increase in the mill levy would be necessary in the future. Currently operations like road maintenance are just holding their own. It will be necessary to increase the levy in the future if any real improvements are to be made to the streets.

The Meeting and Holiday Schedule 2015 was approved, same as 2014, (5 for and 1 against).

Mr. Roger Camper reported on the Planning Commission meeting. A study is now under way to determine which of the light configurations looked at will be the most cost effective and still meet the needs of the Town.

He discussed briefly the marijuana proposal presented. The Board felt they needed input from the State of Colorado in regard to enforcement and they requested more information on the retail operations. *Reporter's note: This reporter referred the Board*

to the *Sentinel* article on the Chamber's situation in Fremont County and I stated my experience with the State of Colorado, Department of Revenue enforcement personnel. One Board member said this is not Fremont County and another indicated that Sheriff-Elect Shanon Byerly seemed somewhat disturbed by the content of the *Sentinel* reporting. Another Board member indicated he felt there was erroneous information being circulated and still another praised the medicinal values of medical marijuana. They did discuss the need for an eventual public hearing on the issue. Mayor Weber indicated he was pleased the issue would not be on the ballot until 2016 and he did not support marijuana.

On December 6 at 1:00 p.m. Santa will be at the Silver Cliff Town Park. Hot dogs, hot chocolate, and marshmallows will be available to roast on the fire. Bring your camera. You can follow Santa to All Aboard Westcliffe. He will be there from 4:00 p.m. until 7:00 p.m. At 5:45 p.m. Santa and Mayor Veltrie, of Westcliffe, will join in the lighting ceremony at Jesse Price Park.

Living Nativity

Shepherd of the Hills Lutheran Church will present its 16th Annual Living Nativity on Saturday, December 13th, from 5:00 to 7:30 p.m., at 801 N. Sheridan Avenue in Cañon City. The event will include the cast, music, narration and animals provided by members of the Penrose Horses & Hounds 4-H Club, which is led by Angie Ladeau and Elaine Stricklett. The 4-H members will also be part of the cast of the Living Nativity.

Free will donations of cash and non-perishable food items will be accepted for the benefit of Mercy Today Ministries to assist them with expenses of their Tuesday free lunch program

and food pantry.

Come view the Living Nativity with family and friends and be a part of this Fremont County tradition celebrating the "reason for the season". Visitors may drive by the Nativity or they may park their vehicles and take additional time to view and reflect on the Nativity scene and see the animals.

Directions: Go north on 15th Street, turn left on Woodlawn Avenue, and at the second stop sign turn right onto Sheridan. Or, go north on 9th Street, turn right onto College and then left onto Sheridan (one block past the High School). The church is the last building on the left on Sheridan.

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Silver Sneak 5k Walk/Run was Fun for All

There was great turnout for this fundraiser to benefit Club America last Saturday. Several locals came out, including Corey Lewenkamp (pictured right) who recently signed a letter of intent to run for the University of Alabama in Huntsville. Keep on running, folks!

Sentinel photos by Carol Clemenson



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Local Mountain News & Notices



Wild Bill's Toy Dance

Friday, Dec. 5th

**6:00 p.m. at the Silver Dome
in Silver Cliff
Live Music**

**Cost of admission is either
a donation of a new toy
or cash.**

**Toy boxes are now at the following locations,
and Wild Bill is counting on his good friends
of Custer County to fill them up!**

- Sangre de Cristo Sentinel
- Silver Cliff Mountain Inn and Restaurant
- Westcliffe Super Market
- Nacho Mama's
- Family Dollar Store
- First State Bank
- 511 Main Street

Westcliffe Town Board Meeting Report

by Larry Luikart

The regular meeting of the Westcliffe Town Board began at 5:30 p.m. with The Pledge of Allegiance. The Roll was called with Mr. Wenke absent. The minutes from the November meeting were approved. The bills and treasurer's reports were quickly approved.

The Board had no Old Business on the agenda permitting Mayor Veltrie to move into New Business. The Board heard and approved a request to sign the Upper Arkansas Area Council of Governments Recycle Agreement for 2015.

The Board considered adding additional cyber coverage for 2015. After some discussion regarding additional premium cost versus the increased coverage the Board decided to keep the current coverage.

Major Veltrie opened the meeting for a public hearing regarding the proposed 2015 budget. There was no one who wished to comment. The public hearing period was closed and the Board immediately considered the adoption of the 2015 budget. (Approved). The next item was the appropriation of funds for the 2015 budget. (Approved).

The mill levy for 2015 has been set at 5.515 mills. This is a small increase from 2014 of 4.999 mills. The Board approved the levy increase.

Jerry Keffer reported on the continuing changes being proposed to meet the new Dark Skies requirements. Mr. Keffer asked each of the Board members to look at the four different lights on Fourth Street and then pick one they preferred.

The prairie dog problem

has a solution. Mr. Keffer found an exterminator who will dispatch the offending animals. The information will be sent to the land owners so they may pay for the cost of dispatching the offending critters.

The play ground equipment work continues. Children's Play structures representative met with the staff. They looked at the existing space at the park and worked though the companies catalogue of options. Children's Play Structures will submit three options for consideration.

The Clerk reported she updated the Fourth and Fifth Street improvement project with CDOT. This report is required but does not provide any more funds for the Town.

There were no public comments at this meeting.

SCAMMERS From page 1

my address and last four digits of my social, so he could call in to another contact who would have other gathered information so that they could get my bank account and other accounts. Under no circumstances should you give out any personal information to a stranger over the phone or in an email.

Jen will be covering large amounts of information

on the types of scams robbing local citizens. Medicare, tax fraud, grandparent scams and IRS scams, are just a few she will be covering to educate and alert people in Fremont County, not to invoke fear but to make aware of schemes these criminals are conjuring up to pay for their Christmas lists. They are a very "naughty" bunch indeed.

The scammer who called me was so smooth and his question was worded so

that I almost said, "Yes," without thinking to what seemed like an innocent, harmless question, "Is this the Candace Thompson at (address) in Cañon City?" It may be too late for the seminar, but it's not too late to heighten your awareness and be on guard. Have a Merry Christmas.

Be informed!
Get involved!

For more information call Jen O'Connor at the Cañon City Police Department 719-276-5600

Emergency Commodities to be Distributed Dec. 17th

The 'Temporary Emergency Food Assistance Program' (TEFAP) Commodities will be distributed on December 17th. New rules will require person show verification they live in Custer County. Types of valid verification would include ID, utility bills, or mail received at your current address. Distribution to the eligible public will start shortly after 8:00 a.m. as soon as volunteer staff are prepared. Distribution will take place at the south end of the scale house behind the courthouse. Consumers should have access to freez-

er space as some of the items need to be kept frozen until used.

Commodities will be handed out on a first-come basis and include: canned salmon, frozen blueberries, raisins, canned potatoes, rice, Tostitos Cereal, and frozen chicken leg quarters.

Other non TEFAP product may be available depending on availability. Commodities are distributed on the 2nd Wednesday after the 2nd Monday of each month. "The USDA is an equal opportunity employer and provider".

**Though I walk in the midst of trouble,
You will revive me;
You will stretch out Your hand
against the wrath of my enemies,
And Your right hand will save me.**

Psalm 138:7, NKJV



Help Rotary Help the Community



The Wet Mountain Valley Rotary Foundation is a service organization, providing scholarships to our graduating high school seniors. We also offer community services for those who need assistance with transportation, small construction projects, and medical equipment loans.

Our Rotary Van Service operates under the title of Wet Mountain Valley Community Services, Inc. We transport anyone (at no charge) with a variety of needs to locations within a 100 mile radius. Many clients have no other viable means of transportation. Over 25 drivers are Rotarians and non-Rotarian volunteers.

Our Lending Medical Aids program provides crutches, walkers, hospital beds, canes, and scooters. It is self sustaining through donations from both clients and local residents.

We also distribute free dictionaries to third graders, help park cars at the Bluegrass festival, sell tickets at sporting events, and distribute Christmas goodies to school children and senior citizens.

The main focus of the Foundation is our Scholarship program which is intended to help launch post high school academic and vocational training programs. We have also have three international students participating in the Rotary Youth Exchange program. Three local students have enjoyed being sent overseas in exchange. Numerous high school students have attended the Rotary Youth Leadership Academy near Glenwood Springs each summer. Since 1987, the WMV Rotary Club Foundation has awarded nearly \$440,000 in scholarships to over 210 graduating area high school students. Our annual fundraisers include the Rotary Scholarship Golf Tournament and the Rotary Pancake Breakfast. Please consider supporting the Wet Mountain Valley Rotary Foundation for scholarships and the Rotary Van Service through this year's Community Spirit Campaign.

Make Check Payable to: WMVCF Make Check Payable to: WMVCF

Please Distribute My Donation in the Following Custer County Nonprofit Organizations in the Amounts Shown (Use Separate Sheet if Necessary)

Matching funds will not be applied to contributions postmarked after 12/31/14

Nonprofit Org. Wet Mountain Valley Rotary Foundation	Amount \$
Nonprofit Org. Rotary Van Service	Amount \$
Nonprofit Org.	Amount \$
Nonprofit Org.	Amount \$
Total nonprofit	\$

Donations to the Matching Fund Benefit All Qualified Nonprofit Orgs

Here's My Total Donation to the Matching fund \$

(Please Print)

My Name: _____

Mailing Address: _____

City, State Zip: _____

Telephone Number: _____

Make Check Payable to: WMVCF Make Check Payable to: WMVCF

Mail copy of this form to:
Wet Mountain Valley, Community Foundation, P.O. Box 718, Westcliffe, CO 81252
Make one check payable to: The WMV Community Foundation

Local Mountain News & Notices

Custer County School District C-1 Regular School Board Meeting Great Room - December 9, 2014 - 3:00 p.m. *For the good of the students of Custer County Schools*

1. Call to Order and Pledge of Allegiance
2. Welcome of Guests
3. Modification/Approval of Agenda
4. Interview Session with Candidates for Board Vacancy
5. Interview Session Public Comments -
(Comments will be limited to a maximum of three minutes)
6. Recess
7. Action Item – Appointment of Board Candidate
8. Oath of Office
9. General Public Comment Session -
(Comments will be limited to a maximum of three minutes)
10. Consent Agenda
 - a. Modification/Approval: Minutes of regular board meeting on Nov. 11, 2014
11. Reports from Students/Staff
 - a. Diploma Presentation
12. Reports from Public
 - a. Excellence in Education report
 - b. Accountability report
13. Board Committee Reports - Accountability Committee, BOCES, FFA, Legislative Update, Preschool Advisory
14. Action Items
 - a. Approval: Personnel Hires
 - i. School Bus Driver - Gerald Hoel - (recommendation by transportation director David Bennett)
 - ii. Tech Director - Lisa Guarnere - pending background check (recommended by superintendent Chris Selle)
 - b. Approval: Check Vouchers
 - c. Approval: Financial Reports
 - d. Approval: Policy CBI-R (Evaluation of Superintendent - Regulation) - third reading
 - e. Approval: Mill Levy Certification
 - f. Approval: Property, Liability, and Automobile Insurance
 - g. Acceptance: Draft Audit
15. Principal's Reports
 - a. Elementary – Holly Anderson
 - b. Secondary – Barb Jones
16. Superintendent's Report – Enclosed
17. Items introduced by Board Members
18. General Public Comment Session -
(Comments will be limited to three minutes)
19. Executive Session (If needed)
20. Adjournment

Bobcat Wrestlers Make Final Countdown Checks

by Michelle Pedigo

Saturday, December 6, the Bobcat wrestlers will have their first opportunity this year to put their moves to the test against other teams at the Grizzly Invitational in Fowler. With a long-time reputation of a well-run tournament full of quality teams, returning Bobcats will likely see familiar faces while first-timers will get a good taste of what the season will look like. This reporter visited the wrestling room during practice this week. Several wrestle-off's were held to establish varsity and junior varsity spots, so competition has been felt early, and the athletes know how they need to prepare. Anticipation is high and ex-

citement is building.

