



Colorado School Grades: CCCS C-1 2014, a “C” School Trending DOWN

by George Gramlich

Colorado School Grades (“CSG”), an organization representing a coalition of 18 non-profit community organizations has released its results for the 2013-2014 academic year for Colorado’s public schools. In a nutshell, they take the standardized test and academic growth scores for all Colorado public schools and formulate an accurate, easy-to-understand A-F grade for the various performance categories. This is extremely helpful for the average citizen as the Colorado Department of Education’s reporting methodology is overly complex, “fuzzy” at best, and is skewed towards showing better results than what would have been reported just a few years ago (e.g., they have lowered the scores necessary to achieve the higher performance standards.).

Below we give some information on CSG and then review Custer County Consolidated Schools C-1 2014 scores:

Here are a few excerpts from CSG’s website about themselves and their methodology: (www.ColoradoSchoolGrades.com):

Who We Are

Colorado School Grades is presented by a coalition of 18 non-profit community organizations that believe all children deserve access to a high-performing school. Our mission is to provide community members, parents, stu-

dents, and educators with accessible and easy-to-understand school performance information. To do this, we use data from the Colorado Department of Education to create an A-F grade for every public school in the state.

Methodology Overview

Many rating systems are based solely on academic achievement, or one snapshot in time of student performance. However, Colorado School Grades includes student academic growth in its rating of overall school performance. Colorado School Grades worked with the Center for Education Policy Analysis at the University of Colorado at Denver and R-Squared Research, LLC, to calculate the grades using statewide test score data as well as the exact same variables and weights as the Colorado Department of Education’s School Performance Framework.

Colorado School Grades replaces fuzzy categories such as “performance” and “priority improvement” with universally understood A-F letter grades. Our theory is that community members, parents,

students, and educators can much more easily understand grades, which convey a ranking scale in a way that the state’s categories do not.

A particularly disturbing item I found in CSG’s “About Us” section on their website was that “under the state’s existing system, schools in the 31st percentile and schools in the 99th percentile are both listed in the state’s top category”. So Colorado considers 70% of schools to be in the highest performance category! So, if we apply a traditional grading structure to their logic, the proven A-F system, Colorado puts a “C” school in the same category as an “A” school and we as concerned citizens are completely unaware of the difference. It is a disturbing picture from

our state educational system. For more details see the “About Us” section on CSG’s website.

CSG prepares easy to understand graphics for the three school grades groupings: elementary, middle, and high school. Here are the 2014 results for our Custer County Consolidated School C-1:

C-1 Elementary: Very poor results. Overall Performance grade of “C” and the 3-Year Trend going down. Academic Growth Grade a “C-”! The only grade not a “C” is just a “B-”! What is very troubling here is that when you fall behind in the elementary grades, it is very, very difficult to catch up and it makes the middle school and high school teaching jobs extremely challenging.

2014 School Year	Overall Grade	3-Year Trend	Ranking			
OVERALL PERFORMANCE	C	↓	570 of 1101 elementary schools			
Key Performance Indicators	Grade	3-Year Trend	Reading	Math	English	Science
ACADEMIC PROFICIENCY	C+	↓	C+	B-	C	---
ACADEMIC GROWTH	C-	↔	C	C-	C-	---

Custer County Elementary School Grades.

Courtesy image from Colorado School Grades

See GRADES on page 6

It’s Time to Play Cowboys and Communists

by Bob Owens,
BearingArms.com

A Durham, North Carolina police officer filling out reports in his squad car Thursday night was targeted for assassination in much the same way NYPD officers Rafael Ramos and Wenjian Liu were murdered in Brooklyn less than a week before. Fortunately, officer J.T. West picked up movement in his rear-view mirror and was able to bail out of this vehicle as one of the thugs fired six shots, one of which struck the marked police cruiser’s door on the driver’s side. It was another attempted assassination of a police officer, all but buried by the media.

Sunday night in Dade City, Florida, two Pasco County deputies sitting in separate squad cars came under fire from a volley of shots. The officers never saw their attackers, but residents report seeing a small dark car with tinted windows leaving the area.

Also last night, in Los Angeles, a pair of suspects opened fire on on an LAPD officer as he sat in his cruiser. The officer was not hit and one of the suspects, along with the rifle, was recovered at the scene. the other suspect is considered armed and dangerous and on the lose.

The attacks are intensifying, and they are no accident. We are now engaged in an emerg-

ing low-grade civil war, where people who hate the United States of America and all that it stands for are attempting to destroy the very fabric of our nation by targeting law enforcement officers for isolation and execution.

It is their sincere belief—honed by domestic terrorists from the 1960s-early 1980s that have an inordinate amount of power in federal, state, and local politics—that a nation stripped of effective local law enforcement is a nation easily stripped of law and order... and perhaps more easily “re-made” under strict centralized

See COWBOYS on page 4

Thank You,
Sheriff Jobe:
Photo Feature
of his Career
pages 10-11

Disturbing
Christian
Prosecution
in U.S Army
page 14

Deportations
Down,
Illegal Border
Crossings Up
page 19

School Lunch:
“It’s Basically
Tree Bark Now”
page 20

PATRIOT
ALERT!
America’s
Gun: AR-15
Dominates
U.S. Market
page 16



But whatever
was to my profit
I now consider
loss for the sake
of Christ.

Phil 3:7
NIV

July 4th Parade
Decision Day
This Tuesday

The Westcliffe Town Council will decide Tuesday, January 6th, who will be running the upcoming 2015 Independence Day Parade - The Wild West Cowboy Church and The Sentinel newspaper (who ran last year’s extremely successful anybody-can-come parade) or the Custer County Democrat Party (who demand that all political, social or religious signs be banned! Any post parade rallies or get togethers be banned! And firearms be banned (in violation of our federal and state Constitutions).

The choice is clear: we can have an all-inclusive, patriotic parade like last year or a restrictive soviet-style sheep stroll down Main Street violating our basic American rights. Come and make your voices heard: Westcliffe Town Hall, 305 Main Street, 5:30 p.m., Tuesday January 6th.

Copyright©2015

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.

The Sangre de Cristo Sentinel (USPS 11280) is an independent newspaper, published weekly by The Mountain Publishing Company, Inc. 610 Main St., Westcliffe, CO 81252 POSTMASTER: Please send address changes to The Mountain Publishing Company, Inc. 610 Main St., Westcliffe, CO 81252 Periodicals postage paid at Westcliffe, CO and additional mailing offices.

Editorial Board

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

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

Rob Canterbury - Secretary
Rob.Canterbury@sdcsentinel.com

Mary Seifert - Treasurer
Mary.Seifert@sdcsentinel.com

Key Personnel

Katherine Camper - Assistant Editor / Graphics Director
KatCamper@gmail.com

Anne Crewdson - Office Manager
Anne.Crewdson.sdcs@gmail.com

Barbara Napolitan - Advertising Coordinator
BNapolitan@gmail.com

Reporters

Carol Clemenson
cdclem65@gmail.com

Larry Luikart
pawprint2@centurylink.net

Paul Sage
mountainhigh21@centurylink.net

Business Hours:

Mon-Thurs: 9 a.m. - 5 p.m.
Fri: 9 a.m. - 1 p.m.
Closed Weekends

Subscription Rates:

\$29 yearly for 81252 zip code
\$39 yearly elsewhere
\$2 discount for Seniors (65+) & Wounded Warriors

How to contact us:

719-783-3360
610 Main Street
Westcliffe, CO 81252
www.sangredecristosentinel.com

Please send your letters or other submissions to:
sdc.sentinel@gmail.com


coloradopress
ASSOCIATION
2015 Associate Member

Our Opinion... From the Editorial Board

PARADES: TO BE OR NOT TO BE?

That is the question for Westcliffe citizens according to some rumors. Will there be a 2015 Independence Day Parade? If so, who will be the sponsor? What will the parade rules be? Will the rules infringe on citizen's lawful and constitutional rights? We should know the answers to these questions after next Tuesday's Westcliffe Board of Trustees meeting. This paper, as an incumbent co-sponsor along with the Wild West Cowboy Church, doesn't believe this should even be a controversy and certainly not a dilemma for the Town Board. Since we (the co-sponsors) made our intentions known right after the 2014 parade we believe the solution is clear. In our September 26, 2014, editorial we offered a fair and simple one and believe it bears repeating below:

A FAIR AND SIMPLE SOLUTION

The leaders in the Town of Westcliffe have been put in a tough spot. The Mayor and Trustees are being asked to decide who gets to sponsor the next Independence Day Parade. The leaders don't really pick a sponsor they basically just grant the rights to use the town streets to an entity that comes to them and requests the street closures. In the past that has always been a rather pro forma action and there was no controversy. Now there is controversy and the good Mayor and the good Trustees have been pulled into the middle of it. That doesn't have to be the case. They can easily extract themselves from this problem. First and most important we believe, are how and why are they in this controversy and who put them there? Secondly, we believe there is a fair and simple solution. Historically, whoever was granted the street closures for a parade became the "sponsor." Remember the Town of Westcliffe Board does not technically choose sponsors, they only close streets. However when they grant the street

closure request they are selecting the de facto sponsor. For some of the parades there have been different sponsors from time to time. But the sponsors changed only when the incumbent sponsor didn't want to continue, not because there was a fight about it. Thus, the request to close the streets for a parade or other event was simply a procedural action done, at most, a few months early. In 2013 the Chamber of Commerce, the incumbent sponsor at that time of the Independence Day Parade, decided not to sponsor the parade any longer. There was only a short time left before the 4th of July. Some entity had to step forward in a hurry and the Town of Westcliffe did. The Mayor and Trustees immediately stepped up and restored the parade. That was important and commendable as the merchants and businesses in both towns needed the event and the commerce. This change happened because the local Tea Party organization, the Southern Colorado Patriots Club, decided to legally and peacefully march with their open carry firearms to protest what the liberal progressive state legislature was doing to the 2nd Amendment rights of Colorado citizens. The actions of the Democrat-controlled legislature was so overreaching it even caused 55 of the Colorado County Sheriffs to file a lawsuit against the state and the Democrats lost three state senators. The Town leaders quickly held a Town Hall meeting to hear the citizens on this issue. It was made very clear at that meeting that the majority of citizens supported the rights of citizens to open carry their firearms, especially since it is the law in Colorado and there would be no reason to deny anyone their legal rights. We believe the Town Board voted unanimously (of those present) to allow the Southern Colorado Patriots Club to march as they intended by not imposing any restrictive rules. After that 2013 parade, which was a great success, the Town of Westcliffe decided in early 2014 not to

*sponsor any more parades at all. We believe that decision was based on advice from their attorney with regards to establishing rules that would deny citizens or groups their rights and the legal liabilities that could or might occur. If that is not correct we hope someone on the Board will correct us. Once again some entity needed to step forward quickly as the "Spring into Summer" parade (Memorial Weekend) and the Independence Day Parade was in jeopardy. This paper recognized the economic and patriotic importance of these parades to the citizens and visitors of the community. We immediately stepped forward to ensure the parades would go on. We were joined by the Wild West Cowboy Church as a co-sponsor and the Town of Westcliffe granted us the street closures for the 2014 parades. This made us the "sponsors" of the parades. There have been three parades that the Southern Colorado Patriots Club has marched in with open carry firearms. All have been huge, well attended; peaceful and overwhelmingly supported down the town streets by those attending. They have all been good for the local economy and we have many testimonials to that effect from the merchants. So now why is the town in the middle of a controversy? The local liberal progressives and local Democrat Party do not like "guns". They want control of the parades so they can ban "guns". They came to the Town Board in August (11 months early) to wrest the "sponsorship" away from the **Sentinel** and the Wild West Cowboy Church for the singular reason to ban the open carry of firearms, which by the way is a legal and constitutional right of the citizens of this area. We believe many on the Town Board feel like they have been pulled into an ideological argument and they are not happy about it. We agree. But make no mistake they have been pulled into this argument by a minority of citizens in this community and directly by the local Democrat Party. To*

suggest otherwise, or place blame elsewhere, is to deny what is really happening. The Town Board should not allow themselves to be used by the Democrats to impose their liberal will on the community at large. They do not speak for the entire community. We understand the difficult position the Town Board is in. An ad hoc parade committee has been formed and an effort to resolve the disagreement about the parade rules is on-going. A communication is being drafted that will be sent to the Southern Colorado Patriots Club asking for their position on not carrying firearms. We will let the Southern Colorado Patriots Club speak for themselves and will publish their response in this paper.

In the meantime we believe the Town Board can take an appropriate action that will remove them entirely from this dilemma. It is simple and fair. Show the Sentinel and the Wild West Cowboy Church (as the current and incumbent sponsors) the same respect and courtesy we believe they would have shown previous and current parade sponsors like the Chamber of Commerce and the Saddle Club if some entity had tried to "steal" the parade from either of those incumbent sponsors. Many citizens we have talked to believe that is a very logical and likely precedence that can be applied here. We believe the Town Board would have said the incumbent sponsors have "right of first refusal" and if they want to continue their sponsorship the new entity should go work out any co-sponsorship or rules issues with them. We believe that is a simple solution, the right solution and dissolves any and all conflicts for the Town leaders immediately. The Town Board should not be involved in this controversy. The community should be.

The Town Board meeting is Tuesday, January 6, 2015, at 5:30 p.m. in the Town Hall. If you are interested, maybe you should attend.

WILDFIRE MITIGATION
HOME & PROPERTY PROTECTION
SKID STEER WORK / HOME IMPROVEMENT & REPAIRS



SWOTA ENTERPRISES
SERVING GUSTER COUNTY & SURROUNDING AREAS
719-783-4477
RAY SWOTA RSWOTA@GMAIL.COM





Wapiti Realty Ltd. • Jean Canterbury
719.783.9052 • 217 Main Street
www.westcliffecolorado.com

*Living the Dream
Buy or sell from an expert in
rural and sustainable properties*

A Proud Strategic Partner With



**TANNER
GUN SHOW**

COMES TO PUEBLO!!
500 Tables

January 10 & 11
Colorado State Fairgrounds
Agriculture Palace Building
Saturday 9 AM - 5 PM & Sunday 9 AM - 4 PM

Adults \$10 - Good for both days!
Under 12 FREE.
Active Military \$5 - Good for both days!
\$1.00 OFF with this Coupon!





Your Opinions... “We the People” Speak



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

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

Law Enforcement is Fifty Years Behind Aviation

by William Scott

In the wake of grand jury decisions to not indict two police officers, who killed Michael Brown and Eric Garner, persistent protests and riots have erupted across the United States. Activists, media analysts and politicians have focused on race-based unfairness, a pro-police bias among the judiciary, corrupt cops, legal system deficiencies and a dozen other issues to explain the current backlash against an epidemic of deaths at the hands of police officers.

Cops now kill an average of three people every day. Since January 1, 2014, police officers have racked up 1,070 kills...with 10 days to go. (KilledByPolice.net) Consequently, irate Americans are demanding real change; solutions with teeth that hold quick-to-shoot killer-cops accountable, while shielding good officers, who daily live up to their oaths to protect and serve.