The team is also excited about their season off the mat as they build opportunities for individuals and their community. No doubt you will be seeing their faces and learning their names more in the next few weeks. Right now, there's still time to get in on the 1st Annual Grappler Run. Non-residents of Custer County are invited to participate as well. A small investment of \$25 keeps you in the game for the entire regular season. The earlier you get involved, the more opportunities you have to win. It's easy, it's fun, and most of all, your participation supports the Bobcat wrestling team. Each week a wrestler is assigned by random drawing to each

participant and a card is dealt to the participant for each match their wrestler wins. Participants are notified who their wrestler for the week is prior to each tournament, and following each tournament they are notified of their cards dealt. Score cards are given to participants to track their cards and make the best five card hand possible. The winner will receive twenty-five percent of the total entry fees. Submit your entry by completing the form available at the school office or newspaper office. If you want more information or want to enter by phone or email, contact Michelle at (719) 783-2806 or email: givetolivem@hotmail.com.



Bobcat Menu • Dec. 8 - Dec. 11, 2014

Monday
breakfast
Waffles
Sausage Links
Fruit, Milk
lunch
Cheese Pizza
Choice of Veg.
Choice of Fruit
Milk

Tuesday
breakfast
Scrambled Eggs
W. W. Toast
Fruit, Milk
lunch
Soft Beef Taco
Mexican Rice
Choice of Veg. & Fruit
Milk

Wednesday
breakfast
Cheese Quesadilla
Fruit
Milk
lunch
Italian Dunkers
Bread Sticks
Choice of Veg. & Fruit
Milk

Thursday
breakfast
Sausage Gravy
W.W. Biscuits
Fruit, Milk
lunch
Hamburger
Choice of Veg.
Choice of Fruit
Milk

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

Bobcats Sport Schedule

VARSITY BASKETBALL

Thurs. - Sat., December 4 - 6
TBA: Trinidad Tournament at Trinidad State Junior College
Friday, December 12
5 p.m.: La Veta at HOME
Saturday, December 13
2:30 p.m.: Simla AWAY

WRESTLING

Saturday, December 6
9 a.m.: Fowler Tournament at Fowler
Friday, December 12
4 p.m.: Limon Scrimmage at Limon
Saturday, December 13
9 a.m.: Limon Tournament at Limon

Custer County Community Band Christmas Concert



Saturday, December 13th
7:00 p.m.



East Gym of the High School



KIDS Friday, December 5, 2014 December 7, 1941 A Date Which Will Live in Infamy

On that December 7, a Sunday morning, at 0755 hrs. Hawaii time, Pearl Harbor Naval Base was attacked by Japanese aircraft. The attack had been launched from a fleet of 6 Japanese aircraft carriers bearing about 360 planes, assembled more than 200 miles north of the Hawaiian Islands. About an hour earlier, radar operators had detected aircraft approaching, but no alarm was sounded because a flight of B-17's had been expected to be incoming from the mainland U.S.

The attack lasted less than 2 hours, but in that time 21 ships were sunk or damaged. Airfields were bombed in addition and 188 planes were destroyed. American military killed that day numbered 2,403, along with about half that many wounded. The battleship USS Arizona was sunk early in the attack and by itself accounted for 1,177 crewmen killed.

The Japanese attack came as a complete surprise since the focus of the White House was upon diplomacy at that time. It was only later learned that the Japanese had been planning the attack for 6 months. Their success was great but not complete. Several destroyers and 3 aircraft carriers had been the primary targets, but these were out to sea on December 7 and figured into the success of the U.S. Navy in the months to follow.

The title words above came at the beginning of an address to Congress by President Franklin D. Roosevelt on December 8. In that address, the President asked for a Declaration of War on Japan. Congress voted and passed that declaration, and the country formally entered WW II.

All but two of the ships were salvaged and returned to service. The Utah and Arizona remain submerged in Pearl Harbor. More than a million people visit the USS Arizona Memorial each year.

Source: www.u-s-history.com; www.history.navy

Sangre de Cristo Sentinel • Westcliffe, Colorado

Corner

Local Mountain News & Notices

Classifieds

For Sale

Ruger New Model Super Blackhawk .44 Mag. SS, 5 1/2" Bbl., Wooden Grips, with box, \$600 cash, 783-0444

FSBO House 208 S. 4th Street, Westcliffe, CO. One bedroom, one bath, loft, appliances, deck, fenced yard, mountain view. \$118,000 MLS2510786 (303) 726-0716

361+ acres. Year-round access in the town of Silver Cliff. Mountain and valley views. Underground power. \$499,000.

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

3 BR Mobile Home: New pellet stove & fridge. Includes washer/dryer, stove, 250 gal. propane, 6 bags pellets. Needs new carpet in LV Room and hall; 3 small 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

Log cabin in the pines. Open floor plan. Plenty of windows, three BD, shed and garage on one+ acre. Rosita. \$224,900.

The Old Griffin Ranch headquarters. Remodeled 4 BD ranch house originally built in 1908. 36+ acres. Outbuildings. On Oak Creek. Forest Access. \$399,000.

Help Wanted

Custer County Department of Human Services is accepting applications for a **Generalist Social Caseworker**. This position will complete Child/Adult Protection investigation, provide ongoing services to families, and emergency on-call services after hours. Applicant must have a valid driver's license as travel within Colorado for trainings and meetings is required. Applicants must possess a Bachelor's Degree in a Social Work or in a field of Human Behavioral Science. Starting salary will be dependent on experience. Benefit package is included. Applicant must complete a background check prior to hire. Applications may be picked up at Custer County Human Services at 205 South 6th Street Westcliffe, CO between the hours of 8:00 a.m. and 4:00 p.m. and must be returned by the close of business Friday December 12, 2014. Applicants need to include a copy of their college

transcripts and a resume with application. Custer County is an equal opportunity employer.

Seifert Enterprises is seeking a Receptionist / Administrative Assistant with experience managing multiple calendars within a fast-paced environment. This position requires an organized, detail-oriented individual with the ability and desire to multi-task and problem solve within a team environment. Résumés are being accepted by mail only: Attn: HR; PO BOX 210; Westcliffe, CO 81252.

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.

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

THE VILLAGE SHOP

CHRISTMAS IS COMING!!

SHOP EARLY FOR BEST SELECTIONS! NEW GIFT IDEAS ARRIVING DAILY. WATCH FOR NEW SALES!

- Cowboy Kickers House Shoes - 40% Off
- Winter Coat Rack - Mens, Ladies & Boys - 30% Off
- Mens Shirts & Pants Rack - 30% Off
- Closeout on Christmas Music - \$3.00 to \$7.50 Each

Books! Books!

Make Great Gifts

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Sign up for our \$50 Gift Certificate Give Away

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Downtown Westcliffe - Gary & Janice King - 783-2541

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4PM-8PM
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11AM-8PM
Sunday.
11AM-7PM

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DINE IN
TAKE OUT

Happy Holidays

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or Mention
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MASC

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marilyn.adams83@yahoo.com

Local Mountain News & Notices

Events Calendar

Friday, December 5 9 a.m.-5 p.m.: Library’s arts/crafts fair at 312 S. 3rd, Hope Lutheran Church Fellowship Hall 10:30 a.m. - Noon: Camp Happiness at library in Westcliffe. For more info, call 783-9138 11 a.m. - 4 p.m.: Christmas Tea at The Garden Tea Room, Lady Unique Boutique, 103 N. 3rd., RSVP 371-7076 7 p.m. - 9:30 p.m.: High School Drama Play at the Jones Theater	Saturday, December 6 9 a.m.-5 p.m.: Library’s arts/crafts fair at 312 S. 3rd St. in Westcliffe 10 a.m. - 2 p.m.: “Open House” and tour at The Lighthouse Pregnancy Resources facility. Light refreshments served. 7 p.m. - 9:30 p.m.: High School Drama Play at the Jones Theater Tuesday, December 9 3 p.m.: CCSD School Board Meeting	Saturday, December 13 7 p.m.: Custer County Community Band Concert in the East Gym of High School Sunday, December 14 4 - 6:30 p.m.: Benefit Spaghetti Dinner for Eva Caldwell at Saddle Club building, rodeo grounds; Donations accepted. Bill passed away Nov. 17
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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 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 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 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 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 First Tuesday of the Month: 6:30 p.m. at Cliff Lanes - American Legion Post 170 monthly meeting	6:45 p.m. Post 170 Auxiliary monthly meeting (March-October) at the Saddle Club. Tuesday through Friday 10 a.m. – 5:30 p.m.: Library open in downtown Westcliffe; 783-9138 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 Thursday Second Thursday of the Month: 10 a.m. - 11 a.m., “Ask a Nurse” at the library 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 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
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An Old Fashioned Christmas Celebration

by Edward Whitcraft

17 December 2014 ,there is an opportunity for the community to come together for a Traditional Christmas Celebration. This event will be held at the Mountain View Core Knowledge School Gymnasium, 890 Field Ave. in Cañon City starting at 6:30 p.m.. There will be Christmas caroling, a sing-along with Lobo and Sheryl, a dessert potluck, and maybe a surprise visit from Santa Claus. Please mark your calendar and plan to attend this community event. Just bring your favorite dessert to share – coffee and hot chocolate will be provided. Bring along your singing voice and participate in this magical time of the year where we can celebrate the reason for the season and put Christ back in Christmas.

If it’s been awhile since you have been to a community gathering like this or if you have never done so, here is a great opportunity for you to have an entertaining evening with your friends and neighbors. On Wednesday,

For additional information contact Tallahassee Richard at (719) 275-1112.

Sheriff's Report...

As of Tuesday, December 2, there was one man in jail.