Worried public officials from the White House to local city councils are scrambling to appease angry, fed up, disaffected citizens, before outright armed rebellion and systematic cop-hunting explodes into nationwide chaos. Most public officials fully understand that citizens are fed up with post-shooting patronization: “We’re conducting a thorough investigation to determine exactly what occurred.” “We’ll change policies, procedures and practices to make sure this never happens again.” And the tired granddaddy of all, “We’ll improve officer training.”

Citizens from Los Angeles to New York finally have accepted a couple of inescapable truths: The only element guaranteed to change will be cops’ annual body count. And race isn’t the primary factor driving police brutality. Today’s sworn officers are equal-opportunity abusers and killers. They shoot to kill, without regard for race, ethnicity or creed.

What can be done to drastically curb brutality and killings by police officers, then rebuild trust between citizen-taxpayers and the U.S. law enforcement community, before outrage ignites a shooting war?

Look no farther than the high-integrity field of aviation/aerospace. These professionals developed an effective system that has greatly improved air operations safety, based on several key principles:

- Independent investigations of aircraft incidents and fatal accidents.
- Clear identification of root causes, based on a full-spectrum investigation, forensic data and analyses by well-trained professionals.
- Follow-up actions by federal regulatory agencies, which capitalize on findings and recommendations made by independent, third-party investigators.
- A rigorous protocol of accountability, ensuring trust is maintained with the flying public and senior military leaders.
- A non-punitive companion system to identify unsafe activities via anonymous reporting, enabling corrections, before accidents occur.

The establishment of a congressionally chartered National Transportation Safety Board (NTSB) in 1926 to investigate every aircraft accident was a major step toward improving aviation safety. Over the years, the NTSB was shuffled between organizations, eventually becoming part of the U.S. Department of Transportation in 1967. However, smart aviation professionals, who recognized that having the NTSB report to the DOT was an inherent conflict of interest—Transportation also oversees the Federal Aviation Administration—campaigns to correct an organizational deficiency that undermined the Board’s credibility.

Consequently, the NTSB was

designated an independent entity in 1974, because “...No federal agency can properly perform such (investigatory) functions, unless

Law enforcement policies, practices, training and procedures are at least 50 years behind those of the aviation industry.

it is totally separate and independent from any other...agency of the United States...” according to the NTSB website.

Currently, there is no law enforcement equivalent to the NTSB. Police departments routinely conduct internal investigations of officer-involved shootings, and just as routinely conclude that their fellow officers were totally justified in shooting a civilian to death.

In the aviation sector, if an airline’s pilots investigated each other’s accidents, and always concluded that their fellow pilots were never at fault, who would willingly climb aboard a commercial air transport? Passengers would have very little faith in a system that ignored mistakes and actively covered up failures to protect its own, then customarily lied about the causes of aircraft disasters. But that is precisely how many law enforcement and judicial organizations operate—and why citizens no longer trust cops and district attorneys to honestly investigate officer-involved fatalities.

Because it’s a dedicated pro-

**See AVIATION
on page 4**

Government Does Two Things Well... Nothing and Overreact

by Joe Cascarelli,
Westcliffe

Is the NTSB a workable model for a Federal Department of Police Oversight? How it could be? The NTSB is in existence because of the Commerce Clause in the U.S. Constitution. The founders thought that the federal government should have some say over commerce when it crossed state borders. Article I Section 8 says: “The Congress shall have power to lay and collect taxes, duties, imposts and excises, to pay the debts and provide for the common defense and general welfare of the United States; but all duties, imposts and excises shall be uniform throughout the United States [one size fits all]...To regulate commerce with foreign nations, and among the several states, and with the Indian tribes;” Nowhere in the Constitution is the power to regulate local police forces granted to the federal government. So, an NTSB like organization, if established by the congress, would be overturned.

Would Americans really like the feds directing local state, city or town police forces with “one-size-fits-all” regulations? Local police forces are managed by the elected officials in every jurisdiction. Sheriffs are elected by the people and police commissioners and chiefs-of-police are political appointees. The voters of jurisdictions in theory know best what kind of policing needs their municipality needs. For the record, I believe in the old adage that, “Government does two things well...nothing and over-react.” The last thing that any town like Westcliffe or a city like Ferguson Missouri needs is Federal Supervision of their policing organizations.

If anyone thinks that the federal government and some local jurisdiction can work through their differences, look at Colorado and marijuana legalization. The chaos of having a commodity that is legal at the state level that is illegal at the federal level is just one example of what would happen

Nowhere in the Constitution is the power to regulate local police forces granted to the Federal Government.

if an NTSB like organization would be established. Isn’t it bad enough that the president and the attorney general are second guessing what local police are doing when black meets white? It is also unwise for the president to be commenting on the secret dealings of a grand jury. To the best of my knowledge, Obama has no policing experience in his background. Now, Theodore Roosevelt was Police Commissioner of the City of New York and, if he were president today, one would have to take his opinions on local police matters seriously. But, he should never be given any legal standing.

For the past six years, many Americans have grown accustomed to federal overreach, but this is no reason to even consider an NTSB like organization to oversee the nation’s local policing activities. It is simply a bad idea.

Majestic Log Home Masterpiece!

Just Exquisite!

Gated Community - Eagle Springs Ranch

Offered at: \$1,199,500

72.42+/- Acres

Custer County Realty, Inc.
(719)783-9221

902 Main St.
Westcliffe, Colorado
81252
719.783.9221

Custer County Realty
Helping You Find That Special Piece of Colorado to Call Your Own

Serving Custer County for over 40 years!
www.custerrealty.com • info@custerrealty.com

"We the People" Speak

AVIATION

From page 3

ponent of continuous improvement, the aviation community—civilian and military—recognized the wisdom of preemptively identifying and eliminating unsafe practices, rather than merely fixing problems, after a deadly accident. The Aviation Safety and Reporting System (ASRS) was set up to identify threats to safety, through a non-punitive process, by collecting voluntary reports from pilots, air traffic controllers, maintenance technicians and other industry personnel. To ensure anonymity and minimize risks to jobs and careers, ASRS is operated by the National Aeronautics and Space Administration (NASA). When a safety issue is validated by NASA, based on anonymous reports, ASRS "identifies system deficiencies, and issues alerting messages to persons in a position to correct them," according to its charter.

Over the years, the NTSB, backed by ASRS and other proven industry tools—such as in-cockpit checklists and standardized practices—have created the safest air transportation system in the world. Yes, cost-sensitive airlines and pilot, controller and other unions often object and push back, when new regulations or processes are imposed. Still, every airman, manager, controller and mechanic ultimately has faith in the findings and judgment of NTSB investigators.

Law enforcement policies, practices, training and procedures are at least 50 years behind those of the aviation industry. If aviators were killing three people every day of the year, the White House, Congress and American taxpayers would be furious. Why isn't there similar outrage and intolerance for cops killing more than 1,000 Americans every year?

After a scared police officer panicked and murdered my son in cold blood, the cop and a multiagency Las Vegas "Cartel of Corruption" fol-

lowed a well-worn, cover-up playbook that calls for disparaging the dead victim and corrupting or manufacturing evidence to ensure the killers are always exonerated. There were no nationwide protests of anger and violent outbursts in honor of my son, a white, highly successful, decorated ex-Army officer and West Point graduate with an MBA. The Department of Justice simply reviewed the Vegas police department's self-investigation findings and "decided to not get involved."

Four and a half years later, though, the environment is much different. Americans are finally up in arms, demanding that law enforcement stop killing citizens! It's time for Congress and the White House to listen and act aggressively to implement concrete, meaningful changes. Its time to establish a federal agency charged with independently investigating every officer-involved fatality, then reporting its findings to those who will hold cops accountable.

It's also time to set up a process emulating the Aviation Safety and Reporting system to give honest, professional police officers a vehicle for anonymously reporting fellow cops' crimes, malfeasance, and cover-ups, which have destroyed the credibility of all law enforcement agencies and personnel.

Yes, street cops, state patrol officers, and federal agents in dozens of agencies—all backed by politically powerful, single-minded unions—will scream, threaten to strike and fight back aggressively. But it's time government officials ignore police union bleating and do the right thing for all their constituents—black, white, brown and yellow.

Americans' patience is exhausted.

William B. Scott is a former bureau chief for *Aviation Week & Space Technology* magazine, a Flight Test Engineer graduate of the U.S. Air Force Test Pilot School and author of *The Permit*, a thriller based on his eldest son's death.

COWBOYS

From page 1

control.

The Agitators

Most of us had never before heard of these self-described "social justice warriors," a term most of us first heard as agitators descended upon Ferguson, Missouri, in an attempt to turn strong-arm robbery suspect and attempted cop-killer Michael Brown into a martyr and rallying point.

Let's be perfectly clear: Michael Brown was a common violent criminal, high out of his mind when he attacked Ferguson Police Department officer Darren Wilson not once, but twice.

Three autopsies and a mountain of forensic evidence proved the "hands up, don't shoot" mantra to be an abject lie, but the mix of spoiled middle-class progressives, black nationalists, jihadist recruiters, Prius-driving university Marxists, La Raza separatists, professional communists, community organizers, anarchists, race-baiting agitators, and opportunistic common criminals simply don't care about facts. They care about creating and exploiting anger to attack capitalism and our Constitution and wrest power and control for themselves.

Their narrative of continual oppression and serial injustice is far more important than the truth that the United States was designed to be the freest nation ever conceived. They only thinly hide their desire to control and oppress others.

The lies, and the rage, and the false cries of oppression have continued through the justified shooting deaths of Kajieme Powell (who attacked St. Louis officers with a knife), Vonderitt Myers, Jr., (who shot at a St. Louis police officer at least three times before he was killed in a hail of return fire), and most recently Antonio Martin, the simpering idiot and repeat criminal who attempted to assassinate a Berkeley, Missouri officer just days after the attack that killed Ramos and Liu in Brooklyn, but who was too dumb to work the safety on a Hi-Point pistol carried in the wrong hand.

This string of attempted, escalating, (and sometimes regrettably successful) cop killings is a part of a low-intensity civil war on the

very fabric of our society.

The goal of these attacks is two-fold.

They intend to isolate officers and make them feel as if they are under siege, putting them in a bunker mentality, severing them from the communities they serve and protect. They hope to make some officers quiet and reduce the effectiveness of police forces so that they can rage and riot without opposition, pushing ever closer to the revolution against our government and way of life that is their goal.

Quite frankly, this appears to be the explicit goal of New York City Mayor Bill de Blasio, who reportedly uttered a seething "f*** you," under his breath to the hundreds of officers who turned their backs to him after his overt support of his fellow communists led to officers Ramos and Liu being assassinated.

These toxins permeate Washington, D.C., as well. You'll note that the President of the United States is bravely golfing his way across Hawaii at the moment, having had his staffers issue a minimal statement about the deaths of officers Ramos and Liu as he stayed on the green. The White House has not a word about the attempted police assassinations since. Mentored by communist domestic terrorists Bill Ayers and Bernadine Dohrn, Obama no doubt feels quite pleased as his fellow community organizers Sharpton and Farrakhan turn radicals to arms against the police. The progressive Congressional Black Caucus has likewise championed these radicals, while cravenly going silent once their encouragement of violence spilled blood.

Likewise, out-going Attorney General Eric Holder, himself a racial radical in his own right, has done much to fuel animosity towards local law enforcement and little to keep the peace.

Most of the media are likewise complicit, at every level. The possibility of a revolution excites and invigorates them. Posters of Mao and Che occupy the cubicles of reporters in far too many news rooms. Their coverage lionizes criminals as martyrs, excuses unreasoning hate, and portrays those seeking to recruit violent converts and destroy communities as "activists," telling you what you need to know about their warped views and skewed allegiances.

The Americans

Against these agitators, tinpot despots, common criminals, university radicals, attempted assassins, community organizers, propagandists, and usurpers are you, the good and decent people of the United States who still believe in our Constitution. While many of you believe that the current government and political parties may be rotten and perhaps irredeemable, you also believe that our core American values and beliefs are worth defending against all enemies, foreign and domestic.

This is a Constitution worth defending.

As these radicals continue to target our law enforcement officers, keep in mind that they are targeting your communities and your families by extension. They wish to break down everything than makes the United States exceptional, in order to remake it as yet another pale and fading state where the government rules subjects. They hope to weaken law enforcement, in order to subjugate you.

If that is the life you desire, do nothing. Allow the agitators and usurpers, the communists and racial nationalists and anarchists to pick apart and rip through our unique national fabric.

However...

If, my friends, you would like to preserve and restore liberty you must decide, today, what you will tolerate.

You must determine how much more you are going to tolerate as they attempt to destroy this nation from the inside.

You must determine what you are willing to sacrifice in order for your children and grandchildren to remain free.

I ask you to stand your ground, my proud fellow American citizens. Keep your weapons oiled, your bores bright, and your magazines loaded. Pledge to protect those who protect us.

We do not want war, but we will not surrender our liberty to rabble who crave the chains of tyranny, or who dream of lording over free men.

Will you choose to be Sons of Liberty, or sons of Obama?

Reprinted with Permission. Please see: bearingarms.com/heres-reality-lives-matter-others/?utm_source=badaily&utm_medium=email&utm_campaign=nl



SEIFERT ENTERPRISES

- ◆ Snowplowing - Commercial & Residential
- ◆ Landscape Materials
- ◆ Excavation
- ◆ Septic Systems, Culverts, Cattle Guards
- ◆ Driveway Repair & Maintenance
- ◆ Road Building & Maintenance
- ◆ Wet Utilities
- ◆ Heavy Hauling

Phone: 719-783-2757
Info@SBCompanies.com
Fax: 719-783-2988
www.SBCompanies.com



Concrete
Resurfacing
with epoxy
Elite Crete
System

Sentinel Steel
Buildings,
Sales, Erection



www.sentinelbuildings.com

Local Mountain News & Notices

Black Lives Do Matter

by Candy Thompson,
Cañon City

Our last trip to N.C. we left with visions of the disturbing rioting in Ferguson, MO, still fresh in our minds. My husband and I were riding the Sky Rail to our next concourse when I was struck by a scene that caused me to ponder why it seemed to be more of an anomaly than commonplace. A neatly dressed African American couple entered with their little daughter and rode across from us. Dad stood watching over, not needing to say a word to his well-behaved child who was content to play with her stuffed toy. I smiled at the child and thought, here is a child who has the security and love of two parents and seems secure, confident and happy. This shouldn't be the exception, but the rule.

While in N.C. came the news of another young black man killed following the Ferguson riots, this time by police in N.Y. City in the line of duty. Protests gained new energy with large crowds marching in many cities across the country. The sign that caught everyone's attention was "Black Lives Matter" implying that black lives do not matter to the police and to our legal system, and even to America.

While there may definitely be problems with the system not working as intended and of some individuals being racially motivated, black Americans must look at where they can make the greatest impact on making black lives matter: the black family.