December 1 About 3 a.m., a deputy was called to the intersection of Highway 96 and County Road 295. The fire department also responded to put out a car fire involving a 1998 Honda CRV belonging to Flor de Maria Garcia. No one was in the vehicle. Later, a Hispanic male from Pueblo was contacted, but is not the owner of the vehicle. State Patrol is still investigating.

November 22 It was reported by Horn Creek Conference Center, 676 County Road 130, that their signs had been vandalized again.

November 21 Linda Watts of rural Westcliffe was cited for unlawful ownership of a dog who had bit a 12-year-old child. There is no court date as yet but it will be in Westcliffe Municipal Court.

THEFT
November 28 At 1400 hours, Jacquelyn Landridge of Aurora, Colorado, reported that someone had broken into her 2010 Hyundai Tucson which was just off of County road 386. About \$1,500 worth of items was stolen and \$500 damage to the window. The theft occurred while she was cutting Christmas trees. Items included an ipod and gift cards.

AMBULANCE CALLS
November 30 At 1326 hours, an ambulance was dispatched to 3005 Corral North for a 65-year-old male with chest pains. No transport. Arkansas Valley transported.
November 30 At 1009 hours, an ambulance was dispatched to VALI Assisted Living for a 90-year-old female with her oxygen level fluctuating (difficulty breathing). She was transported to Parkview Hospital in Pueblo.
November 29 At 1506 hours, an ambulance was dispatched to 842 Aspen Trail for a 69-year-old male who had fallen and couldn’t get up. He was transported to Parkview Hospital.
November 29 At 1344 hours, an ambulance had responded to 705 South Street, in Silver Cliff, for a 28-year-old female who was vomiting uncontrollably. She was transported to St. Thomas More Hospital in Cañon City.
November 27 At 1544 hours, an ambulance was dispatched to 705 South Street in Silver Cliff for a 28-year-old female with chest pains and vomiting. She was transported to St. Thomas More Hospital.

November 26 At 1456 hours, the clinic requested an ambulance to 140 Kit Carson Lane for a male of an unknown age who was “not doing well.” He was transported to Parkview Hospital.
November 25 At 2106 hours, an ambulance responded to 811 Hermit Road for a 74-year-old female with a severe nose bleed. She was transported to Parkview Hospital.
November 25 At 1341 hours, an ambulance was dispatched to the clinic for a female with possible pneumonia. She was transported to Parkview Hospital.
November 24 At 1014 hours, a ambulance was dispatched to 507 Main Street in Silver Cliff for a 34-year-old male with pain in his side and coughing up blood. He was transported to St. Mary Corwin Hospital.

FIRE CALLS
December 1 At 3 a.m., a fire truck was dispatched to the intersection of Highway 96 and County Road 295 for the vehicle on fire. The Florence fire department had arrived first and put the fire out.



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719-783-9338

Custer County Search and Rescue

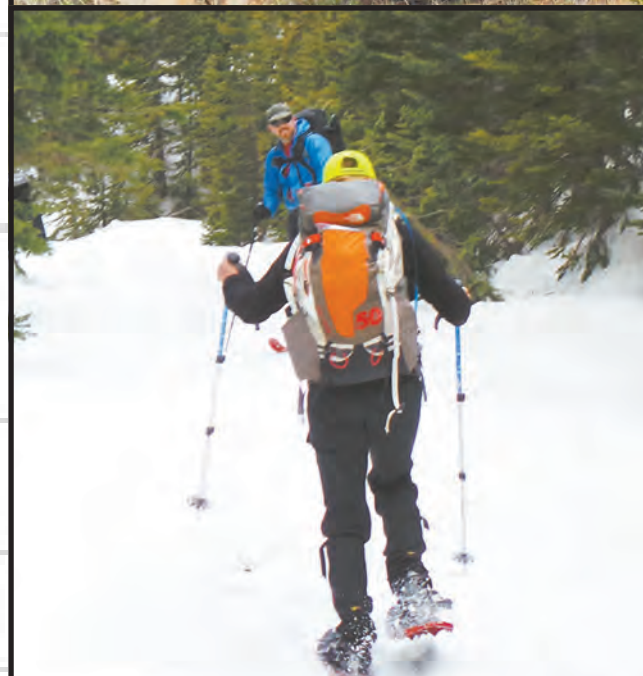
They Give All With The Goal of A Family Reunited



Custer County Search and Rescue Roster

Mark Anderson
Rick Ashwood
Linda Brigham
Amy Finger
Jamie Foote
Jeff Hobby
Cindy Howard
Dylan Howard
Gary Joseph
John Leavitt
Richard Lowe
Art Nordyke
Steve Nutting
Leslie Parkes
Sam Raimer
Steve Reiff

Wes Rogers
Don Schafer
Michael Smith
Gary Stamm
Ron Terry
Bob Tobin
Jerry Tracewell
Jane Trude
Jim Venturini
Linda Viani
June Weber
Larry Weber
Ed Whitacker
Gary Ziegler
Kendall Zoss



Courtesy Photos
by Custer County Search & Rescue

Fremont County Bulletin

News, Opinion, Commentary

RE-1 TCAP Results Show Downward Spiral From 2013

by Barbara Penezic

Another year and another lost opportunity to mend what is broken in our local schools. A year of backsliding and negative scores, for our children, means they fall further and further behind in the race to compete on an international level with students from other countries. The education we afford our students or the lack thereof; will determine world leadership for future generations. Are we going to stand-by and allow America's youth to become followers or are we going to stand-up and give our young people the same opportunity to lead that we enjoyed as we reached our majority?

The three-year run on the Transitional Colorado Assessment Program is at an end and the results are definitely not an occasion for celebration. State-wide student proficiency showed little or no change. TCAP scores remained status-quo or dipped continuing a downhill slide that does not lend itself to producing future world leaders or even marginally successful adults. The cost of testing is approximately 78 million dollars and covers most of the school year. Parents should reasonably expect and demand a much larger success ratio for the dollars spent. Each year the cost increases and test results decrease. The Board of Education then comes back to us, 'JOHN Q PUBLIC,' with a fist full of excuses and palms open wanting yet more of our hard earned dollars to fund yet another year of failing programs.

Cañon City RE-1 Schools TCAP Math results are as follows: Proficient/Advanced vs. 2013 only 3 area schools posted positive results. Mountain View Core Knowledge (Charter School), Cañon City Exploratory, and McKinley Elem. District Wide results were a -2.22%. Third grade Readers results were: Proficient/Advanced vs. 2013, two schools posted positive results, Mountain View Core Knowledge, and Cañon City Exploratory School. District Wide results were a dismal -5.38%. Who knew reading could be so difficult. Writing at the third grade level, again only

Mountain View Core Knowledge, and Cañon City Exploratory School posted positive scores. District Wide, was a whopping -14.47%. Stands to reason if you can't read, you can't write. It should be noted that in the "Unsatisfactory" category, Mountain View Core Knowledge, was the only school to post, "0%". No unsatisfactory test scores were attributed to MVCK....Congratulations to students, staff, and administrators. Great team effort.

Parents, taxpayers, and Americans in general are alarmed, upset, and yes, downright angry at the way our public education system is failing our children. They may just be numbers placed in a slot to "bean counters," but be assured these children are our most "precious possession" and their education is our #1 priority. A group of concerned parents and Fremont County residents held a protest at a recent RE-1 School Board Meeting, and Gloria Decker, spokesperson for the group was allowed to address the Board. She told the members, "Our schools whether we have children in them or not, are our business." Gloria expressed her concerns that Common Core is changing the learning and teaching process. "It gives the Federal Government authority to determine what will be taught in every classroom across the United States" she said.

Ms. Decker, informed the board that Stanford Professor James Milgram, the only academic mathematician on the Common Core validation committee refused to sign off on the final draft of the national standards, stating the standards have serious failings. Ultimately leaving our students a year behind international peers by the 5th grade and two years behind by the 7th grade. Students will not get Algebra 1 in 8th grade and will not be college ready at graduation. The 2014, TCAP scores would undoubtedly lend credence to the Professors statement concerning math.

"The amount of classic literature, poetry, and drama taught in English class is being reduced. There are currently books on the recommended

reading list that we would not allow in our home, that are not inspiring, hopeful, or uplifting, and we would be arrested if, as an individual, we passed these books out to the students. So the question is," Gloria concluded, "With all the negatives that have and continue to be presented about Common Core, why are we using our children as academic experiments?"

Is Common Core the problem? Many of the parents I spoke with say a resounding yes! Common Core was not shouted from the roof tops at its inception like "good news," usually is. Nary a soul heard a whisper as it was slid under the door in the middle of the night and quietly installed in our schools without our knowledge. Common Core began seeping into our schools several years ago and test scores do not show that this federal intrusion has been a positive for our students. Academically, our students are in a downward spiral, which spells failure for them not only in school but in life. With so much at stake, our elected school board members refuse to respond to our concerns. They sit quietly while concerned parents speak like the three monkeys, "See no Evil, Hear no Evil, Speak no Evil."

Tolerance, alternative life styles and other social issues, have been placed on the front burner while Math, History, Science, Reading, English, etc., are left to simmer on the back burner. The most a parent can hope for from our school board members as test scores and our children's futures plummet is a routine, "Thank You," and, of course, the standard request for more money so they can continue to provide our children with questionable information on social issues and failing test scores. Hopefully, when we elect school board members in the future we will take care to elect people who will speak out on the issues, be candid on where they stand, and be accountable to parents and taxpayers, not the Governors' Association, and various legislative representatives.

Be Informed,

Get Involved!

Cañon City Parade of Lights

by Charlotte Burros

With Christmas around the corner, it's time for the Cañon City Chamber of Commerce Christmas Parade of Lights to take place at 6 p.m. December 6 in downtown Cañon City. "The theme this year is 'A Family Christmas,'" said committee chairman Jim Meisner. "The parade will go on (no matter what the weather is). We hope for mild weather, but whatever we've got is what we'll have to go with." "I have 17 to 20 entries," Meisner said. "This is pretty typical at this point in time." He noted as usual no entry fee will be charged for the parade. Entries will be judged in the Youth and Community categories. The prizes are \$200 for first, \$100 for second, and \$75 for third in each division. "We have two requirements," he said. "Your entry has to be lit in the Parade of Lights and you can't have a live Santa. Other than that, it's pretty open."

Prior to the parade, registration for the Santa Dash will kick off at 5 p.m. at 10th and Main Streets, followed by the dash at 5:50 p.m. December 6, from Ninth to Third Streets. The dash is open to everyone for a \$5 entry fee, which includes a Santa hat for the first 200 entries. Children under 2 are free. All proceeds will be given to the Fremont Adventure Recreations YETI program. The organizers encourage participants wear holiday costumes.

"Break out your tackiest sweater," the Chamber of Commerce website said. "Come join the fun and warm up before watching the parade." For more information visit www.join-far.org/santa-dash/ Just as it has been for the past two years, Santa Claus will be available at the chamber for photographs from 3-5 p.m. December 6, from 10 a.m.-2 p.m. December 13 and December 20 at 403 Royal Gorge Blvd. "He'll be there to have pictures taken with kids, with pets or whatever," Meisner said.