First of all, black lives must matter to blacks. As of October 2013 72.2% of black births were out of wedlock meaning almost ¾'s of all black children born will not have a mother and father committed to each other in marriage for life and committed to raise them in a God ordained family, teaching and training, encouraging, providing for and loving them. This is a huge disadvantage.

Before black children are born, one out of every four will be legally killed. Abortion has reduced the black population by 16% to 36 million. There are no protests for the 1,876 whose lives are snuffed out each day and there are no police present to arrest the guilty. Those complicit in this genocide of the black race have said and are saying "Black lives do not matter." Black mothers and fathers, like any other parents who abort their children are saying that these lives do not matter. However black Americans have especially been targeted by entities that

claim to be for them yet have aided in their genocide.

Planned Parenthood has targeted blacks for abortion and was founded by a woman whose goal was to exterminate blacks. Sounds unbelievable, right? However the facts don't lie. Black lives did not matter to Margaret Sanger, the racist who founded Planned Parenthood. Ms. Sanger started the Negro Project which was a plan to sterilize unknowing black women. "Colored people are like weeds and need to be exterminated," She proclaimed. With 78% of PPH's clinics in minority neighborhoods and African American women getting 35% of abortions but making up 12 % of the population, it seems as though Margaret's vision for blacks is being fulfilled. Planned Parenthood is funded by the federal government and we have in the Whitehouse the most pro-abortion president ever to be elected and he is black.

Guilty too are the black church leaders that refuse to preach the truth about abortion and the consequences it can have on those involved and the exodus of black fathers from their responsibility to those they bring into this world. If black lives matter then why not encourage the flock to vote for righteous leaders, regardless of race, who are against abortion and for legislation that promotes the family and godly principles?

Black lives must also matter to each of us personally. When we walked into the nursing home in N.C. to visit my mother, it seemed as if we all, blacks and whites alike, were making a special effort to be friendly and caring. Any fears of the riots having an effect on the black attendants we had come to know over the last two years were dispelled.

Then we saw Clinton, a maintenance worker whose job was to maintain the floors throughout the building. Clinton is the spitting image of Dr. Ben Carson and has his quiet demeanor also. He smiled at my husband and said, "How're you doing, brother?" Clinton is a Christian and was indeed a brother and he believes as we do that in Christ we are all equal, valuable and to God there is only one race, the human race. Black lives do matter. They matter to us and they especially have mattered to those who have fought for giving equal rights to former slaves and who have upheld the ideal that all men are created equal. We refuse to let a small number of "hoodlums", as Clinton called them, tell us that black lives do not matter to the people of America.

Concealed Carry Permits for Mad Dogs in Colorado

Analysis & Commentary
by Paul Sage

The latest campaign in the battle to legitimize pot in Colorado is one being waged against conservative second amendment rights advocates. Calling itself the "Colorado Campaign for Equal Gun Rights" drug dealers and users being represented by front man Edgar Antillion and his associate Isaac Chase who are gun dealers running a fire-arm training business called "Guns For Everyone", are attempting to gather enough signatures to have a ballot measure considered by Colorado voters in 2016 to allow drug users to obtain concealed carry permits.

[T]he erratic behavior of armed stoners could endanger others and the gun rights of normal citizens.

The pot smoker's advocates are attempting to sell this as a gun rights issue and enlisting the support of gun rights advocates and conservative legislators who oppose government intervention in gun rights issues.

The conflict comes because marijuana is still against federal law even while legalized or decriminalized in various states like Colorado. Gun sales and ownership are regulated federally by the U.S. Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and Explosives, and guidelines set up by the agency prevent gun ownership by certain groups of people, such as convicted felons, people subject to a current restraining order, people recently treated for alcoholism, and people using or addicted to federally illegal controlled substances like marijuana. A letter of clarification from ATF Assis-

tant Director Arthur Herbert made clear that "there are no exceptions in federal law for marijuana purportedly used for medicinal purposes, even if such use is sanctioned by state law."

According to a December 24th story in the Denver Post, the proposed measure, if approved by the voters "would change state law to prevent sheriffs from denying concealed carry permits because of marijuana use." It could not change the federal universal background check law which makes the purchase or ownership of such weapons as some might propose to be concealed a federal crime by drug users, felons and other legally excluded classes of people.

According to the Post story, the County Sheriffs of Colorado and the Colorado State Shooting Association are not buying into this campaign, and it seems unlikely that conservative gun rights groups and individuals will buy into this either.

People need to keep in mind when considering any of these issues related to marijuana in Colorado in 2015 is that this is not like the Cheech and Chong weed of the 60's and 70's. The potency of the hybrid genetically modified pot plants of today are much more potent. The hash oil distilled from today's pot plants to make gummy bears and brownies more closely resembles what was in the 60's called "Red Oil", and was studied by the US military for use as a generally non-lethal chemical weapon.

Dr. James Ketchum, former Army colonel and scientist at the Edgewood Arsenal, which was the headquarters of the US Army Chemical Corps, conducted many experiments on the weaponization of marijuana and its component parts. In his book "Chemical Warfare: Secrets Almost Forgotten" he explains much about these secret experiments, which have indeed been forgotten by the citizens and legislators of Colorado

and a number of other states.

According to www.AlterNet.org, reporting on the military research with the high potency hash oil they named "Red Oil". "Army scientists found that this concentrated cannabis derivative produced effects unlike anything they had previously seen. 'The dogs gets a peculiar reaction. He crawls under the table, stays away from the dark, leaps out at imaginary objects and, as far as one can interpret, may be suffering from hallucinations.' One report stated 'It would appear even to the untrained observer that this dog is not normal. He suddenly jumps out, even without any stimulus, and barks, and then crawls back under the table.'"

Further findings reveal that "with a larger dose of "Red Oil", the reaction was even more pronounced. 'These animals lie on their side; you could step on their feet without any response; it is an amazing effect and a reversible phenomenon,'" the excited chemical weapons researcher explained about the potential of this weapon to subdue enemies with little risk of death of permanent damage.

The marijuana derivative showed great promise as a non-lethal chemical weapon, and some of the more refined elements of the weed weapon showed even more promise. When tested on soldiers, who were subsequently asked to conduct routine tasks, they were able to do little more than laugh uncontrollably, and were generally incapacitated, but not apparently harmed. The refined components of today's marijuana most closely resemble the army's "Red Oil."

While there is little concern that drug users would be likely to effectually utilize weapons, giving concealed carry permits to unpredictable, possibly hallucinating "stoned dogs" likely isn't a productive move, and the erratic behavior of armed stoners could endanger others and the gun rights of normal citizens.

Benefit Concert for Paca Peace Ranch

Singer-songwriters and musicians Bar Scott, Amy Moulton, Kristen Maher and special guests are teaming up to raise money for Paca Peace Ranch for Youth with a benefit concert on Saturday, Jan. 10 at Coyote Moon Lodge. Doors open at 7 p.m. with the concert beginning at 7:30 p.m.

Bar Scott has inspired listeners with the strength of her voice and the immediacy of her songs for

over twenty-five years. She has seven CDs of original songs and four CDs of covers in her repertoire. The latest album, Journey, was released in 2014.

Kristen Maher and her sister Amy Moulton have been singing and writing songs together for over 23 years. Maher's pliant voice and musicianship on keys, guitar and accordion has provided as a strong lead for their former band,

Random Highways, as well as for Maher's current band, Bread and Jam, based in San Diego, Calif. Moulton completes the trio with her harmonies and bass guitar.

Proceeds from this concert will support local non-profit Paca Peace Ranch for Youth, which has served more than 150 children in the Wet Mountain Valley community over the past 12 years. Fifth-graders come to the ranch to learn to care

for and train alpacas, each working with a mentor throughout the year.

"Kids in the program bond with and train their own personal alpaca," said Maher, who is also the board president of Paca Peace Ranch. "Along the way, they gain confidence, trust in others, and skills in peaceful conflict resolution."

Paca Peace Ranch charges no fees

and provides transportation for the children. It is funded by donations and grants, and is operated by volunteer staff and mentors.

Coyote Moon Lodge is located at 11 Granada Court in Westcliffe. The suggested donation for the concert is \$15. Space is limited so come early to get a seat. For more information, call Amy Moulton at 276-4146.

Local Mountain News & Notices

Local Youth Donates to Club America

Young Club America WMV enthusiast Mara Backsen, the daughter of Mick and Monica Backsen of Silver Cliff, had an idea to turn her passion into profit for the community’s aquatics and fitness center.

At the end of the day, this fifth grade entrepreneur had raised some \$200 and she donated that hard-earned cash to the Wet Mountain Community Foundation through its yearly spirit campaign.

Perhaps you purchased one of Mara’s 60 handcrafted bracelets last month when she offered them for sale at the club’s front desk and at Community United Methodist Church in Westcliffe.

Mara loves to swim and when she received a book about making bracelets from a friend for her birthday that sparked an idea. “I started making so many bracelets,” said Mara, “that I decided to do something with them.”

She continued, “I made a bunch of bracelets and a display and set them up at the club.” Mara also took some of the bracelets to the

local Methodist church and received several orders. The suggested donation was \$1 per bracelet but many gave more.

“I ended up with a little more than \$190,” said Mara, “and my parents kicked in enough to round it up to \$200.” Mara chose Club America as the local nonprofit organization to donate the money to because until recently her dad, Mick, served as president of the board of directors. Also, she knew that Club America was doing a capital campaign to raise funds to make improvements.

Additionally, when her parents commented that all dollars donated to the club through the spirit campaign would be matched, Mara knew just where the money she made from selling the bracelets would go. When asked how she wanted the club to spend the dollars it receives, Mara commented, “the way the club needs it the most.”

Club America WMV is lo-



Mara Backsen, with a few of the bracelets she made and sold.

Courtesy photo

cated at 50 Main Street in Silver Cliff. Winter hours are Monday and Wednesday from 6 a.m. to 6 p.m., Tuesday, Thursday, and Friday from 6 a.m. to 8 p.m., Saturday from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m., and Sunday from noon to 4 p.m. Folks pay a membership fee to use the facility or a day pass can be purchased. A number of fitness classes are also offered. For more information, call the club at 783-0750 or stop by the front desk.

Grapplers Get Short Rest

A quick couple of practices before Christmas, and the Bobcat wrestling team took a brief rest. By CHSAA (Colorado High School Activities Association) requirements, no practices could be held from December 24-28, but Monday the grapplers were back on the mats ready to go. They’ll get one day off for New Year’s, and then it will be back to the regular schedule. When classes resume on Monday January 4, there will be one full week of practice to prepare for the home tour-

namment. Wrestling action will be expanded with a Friday night Tri meet. Teams expected to compete with the Bobcats are the Rye Thunderbolts and Del Norte Tigers.

Coach Ham and the team invite the entire community to join them for all the week-end action January 9-10. At press deadline, scheduled start times are 4:30 p.m. for Friday’s Tri, and 9:00 a.m. for Saturday’s tournament. Watch next week for full tournament week details.

GRADES From page 1

C-1 Middle School: Again not good results, but slightly better in some respects to the elementary scores. Note in Overall Performance (“C”) and we are in the bottom half of middle schools in Colora-

do. Overall Academic Performance and Growth scores (“C+”) are poor but most disturbing is the 3-Year Trend is downward.

2014 School Year	Overall Grade	3-Year Trend	Ranking			
OVERALL PERFORMANCE	C	↔	240 of 505 middle schools			
Key Performance Indicators	Grade	3-Year Trend	Reading	Math	English	Science
ACADEMIC PROFICIENCY	C+	↓	B-	B-	C+	---
ACADEMIC GROWTH	C+	↓	B-	C	B	---

Custer County Middle School Grades. Courtesy image from Colorado School Grades

C-1 High School: Poor and completely unacceptable scores. A “C” Overall Performance grade with C-1 being in the bottom half of all Colorado High Schools! **NO GRADE ABOVE “C” IN ANY CATEGORY!!!** And from the graph, “Is the average student at this

school ready for college or career based on ACT scores?” Reading - NO; Math - NO; English - YES; and Science - NO. **Folks, this is, plain and simply, gross failure and NOT acceptable for any child in our country.**

2014 School Year	Overall Grade	3-Year Trend	Ranking			
OVERALL PERFORMANCE	C	↔	164 of 345 high schools			
Key Performance Indicators	Grade	3-Year Trend	Reading	Math	English	Science
ACADEMIC PROFICIENCY	C+	↔	B-	B-	C+	---
ACADEMIC GROWTH	C+	↔	B-	C	B	---
COLLEGE AND CAREER READINESS	Is the average student at this school ready for college or career based on ACT scores?		No	No	Yes	No
	of this school's students graduated within four years (graduation rate)		of this school's graduates, who went to college in Colorado, needed to re-take high school-level courses (remediation rate)			

Custer County High School Grades. Courtesy image from Colorado School Grades

Summary: The Colorado School Grades 2014 report on CCCS C-1 reinforces our in-depth look two months ago on C-1’s 2014 CSAP scores: we have a “C” school with a disturbing downward overall trend. This is not acceptable anywhere in the United States, much less here in Custer County. We need immediate measures to be taken to turn this around and stop “graduating” students completely unprepared for college or the private sector. School Board, School Administra-

tion, Teachers, Parents and Citizens: We see and know the problem. **It is time to own up to it,** and step up and fix it. Every year that nothing happens results in MORE of our children going unprepared into an every increasing difficult world. **Status Quo is failure.** Let’s shoot for at least an overall “B” grade for each grade group next year and then build on that to become truly an exceptional school for our children. We have to take action NOW.



Best Wishes for an Amazing 2015!

411 Main St. in beautiful Westcliffe, Colorado • 719.783.9393 • Open Mon.-Sat. 10-5

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

Visit us at our new location – 102 S. Adams Blvd.!



First State Bank of Colorado

Banking as it should be



Local branch at 102 S. Adams Blvd., Westcliffe, CO 81252 719-783-9211

LOG HOMES

K & L LOG DISTRIBUTORS, Inc.

www.eMountainLogHomes.com 719 783-3260

MOUNTAIN WOOD MAINTENANCE & RESTORATION & Sashco

Preserving Your Dreams in Colorado Since 1936

511 Main St., Westcliffe, CO 81252

Local Mountain News & Notices

Sights from Custer County Gym—Basketball Game Night



Bobcats Basketball is at the one-month-down and two-months-to-go point, now in the Christmas Break. The boys team under Coach Jim Bistodeau show a 1-3 record, and Coach Gary Fischer's girls team posts 2-5 at this time. Custer County has not faced a league opponent thus far in the season, but that starts when the Bobcats travel to Cripple Creek on Saturday, January 10. This will be the first of four away games before our teams finally play at home on Saturday, January 24 against Sargent.