During the big day, several vendors will be on hand to provide food and beverages for those attending the festivities. Major corporate sponsors are Kwik Stop stores, as well as KRLN, Holcim, the Shopper, and Daily Record.

**Finally, brothers,
whatever is true,
whatever is noble,
whatever is right,
whatever is pure,
whatever is lovely,
whatever is admirable--
if anything is excellent
or praiseworthy--
think about such things.**

Phil 4:8, NIV

IMPORTANT DATES IN FREMONT

School Board Meetings:

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

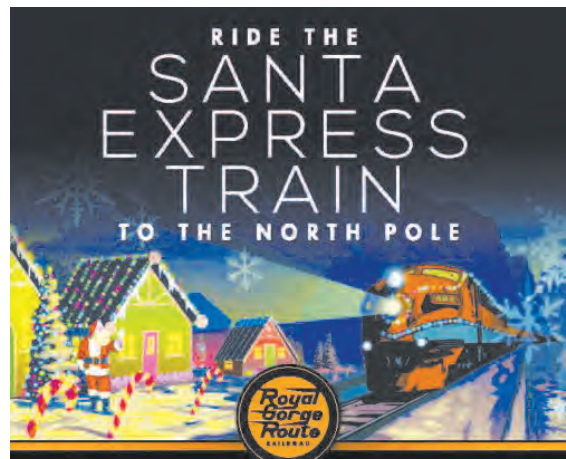
**The Sentinel is now available
at the following locations in Fremont County:**

16th Street Cafe
302 N. 16th St.
in Cañon City

Coyote Den
Highway 115 & 6th Street
in Penrose

Mr. Ed's
1201 Royal Gorge Blvd.
(Hwy 50) in Cañon City

Here 4 You
2975 CR 27A (Copper Gulch Rd)
in Cotopaxi



The Liberty Tree

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

The Daily Jot

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

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

Missed Opportunity Ferguson As Expected

The sad thing to me is that there is hatred among the races, among those of us who, as Americans, should have a natural national affection for one another. Sadder yet, are leaders such as now former Attorney General Eric Holder, race baiters who should know better like Al Sharpton, even the "president" who jumped on the Ferguson shooting at the onset as if the police officer was guilty and stirred the emotions, raised the tensions, invoked suspicions. And now, after the Grand Jury says Officer Darren Wilson did not shoot unarmed attacker Mike Brown in cold blood, but in self defense, these same people are once again fanning the flames of racial hatred, demanding justice. It is sadly a missed opportunity.

In the purest of hearts, Mike Brown and Trayvon Martin are missed opportunities. For the pure of heart, there is sadness that a promising life made choices that resulted in death. For the pure of heart, there is no color, but character and relationship. For the pure of heart, there is a yearning for the day when racial diversity is celebrated and brothers and sisters of all races can come together and do what Christ told us in John 13:34, "A new commandment I give unto you, That you love one another; as I have loved you, that you also love one another." Ferguson is a missed opportunity to bring people together and have a real national discussion on the challenges before us and how to solve them.

Those with hearts of deceit, however, are taking the deaths of these young men as an opportunity to

advance an agenda. Never mind the truth, they say, there must be justice. Their goal is to use "justice" as a wedge to divide people, establish a higher level of class warfare, to fan the flames of suspicion among the races. All the while they are saying that whites and people of color should get along. This kind of conflict is part of the Hegelian Dialectic--to create mental conflict by saying that with justice, there is no justice, and establishing a new justice. Thesis--justice; antithesis--justice is actually unjust; synthesis--new justice. In the confusion of protesting the lack of justice, the agenda advances.

You may ask what is the agenda? The agenda can be identified by those who participate--New Black Panthers, Al Sharpton, Communist Party USA, anarchist movements, and so on. While their goals may not be compatible in the end, one goal is consistent--to tear down the country so that they can have more power. Jesus said in Matthew 24:4, "Take heed that no man deceive you." The deception here is that people's emotions are being plied to advance something far from justice. We, as Christians, need to be mindful that others are using Ferguson as an opportunity to spread darkness. We have an opportunity to show Jesus, who is the way, the truth, and the life. In this darkness, let Jesus be the light as you converse with people today.

Have a Blessed and Powerful Day!
Bill Wilson

www.dailyjot.com
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This Is Why You Should NEVER Trust a Bank: Wells Fargo Refuses To Pay Woman What She's Owed: "Practically Laughed At Me"

by Mac Slavo,
SHTFPlan.com

The recent actions of mega behemoth Wells Fargo shows us just why so many people are distrustful of large financial institutions. The bank, which claims it will help you achieve what's important, has done exactly the opposite in the case of Rosemary Ronstein.

At the height of the 2009 financial crisis, Ms. Ronstein was facing a home foreclosure. After her husband passed away that same year, the widow was searching through personal records when she happened across a 30-year old CD purchased by her husband in 1984 for the sum of \$18,000. The CD, which offered the bearer a 10.9% interest rate and renewed automatically until it was cashed in, was originally issued by First Interstate Bank, an entity that has since been acquired by Wells Fargo.

At the time, Ronstein faced the real possibility of having her house seized for failing to pay her mortgage. The CD was like a dream come true. All her problems would be solved, which is exactly the reason why her late husband originally purchased the CD and gave it to her for safekeeping.

But when Ronstein arrived at Wells Fargo to trade in her financial instrument, she says that not only did the bank refuse to make good on the Certificate of Deposit, they practically laughed in her face.

But when she tried to get the money that she believes is rightfully hers, she said the bank "practically almost laughed at me."

KPHO claims that Wells Fargo refused to comment on the story but claim in court documents that it had no records of the CD and believes it's possible that it could have already been paid out at some point in the past, pointing out that First Interstate had a policy of allowing customers to retain paid-out certificates.

The widow insists that her late husband never cashed out the CD, while her lawyer notes that the CD states that it must be "presented and surrendered" in order to be redeemed. He claims that it's not enough for Wells to cite a lack of documentation on its part as evidence that the CD had been paid.

"Given the passage of the time, the bank doesn't have a record of it," says the lawyer. "And so really what needs to be decided by the court is, what's the import of the lack of a record in the face of the instrument?"

(Source: Consumerist)

According to Ronstein's attorney, the

accumulated interest and automatic renewals on the CD amount, to over \$400,000 today, a claim disputed by Wells Fargo which says it is worth only around \$60,000.

In essence, Wells Fargo says that because it doesn't have a record of the 30-year old, legal, financial instrument it doesn't have to pay the sum owed. Moreover, they claim that even if the certificate was legitimate, First Interstate bank used to allow CD bearers to keep the CD after being paid out, so it may have already been paid. But Ronstein disputes this claim, noting that the CD clearly states the instrument must be surrendered to the bank at the time it is paid.

***Your personal deposits and
life savings are nothing more
than investment vehicles
for your bank.***

Wells Fargo, like many other large financial institutions, may claim they are looking out for the little guy. They may have vibrant advertisements telling you they'll take care of you when you need help. But in reality, they are interested in one thing and one thing only -- your money.

This isn't the first time Wells Fargo has had some serious issues with paperwork and record keeping. Last year the very same bank actually showed up at someone's home with the local police and claimed that the owner had failed to pay their mortgage. They seized everything in the home, boarded it up, and sold the delinquent homeowner's possessions. Except there was one problem. They seized the wrong house. What's worse, after they sold the owner's possessions they refused to repay them the retail value of the goods! According to the homeowner the bank president told her, "We're not paying you retail here, that's just the way it is."

I did not tell them to come in my house and make me an offer. They took my stuff and I want it back.

Now, I'm just angry... It wouldn't be a big deal if they would step up and say, 'I'm sorry, we will replace your stuff.' Instead, I'm getting attitude from them. They're sarcastic when they talk to me. They make it sound like I'm trying to rip the bank off. All I want is my stuff back.

Ms. Ronstein's case is just another example of how much you should trust your local banking institution to do what's right.

The short answer? You can't.

What you can expect is that they will take from you whenever they can and refuse to make good when they make a mistake.

Now, with the introduction of "bail-in" provisions which essentially turn your personal account deposits into bank assets (rather than your assets), should the bank make a mistake on the order of Lehman Brothers in the 2008 financial crisis you can fully expect to lose every single dime you've de-

posited. In fact, the Vice Chairman of the Federal Reserve recently warned that this is exactly what would happen to your life savings should your bank ever need to recapitalize itself:

The United States is preparing a proposal to require systemically important banks to issue bail-inable, long-term debt that will enable insolvent banks to recapitalize themselves in resolution without calling on government funding--this cushion is known as a "gone concern" buffer.

You've been warned.

Your personal deposits and life savings are nothing more than investment vehicles for your bank. And if they screw up, you are the one who will get screwed.

Ms. Ronstein is just the latest example of how America's large financial institutions are taking everything they can from the little guy to further enrich themselves.

If you have your money at a bank, then you should fully expect it to be disappear at the very moment you need it most.

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***I will instruct you and
teach you in the way you
should go; I will counsel
you and watch over you.***

Psalms 32:8, NIV

Unemployment Decline?

Colorado Loses 2,100 Private Sector Jobs

by ColoradoPeakPolitics.com

The Headlines from *The Denver Post* and *The Denver Business Journal* blare “Colorado unemployment drops to lowest mark since March 2008,” and “Colorado jobs: Another sharp drop in unemployment,” respectively. But, looking beyond just the unemployment rate reveals another story. In reality (you know, that place where most of us live, and not every day is just another beer in a long line of them), Colorado’s net gain of just 300 jobs is only achieved because government added 2,400 to compensate for the private sector losing 2,100 jobs. As *The Denver Business Journal* writes:

A separate survey of Colorado employers showed a far more modest gain in payroll jobs last month of just 300, a fraction of the average monthly gain of 5,067 over the last 12 months.

In fact, the October survey showed private-sector payroll jobs declining by 2,100 over the month, but government jobs increased by 2,400. [the Peak’s emphasis]

With job growth like this, who needs a recession?

We thought Gov. John Hickenlooper was supposed to be a man skilled at spurring the growth of businesses, not the growth of government. Then again, having to explain where 2,100 private sector jobs went when you claim you won re-election based on your work with the economy is a lot more unpleasant than just being a big-government liberal (“And you get a government job, and you get a government job, and you get a government job. Everybody gets a government job!”)

While this “job growth” may make for an easy number for Hickenlooper

to repeat ad nauseam, it’s the sort of false positive that doesn’t translate to what Coloradans are really feeling in their homes. Adding to this “what growth?” feeling, the average hours worked per week by those employed continued to decline as well to 34.4 hours from 34.6 hours a year ago. Not that shocking seeing how Obamacare rewrote that a 30-hour work week was now considered “full time” and would require employers to provide costly insurance regardless of industry, situation, or other considerations.

Yes, by all means, let us celebrate the great economy Hickenlooper has brought to Colorado; where government grows even bigger, and the private sector that supports that bigger government through taxes shrinks.

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Colorado Fends Off Attack On Day Of Prayer

by Casey Harper, DailyCaller.com

A lawsuit demanding Colorado end its annual day of prayer was dismissed Monday by the Colorado Supreme Court.

The suit challenged the prayer proclamations by Colorado’s governors, calling the acts an unconstitutional endorsement of religion.

In 2010, the Freedom From Religion Foundation filed suit against Colorado but lost, so they appealed. The complaint claimed the proclamations convey “to non-religious Americans that they are expected to believe in God” and to nonbelievers that they are “political outsiders.”

The Colorado Court of Appeals reversed the ruling, saying the use of taxpayer funds to issue the proclamation was unconstitutional.

Now, though, the state’s supreme court has dismissed those claims.

“Contrary to the court of appeals, the supreme court holds that the use of public funds to cover the incidental overhead costs associated with issuing the honorary proclamations does not, by itself, constitute an injury sufficient to establish taxpayer standing,” the court’s opinion states. “Furthermore, contrary to the trial court, the supreme court holds that the psychic harm endured by Respondents as a result of media coverage revealing the ex-

istence of the honorary proclamations does not, by itself, constitute an injury sufficient to establish individual standing.”

Colorado has practiced a statewide day of prayer annually since 2004, as do most states.

“All Americans – including governors – are free to speak out in recognition of constitutionally protected freedoms, such as prayer,” Alliance Defending Freedom Senior Counsel Michael J. Norton said in a statement. “The Colorado Supreme Court was right to keep in place the governor’s freedom to do just that in the form of a prayer proclamation.”

President Harry Truman signed into law a joint resolution by Congress for a National Day of Prayer in 1952, according to ADF. Congress amended the law in 1988 specifying that the annual event would be observed on the first Thursday in May.

“Public officials remain free to issue such proclamations in the years ahead just as the founders of our country and state of Colorado were free to do,” Norton said in a statement. “This is a freedom not only rooted in our history; it is a constitutionally protected freedom clearly recognized in both state and federal courts.”

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Press Release:

Judicial Watch Sues IRS for Records of IRS Monitoring of Churches

July lawsuit settlement with atheist group, IRS admits monitoring churches for allegedly illegal political activity

Washington, DC, 11/24/14

Judicial Watch announced today that on November 6, 2014, it filed a Freedom of Information (FOIA) lawsuit against the Internal Revenue Service (IRS) seeking “any and all records” relating to the agency’s “monitoring of churches and other tax exempt religious organizations” for alleged political activity. The lawsuit also seeks communications between

it had been monitoring churches and other houses of worship for electioneering and other political activity. According to June 27, 2014, IRS letter to the Justice Department, the IRS has targeted 99 churches it said merited “high priority examination” for allegedly illegal electioneering activities. This church-targeting was determined by an IRS “Political Activities Referral Committee.”

itoring of churches and other tax-exempt religious organizations to ensure that such organizations are not engaging in the promotion of political issues, legislation and candidates.

The Wisconsin-based FFRF, which describes itself as “an effective state/church watchdog and voice for ... atheism, agnosticism, skepticism,” trumpets the IRS agreement as an “IRS Victory!” on its website homepage. Another victory touted on the atheist group’s homepage is a purported success entitled, “FFRF erases bible quotes from Mo. school’s whiteboard.”

In its 2012 complaint, FFRF alleged that 1,500 clergy members violated electioneering restrictions on Sunday, October 7, 2012. The atheist group has specifically cited church teachings against abortion and same-sex marriage as being in violation of the law. It also cited what it termed “blatantly political” full-page ads running in the three Sundays leading up to the presidential elections by the Billy Graham Evangelical Association. But the FFRF abruptly dismissed its IRS lawsuit after a church, represented by the Becket Fund for Religious Liberty, intervened in the lawsuit to challenge the IRS’s alleged authority to “revoke a house of worship’s tax-exempt status, and levy fines against churches and individual

leaders, when religious leaders are deemed to say things that the IRS does not allow.” Alliance Defending Freedom and other religious rights organizations have challenged directly the notion that the federal government can restrict the speech of pastors.

“As expressed by the First Amendment, Americans have the God-given right to both express their religious views and to engage in the political process,” said Judicial Watch President Tom Fitton. “It is troubling that the IRS seems set to rely on a group of atheists to point them toward churches that might have criticized politicians. And it is even more disturbing that the IRS would violate federal law, The Freedom of Information Act, in order to keep secret its monitoring of Americans praying together in church. To be clear, the very IRS that abused Tea Partiers for Obama’s election now purports to be able to ‘audit’ houses of worship in order to protect politicians from criticism. I am sure the Obama administration is more than happy to use the excuse of a lawsuit by a leftist group to use the IRS to punish churches that oppose Obama’s war on religious freedom.”

Please see: www.JudicialWatch.org/press-room/press-releases/judicial-watch-sues-internal-revenue-service-records-irs-monitoring-churches/

To be clear, the very IRS that abused Tea Partiers for Obama’s election now purports to be able to ‘audit’ houses of worship in order to protect politicians from criticism.

the IRS and the Freedom from Religion Foundation (FFRF) concerning such alleged political activities. The suit was filed in the U.S. District Court for the District of Columbia (Judicial Watch v. Internal Revenue Service (No. 1:14-cv-01872)).

In 2012, the FFRF filed a lawsuit alleging that the IRS had routinely ignored its complaints about churches promoting political candidates, issues or proposed legislation. In July 2014, the IRS announced that, according to the terms of an agreement reached with the FFRF,

The Judicial Watch lawsuit, filed after the IRS failed to respond to an August 4, 2014, FOIA request, seeks the following:

- Any and all records concerning, regarding, or related to communication between the IRS and the Freedom from Religion Foundation (FFRF) on the promotion of political issues, legislation and candidates by churches and other tax exempt religious organizations; and
- Any and all records concerning, regarding, or related to IRS mon-

I know what it is to be in need, and I know what it is to have plenty.

I have learned the secret of being content in any and every situation, whether well fed or hungry, whether living in plenty or in want.

I can do everything through Him who gives me strength.

Phil 4:12-13, NIV



The Second Amendment Corner Liberty's Line in the Sand

2014



The "Do Anything" Rifle

by Bob Owens,
BearingArms.com

Earlier today on Twitter I laid out my thoughts on what my "ideal" rifle would be (those of you who aren't yet following me on Twitter can do so here), since I've been unable to find the "one gun" that would do everything that I would like a rifle to be able to accomplish (nor have I been able to find a unicorn).

In general theory, this rifle would be adequate as a hunting rifle for North American big game animals (deer, elk, bear, moose). It would also be useful as a self-defense/militia firearm, capable of running well in battle-rifle courses of fire.

These are the qualities I desire in this "do anything" rifle:

- A semi-automatic, magazine fed rifle.
- The "standard" magazine would be ruggedized and nearly "bombproof," made of steel, and would have a 20-round capacity. 20-round magazines tend to work better in the prone position. Magazines of 5 and 10 rounds could be used for hunting and target shooting.
- The cartridge I want doesn't yet exist. I desire a caseless 6.5-7mm cartridge firing bullets of 110-140 grains. I'd want sub-MOA performance, a practical barrel life of 10,000 rounds, and 1,200 meter range. Theoretically, the lack of a case would mean you could carry more rounds with

less weight as opposed to brass-encased ammunition. Why caseless? No brass to litter the ground (or give away your firing position), no ejection port to allow in outside muck and mud, and no ejection cycle means no ejection-related malfunctions (a more reliable firearm).

- The rifle would feature an integral brake to reduce recoil to .223 Remington/5.56 NATO levels, and would port gases in such a way as to prevent creating a dust cloud that would give away the shooter's position.
- Suppressor capable.
- The rifle would feature an integral 1x-6x variable power scope with an illuminated bullet-drop compensating reticle with range-finder.
- The rifle would be in a bullpup configuration to minimize overall length, while providing an optimal barrel length to maximize bullet velocity and reduce flash.
- It would feature intelligently designed sling attachment points, and would have a purpose-built sling to take advantage of slung-rifle marksmanship techniques in standing, sitting/kneeling, and prone positions to maximize practical accuracy in the field.
- The rifle would be relatively "clean" with minimum attachment options for gear to weigh it down with un-



The EM-2 "Janson rifle" was an experimental British assault rifle.

courtesy image from BearingArms.com

necessary junk.

- Length of pull and cheek weld adjustments would be integral, repeatable, bomb-proof, and simple to adjust.
- The rifle with optic would weigh about 7.0-7.5 pounds with integral optic and a full 20-round magazine.
- The cost of the rifle with integral optic and sling would be at or under \$1,500.

Folks on Twitter suggested that what I wanted sounded like a "Super Tavor" chambered in either 6.5×55 or 6.5 Creedmoor... which wouldn't be a bad choice of conventional cartridges. But I really do want a caseless cartridge (it's my dream rifle, your mileage may vary).

What I found later is that the British came reasonably close to matching a lot of what I was asking for, at least in terms of general layout, in the EM-2 "Janson Rifle" that was very briefly chosen to be the standard British service rifle in a .280 British intermediate

caliber before the United States bullied NATO into accepting the 7.62×51 NATO. The .280 cartridge designed for the EM-2 outperformed the .6.8 SPC that was created to address the short-comings of the 5.56 NATO.

Now, do I expect to see a rifle meeting all of these specs in my lifetime? It's certainly possible.

Each and every one of these technologies exists right now in differing levels of maturity, including caseless ammunition. Whether or not there is a desire and a demand to marry all these components into a "do anything" rifle, and the ability to hit a \$1,500 price point at this time, is another matter entirely.

I have faith that if the industry was so inclined, it could produce the DA rifle within three years.

I just don't know if there is enough demand for such a rifle when so many people are wedded to conventional cartridges and rifles.

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"We is Teenagers, Don't Shoot Me"

by Dean Weingarten,
GunWatch.BlogSpot.com

Has the use of the word "teenager" by the old media given criminal teens a sense of immunity? You see it again and again. Trayvon Martin is constantly referred to as a teenager, as though that somehow absolved him of his crimes.

Most male children, who are brought up in intact families, do not become predatory creatures in their teens. But for those who do not have strong, moral, male role models in their lives, especially if this is the default position in their community, predation is a common role.

In a home invasion in Georgia, the homeowner grabbed his gun as his door was broken down. As he confronted the three invaders, they yelled at him. From wrdw.com:

"The first thing he hollered, we is teenagers, don't shoot me," Green said.

Green said he didn't care what age they were, they were breaking into his home.

"If you are old enough to do a crime, age doesn't matter. Doesn't matter whether you're a teenager, you're grown. If you can do the crime, your punishment, it shouldn't matter. I had my gun in my hand and I just started firing at them," Green said.