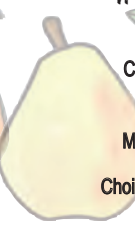
Sentinel photos by Jim Silver



Bobcat Menu • Jan. 5 - Jan. 8, 2015

**Monday
breakfast**
Pancakes
Sausage Links
Fruit, Milk
lunch
Chicken Patty Sandwich
Choice of Veg.
Choice of Fruit
Milk

**Tuesday
breakfast**
Scrambled Eggs
W. W. Toast
Fruit, Milk
lunch
Chili w/ Crackers
Choice of Veg.
Choice of Fruit
Milk



**Wednesday
breakfast**
Bagel
Cream Cheese
Fruit, Milk
lunch
Mac 'n' Cheese
W.W. Roll
Choice of Veg. & Fruit
Milk

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

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

KIDS Friday, January 2, 2015

American General and Diplomat George C. Marshall: Born December 31, 1880

George C. Marshall graduated from the Virginia Military Institute and was commissioned as a Second Lieutenant in 1902. He was promoted to Captain in 1918 after U.S. entry into WW I, and he served in military operations in France.

It was during the Second World War that he became the country's top military leader, being promoted to Full General in 1939, Chief of Staff. Drawing from years of experience teaching "Modern Warfare" at the Army War College, General Marshall organized the largest military expansion in U.S. history. He never led troops in combat, but was a skilled administrator and leader of other officers, among them Generals Eisenhower, McNair, Patton, and Bradley. In December, 1944, General Marshall became the first 5-Star General of the U.S. Army, as he coordinated Allied operations in both Europe and the Pacific.

George C. Marshall was honored by having his name attached to a variety of endeavors, mostly following his death. It was President Truman, however, who chose to call America's proposal for European recovery following WW II the "Marshall Plan." It was at the 1947 commencement at Harvard University where he was speaking that Marshall, by then Secretary of State, outlined how Europe should be assisted in rebuilding and modernizing. Marshall gave the speech, but it was the State Department which fully developed the plan which would have world-wide effect. The President chose to keep his own name out of the picture, and Marshall was admired by both political parties, and called himself "nonpartisan." Congress passed the measure, the most expensive foreign aid commitment ever. Secretary Marshall was awarded the Nobel Peace Prize in 1953.

George C. Marshall died on October 16, 1959 and is buried at the Arlington National Cemetery.

Source: www.history.com and wikipedia.com

Sangre de Cristo Sentinel • Westcliffe, Colorado

CORNER

Local Mountain News & Notices

Classifieds

For Sale

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

Real Estate

Lori Kastendieck
Independent Broker
Real Estate
Westcliffe Broker.com
719/269-0653
Serving buyers & sellers since 1982
321-0501

Services

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

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

Call

(719)

783-3360

to place
your ad!

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

Bobcats Sport Schedule

VARSITY BASKETBALL

Saturday, January 10
4 p.m.: Cripple Creek AWAY

Friday, January 16
4 p.m.: Del Norte AWAY

WRESTLING

Friday, January 9
4:30 p.m.: Custer Tri at HOME

Saturday, January 10
9 a.m.: Custer Tournament at HOME

Saturday, January 17
9 a.m.: Salida Tournament AWAY

Kick Off the New Year with New Fitness Classes at Club America

Take care of your body. It's the only place you have to live. (Jim Rohn) Club America WMV, Custer County's premier aquatics and fitness center, is offering additional classes to help folks take care of the body they live in.

Beginning Monday, January 5, and continuing once a week for 12 weeks is the "84-Day Challenge to Living a Healthy Life," taught by Jerry Heisig. The class begins at 5 p.m. each Monday. Heising, who has over 20 years experience in the fitness industry, says folks can expect each class over the 12 week period to last some two hours.

Among the topics to be covered are physical activity and exercise, healthy eating, better breathing, weight management, how to deal with depression, preventing falls, how to get a good night's sleep and how to deal with difficult emotions. The course will also include fitness checks to see if the course has improved each per-

son's physical abilities.

Cost to take the course is \$180 for Club America members; \$350 for non-members which includes a three month club membership, and \$240 for non-members who do not want the three month club membership.

Those who take the course can also purchase the book "Living a Healthy Lifestyle with Chronic Conditions" for \$18.95. Heisig says purchase of the book is not required, however, it would help folks to continue the program following the course.

Heisig is also offering a group fitness/training class titled, "Body Burn Core Conditioning." That one hour class gets underway Tuesday, January 6, and will be held every Tuesday and Thursday from 5 to 6 p.m. Club members will pay a trainer fee only. Non-members pay \$20 a month to the club plus the trainer fee.

Both classes being taught

by Heisig are open to men and women at least 18 years of age. Heisig, who moved to the Valley with his family a little over a year ago, has certification in a number of health and wellness realms including older adult wellness, fall prevention, and healthier living Colorado. Additionally, he is a former certified drug and alcohol counselor. "I would take my drug and alcohol clients to the gym to show them how to use fitness and exercise to live a more healthy life," said Heisig.

Also starting in January is "Yoga Express," a half hour of power being taught by Cassie Schwartz. The class begins Thursday, January 8, from 9:45 to 10:15 a.m. The class is free to club members; non-members pay a \$2.50 drop in fee.

For more information about these classes and other fitness classes being offered at Club America, call 783-0750 or stop by the club located at 50 Main Street in Silver Cliff.

Crazy Days (& Crazy Nights)

We can always find some reason to celebrate. Please check out the National Days and Months below. Surely you will find one or two that will give you cause to celebrate. If you want to know the origins and details of any of them please go to NationalDaysCalendar.com and check them out. For January we especially like Save the Eagles Day (10th) and Pie Day (23rd). Or maybe National Oatmeal Month would better suit you. Anyway we are sure you can find some reason to smile. See you at the bakery on the 23rd.

January 2

National Science Fiction Day
National Personal Trainer Day
National Cream Puff Day

January 3

National Fruitcake Toss Day
National Chocolate Covered Cherry Day

January 5

National Whipped Cream Day
National Thank God It's Monday Day

January 9

National Static Electricity Day

January 10

National Save The Eagles Day
National Bittersweet Chocolate Day

January 11

National Human Trafficking Awareness Day

January 14

National Hot Pastrami Sandwich Day
National Ratification Day

January 16

National Religious Freedom Day

January 17

National Hot Buttered Rum Day

January 19

Martin Luther King Jr. Day

January 21

National Squirrel Appreciation Day

January 23

National Pie Day

January 24

National Compliment Day
National Beer Can Appreciation Day

January 29

National Puzzle Day
National Corn Chip Day

The month of January is also observed as the national month of:

Bath Safety
Blood Donor
Braille Literacy
Hobby
Hot Tea
Oatmeal
Soup

Find your day and celebrate!



Norup Gas Inc.

28 Rangeview Loop

(Rangeview Industrial Park)

Located

one mile north of Westcliffe
on Highway 69.

Office hours:

Monday through Friday
8 a.m. until 5 p.m.

719-783-9338

Events Calendar

Friday, January 2 Courthouse Closed	Friday, January 9 CCSD Snowcats at Monarch Mountain
Saturday, January 3 2 - 5 p.m.: Retirement Party for Sheriff Fred Jobe at school in multi-purpose room; All are welcome; Refreshments served	Saturday, January 10 7 p.m.: Benefit Concert for Paca Peace Ranch for Youth at Coyote Moon Lodge, 11 Granada Court; Info 276-4146; \$15 suggested donation
Monday, January 5, 2015 Back to School! 4:15 p.m.: CCSD Accountability Committee Mtg. in school library	Tuesday, January 13 4:30 p.m.: School Board Meeting
Tuesday, January 6 6:15 p.m.: Ag Advisory Comm. Mtg/ Ag classroom 6:30 p.m.: American Legion meeting at Cliff Lanes; Program on VA Choice Card by Delwin Lester	Thursday, January 15 4 p.m. - 5:30 p.m.: CCSD: Science Night in Great Room and classrooms
	Sunday, January 18 2 p.m.: Jones Theater: In Concert - Patterson/Sutton Duo (Cello and Guitar)

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	(March-October) at the Saddle Club.
Monday through Friday 8 a.m. – 5 p.m.: Custer County public transit service available to everyone through Wet Mountain Valley Rotary Club. Call 783-2343	Tuesday through Friday 10 a.m. – 5:30 p.m.: Library open in downtown Westcliffe; 783-9138
Monday, Tuesday, Thursday Noon: Lunch served at Custer County Senior Center located on first floor of Silver Cliff Town Hall. Call 783-9508 to RSVP by 9:30 am	Wednesday Line dancers meet at the Methodist Church from 9:30 to 11 a.m. Call Clem at (303) 909-7370 6 p.m.: Closed Big Book study Alcoholics Anonymous meeting at St. Luke's Episcopal Church in Westcliffe. Call Jim at 783-2053 or (360) 509-9172, or Lisa at (719) 783-0809 6:30 p.m. - 8 p.m.: Custer County Community Band practice in band room at high school
Monday and Thursday 11 a.m. – 5 p.m.: Lighthouse Pregnancy Resources in Silver Cliff open to assist young mothers and families in need. Free pregnancy tests and counseling to pregnant women and more. Call 783-4357	Thursday Second Thursday of the Month: 10 a.m. - 11 a.m., "Ask a Nurse" at the library
Tuesday 12 - 4:30 p.m.: Bridge Club meets in the library community room in downtown Westcliffe. 6 p.m. – 8 p.m.: Jammin' band at The Mining Company Restaurant in Silver Cliff	Friday 6 p.m.: Open discussion Alcoholics Anonymous meeting at St. Luke's Episcopal Church. Call Jim at 783-2053 or (360) 509-9172 or Lisa (719) 783-0809
First Tuesday of the Month: 6:30 p.m. at Cliff Lanes - American Legion Post 170 monthly meeting 6:45 p.m. Post 170 Auxiliary monthly meeting	Friday and Saturday 1 p.m. – 4 p.m.: Share Center at 308 S. Third Street adjacent to Hope Lutheran Church in Westcliffe
	Saturday 10 a.m. – 2 p.m.: Library open in Westcliffe

The Artists' Gallery Presents...

The Artists' Gallery, 416 Main St., Historic Downtown Cañon City, welcomes the New Year with our first art event of 2015! On Friday, January 9th (2nd Friday), we invite guests to our monthly downtown "art walk" from 5-8 p.m. Three extraordinary artists will be featured at the gallery throughout the month:

Joe and Ted Blenderman, brothers, not only share a background of decades as educators in art and drama, but are both accomplished painters. Although their styles are similar and they both favor watercolor and acrylic painting, each has a distinctive emotional approach to their subject matter.

Sculptor and painter Deidre Wilda has spent much of her life in the Colorado mountains, leading to her love and respect for her favorite subject, wildlife. In her paintings, "D" finds color and humor in the physical forms of these same amazing, and often comical, creatures. Her fascinating stylized animal sculptures often capture a sense of fleeting motion.

Join us to meet the artists, enjoy a stimulating atmosphere, and share complimentary refreshments. The Artists' Gallery is open Tuesday thru Sunday from 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. For more information call (719)345-4070 or visit our website: www.theartistsgalleryonline.com.

Sheriff Jobe's Retirement Party

Saturday, January 3rd
2 p.m. - 5 p.m.

Custer County School's Multi-purpose Room

Everyone is welcome to congratulate Fred on his retirement!

Sheriff's Report...

As of Tuesday, December 30, there were five men and one woman in jail.

OFFENSES

December 29 Lindsey Allen, age 28, of Silver Cliff was arrested in the 700 block of South Street in Silver Cliff after deputies responded to a disturbance. Allen was arrested for drug paraphernalia, possession of methamphetamines, and booked into the Custer County jail under a \$500 bond.

December 28 Amanda Montoya, age 24, from Pueblo, was arrested in El Paso County off of a Custer County bench warrant for failure to appear. Montoya is being held on a \$2,500 bond. The original charge was driving under the influence. If she doesn't bond out, Montoya will be extradited.

December 26 Kristopher Morgan, age 35, of Silver Cliff was arrested in the 800 block of Broadway for third degree assault and domestic violence. Morgan is being held in the Custer County jail waiting advisement.

December 25 Ralph Stewart, age 61, or rural Westcliffe was arrested for harassment, menacing, false imprisonment, child abuse, and domestic violence. Stewart is being held in the Custer County jail awaiting advisement.

THEFTS

December 29 Monica Reynolds of Pueblo West reported that someone broke into her 2008 Toyota while parked at Bishop's Castle. Her purse and its contents were stolen. The thief went to two ATMs and withdrew about \$1,000. Currently, investigators are checking into any surveillance cameras in the area to assist with identification.

ACCIDENTS

December 29 At 11:30 a.m., a 2003 Honda Civic driven by Andrew Feller, age 19, of Hutton, Texas, was traveling north on Highway 69 at about mile marker 68 when he slid off of the left-hand side of a right-hand curve. The vehicle rolled 1 ¼ times. Heavy damage was sustained to the vehicle.

December 29 A 2007 Ford Taurus driven by

Thomas Mow, age 65, of Silver Cliff, slid off of the Highway 96 at about mile marker 18 and struck a guardrail. Moderate damage was sustained to the vehicle.

December 28 At 1540 hours, Calvin Leslie, age 67, of rural Westcliffe was driving a 1993 Ford pickup truck when he pulled out of Rosita Road onto Highway 69 when he failed to see a 2000 Chevy Blazer driven by Christina Sentell, age 40, of rural Westcliffe. Sentell was southbound on Highway 69 approaching the intersection. Moderate damage was sustained to both vehicles. Leslie was issued a summons for disregard of a traffic control device.

December 28 A 2008 Nissan, driven by Dana Gavin, age 35, of Arkansas was northbound on Highway 69 when she lost control of the vehicle on a right-hand curve. The vehicle went off of the left side of the road, down an embankment and into a ditch. Minor damage to the vehicle.

December 27 A 2004 Mitsubishi driven by Mario Mejia-Garcia, age 25, of College Station, Texas, was northbound on Highway 69 when he slid off of the right-hand side of the roadway. Heavy damage was sustained to the front end of the vehicle. The road was snow-packed. Mejia-Garcia was cited for careless driving and no valid driver's license.

December 22 At 1356 hours, a 2003 Mitsubishi driven by Fred Hernandez, age 44, of Westcliffe was eastbound on Highway 96 when he struck the rear end of a 2010 Ford pickup truck driven by John Comerford, age 57, of rural Westcliffe. Heavy damage was sustained to the Hernandez vehicle and moderate damage to the Comerford vehicle. Hernandez was cited for careless driving.

December 7 At 1337 hours, a 1999 Chevy van driven by Roy Johnson, age 56, of Arkansas was northbound on Highway 69 about mile marker 51 when he lost control of his vehicle and went from the right-hand side of the road to the left-hand side of the road, through a fence, and hit a delin-eator post. Moderate

damage was sustained to the vehicle. Johnson was cited for not having a current driver's license and careless driving.

TRAFFIC

December 23 Nicole Stratton, age 42, of Sheridan, Colorado, was stopped for a traffic violation and driving with a license under suspension and no insurance. Stratton was cited for speeding and booked into the Custer County jail for driver's license under suspension. She posted a \$1,000 bond and was released.

AMBULANCE CALLS

December 30 At 1129 hours, an ambulance was dispatched to Highway 69 North for a rollover accident. The driver was transported to Parkview Hospital in Pueblo.

December 28 At 2012 hours, an ambulance was dispatched to the 500 block of Ohio Street in Silver Cliff for a 74-year-old male with flu-like symptoms. He was transported to Parkview Hospital.

December 27 At 1858 hours, an ambulance was dispatched to Lea Lane in Westcliffe for a 47-year-old male with numbness in his legs. He was transported to St. Mary-Corwin Hospital in Pueblo.

December 27 At 1423 hours, an ambulance was dispatched to VALI for a 70-year-old female with weakness and being incoherent.

December 27 At 6:53 a.m., an ambulance was dispatched to First Street, Apartment A, in Westcliffe, for an 81-year-old male with trouble breathing. He was transported to Parkview Hospital.

December 18 At 1207 hours, an ambulance was dispatched to the clinic for a 43-year-old male with abdominal pains. He was transported to Parkview Hospital.

FIRE CALLS

December 30 At 1129 hours, the fire department responded to the rollover accident on Highway 69 North.

December 29 On stand-by at the accident on Highway 69 mile marker 18.

Thank You Sheriff Jobe



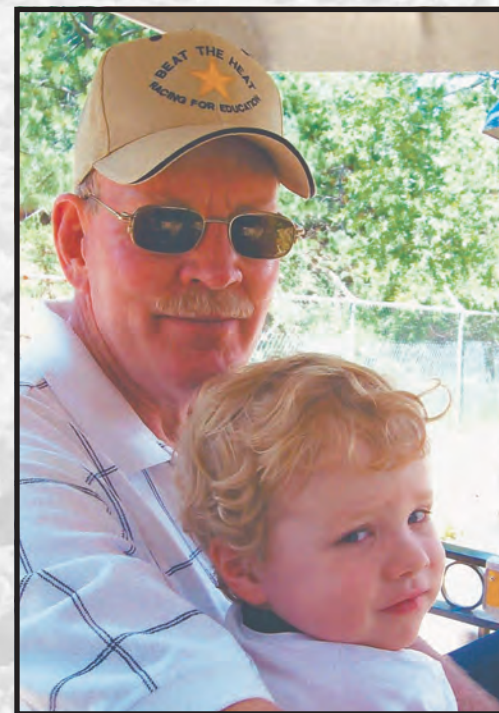
Fred in 1989 with his son Jerry who was Deputy Sheriff in El Paso County before joining the FBI.



Fred with daughter Deborah graduating from the State Patrol Academy.



Fred with son, Steve, currently a pilot for Southwest Airlines.



Fred with grandson, Carson Jobe.



Fred singing at a ranch campfire.



Fred's new Hog, 2006.



"Could I have this dance?" Fred and Deloris' anniversary at Western Days.



Fred riding "Red", the county horse, in a parade.



Custer County's finest, 2004.

When Fred Jobe and his wife, Deloris, moved to Westcliffe in 1982 to start a Christian guest ranch, little did they know that the Lord had different plans for them. A native of Oklahoma, Fred joined the Chickasha, Oklahoma Police Department as a patrolman in 1971 and rose to be a Lieutenant in the Detective Division by 1981.

A friend of Fred and Deloris had some land in Colorado and a plan was hatched to build and operate a Christian guest ranch there. So Fred quit the Chickasha Police Department and moved west to the valley. After a year or so of battling the Colorado land bureaucracy with zoning, building, and water issues, the dream of a guest ranch faded.

After a few rough years, the Town of Westcliffe asked Fred to become the town's police chief/marshall. Fred held this job for two years when he then ran for county sheriff in 1986 and secured the Republican primary spot by defeating the incumbent, Sheriff Baker. He won the general election and became Custer County Sheriff in 1987.

When Fred started in 1987 the sheriff's office was the small stone section on the northeast corner of the county building (which is now the zoning office). There was no jail. All prisoners had to be taken to Fremont County for incarceration. There was an undersheriff, one deputy and three part-time "reserve" officers. There was no 24-hour dispatcher. Fred had the Sheriff's Office calls forwarded to his home at night! The patrol vehicles were three "older" automobiles.

The county purchased the building where the current Sheriff's Office resides in 1996 (it was a trucking/mechanic facility), had it renovated, including a new jail, and was officially occupied by the Sheriff's Department later that year. At that time, the Sheriff's Department staff consisted of the sheriff, six deputies, five dispatchers, and two jailers.

Over the years, Fred's singing ability has become well known. He has released two CD's featuring gospel music and is currently a member of the choir at the First Baptist Church in Westcliffe.

The Sheriff's Department's workload has increased dramatically over the years as the population of Custer County has grown. In 2013, the department received 10,875 "Calls for Service" and 895 traffic contacts. In 2013 there were 246 offenses committed in the county, which Fred notes, has been fairly constant over the years even with the dramatic increase in population.

One of Sheriff Jobe's biggest accomplishments was the creation of Custer County Posse twelve years ago. They have been an invaluable asset to the community assisting in various tasks as traffic control, emergency response, and school patrolling.

Over the years there were plenty of exciting and sometimes humorous events concerning the Sheriff's Department. Before the advent of Search and Rescue, Fred used to do the rescuing himself and with the deputies. He remembers bringing multiple injured parties, including some with broken bones, down off the mountains with them riding behind him on his horse. Also one time at the old Sheriff's Office, the burglar alarm rang there one night and Fred rushed over from his home to find an inebriated individual in the office. Turns out the fellow broke in only to make a phone call!

Fred noted that he still will be working at "something" after his retirement in January 2015 and was kicking around the idea of being an "over-the-road" trucker for a few years to see more of our beautiful country.

Sheriff Jobe has done an outstanding job for Custer County over the decades. The county wishes him and Deloris the best of luck and God speed with his new endeavors.



Swearing in for his first term in January 1987 by Judge Whitney Sullivan. The departing sheriff was Bob Baker.



Swearing in for his last term in January 2010 by Judge Peter Michelson.

Fremont County Bulletin

News, Opinion, Commentary

IMPORTANT DATES IN FREMONT

School Board Meetings:

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

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

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

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

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

**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



2015: Vision For Fremont County

by Edward Whitcraft,
RGTP

It is that time of year when people like to start planning for next year. There are some things that are going good so why change. On the other hand there may be a problem with the way some things are going so it is a good time to make a change. All my life I've seen people making what we call resolutions like losing weight, stop smoking, drinking or whatever their particular situation might be. The first of a new year seems like the perfect time to make a new start for that resolution. Personally, I've never really put much stock in resolutions as I've never seen too many people keep the ones they made. However, I do believe that we should make plans and have a vision of where we want to go and what we would like to see accomplished. I think the New Year would be an appropriate time to implement said vision or plan.

In my vision for 2015 I would like to see the good people of Fremont County become more faithful in their walk with our God. There is no doubt that we are living in perilous times not only here at home but all across this great land of ours and the entire world. We see people who are hungry, unemployed, homeless, lonely, greedy, self-indulged, and completely oblivious to anything going on around them. This is going on right here at home. Jesus taught that we are to be servants to one another, we are to be constantly in prayer for each other, and we are to love one another as Jesus loved the church. We have an abundance of churches in our county but I can tell you they are not full on Sunday morning. I believe we need to get back to putting God first in our lives. Jeff Altman made the following statement: "In our frustration and sadness at the state of things in the world, we must ever remember that chaos is the result of false worship and false faith." My vision is to make our faith real in Fremont County perhaps even start a great revival that would sweep the nation.

Next my vision would be for our elected officials, regardless of what

the office is, to have the mindset that they are servants of the electorate and not self-appointed to do as they please. This goes with the county positions, cities, school boards, and any other elected positions. I would also include our good neighbors that are working for any of the agencies in the cities and county. Henry Clay said, "Government is a trust, and the officers of the government are trustees.....created for the benefit of the people". Our founding fathers gave to this nation the Bill of Rights and the Constitution. These two documents have guided this country to the longest lasting government in the history of the world. Each one of our elected officials swear to uphold the Constitution of the U.S. and the State of Colorado so why in the world don't they? A few examples are: the Affordable Care Act, Common Core, EPA Regulations, Sustainment Mandates, and International Building Codes. Every time something is put to our representatives for a vote it should be measured against this precious document known as the Constitution. This would include implementing programs that are mandated from the federal or state level. If it does not pass the Constitution test then notify the state or the feds that our county or state will opt out of the proposed program. Of course most of these mandates come with dollars, at least for the implementation, and most of our elected officials are afraid to say 'no' because they want the dollars. Just think. Our cities and county representatives are just as responsible for running up the national debt as our state and federal representatives are. Our elected representatives and government employees must understand that less government is better government. Less rules and regulations will go a long way in keeping us a nation of "We the People".

My last vision would be for we the people to take on the role of personal responsibility and being in charge of our government. We must hold our elected officials accountable for their actions, their votes, and their decisions. That means we will have to attend council meetings, school

board meetings, and commissioners meetings. We must be aware

I would like to see the good people of Fremont County become more faithful in their walk with our God.

of the many issues that representatives are working on and we must be prepared to discuss with them the effects they will have on us, the citizen. Thomas Jefferson said, "The will of the people is the only legitimate foundation of any government, and to protect its free expression should be our first object." All of us want more freedom meaning less government intervention in our lives. Most of us feel that we pay enough in taxes and, in fact, would like to see less taxes but for some reason we won't go to our representatives and demand that they cut programs or subsidies which is the only way to cut spending. We are all in favor of cutting programs unless it's something for us. That's where personal responsibility comes in—we must look to ourselves and not the government to sustain us. There is not one free government program—taxpayers pay for it one way or another. That means we the people.

So, my vision and prayer for Fremont County would be a closer walk with God, servants as elected representatives, accountable to the citizens and for we the people to be responsible and involved—stepping up to the plate to make our government accountable to us. "Those who expect to reap the blessings of freedom must, like men, undergo the fatigue of supporting it," a quote from Mr. Thomas Paine. Please resolve to be informed and get involved in 2015.

Compassion Food Bank

by Charlotte Burrous

With the tough economic times continuing, many people need a helping hand.

Recently, Fremont County resident Pam Simmons discovered Compassion Food Bank of Southern Colorado in Pueblo where she could purchase a box of food for \$20. "I bought it for my niece, a single mother with three children. I figured if I gave (my niece) 20 bucks, it wouldn't go anywhere," she said. "I could pick up a big box of food and it helped her."

At that point, Simmons decided to bring the program to Fremont County where she secured several locations to distribute the food to residents in this area.

"First of all, the Eagles (in Florence) opened their doors," she said. "It was pretty obvious we ran out of space there before we even got started. Then we moved to the Solid Rock Church in Bear Paw (south of Florence). Pastor Bill (Woods) was very supportive in allowing us to do that."

Along the way Pam also contacted The Vineyard in Cañon City, and they, too, have been very helpful along with Howard Disposal and True Value Hardware. Howard Disposal provided a recycling bin while True Value Hardware offered wheel barrels to help with distribution.

"We have very little trash because all the food that's spoiled or gone bad, the farmers come in and take to feed their pigs," Simmons said. "All of the cardboard, we either reuse it or recycle it."

Most of the food is donated through the big warehouses in Denver, where it is picked up to deliver to various distribution points, where volunteers sort the food and set up tables for participants.

"We ask for a \$20 donation," Simmons said. "For that, they get (more than) \$100 worth of food. If they only have a few bucks, we never like to turn anybody away. We do ask them to come in to volunteer. This is truly a helping hand for people to

be able to help themselves."

The food consists of organic produce, bread, meat and other healthy items. "You never know what you'll get," she said. "It's different every time. It's always worth more than the \$20."

Originally, the idea began when Compassion Food Bank Executive Director Vic Ocana was contacted by his mother, who ran into a problem in the San Luis Valley, where she lived.

"She is an elderly lady who ... was trying to get some commodities," he said. "Because she made \$3 over (what she was qualified for) with Social Security, (she couldn't get them). ... She found a lot of seniors who were in the same predicament. She was an officer for the senior group." So she met with the senior group then called her son Ocana, who contacted several vendors to help the residents in the valley.

"We don't qualify anybody," he said. "We set it up where, if you have a need and you get in line, you should (get the food). Ours are different than other food banks. When we help you, we want you to understand its 'help'. Rather than give people the entitlement of just having it free, we ask for donations from everybody, which goes back to helping us with the cost of the trucks, the insurance (and) the fuel. We're running six trucks. We don't have anyone on our board who is salaried." At the same time, he asks the participants to volunteer during distribution days.

In Fremont County, the food is distributed from 11 a.m. to 3 p.m. the third Saturday of the month at Solid Rock Christian Fellowship at 4501 Bear Paw Drive in Florence and from 11 a.m. to 3 p.m. the fourth Thursday at The Vineyard at 245 S. Reynolds Ave. in Cañon City. He also said the food bank is open 24/7.

"If someone needs help on the weekends, we'll deliver it," Ocana said. "We have a heart for people in need."

For more information, check out Compassion Food Bank of Southern Colorado on Facebook.

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

16th Street Cafe

302 N. 16th St.
in Cañon City

Mr. Ed's

1201 Royal Gorge Blvd. (Hwy 50)
in Cañon City

Coyote Den

Highway 115 & 6th Street
in Penrose

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.

A Time To Be Bold

There is no religion other than Christianity that causes such division around the world. A friend of mine said it is because Christianity is real. It reaches to the depth of the soul. There is no other faith that gives freedom of choice. There is no other faith that does not require works to get into heaven. There is no other faith that treats truth as an absolute. There is no other belief that depends on the mercy of its god, but is given total assurance of salvation by simply a step of true faith. And there is no other faith that requires only an acceptance of Jesus Christ as personal savior as the sole means for attaining everlasting life.

And Jesus is the stumbling stone. I was listening to a secular radio program while driving into town the other day. The morning announcer was saying that Christians, such as himself, should not be afraid to say Merry Christmas and stand up for their beliefs. A caller identified himself as an evangelical Christian. He said that Christians should not be afraid to speak of the true meaning of Christmas, which to him was all about grace and love and mercy. In his three minutes on the air, this evangelical did not once mention Jesus Christ. The announcer reminded the caller that he missed the entire reason for Christmas—Jesus Christ coming to give salvation to all who receive Him.

Herein lies the rub with Christians. Many evangelical Christians have become uncomfortable saying the name Jesus

Christ. I'm not sure how you can evangelize without mentioning Jesus because, sooner or later, it comes down to whether a person accepts Jesus as their personal savior. A missionary friend of mine said he once visited a church in San Francisco with a non-believer. The service had lively worship, contemporary preaching, and they baptized a young man in the name of all that is good and just and righteous. In a discussion afterwards, the non-believer found it strange that Jesus was never mentioned in the service.