A six foot plus 17 year old can be just as dangerous as an older criminal, maybe more. As I read media reports, it seems that being 17 should give some special sort of invulnerability to bullets and jail. The juvenile justice system may give some invulnerability to jail, for a time. But words do not stop bullets.

The "progressive" position seems to be that "children" are inherently good. That is not true. Children are inherently selfish and amoral. In Christianity, this is recognized as original sin. Each child is a wild animal that must be civilized and taught moral virtues. This is much harder to do in a single-parent home. If teenagers are told that they are expected to steal, as many media reports seem to imply; and that it is excused because they are "teenagers", we should not be surprised when large percentages of them become actual criminals.

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Remarkable Poll In Favor of Campus Carry: 15 - 1

by Dean Weingarten,
GunWatch.BlogSpot.com

The article with this poll was first published on Friday afternoon a week ago, 21 November 2014. I wrote about it the next day. At that time the ratio of Second Amendment supporter to disarmists was a very high 12 to 1. On Saturday morning, about 6 a.m. the total number of votes cast were 2740. As you can see from the screenshot, today, 28 November about 6 a.m., the number has increased to 4,297, and the ratio has increase from 12 to 1 to an astonishing 15-1! The poll below is closer to what we commonly see. It was done in a Michigan publication.

Most second amendment related poll result in ratios from 3-10 to 1. The result of this poll falls well within the "normal" range, at 4-1.

Online polls essentially measure an "intensity ratio". That is, the ratio of those who are motivated enough to answer an online poll, one way or another. Why is the ratio in the Michigan poll so much lower than that in the Florida poll?

Both polls address Second Amendment related issues, but the questions asked are much different, and the responses offered are significantly different as well.

The question in the Michigan poll is a simple emotional one about "feelings". It is not a policy decision. It does not ask anything about law or firearms policy. It only lists two responses, yes and no. In the Michigan article preceding the poll, significantly more space is devoted to people who "feel" uncomfortable with a Realtor carrying a gun than people who approve of such action.

Would you be more comfortable shopping for a home if you knew your Realtor was carrying a gun?

Yes 80.18% (1,464 votes)

No 19.82% (362 votes)

Total Votes: 1,826

The Michigan poll, a simple emotional question based on feelings.

courtesy image

See POLL on page 20

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Ponzi Scheme: Treasury Issues \$1 Trillion in New Debt in 8 Weeks - To Pay Old Debt!

by Terence P. Jeffrey, CNSNews.com

The Daily Treasury Statement that was released Wednesday afternoon as Americans were preparing to celebrate Thanksgiving revealed that the U.S. Treasury has been forced to issue \$1,040,965,000,000 in new debt since fiscal 2015 started just eight weeks ago in order to raise the money to pay off Treasury securities that were maturing and to cover new deficit spending by the government.

During those eight weeks, the Treasury took in \$341,591,000,000 in revenues. That was a record for the period between October 1 and November 25. But that record \$341,591,000,000 in revenues was not enough to finance ongoing government spending let alone pay off old debt that matured.

The Treasury also drew down its cash balance by \$45.057 billion during the period, starting with \$126,568,000,000 in cash and ending with \$81,511,000,000.

The only way the Treasury could handle the \$942,103,000,000 in old debt that matured during the period plus finance the new deficit spending the government engaged in was to roll over

the old debt into new debt and issue enough additional new debt to cover the new deficit spending.

This mode of financing the federal government resembles what the Securities and Exchange Commission calls a Ponzi scheme. “A Ponzi scheme,” says the Securities and Exchange Commission, “is an investment fraud that involves the payment of purported returns to existing investors from funds contributed by new investors,” says the Securities and Exchange Commission.

“With little or no legitimate earnings, the schemes require a consistent flow of money from new investors to continue,” explains the SEC. “Ponzi schemes tend to collapse when it becomes difficult to recruit new investors or when a large number of investors ask to cash out.”

In testimony before the Senate Finance Committee in October 2013, Lew explained why he wanted the Congress to agree to increase the federal debt limit—and why the Treasury has no choice but to constantly issue new debt.

“Every week we roll over approximately \$100 billion in U.S. bills,” Lew told the committee. “If U.S. bondholders

decided that they wanted to be repaid rather than continuing to roll over their investments, we could unexpectedly dissipate our entire cash balance.”

“There is no plan other than raising the debt limit that permits us to meet all of our obligations,” Lew said.

“Let me remind everyone,” Lew said, “principal on the debt is not something we pay out of our cash flow of revenues. Principal on the debt is something that is a function of the markets rolling over.”

The vast amount of debt that the Treasury must roll over in such a short time frame is driven by the fact that the Treasury has put most of the debt into short-term “bills” and mid-term “notes”—on which it can pay lower interest rates—rather than into long-term bonds, which demand significantly higher interest rates.

At the end of October, according to the Treasury’s Monthly Statement of the Public Debt, the total debt of the federal government was \$17,937,160,000,000.

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Racial Suspension Policy In Twin Cities Draws Fire

by Blake Neff, DailyCaller.com

A new policy governing school suspension in Minneapolis has provoked criticism from one of the federal officials it was supposed to appease.

Several weeks ago, Minneapolis Public Schools superintendent Bernadela Johnson announced that the district would be adopting a new policy in which all suspensions of black, Hispanic, or Native American students would require her personal review and approval. White and Asian students would not be subject to the same review.

...the district would be adopting a new policy in which all suspensions of black, Hispanic, or Native American students would require her personal review and approval. White and Asian students would not be subject to the same review.

The intent of the policy is to reduce the current racial disparity in suspensions within the school district, as blacks in particular are vastly more

likely to be suspended than their white classmates. Minneapolis has already taken similar measures to cut down on suspensions, such as abolishing the punishment for students in kindergarten or first grade.

Now, however, one federal official is crying foul. Peter Kirsanow, one of eight members of the U.S. Commission on Civil Rights, wrote to the district and described the new suspension policy as “legally and constitutionally suspect.”

Kirsanow expressed particular concern that the policy amounts to a racial quota system, pointing towards the fact that Superintendent Johnson has explicitly said she wants to eliminate the current disparity between white and black suspensions rates by 2018. Because that goal focuses on curbing suspension rates themselves rather than on the behavior that leads to suspensions, Kirsanow says it would be “profoundly naive” to view the new policy as anything other than a quota.

“It teaches [students] that justice is not colorblind and that we do not stand or fall on our individual merit. This profound inequity is the potential constitutional problem with this discipline policy,” writes Kirsanow in his letter. While no evidence currently exists of racial

discrimination in the city’s schools, he said, the new policy would inevitably lead to just such a result.

“The idea that MPS will be able to eliminate the racial disparity in discipline by 2018 without either treating black and brown students more leniently or white students more harshly is unrealistic and absurd,” said Kirsanow. To back up his point, he cites existing federal court precedent, such as the Seventh Circuit’s decision in *People Who Care v. Rockford Board of Education*, in which the court overturned a school district policy that would have prohibited minority students from being punished at higher rates than whites.

Kirsanow’s criticism is telling, as the policy changes were created in response to ongoing federal concern about racial disparities in public school suspensions. Last January, then-Attorney General Eric Holder and Secretary of Education Arne Duncan collaborated to release guidelines urging schools to scale back their use of suspensions and other harsh punishments, noting that they tend to fall disproportionately on minority students. Minneapolis itself was being investigated by the federal government for its punishment disparities, and the city’s new suspensions policies are a part of the res-

olution to that investigation.

However, Kirsanow’s opinions do not reflect any change of position by the U.S. government. The Commission on Civil Rights is a bipartisan body, and Kirsanow, a Republican attorney, was appointed to it in 2001 by President George W. Bush. The Commission influences federal policy not through direct action, but instead by investigating and evaluating policies related to civil rights around the country. In the past, the Commission has done things like assess the implementation of *Brown v. Board of Education* and determine how far the Americans with Disabilities Act should go.

Despite Kirsanow’s criticism, district officials told the Minneapolis Star-Tribune that they have no plans to revise the policy, and that Kirsanow had “misrepresent[ed] the information, our plans, and our intentions.” They said the new policy’s goal of eliminating racial disparities in no way amounted to a binding quota, and expressed confidence that the full commission would “have a different interpretation of our suspension review.”

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Gallup: Peak Number of Americans Delaying Medical Care Over Costs Middle Class Hardest Hit

by Sarah Hurtubise, DailyCaller.com

One in three Americans has put off seeking medical treatment in 2014 due to high costs, according to Gallup — the highest percentage since Gallup began asking the question in 2001.

Thirty-three percent of Americans have delayed medical treatment for themselves or their families because of the costs they’d have to pay, according to the survey. Obamacare, of course, had promised that it would help make health care more affordable for everyone, but the number of people who can’t afford a trip to the doctor has actually risen three points since 2013, before most Obamacare provisions took effect.

The hardest-hit: the middle-class. Americans with an annual household income of between \$30,000 and \$75,000 began delaying medical care over costs more in 2014, up to 38 percent in 2014 from 33 percent last year; among households that earn above \$75,000, 28 percent delayed care this year, compared to just 17 percent last year.

The lowest-income section, some of whom can take part in Medicaid and who are more likely to qualify for significant premium and cost-sharing subsidies on an Obamacare exchange, are less likely to delay care this year. Now, 35 percent of those who earn under \$30,000 a year are putting off seeking medical care, down from 43 percent last year.

It’s a remarkable shift: after Obamacare’s redistribution of wealth, the middle class is actually delaying medical care due to high costs at a higher rate than the poorest section of the country, which is highly subsidized by taxpayers.

The growing problem could have serious consequences for the middle-class. Twice as many people (22 percent) have delayed treatment for serious illnesses than for smaller problems (11 percent).

Part of the problem is an ongoing shift towards higher deductibles and out-of-pocket costs, while health insurance premiums continue to rise all the same. The trend, which existed to some extent before Obamacare, increased in intensity with the onset of the health-care law. Some health policy experts argue that the trend helps cut down on wasteful health care spending. But those who already had health coverage, in many cases, are seeing their deductibles go up along with their premiums, making it more difficult than ever to afford medical care itself, on top of now-mandatory medical insurance.

Gallup’s results corroborate what many Obamacare supporters have confirmed about the health-care law: while it’s named the Affordable Care Act, its purpose was to increase the number of Americans with health insurance, not to make it more affordable for everyone.

New York Sen. Chuck Schumer, the third-ranking Democrat in the Senate, admitted this week that congressional Democrats should not have passed Obamacare in 2010 because it didn’t benefit most of the middle class.

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School Takes Christmas Off Calendar 4,000 Sign Petition Demanding Reversal

by Victor Skinner,
EAGNews.org

MARSHFIELD, Mass.

Elaire Taylor wants to bring Christmas back.