In Matthew 10:32 thru 37, Jesus puts it on the line. He says, "Whosoever therefore shall confess me before men, him will I confess also before my Father which is in heaven. But whosoever shall deny me before men, him will I also deny before my Father which is in heaven. Think not that I am come to send peace on earth: I came not to send peace, but a sword. For I am come to set a man at variance against his father, and the daughter against her mother, and the daughter-in-law against her mother-in-law. And a man's foes shall be they of his own household. He that loves father or mother more than me is not worthy of me; and he that loves son or daughter more than me is not worthy of me." Be bold in Jesus.

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

All authority has been given to Me in heaven and on earth.

Matthew 28:18,
NIV

Fast and Furious: "to help justify new gun control regulations..."

by Mike Vanderboegh, SipseyStreet-Irregulars.blogspot.com

(Editor/GG: Fast and Furious was the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, and Firearms ("ATF") illegal and criminal operation that allowed Mexican drug cartels to illegally purchase thousands of firearms in the U.S. and smuggle them (without interference) across the border to Mexico. The fake reason for this was that the ATF was going to "trace" them to the gangs and bust them. They NEVER traced any of them. The real reason for the operation was to falsely claim that lax U.S. gun control laws allowed this to happen. The Obama administration has lied and covered this up for years. The truth is now coming out due to the courage of reporter Sharyl Attkisson (who has been mercilessly harassed and hounded by the U.S. government). This F&F scandal is just one of many. It is still being stone-walled by Obama and his puppets. Where is the rule of law?)

It has been more than four years since Brian Terry's murder. FOUR YEARS since David Codrea and I first heard about "gunwalking" being related to his death in tips from ATF whistleblowers. There isn't a day that goes by that I don't think about how, once again, the murdering collectivist b*****ds of the federal militarized police have gotten away with mass murder in service to their interlocking agendas. Now Sharyl Attkisson has a story derived from recently released documents that just makes my blood boil once more, even though there is nothing here that our sources didn't report at the time and that we in turn wrote about -- yet no one (including the NRA's leadership) believed us. The link: Belatedly Released and Revealing Fast & Furious Docs (sharylattkisson.com/)

Clues as to why President Obama and Attorney General Eric Holder kept the public documents secret for so long may be found in one 60-page release examined below. Nearly three

years after-the-fact, its news value is diminished. If these documents had been turned over when Congress subpoenaed them or when they were first requested under FOI law, they would have revealed damaging information in the lead-up to President

[T]he agency was using Fast and Furious to help justify new gun control regulations--without telling the public that ATF was actually facilitating the delivery of weapons to Mexican drug cartels.

Obama's re-election in 2012. By exerting executive privilege, the President and Holder kept them hidden until the court challenge forced their release. The reason for the 60-page grouping of materials isn't apparent. Documents that long predate Fast and Furious are mixed in with relevant documents. Redactions aren't justified or explained. Inexplicably, even congressional testimony that had been publicly presented to Congress was included in documents withheld under President Obama's sweeping executive privilege. . . .

Multi-Agency Participation in Fast and Furious

There is evidence of widespread knowledge of and participation by several federal agencies in the controversial Fast and Furious gunwalking case that let traffickers put thousands of weapons into the hands of Mexican drug cartels. Agencies participating in Fast and Furious included the Drug Enforcement Administration (DEA), the Department of Homeland Security's Immigration and Customs En-

forcement branch (ICE), the Internal Revenue Service (IRS), and the Phoenix Police Department. A January 2011 "Key Messages: Tasking Points" memo (p. 14) generated by the Public Affairs Division at ATF headquarters in Washington, D.C., stated:

"The Fast and Furious investigation is just one of a number of firearms trafficking cases perfected by the Organized Crime Drug Enforcement Task Force (OCDETF) Strike Force, a multi-agency team of investigators from ATF, DEA, ICE, IRS, and the Phoenix Police Department."

and

"In October 2009, Operation: Fast and Furious, an ATF lead OCDETF investigation into a firearms trafficking organization funded by the Sinaloa DTO, kicked off in Phoenix. Although this investigation was lead [sic] by ATF, it was a multi-agency effort involving DEA, ICE, IRS, and the Phoenix Police Department."

The multi-agency participation makes Attorney General Holder's claim of ignorance of the the cross-border operation all the more perplexing and, assuming it's true, seemingly more egregious.

And then there's this:

Justification for New Gun Control Regulations

ATF's internal Public Affairs Talking Points show the agency was using Fast and Furious to help justify new gun control regulations--without telling the public that ATF was actually facilitating the delivery of weapons to Mexican drug cartels.

Murdering b*****ds. All for a bloody agenda.

Reprinted with Permission. Please see: sipseystreetirregulars.blogspot.com/2014/12/atf-used-f-to-help-justify-new-gun.html

Where Are the "Conservative" Cowards Who Hid After Prayer at Capitol?

by Bradlee Dean, FreedomOutPost.com

(Editor/GG: You can watch the brief prayer by using the link at the end of the article or just going to freedomoutpost.com and just scroll down to you find it. I watched it. He simply mentions in his prayer that God played a big part in the making of our Constitution and he mentions the word "Jesus" just once. And just that sent the liberals and the phony conservatives into a hate filled frenzy. This is where we are today. As the old saying goes, scratch a liberal and you'll find a fascist.)

Recently, I spoke at a Rtea party in the state

of Minnesota and was approached by an individual who said that he was there when I gave "The Prayer that Rocked the Capitol."

I asked him where all of his conservative buddies were that did not stand when they should have stood. I told him the self-proclaimed conservatives in Minnesota were, and are, nothing more than a bunch of spineless cowards and capitulators who have no business attempting to represent anyone.

By the looks of the best that we have in Minnesota, I can understand why the communist reprobates and leftist criminals are so encouraged to commit crimes

against "we the people."

Now, let me set the stage for you here: In May 2011, I was asked to give the opening prayer for a session of the Minnesota House of Representatives by Rep. Ernie Leidiger, R-District 47A, which we accommodated.

As I entered the Capitol chambers, I was introduced to the Speaker of the House, Kurt Zellers, as "the guy that gets things done around here."

Before my prayer, I had asked the chaplain if I could provide a preface to my prayer to bring understanding by using an analogy. He approved, and off I

went to the podium to give up my heart to God and to man (1 John 5:2).

Right after I was done praying, one "Christian" chaplain came up to me and did his best to reprove me for using the "J" word (Jesus) in the House chamber, as if to suggest that I check my faith at the door before calling upon the God who gave us government in the first place (Exodus 18:21).

Apparently, he had been around enough whores and hirelings to believe that I was to follow in close pursuit. What a fool. I will

See COWARDS on page 19

Disturbing Christian Persecution in U.S. Army

by Allen West,
AllenBWest.com

I received a very disturbing letter and call to action from a mentor, friend, American warrior, and Executive Vice President of the Family Research Council, Lieutenant General Jerry Boykin.

LTG Boykin is a founding member of America's elite Delta Force. Today LTG Boykin still fights, and for all the right causes, such as that of Army Chaplain CPT Joseph Lawhorn. CPT Lawhorn is just another victim of the secular humanist policy influence led by Mikey Weinstein against the Judeo-Christian faith heritage in our military. Weinstein has advocated for Christians in the military to be punished for professing their faith.

But as you can see in this below letter of admonition, CPT Lawhorn's commander at Ft. Benning, Col. David G. Fivecoat issued the Army Chaplain a letter of con-

cern for speaking of his faith –a letter that will go into CPT Lawhorn's personnel file that has adverse consequences for selection for promotion. Why in God's name would Col. Fivecoat be concerned about an Army Chaplain speaking of his faith during suicide prevention training?

To sign the petition supporting this Chaplain and his Christian faith, please go to www.frc.org and click on the "Take Action" link.

Ladies and gents, please join in and sign the petition to have this letter removed and perhaps a letter of reprimand should be placed in Col. Fivecoat's personnel file. This incident is appalling and we

should all be outraged over the persecution of Christian faith in our military. Scroll down to read the letter.

December 17, 2014

Dear Friend,

This cannot stand. When a military chaplain cannot openly speak about his faith, military disarmament has reached a level that no budget cuts could ever produce.

On November 20th, Capt. Joseph Lawhorn, U.S. Army Chaplain at Fort Benning, participated in a mandatory suicide awareness and prevention briefing in which he gave a presentation describing resources – both spiritual and secular – that were available for handling such grave mental health situations. He went further and discussed his personal struggles with depression, describing the spiritual and religious steps that helped him during those dark

times in his life.

As a result of the chaplain's discussion of his faith, he was called into his brigade commander's office on Thanksgiving Day. There Col. David G. Fivecoat issued Chaplain Lawhorn a Letter of Concern that is to remain in his personnel file for the duration of his stay at Fort Benning. This type of letter can be devastating for career military personnel and would likely prohibit further professional advancement of Chaplain Lawhorn.

The fact that a chaplain was reprimanded for discussing his faith in a suicide prevention course is beyond belief. It casts a chilling effect upon other chaplains and military personnel who would speak about their faith. How else would a Christian chaplain be expected to respond to a crisis that is plaguing our men and women in uniform?

This kind of intimidation must be eradicated from our armed forces. Please join me in signing our petition to Secretary of the Army John McHugh to rescind the Letter of Concern and to reprimand Col. Fivecoat for violating protections afforded to all military personnel enacted into law in the National Defense Authorization Act.

With your help, we can help put on notice those who would be emboldened to take similar actions against chaplains in the future that actions like this cannot stand. Please sign this petition.

Sincerely,

Lt. Gen. William G. "Jerry" Boykin, USA (Ret.) Executive Vice President

Reprinted with Permission.
Please see: allenbwest.com/2014/12/disturbing-christian-persecution-us-army/

Cañon City Coins

Collector & Investor Coins - Buying, Selling & Trading

(719) 269-7507



123 S. 5th St. - Cañon City, CO 81212

The 'Cliffes Auto Services

215 Main Street
Silver Cliff, CO 81252

(719) 285-3181
(719) 783-3281

Tires,
Auto Service
and Repair

cliffesautosvcs@gmail.com



Young's

Drilling & Pump Services

719-275-5482

Family Owned and Operated for Over 35 Years
Specializing in Water Drilling and Pump Services

2500 Hwy 50 E • PO Box 2123 • Cañon City
Licence #592 youngsdrilling.net



WET MOUNTAIN STORAGE

FOR ALL YOUR STORAGE NEEDS

VALLEY VIEW

PARK HOME COMMUNITY

Park Home Sales & Lots for Lease

Our Community is Growing - Lots Limited

Offices at 300 Main Street • Westcliffe
custompropertyservices@yahoo.com
719-783-9321 • 888-783-0002

Michael Thiem's HVAC

Service, Repair, & Installation of Forced Air Heating Systems

Provider of Venting Materials for Fireplaces, Wood & Pellet Stoves

Licensed and Insured

719-429-9989

Halfway There Is No Answer At All

by Karl Denninger,
Market-Ticker.Org

(Editor/GG: Karl makes some good points here. The evolution of our law enforcement from a "peace officer" orientation to a militarized police is disturbing and must be reversed. And his point on one or a few bad cops acting badly can poison the entire local environment is poignant. But we simply can't ignore the lawlessness and criminality that some areas have, and that is NOT due local law enforcement.)

From the Wall Street Journal:

In the opinion of Howard Safir, who was New York City's police commissioner under Mayor Rudy Giuliani, the trail of blame reaches even higher: "The [anti-police] rhetoric this time is not from the usual suspects, but from the Mayor of New York City, the Attorney General of the United States, and even the president," he wrote online for Time magazine. "It emboldens criminals and sends a message that every encounter a black person has with a police officer is one to be feared."

Ah, but see, here's the problem: **If just one time, ever, a person is unjustly accused or evidence manufactured -- that is, one single time you arrest or detain someone without cause you have sent the proper message that any such future encounter is to be feared.**

Here's why: **Every** arrest and detainment, from the routine speeding stop up, is made with the implied if not *explicit* threat of death.

Doubt me? *How come all of those stops are made with a gun strapped to the hip -- or out and in-hand?*

Remember that detainment is **not** the same thing as walking down the street. The person detained is by definition not free to go; he or she is being accosted, and the threat of force is being **explicitly** used in an attempt to compel compliance.

This is not to say that you don't need to arrest and detain people. That's a necessary part of being a *peace officer*.

But -- and this is what **nobody** is focusing on:

There must be zero tolerance for any unfounded detainment or arrest, and every single one must be treated and prosecuted as assault (or worse, if it escalates.)

The two officers executed in NYC were shot by a man who had no business being on the street. **But law enforcement as a body is not blameless; they hold responsibility for at least one documented instance in which the shooter was unjustifiably harassed and threatened with arrest on a pretext generated unlawfully by a cop with his dog.**

That's **documented** in video that the shooter took -- a recording that was **unlawfully** terminated by the officer involved as well. *(It is established by the Supreme Court that you have a right to video and/or audio record any encounter with a law enforcement agency that takes place in public or upon your property.)*

Beyond the violation of rights and instilling of **justified** fear of police (instead of cooperation with them) that this sort of **assault** generates there is a further and far-more-serious problem that such actions generate: **Agencies risk creating a bunch of Han Solos who choose to shoot first.**

Consider this: Due to the fact the cops are almost never indicted for killing people when such is unnecessary and unjustified and every encounter includes the implied or explicit threat of deadly force **every unjustified detainment or arrest risks generating someone who chooses to shoot first, judging that the next time the cop will shoot, justified or not.**

There must be zero tolerance for any unfounded detainment or arrest, and every single one must be treated and prosecuted as assault (or worse, if it escalates.)

There is no way to know how much of the shooter's motivation came from that unlawful detainment but it's entirely reasonable to deduce that it wasn't zero. The cop who performed that act of harassment *has blood on his hands* and the **entire department** he works for, along with the DA in that jurisdiction, does as well for not bringing assault charges against that officer and dismissing him from the force.

It's obvious that peace officers must in fact arrest people from time to time. It's also obvious that every detainment or arrest comes with the implied or explicit threat of deadly force. *That's the price of having peace officers -- it comes with that role in society.*

But there is **zero** justification for **any** abuse of those powers. Ever. Not only does **every** such abuse violate someone's rights *it creates a reason in that person and everyone who*

learns of the event for them to not only refuse cooperation and shun any communication with said peace officers in the future, it also creates a pretext for that individual and others to either shoot first or, far worse, shoot preemptively.

Irrespective of how you feel about cops and the law generally *simply as a matter of arithmetic this is a*

battle that must never be fought because it is one that the police cannot win. To entertain or tolerate any of this crap is to advocate for the destruction of civil society.

For this reason we must have reform and all peaceful citizens must insist that it happen now.