The Marshfield, Massachusetts, resident submitted a petition backed by dozens of citizens to the town clerk on November 10 to force the local school board to reconsider their recent vote to change the district's "Christmas Vacation" to a "holiday break," the Marshfield Wicked Local news site reports.

"Marshfield boards are required to schedule a meeting to discuss a specific topic if a petition signed by at least 25 registered voters is submitted to the town clerk. The town charter requires that the meeting take place within two weeks of the petition's filing," according to the website.

"We want more of a dialogue. We weren't able to get feedback or thoughts from the committee on what we were trying to get across," Taylor said. "Maybe then they would understand that the vote taken before was not in the best interest of the community."

The school committee voted 3-2 September 9 to change the name after a parent requested they do so.

Taylor and other concerned citizens

approached the committee at its October meeting to urge members to reconsider the vote, and presented a petition with 443 signatures of support. Committee members listened to the criticism, but did not engage in any sort of debate over the issue.

The petition to reverse course has since swelled to over 4,000 supporters, Taylor told Marshfield Wicked Local, and her recent submission to the town clerk has forced the committee to schedule a special meeting on Monday to address their concerns.

The petitioners contend "the vacation is based around Christmas, which is a federal holiday whether or not one celebrates it. They also said the decision promotes religious intolerance and censorship," according to the news site.

"The citizens have the right to (call a meeting) but ... finding a day for a special meeting for five people with the holiday, it's been difficult," committee chairman Marti Morrison said. "But we're doing it, and we will see who comes out and hear what they say and determine if we'll take any further action based on the comments."

The Christmas debacle is at least the second in recent weeks.

The suburban DC Montgomery County, Maryland, school district this

month stripped Christmas and Jewish holy holidays from its official calendar after Muslim parents complained, according to media reports.

But that's not good enough as they say the move does "nothing to gain parity and a day off for the Muslim holiday of Eid."

The suburban DC Montgomery County, Maryland, school district this month stripped Christmas and Jewish holy holidays from its official calendar after Muslim parents complained.

"Equality is really what we're looking for," Saqib Ali, co-chair of Equality for Eid, said. "Simply saying we're not going to call this Christmas, and we're not going to call this Yom Kippur, and still closing the schools, that's not equality."

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Obama HHS Secretary Encourages Illegals To Sign Up For Obamacare

by Tim Brown,
FreedomOutPost.com

Barack Obama's Health and Human Services Secretary Sylvia Burwell recently told a group of Latino bloggers in an on-line chat that the Obama administration wants to make Obamacare available for illegal aliens.

You may recall back in 2009 that Rep. Joe Wilson, a Republican from my home state of South Carolina, yelled out, "You lie!" to Barack Obama. He was chided and maligned in the press and even by so-called "conservatives" for calling Obama what he is. But do you recall what he said Obama was lying about? Let me refresh your memory.

First, Obama said that the idea of "death panels" was completely false. Now, that claim has been proven to be true.

However, it was his second attempt at deceiving the people (and yes, that's what it was according to Obamacare architect Jonathan Gruber) was to claim, "There are also those who claim that our reform efforts would insure illegal immigrants. This, too, is false. The reforms I'm proposing would not apply to those who are here illegally."

"You lie!" came the re-

sponse from Wilson.

And just to be clear, Obama also claimed, "Under our plan, no federal dollars will be used to fund abortions." One must then ask why all the pressure to make employers provide for abortions and abortifacients if no money would be used to fund abortions under Obamacare.

She then went on to say that families with illegal alien members in their households may receive benefits through Obamacare.

However, to the point of illegal aliens and Obamacare. While Burwell said that illegal aliens would not be eligible for benefits, according to the *Washington Examiner*, "she left no doubt that she — along with officials at the highest levels of the Obama administration — wants that to change."

"I think that everyone

probably knows that this administration feels incredibly strongly about the fact we need to fix that," Burwell said. "We need to reform the system and make the changes that we need that will lead to benefits in everything from healthcare to economics to so many things — a very important step that we need to take as a nation."

She then went on to say that families with illegal alien members in their households may receive benefits through Obamacare. "Mixed families should come, they should seek and try, go on the site, they'll find out they can get financial assistance. They may be eligible for different programs for their children or themselves."

Then for the finale, Burwell said that no one in the federal government will ask whether applicants to Obamacare are here illegally or not.

"Everyone should come on, and folks should not be scared," Burwell said. "No questions will be asked, and it is not about an immigration issue."

It's not an immigration issue? Surely, you jest Ms. Burwell! Of course, this is an immigration issue. It's a moral issue. It's a legal issue. It's a constitutional issue.

Byron York writes:

Coming from the cabinet officer in charge of administering the Affordable Care Act, Burwell's words left some Republicans convinced that it's only a matter of time before the White House breaks Obama's promise. "It's reasonable to assume that the administration would have no compunction about issuing some sort of regulatory guidance to HHS to make [immigrants affected by Obama's action] eligible for subsidies," says one well-connected GOP Hill aide. "The administration has sufficiently re-interpreted Obamacare and re-interpreted the immigration laws that it would not be at all surprising if they follow through on what Burwell said."

Republican concerns have been intensified by Obama's slippery language about other federal benefits. In announcing executive action, for example, the president said to those affected that if, among other requirements, "you're willing to pay your fair share of taxes," then "you can come out of the shadows and get right with the law."

The phrase "pay your fair share of taxes" suggests to

See ILLEGALS on page 24

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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.



Did the Devil Lie?

According to virtually every poll taken, the majority of Americans now believe that the President and his administration regularly lie to the public. Take your pick: Fast and Furious scandal which resulted in the death of border patrol agent Brian Terry; the terrorist attack in Benghazi which killed four Americans; the targeting of conservative groups by the IRS; Jonathan Gruber, so-called architect of Obamacare, now admitting that the entire legislation was founded on a lie; VA non-treatment of vets which led to excessive waits and death lists; Obama’s claims that his new immigration policies will benefit the country.

Jesus, in His usual provocative style, told the Pharisees, “Ye are of your father the devil, and the lusts of your father ye will do. He was a murderer from the beginning, and abode not in the truth, because there is no truth in him. When he speaketh a lie, he speaketh of his own: for he is a liar, and the father of it.” (John 8:44) The teaching is clear...the enemies of Jesus who were ultimately responsible for His murder were not opposed to voicing any lie that would lend itself to their advantage. The devil is the originator of truth perversion and therefore shares ownership in all lies. Utilizing the principle of first mention we would be well served by examining Satan’s original lie recorded in Scripture.

God placed mankind in a glorious garden with a singular prohibition: “But of the tree of the knowledge of good and

evil, thou shalt not eat of it: for in the day that thou eatest thereof thou shalt surely die.” (Genesis 2:17) From that day to this, it is always God’s restrictions that receive the most satanic attention. The narrative continues: “And the serpent said unto the woman, Ye shall not surely die: For God doth know that in the day ye eat thereof, then your eyes shall be opened, and ye shall be as gods, knowing good and evil. And when the woman saw that the tree was good for food, and that it was pleasant to the eyes, and a tree to be desired to make one wise, she took of the fruit thereof, and did eat, and gave also unto her husband with her, and he did eat.” (Genesis 3:4-6)

Successful lies generally contain a grain of truth. Their eyes were opened (vs.7), they did come to know good and evil (vs.22), but they didn’t become “as gods.” More importantly, “good” lies are required to lead to “positive thoughts.” It’s “good for food” positive; “pleasant to the eyes” positive; “desired to make one wise” positive. What could be wrong with anything that was 100 percent positive? Nothing, according to anyone who takes the news media and a college education seriously. What was wrong with it? God told them not to do it, negative. The great, almighty, negative pessimistic Critic said, “Thou shalt not.” Satanic minions are well instructed...the more positive the lie, the more palatable it is to the consumer; i.e. if you like your healthcare plan, you can keep it; the same applies to doctors; insurance costs will go

down; not a smidgen of evidence of a scandal; 5,000,000 illegals will be a great benefit to America.

One of the convincing proofs of the existence of Satan is the willingness of so many to believe his falsehoods. The devil will continue to fabricate his fiction but some of the blame must fall on the purchaser. Isaiah nailed it when he wrote, “Now go, write it before them in a table, and note it in a book, that it may be for the time to come for ever and ever: That this is a rebellious people, lying children, children that will not hear the law of the LORD: which say to the seers, See not: and to the prophets, Prophesy not unto us right things, Speak unto us smooth things, prophesy deceits.” (Isaiah 30:8-10) There will always be a majority that prefer a lie over the truth because it better accommodates their chosen lifestyle.

One of the staggering prophecies of the last days in Satan’s lies will become so widely accepted that “for this cause God shall send them strong delusion, that they should believe a lie: That they all might be damned who believed not the truth, but had pleasure in unrighteousness.” (II Thessalonians 2:11-12) In the plainest words possible, if you are determined to believe the devil’s lies, God will help you out by sending added delusion. Isn’t that the kind of God most are looking for...one that will give them what they want? But take heed, the testimony of every graveyard on the planet is.... the devil lied!

A Sheepdog Barks!

First of all let’s get some facts on the table. What happened in Ferguson, Missouri, is not a civil rights issue. I’m sure there are some incidents somewhere in America that might qualify as a civil rights violation by a police force. But to use an incident where a very large, “unarmed” black man (6’6”/300 lbs.) robbed a convenience store, bullied the manager, arrogantly walked down the middle of a street designed for cars, defiantly refused to obey a police officer, physically attacked that police officer while he was still in his patrol car, tried to forcibly take the officers firearm from him, and then later finally charged the police officer who was telling him to stop and get on the ground ain’t one of them. The officer clearly had no choice but to defend himself. This is a criminal action not a civil rights action. The resulting violence and destruction of several businesses in the area is ridiculous and several identifiable thugs and protesters need full and total prosecution. What’s sad here, and needs full discussion by appropriate leaders of all communities and at all levels, is why does an environment exist where 18-year old youths of any color feel like they can rob, bully, and then defiantly disobey a person of recognized authority in the first place. My dad told me and I told my sons that it never pays to argue or disobey a law enforcement officer. Shut up, be submissive and obey what he tells you to do. Nothing can be gained, nor solved, arguing right and wrong with an arresting officer at the time of the incident. Certainly, nothing worth your life. Michael Brown was a thief and an arrogant bully who defied authority. It cost him his life. If he had complied with Officer Wilson’s directions in the beginning he would have been in jail that afternoon, not dead. So did his belligerent attitude serve him well? Absolutely not! It’s a shame he’s dead but there is no one to blame but him. Are his parents culpable? Did they contribute to his attitude of “victimhood?” I don’t know about that but I saw his mother and step-father on TV encouraging the violence after the announcement of no indictment. The step-father was actually screaming to the angry crowd to “burn that bitch down.” The bitch was Ferguson. The busi-