We **must** insist that we have *peace officers* rather than **law enforcement officers**. A Peace Officer by definition is there to enforce that which is necessary to deter breaches of the peace -- nothing more. *A man selling something he lawfully purchased and owned to another person who can lawfully own and consume same is not breaching the peace. A man pointing a gun at someone, on the other hand, is and such an act is perfectly legitimate to meet with deadly force.*

Army Officer Files Federal Lawsuit After Being Punished for Stopping Lesbian "Makeout" at Formal Ball

by Tim Brown,
FreedomOutPost.com

Lt. Col. Christopher Downey, a combat pilot who completed two tours of duty in Iraq and Afghanistan and was also assigned to the White House, has been convicted administratively of assaulting a soldier who was attempting to video two lesbian officers kissing on a dance floor during a full-dress, formal ball at Fort Drum, New York, in 2012. Now, he's filed a federal lawsuit against the Secretary of the Army John McHugh.

According to the lawsuit, the April 14, 2012, incident took place at a formal military ball. A female captain and a female lieutenant, who were both in uniform on the dance floor, "engaged in prolonged French kissing, taking off each other's uniform jackets, and other intimate conduct."

"It was a little more, like I said, a full-blown makeout, like, you know, they did not even realize what was going on around them; they were concentrating on each other. And it was creating a scene on the dance floor," said one witness.

Another witness added, "I mean, they were, like, full-blown, like, making out, grabbing each other on the butt, stuff like that."

One must ask if this would not be deemed inappropriate even among members of the opposite sex at a formal dance. Furthermore, the two women were under Lt. Col. Downey's command.

Lt. Col. Downey deemed the behavior to be inappropriate and, according to his attorney Richard Thompson of the Thomas More Law Center, simply pushed the camera down to prevent pictures of video from being taken and placed on social media.

General Mark Milley convicted Downey after a proceeding that apparently suppressed supporting testimony of Downey.

According to the press release by Lt. Col. Downey's legal team, "The alleged victim of the assault never accused LTC Downey of assault. In fact, he stated that he was not the victim of an assault and that he knew LTC Downey never intended to harm him. Moreover, the investigating officer appointed by General Milley found that LTC Downey did not intend to injure the soldier, but was motivated by the desire to protect the privacy of the two officers involved and the unit's reputation. The investigator also found there was a positive command attitude and climate regarding repeal of 'Don't Ask Don't Tell.'"

However, though Downey was exonerated of any wrongdoing by a three-officer Army board in 2013, he still faces an Army forced-retirement board, which met this week.

So, he pushes a camera down, attempted to prevent the two female officers from engaging in inappropriate behavior while in uniform at a formal military ball because he believed it "would embarrass the officers and affect the good order and discipline

of his unit." He was correct. In the process of stopping pictures from being taken, one of the cameras accidentally hit a soldier's nose.

"It's political correctness run wild," Mr. Thompson said. "Military rules do not apply to lesbian officers because of political correctness."

Thompson went on to say, "General George Patton, who once wrote about the requirement of 'loyalty from the bottom to the top,' stated 'loyalty from the top down is even more necessary.' LTC Downey gave his all to the Army and to the country he loves, yet the Army he so loyally served threw him under the bus merely to avoid negative press from the homosexual community. America is set to lose one of its exceptional combat leaders due to an unjust application of the Army's policy regarding repeal of Don't Ask Don't Tell ["DADT"]. Our lawsuit is an attempt to correct this injustice to Chris Downey and our nation."

"It's political correctness run wild," Mr. Thompson said. "Military rules do not apply to lesbian officers because of political correctness."

"A fair and impartial review of the facts leads to only one conclusion – that LTC Downey has always acted to protect the well-being of his soldiers, his unit and his country and should never have been penalized for doing the right thing," said the Thomas More Law Center.

Speaking of Downey's service to his country, the Thomas More Law Center wrote:

LTC Downey has given his country and the Army 24 years of distinguished service, including over 1,000 combat flight hours during three combat tours of duty. He has been awarded 3 Bronze Stars and 7 Air Medals, one with a "V" device for valor in combat. The Air Medal with "V" device was awarded for valor he displayed on May 25, 2011, in "complete disregard for his own safety while initiating multiple engagements against



Lt. Col. Christopher Downey has filed a federal lawsuit against the Army, alleging a mishandled Article 15 investigation among other concerns.

Courtesy Photo: Thomas More Law Center

an enemy with superior fields of fire over friendly forces. His actions were decisive in saving the lives of soldiers on the ground."

LTC Downey was selected ahead of officers from all three of the other major services to become the Presidential Airlift Coordinator for the White House in Washington, D.C. from 2008 to 2010. While serving at the White House, Downey's direct supervisor described him as "clearly in the top 1% of the handpicked officers of the White House Military Office Operations Directorate and in all of the Lieutenant Colonels I have known in my 20 years of military service."

Clearly Lt. Col. Downey has served with honor and integrity. He deserves better than to be treated in this manner.

Interestingly enough, the two women later "married," and subsequently "divorced" (what a complete mockery of marriage). However, one of them wrote that she was "shoved across the dance floor by my command sergeant major for being gay."

One has to wonder if these women weren't using this merely to cry victim because of their own perverted behavior. In my mind, that is exactly what took place. Sadly, the current administration not only allows this type of behavior, but promotes it to the detriment of our men and women in uniform and the defense of our country.

My hope is that the lawsuit will deal a crushing blow to the politically correct nonsense that is destroying this nation. I, for one, say, "Well done, Lt. Col. Downey!" Would to God there were more of you to take such a stand in our armed forces.

Reprinted with Permission. Read more at <http://freedomoutpost.com/2014/11/army-officer-files-federal-lawsuit-punished-stopping-uni-formed-lesbian-makeout-for-mal-ball/#kMjFDQApYv1dUDyQ.99>

POWER OUTAGE? NO PROBLEM!
GP POWER SYSTEMS
(Formerly Miller Automotive & More)
Serving your needs, BIG & small since 1992
Contact Glenn at
719-371-8625



Wright Electric
COMMERCIAL ♦ RESIDENTIAL ♦ INDUSTRIAL
MASTER ELECTRICIAN
LICENSED ♦ INSURED
783-3787

The Liquor Cabinet



Fine selection of Wines, Champagnes & Microbrews!
If we don't have it, we will try to get it for you!

100 Main Street
Silver Cliff, CO 81252 (719) 783-3780

NORDYKE SANITATION LLC

Don't let your septic fail!
Call Art
for your septic pumping and inspections.
719-783-2747 or 719-371-3523



Sangre de Cristo Electric Association, Inc.

Stay Safe this Winter

PO Box 2013, Buena Vista, CO 81211

719.395.2412

www.myelectric.coop

Your Touchstone Energy® Cooperative



BUY A NEW 2014 ARCTIC CAT® ATV OR PROWLER® AND GET:
FINANCING AS LOW AS 5.9% & 2-YEAR LIMITED WARRANTY*
BUY A NEW 2009-2013 ARCTIC CAT ATV OR PROWLER AND GET:
FINANCING AS LOW AS 5.9% & REBATES UP TO \$800*



Stanwood Motorsports West, LLC

705 Ohio Street,
Silver Cliff - CO - 81252 - 719.783.2880

www.stanwoodwest.com - email: stanwoodwest@aol.com

*Offer valid 7/1/14-6/30/15 at participating U.S. dealers to U.S. residents on new and unused 2009-2014 Arctic Cat ATV and Prowler models, excluding youth, government, rental and special services models. See dealer for details. FINANCING AS LOW AS 5.9% FOR 60 MONTHS provided through Sheffield Financial and is subject to credit approval; not all applicants will qualify for credit. Each consumer will be charged a \$50 consumer document fee. Financing promotions void where prohibited. 2-YEAR LIMITED WARRANTY valid on 2014 models and includes six-month limited factory warranty and 18-month extended service contract through Commentone. REBATES UP TO \$800 valid on 2009-2013 models and varies by model purchased. Offer subject to change without notice. Excludes tax, freight and dealer setup. Only ride an ATV that is right for your age. Supervised riders younger than 16. Always wear a seat belt on ROVs; never carry a passenger in the cargo box; all riders must be able to place both feet on the floor while keeping their back against the back of the seat. We recommend all ROV operators have a valid driver's license and that all riders take a training course and read and understand the owner's manual before operation. See your dealer for safety or training information or visit <http://rova.org>. ©2014 Arctic Cat Sales Inc., Thief River Falls, MN 56701. www.arcticcat.com



The Second Amendment Corner Liberty's Line in the Sand

2015



America's Gun: AR-15s Dominate U.S. Firearms Market

by Bob Owens,
BearingArms.com

A lengthy and reasonably well-balanced article published in the Asheville, North Carolina, *Citizen-Times* today suggests that the media is finally beginning to realize what is obvious to most firearm owners: the AR-15 rifle, which is now the most common single rifle type sold in the nation in recent years, is here to stay.

In a country where gun ownership is assured by the Constitution, the supply of ARs is abundant. Some even call it a glut.

It seems the battle over these guns, if not over, is close to it.

"I think the shift you're seeing now is the military-style weapon is here to stay because it's appealing to a whole new generation," said Steve Denny, owner of Carolina Guns & Gear in Arden, which has a wall full of military-style weapons for sale.

"You can see it in the industry," Denney said. "The industry had to change from military-style weapons being something that they sold sometimes to them being something that is at the forefront of all their advertising — the tactical use of a firearm."

Jeff Stucker, co-owner of On Target indoor shooting range and gun shop in South Asheville, says his sales of ARs have "come to a screeching halt," but not because people no longer want the rifles.

"The market is saturated. The market is flooded with them," Stucker said. "Everybody ramped up, thinking they were going to be outlawed, and lo and behold they weren't."

In congressional testimony last year, the National Shooting Sports Foundation estimated assault-style weapons domestically in the range of 5 million-8.2 million.

Denny, a former FBI agent and a Navy veteran, estimates the number in the United States now "somewhere around eight or nine million. The rate of them being produced is just enormous," he said. And that's just one type of semi-automatic, high-capacity rifle. *Slate* noted that more than 800,000 Ruger Mini-14 rifles, based on an M-14 design from the 1950s and '60s, had been produced since 1974.

The article strives for balance and so reached out to gun control advocates as well for their take on AR-15s in specific and semi-automatic firearms in general, and I was particularly amused to watch

gun control cultist Josh Sugarmann still attempting to claim that lawful gun culture was shrinking instead of rapidly expanding on all fronts.

"In the long-term trends, gun ownership in the United States has been declining steadily since the 1970s," he said, noting that it used to be about 50 percent and now stands at 34 percent of homes owning a gun. "The traditional gun-buying public, basically white males, has been aging and dying off, and there aren't enough replacement shooters to take their place. That's why you're seeing a shift in the industry away from traditional hunting rifles and shotguns evolve to focus on firepower and capacity."

It's quite the howler, isn't it?

I suspect that Sugarmann repeats that claim to himself in the mirror every morning, attempting to convince himself it is true, or he'd never be able to summon the energy to continue on with his quixotic quest to undercut the basic human rights of his fellow citizens.

Here, in reality, firearms ownership is at an all-time high. There are now more firearms in the United States than at any point in history, owned by more people, from more widely varying back-

grounds. They shoot more socially, in larger groups, and take part in many growing gun sports.

Sugarmann's claims are simply false, based upon wishful thinking and self-delusion, not actual

data.

Here in reality, concealed carry laws are expanding across the nation, and a significant demographic shift is occurring. "Gun culture 2.0" is younger, urban, and far more interested in the utility of modular multi-purpose "tactical" firearms than they are single-purpose hunting firearms that were once the backbone of the industry.

They buy semi-automatic rifles and pistols, and they shoot a lot more frequently and in greater volume than previous generations of shooters, which is part of the reason that the ammunition industry is just starting to catch up to demand after years of demand that sees American citizens consuming more ammunition in shooting sports each year than were consumed when we were "the arsenal of democracy" supplying war materials for the Allies in World War II.

We're clearly winning, and the unparalleled popularity of the AR-15 platform is undeniable evidence of that fact.

Reprinted with Permission. Please see: bearingarms.com/americas-gun-ar-15s-dominate-u-s-firearms-market/



On Mark Arms Buy-Sell-Trade
Open Mon. - Sat. • 719-371-3158
GUNSMITH-Guns-Ammo+Boxes
Freeze Dried Food
113 N. Mill, Silver Cliff, Colorado
Consign Gifts Estates
Online Auction

ADVANCED WEAPONS
Concealed Carry Classes • Special Orders
Guns & Ammo • Gunsmithing • Transfers
Buy • Sell • Trade
Custom Builds
401 E. Main St. #D • Florence 719-784-0572

*Sangre Shooting Sports Club
Annual Meeting*
The annual meeting of the membership of the Sangre Shooting Sports Club will be held on Saturday, January 17, 2015 at Cliff Lanes, 1-4 P.M.
2015 Membership applications for Renewal and New Members can be found at sangreshooting.com, Nacho Mama's Mexican Cantina, Loan A Ranger, the Wet Mountain Tribune and the Sangre de Cristo Sentinel.

Appeals Court: Banning Former Mental Patients From Gun Ownership is Unconstitutional

by FreedomOutPost.com

In a ruling that will likely upset many, a U.S. Appeals Court in Cincinnati ruled Thursday that it is unconstitutional to keep a Michigan man, who was a former mental patient, from owning a gun.

The *Wall Street Journal* reports:

A three-judge panel of the Sixth U.S. Circuit Court of Appeals unanimously ruled that the federal ban on gun ownership for anyone who has been "adjudicated as a mental defective or who has been committed to a mental institution" violated the Second Amendment rights of Clifford Charles Tyler, a 73-year-old Hillsdale County man.

"The government's interest in keeping firearms out

of the hands of the mentally ill is not sufficiently related to depriving the mentally healthy, who had a distant episode of commitment, of their constitutional rights," wrote Judge Danny Boggs, an appointee of President Ronald Reagan, for the panel.

Lucas McCarthy, Mr. Tyler's lawyer, called the ruling "a forceful decision to protect Second Amendment rights," and said he hoped it that it would have "a significant impact on the jurisprudence in the area of gun rights."

Seventy-three-year-old Clifford Charles Tyler was committed to a mental institution back in 1986 after he faced emotional problems as a result of a divorce. Tyler was only at the institu-

tion for one month.

Upon attempting to purchase a gun recently, Tyler was denied based on the fact that he had been admitted to a mental institution.

While there are a number of reasons that people are kept from owning guns legally (though the federal government should not be dealing with any restrictions on arms), there is also provision for those who have had "disabilities," to prove that they no longer have them.

Though the federal government provided a program that allegedly helped those get relief of their "disabilities," that the program was defunded in 1992. However, in 2008, states were able to set up their own program

with federal grant money (something that seems quite questionable concerning constitutionality).

Judge Danny Julian Boggs wrote, "Whether Tyler may exercise his right to bear arms depends on whether his state of residence has chosen to accept the carrot of federal grant money and has implemented a relief program.... An individual's ability to exercise a fundamental right necessary to our system of ordered liberty cannot turn on such a distinction."