nesses that were burned had nothing to do with Michael Brown’s death and many that were burned were owned by other minorities and blacks. What was the purpose of all that and the looting? Simple lawlessness! Charles Barkley got it right. He basically said all that destruction made no sense, that the looters and rioters were “scumbags” and they should be glad that there are police forces out there trying to keep the peace and protect them. Without the police force there would be nothing but anarchy. Doesn’t mean that the police don’t do things wrong. Every organization has people that do things wrong. Real wrongdoing would be a legitimate issue to deal with; however the Reverend Al Sharpton is doing nothing but inciting more violence. This is what he does. Stir the black-white pot and make it boil. He gets rich because of it. It’s shameful how he has reacted here. It’s even more shameful that Obama invited him to the White House as a black leader to help solve this “community” distrust of law enforcement. Just as shameful are the St. Louis Rams that came into the football game with their hands up. This never happened. Several black witnesses said so. They don’t know squat about what really happened but felt compelled to further the lies of Michael Brown’s partner in crime that told the media that Michael had tried to give up and the cop shot him in the back in cold blood. We all know that didn’t happen. Dorian, the lying buddy, should be prosecuted as he has caused the bulk of all the trouble and destruction. He won’t be, of course, because as Eric Holder said when it comes to race in America we are cowards. That’s certainly true in this instance. Yes, let’s have that dialogue in America about race. Let’s stop with all the “victimhood.” Let’s talk about all sides of the issue; not just that white cops are out to kill young black men. Less than 200 black men were killed by police in 2013. A little less than 400 white men were killed by police during the same time. The vast majority of these, in fact almost all, were justified in stopping crimes or for the protection of the officers or other citizens. No system or process is perfect. Surely, there were few unjustified killings, situations where something else should have



happened. There is a two edged sword here. Not just out-of-control police officers that cruise around in their patrol cars looking to shoot someone. Many cops serve an entire career without firing their guns. The ones that have the courage to work the most dangerous neighborhoods in America don’t usually have that choice. We need to honor and respect them for their willingness to serve in such “war-zone” conditions. The president just held a hurry-up ad hoc meeting of “leaders.” Police and sheriffs were not properly represented. But “Reverend” Al Sharpton was there. A man clamoring for retribution against police forces all over America. An untrustworthy, rabble-rousing racist of the worst kind. This is not how we will have the “dialogue” we need in America. The results of that meeting were four actions, all with respect to the “fixing” of law enforcement. REALLY? How about the actions needed to “fix” the angry, young, black men being taught to hate and distrust all authority? When is that part of the dialogue going to happen? The Attorney General, at the same time, is running around America saying he is going to stop racial profiling. REALLY? Another act only against law enforcement. Profiling is an important and necessary action by law enforcement. Stop with the words like racial, ethnic, and religious profiling. Let’s have a REAL dialogue about the root causes of “distrust.” It will start with the breakdown of the black family. Cowards need to just shut up. Police officers and sheriffs don’t come to work every day gleefully wondering who they can kill today. This is not an epidemic. There are a handful of cases that merit this kind of concern. Shame on the Congressional Black Caucus with their Hands Up, Don’t Shoot posturing on the U.S. House floor. They are part of the problem. WOOF!

May God Have Mercy On America! JMH



Teacher Certification A Mess, Says Report

by Blake Neff,
DailyCaller.com

American teacher certification is in dire need of reform, according to a new report (**Editor/GG: see www.thirdway.org**) published by the center-left think tank, Third Way.

The report takes to task the slapdash nature of teacher certification, comparing it with the straightforward process lawyers, doctors, and other professionals undergo to smoothly progress from college to the working world.

While virtually every attorney in the United States follows the same process of taking the LSAT, attending law school and then passing the bar exam, teachers are certified through a system Third Way describes as a “choose your own adventure book.” Across the 50 states, there are close to 600 different licensing exams, and the material they test can differ dramatically. Twenty-one states don’t require new teachers to pass a pedagogy exam showing they understand the basics of how to teach, and three don’t even require that prospective teachers show proficiency in their supposed subjects.

Not only are licensing exams numerous, but the standards for passing are typically “embarrassingly low.” In a majority of states, Third Way says, testing in the 16th percentile is enough to pass and be certified.

“What parent would (or should) be satisfied with knowing their child’s teacher scored 17th from the bottom out of 100?” ask the authors. “The truth is that if their child earned a similar grade on a test in that teacher’s class, they’d be handed a failing grade.”

Because standards from state to state are so different, it is also much harder for a teacher to go from one state to another than it is for other professionals. Sometimes, Third Way found, even teachers who already have years of experience must start the entire certification process from scratch.

“A doctor in California can perform surgery in Maryland. Why can’t a teacher in Maryland teach algebra in California?” the authors ask.

The solution recommended is relatively straightforward. States should collaborate, Third Way says, to create a basic two-step process across the country. First, teachers should pass a basic test of pedagogical methods and their particular subject, which could be supplemented by certain extra content a state may want, like knowledge of the state’s history or government.

Then, after each teacher has completed a year of teaching, they would earn permanent certification by passing an additional performance assessment that would assess their actual teaching methods using materials such as videotaped class lessons or portfolios of student work.

When a teacher wants to move to a new state, they could rely on a common application for reciprocity rather than the current system, where many teachers have to earn a new certification from scratch even if they have worked for several years already.

If this new common exam is adopted, Third Way says, it should also be substantially harder than current fare. While some might fear a tougher barrier to entry could lead to a teacher shortage, Third Way counters that raising the bar will make teaching a more prestigious profession and thereby attract more college students who currently set their sights on other fields.

Third Way’s call echoes one that has previously been made by teachers themselves. In 2012, American Federation of Teachers president Randi Weingarten advocated a “bar exam for teachers” as a way to improve teacher quality without having to gut tenure or other protections teachers currently enjoy.

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Obamacare: Employers Get \$3000 Incentive To Hire Illegals!!!

by Karl Denninger,
Market-Ticker.Org

This is what you get, America.

It is what you get when you allow a “President” to issue *executive actions* that are clearly unlawful -- and yet he is not immediately impeached for doing so.

It is what you get when you allow a “President” to *intentionally* deceive all of you (who didn’t bother paying attention) in passing a law that **protects** a panoply of firms that between them monopolize **nearly a fifth** of our economy.

And now, between the two, you have a “President” who has **and will destroy literally millions of blue-collar jobs because he has provided a \$3,000 a year incentive to businesses to legally hire 5 million illegal invaders instead of citizens!**

President Obama’s temporary amnesty, which lasts three years, declares up to 5 million illegal immigrants to be lawfully in the country and eligible for work permits, but it still deems

them ineligible for public benefits such as buying insurance on Obamacare’s health exchanges.

Under the Affordable Care Act, that means businesses who hire them won’t have to pay a penalty for not providing them health coverage — making them \$3,000 more attractive than a similar native-born worker, whom the business by law would have to cover.

Got it yet America?

You not only are being forced to tolerate these illegal invaders, those who wish to immigrate here legally are not only being ignored while these lawless invaders roam our land, your jobs are now going to go to them as they are \$3,000 a year cheaper to employ than you because they’re exempt from Obamacare’s requirements while you are not.

This is **not** an accident. This outcome is exactly what you get when you allow The Rule of Law to become a dead letter, you sit and watch *Dancing With The Stars* instead of rising in outrage and you refuse to **demand** that Congress impeach

the Constitution-hating, America-destroying jackass infesting the White House.

This man has taken action after action that *empower banks to steal your homes, further empower medical monopolists to steal everything you have, intentionally provided guns to Mexican drug gangs used to murder more than 300 people (in Mexico) and at least one border agent, and empower illegal invading hoards to steal your jobs by subsidizing their employment to the tune of \$3,000 over you as a citizen.* And he’s not alone -- his predecessors did many of the **exact** same things, irrespective of their political party!

Stop whining, America, because it is a **fact** that for nearly all of you -- *with the exception of the banksters and medical monopolists* -- you are being flat-out bled dry *because each and every day you wake up and through your action and inaction consent to all of the above and more.*

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POLL

From page 15



The Florida poll with questions based on policy and logic.

courtesy image

In the Florida Poll, the question is all about policy and logic, not about emotion. The article preceding the poll gives information about the policy decisions. Most space is given to the attorney for Florida Carry, who outlines the arguments for student carry, while the opposition arguments are given a fraction of the space. The respondents can choose between four policy decisions.

Even given the disparity of the space given to opposition arguments, the 15-1 ratio stands out. Does this tell us anything useful?

First, a disclaimer. We do not know what audience this poll reached. It is not a scientific poll. It is simply a rough measure of intensity. But taking that into account, the lesson that I gather from the above is that the arguments made in favor of Second Amendment solutions are highly persuasive, if they are heard. It reinforces what I have observed for several decades. When second amendment supporters are able to get their message to the public, they win.

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WHO'S COUNTING?

US NATIONAL DEBT

\$18,005,750,496,271

SCANDAL SCOREBOARD

- FAST & FURIOUS: FIRST CAME TO THE ATTENTION OF THE PUBLIC WITH THE DEATH OF BORDER PATROL AGENT BRIAN TERRY. NO RESPONSIBILITY YET! NOW ON DAY #1,452
- 1ST AMENDMENT ATTACKS ON U.S. PRESS BEGAN WHEN THE DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE APPLIED FOR A SEARCH WARRANT AGAINST JAMES ROSEN. NO ACCOUNTABILITY YET! NOW ON DAY #1,124
- TERRORIST ATTACK IN BENGHAZI FOLLOWED BY RELENTLESS LIES AND COVERUPS. NO ACCOUNTABILITY YET! NOW ON DAY #805
- IRS TARGETING OF CONSERVATIVE GROUPS ADMITTED BY LOIS LERNER. NO ACCOUNTABILITY YET! NOW ON DAY #574
- OBAMACARE STARTED ON OCTOBER 1, 2013, BASED ON LIES, INCOMPETENCE AND BUDGET BREAKERS. NEEDS TO BE REPEALED. NO ACCOUNTABILITY YET! NOW ON DAY #431
- VA NON-TREATMENT OF VETS LEADING TO EXCESSIVE WAITS AND DEATH LISTS. NO JUSTICE YET! NOW ON DAY #228

ILLEGALS

From page 17

most ears that Obama meant immigrants involved would pay their fair share of taxes. But, in fact, Obama's action will make many immigrants eligible to be paid by the government, and not the other way around; many will now be eligible for the Earned Income Tax Credit and the Additional Child Tax Credit, which could mean they receive thousands of taxpayer dollars each year.

As for Burwell, her confirmation came under a great deal of scrutiny, but alas, she was pushed right on through the Senate confirmation just like all of the other Obama appointees. She is merely following in the footsteps of her criminal predecessor, Kathleen Sebelius.

There is no doubt that this is exactly what this administration wants to do and at every turn, the words that have emanated from the mouth of Barack Hussein Obama have been nothing

but lies and deceit. While many of us knew this in the past and have documented it, at least we are now vindicated in our claims that Barack Obama is the premier liar-in-chief and it is reason enough for his impeachment.

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