Reprinted with Permission. Read more at <http://freedomoutpost.com/2014/12/appeals-court-rules-banning-former-mental-patients-gun-ownership-unconstitutional/#P-3jw18VTJ0q4WS3.99>

Will NOT Comply: Prosecutor, Sheriff Say They Will NOT Enforce I-594 As Written

by Bob Owens,
BearingArms.com

Michael Bloomberg and his gun-grabbing billionaire friends might have the cash to effectively “buy” anti-gun laws like Washington’s I-594, but forcing citizens to comply with these laws, and getting prosecutors and law enforcement officers who were strongly opposed to the draconian legislation in the first place to enforce it, are other matters entirely.

Just days after 1,000 people rallied at the state capitol to intentionally violate the law (without consequence), Lewis County, Washington’s top law enforcers have released a public statement that they will not be enforcing the new provisions of I-594 as written. They will instead only go after those offenders intending to commit criminal transfers.

You know... the real kind:

The new law stemming from I-594 is just 12 days old and already stirring up controversy. The initiative passed by nearly 60 percent

tol for an “I Will Not Comply” rally.

Now a public letter has gone out from sheriff-elect Rob Snaza and prosecutor Jonathan Meyer of Lewis County saying they won’t be going out and prosecuting people who inadvertently violate the background check law.

“We wanted to make sure that the citizens of Lewis County knew that we weren’t looking to make criminals out of ordinary citizens,” Meyer said.

Meyer and Snaza are the first elected officials to come out publicly saying I-594 is too over-reaching. They put this message out because they feel there’s too much confusion about I-594 and they want to make it clear about what they’ll do and what they won’t do.

“We’re not going to try to trap citizens into transferring a gun to a friend and then try to nab them on a violation of 594,” Meyer said. “That’s not what we’re interested in.”

NY SAFE Act in the dead of night without public debate... but they’re having a heck of a time getting New York’s citizens to comply, or for New York’s sheriffs to force compliance.

The same goes next door in Connecticut. Anti-gun Dannel Malloy and his liberal allies rammed through a draconian raft of gun control legislation after Sandy Hook, only to find that Connecticut’s owners of banned semi-automatic rifles and standard capacity magazines have blatantly refused to comply with registration requirements. These gun owners have all but dared outright war with the Connecticut State Police if they dare attempt to come after an estimated 80,000-100,000+ gun owners who refuse to comply with the law. For now, the state police and Malloy simply pretend that the non-compliance never occurred.

In Colorado, John Hickenlooper’s government has quietly conceded that gun owners are simply refusing to comply with the new background check laws mandating checks for private transfers.

Perhaps the Republic’s citizen’s are simply following our leadership from the White House.

The word from 1600 Pennsylvania Avenue, over and over again, is that if President Obama doesn’t like a law, he’ll refuse to enforce it, or unilaterally attempt to make his own laws.

Why should the American people in Washington state or anywhere else act any differently?

Reprinted with Permission. Please see: bearingarms.com/will-comply-prosecutor-sheriff-say-will-enforce-594-written/

Why the IRS Goes After the “Minnows” and Ignores the “Whales”

by Mark Nestmann,
FreedomOutPost.com

The intrepid bureaucrats at the Internal Revenue Service have done a superb job of making us fear them. We dutifully file our 1040s, FBARs, and all manner of other forms, consent to having our wages withheld from our paychecks, and suffer indignities on a daily basis at which our forefathers would have blanched.

But it’s never enough. I have seen many examples in my years of experience as a consultant. One client was pursued for 18 months for an underpayment of a few dollars and wound up paying more than \$1,000 in penalties to make the IRS go away. Another client filed an offshore trust reporting form one day late and the IRS tried to collect a 35% penalty on a \$1 million transfer to the trust.

Kim says the IRS applies tax laws with “draconian strictness to small business, the self-employed, and wage-earning individuals.”

But I don’t have a large collection of horror stories involving the big Fortune 500 companies. Sure, the IRS took down Swiss banking giant UBS as part of its ongoing vendetta against all things offshore. But these cases are few and far between.

I’ve often wondered if the IRS has a formal policy for ignoring tax evasion and fraud by “whales” (Fortune 500 companies) and instead focusing on “minnows” (you and me).

It turns out such a policy does exist. It may not be formal, but nonetheless, it is real, according to several insider sources, including two high-level attorneys working at the IRS (although perhaps not for long) and one former IRS attorney.

Jane Kim is an attorney in the IRS Office of the Chief Counsel. She recently wrote a letter that accused IRS executives of “deliberately” not pursuing cases of multibillion-dollar tax frauds. Kim accuses top officials at the IRS of intentionally undermining the IRS Whistleblower Office to avoid taking action “in cases involving bil-

lions in corporate taxes due.”

She also says the IRS has a policy of not enforcing the tax laws that pertain to “large corporate taxpayers,” resulting in the loss of additional billions in tax. On the other hand, Kim says the IRS applies tax laws with “draconian strictness to small business, the self-employed, and wage-earning individuals.” Kim’s letter contained numerous examples of cases the IRS declined to pursue that resulted in nearly \$15 billion in lost tax revenues.

Bill Henck is another IRS attorney in the Office of the Chief Counsel. According to Henck, since 2003, the IRS has opted not to pursue a series of corporate tax scams, which has resulted in more than \$50 billion in unclaimed taxes. Henck also says he has “personally witnessed” the “bullying of elderly taxpayers” in cases that should never have been brought.

One anonymous ex-IRS attorney says:

Almost every large firm or corporation has a person inside the IRS. It’s a revolving door, with the top two or three management layers all from big accounting and law firms, and this is why they won’t work big billion-dollar cases criminally. Private bar attorneys are, in effect, controlling the IRS. It’s a type of corruption – that’s the word used by one IRS agent I’m in touch with whose case was shut down by higher ups without cause.

Now, don’t get me wrong. Personally, I think income taxes should be much lower – or even abolished altogether – and replaced with value-added taxes or even tariffs on imports. I don’t get hot and bothered over big corporations and their complicated tax-avoidance schemes because I view taxes as just another cost of doing business. And, like any other cost, keeping tax payments to the minimum necessary is just a prudent business practice. Indeed, public companies have a fiduciary duty to their shareholders to keep tax payments as low as possible.

But as long as we have a tax system that imposes income tax, I think the least we can expect is for the agency responsible for collecting it to treat everyone equally. The evidence is overwhelming that it doesn’t work that way.

Plain and simple, the IRS plays favorites. If you’re the CEO of a Fortune 500 company with a former executive sitting in a top position at the agency, the tax-avoidance strategies your lawyers come up with won’t be challenged. But if you’re an ordinary taxpayer, the “sword of Damocles” is ever present.

Reprinted with Permission. Read more at <http://freedomoutpost.com/2014/12/irs-goes-minnows-ignores-whales/#2P3yAvqGfMzf8Fu2.99>

Price of Ground Beef Climbs to Another Record: \$4.20 Per Pound!

by Ali Meyer,
CNSNews.com

(CNSNews.com) –

The average price of a pound of ground beef climbed to another record high -- \$4.201 per pound -- in the United States in November, according to data released today by the Bureau of Labor Statistics (BLS). In August 2014, the average price for a pound of all types of ground beef topped \$4 for the first time, hitting \$4.013, according to the BLS. In September, the average price jumped to \$4.096 per pound, and in October, the average price climbed

to \$4.154 per pound. In November, the average price hit the highest price ever recorded -- \$4.201 per pound.

A year ago, in November 2013, the average price for a pound of ground beef was \$3.477 per pound. Since then, the average price has increased 20.8 percent in one year. Five years ago, in November 2009, the average price of a pound of ground beef was \$2.062, according to the BLS. The price has since climbed by \$2.139 per pound, or 103.7 percent. The overall Consumer Price Index measures the relative change in the prices of a basket of goods and ser-

vices relative to a basis of 100. Subordinate indexes measure the relative change in price for individual goods or services or categories of goods and services. The price index for seasonally adjusted, uncooked ground beef hit an all-time high of 296.616 in November, up 1.4 percent from October when it was 292.588. In 1947, the earliest year in this index, it was 26.5. “The Consumer Price Index for All Urban Consumers (CPI-U) declined 0.3 percent in November on a seasonally adjusted basis,” states BLS. “Over the last 12 months, the all items index increased 1.3 percent

before seasonal adjustment.” “The food index rose 0.2 percent in November after increasing 0.1 percent in October,” states BLS. “The index for meats, poultry, fish and eggs increased 0.6 percent in November after declining in October. The index for beef and veal rose 0.8 percent, its tenth consecutive increase.”

Reprinted with Permission. Please see: cnsnews.com/news/article/ali-meyer/420-pound-price-ground-beef-climbs-another-record

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.



The Real Instigator of Murder

The world was recently stunned by the news of 141 Pakistani school children and teachers who were slaughtered by Muslim terrorists. It is somewhat easier to understand the motivations of these killers who are driven by a fanatical religious ideology to hate the “infidels,” but Muslims murdering Muslims (especially children) exceeds the boundaries of comprehension. I doubt that any sociologist or psychologist could assemble an explanation acceptable to a rational thinker. However, the insanity doesn’t stop with Islamists. In WWII German Lutherans and Catholics were killing Americans of the same denominations, and Italian Catholics were targeting fellow Catholics from France and Spain. In Vietnam, Buddhists were at war with Buddhists. History proves that similar religious affiliation has little to do with the reasoning of serial assassins. To be sure, religions of opposite persuasions have frequently gone to battle, but more often than not the differences are simply used as a drumbeat to satisfy greed, pride and hatred. There is only one source of information that addresses the dilemma with real authority, and that is the One who has understood evil from the beginning. Psycho-babble will only lead the searcher to a dead end street.

Cain, the first murderer in Scripture, was religious for he brought an offering unto the LORD which

consisted of things he had grown in cursed soil. His brother Abel, a shepherd, offered a lamb which pictured the future Sacrifice of the Lamb of God, Jesus Christ. God rejected Cain’s offering because it failed to satisfy the required prophetic picture; (“and the blood of Jesus Christ His Son cleanseth us all from sin.”) And

[I]f that which God offers is rejected, Satan steps forward, more than willing to fill the vacuum to inspire evil.

so it remains “you can’t get blood out of a turnip.” Pointing to a future source of redemption, Abel’s sacrifice found the LORD’s acceptance.

Rather than acknowledge his wrongdoing and ask for a second opportunity, Cain’s heart welled up with anger until resentment demanded that he kill his brother. 1 John 3:12 declares that Cain was of the wicked one, and Jesus added that the devil was a murderer from the beginning. (Jn. 8:14) The study of these verses and other companion passages makes it clear that Satan himself contributed something to instigate the first murder. What emotional leverage did he use?

The highest level of acceptance is provided by God Himself... “To the praise of the glory of his grace, wherein he hath made us accepted in the beloved.” (Eph. 1:6) There is a strong element in the human DNA that craves acceptance, but if that which God offers is rejected, Satan steps forward, more than willing to fill the vacuum to inspire evil.

In the dimensions of the spiritual, there is no neutral ground but only good or evil. Politics has provided a playing field of illustration for that principle the last 6,000 years. The general rule is the majority will seek the adoption of those who prefer the path of social and spiritual degeneration while only a minority will stand for righteousness, regardless of approval numbers.

Satan’s present influence is verified when Scripture refers to him as “the god of this world” (2 Cor. 4:4) and “the god of forces” (Dan. 11:38). The obvious conclusion is when any religion propagates and inspires killers of the innocent, old Splithoof must be lurking in the wood pile close by. His current advantage is documented... “And no marvel; for Satan himself is transformed into an angel of light. Therefore it is no great thing if his ministers also be transformed as the ministers of righteousness;” (2 Cor. 11:14, 15).

Small wonder the White House seeks peace with the devil.

The Sheepdog Barks!

What a great beginning to the New Year! Didn’t you hear? The war in Afghanistan is over! Yes, that’s right. Emperor Obama said so. HOWL! And just like he said about the war being over in Iraq he must be right. I heard him say that now Afghanistan is ready to take care of itself. There’ll be no more Taliban controlling things or terrorist training done in Afghanistan now because Obama said so. And let’s be honest here and face facts. He is one “Community Organizer” that knows what he is talking about. We all should be happy and sleep better. Obama’s way is so much easier, too. He decides and POOF! It’s over. We no longer “win” wars; the president just announces an arbitrary ending date that meets his campaign promises and bolsters his legacy. That, we guess, is all it takes to “end” a war. We hope the terrorists got the presidential memo on this one. Anyway we can all relax now, right? The good news here is the active duty military is no longer fooled. A recent survey found only 15% approved of him and 55% disapproved. WOOF! We also end the year on another high note. President Obama has just recently told us that the “race relations” conversations we are having in America is “probably healthy.” Probably healthy? TWO dead cops, murdered by a deranged man who had been aroused and encouraged by all the anti-police rhetoric heard recently from Obama, Holder, Sharpton, and DeBlasio. Probably healthy! Bull! There is NO epidemic of cops killing young black men or killing Americans of any color for that matter. The statistics don’t support this. What we have going on now is just the opposite. Protesters are calling for “Dead Cops” and they want them “now.” In Portland protesters were singing “Deck the Halls with Dead Cops.” Cops are being shot at and assaulted all over America. If anything there is a “war on police.” This needs to stop. All these so-called leaders need to quit throwing gas on the fire. Al Sharpton is a charlatan and a racist. He needs to be discredited by real leaders, not invited to the White House to have lunch. The atmosphere of hate against our police forces must end. When a police officer goes bad, commits a crime, uses excessive force, or wrongly shoots and/or kills someone then that must be dealt with appropriately by the authorities. We all agree on that. However, we keep hearing about “retraining” the police officers. We hear nothing about “retraining”

society or “retraining” the angry young black man to quit resisting arrest and to respect authority. Put these incidents into perspective. There was no evidence of “race” being involved in either the Ferguson shooting or the NYC arrest. The common denominator was a resistance to obeying the police while they were trying to do their duty and arrest someone. Here’s MY plan when being arrested: Put my hands (paws) together and live another day. WOOF!

Oh, yes, we have so much to look forward to in 2015 while this president still wields some power. Remember after his butt was kicked in the November election Obama said that he had “heard” the two-thirds that hadn’t voted and he was going to govern with them in mind. The two-thirds who didn’t vote? Seriously! These are the LPSDs that think that the George Clooney marriage was an important event in 2014. These are the idiots and anarchists of Occupy Wall Street. These are the morons that still think Obama is doing a good



if they are male, female, or intersex; if they are a man, woman, or genderqueer; if they are masculine, feminine, or androgynous and if they are heterosexual, homosexual, or bisexual. Yes, my fellow sheepdogs, this is the LPSD world we live in and these are the two-thirds of the American people, according to Obama, who didn’t vote that he “heard” loud and clear and will continue to govern for. So here’s the Obama plan “to work with the Congress America elected” in 2015. Set aside the “go around Congress” pen and get out the “veto” pen. I believe he made that announcement from the 17th Tee Box while playing golf on the taxpayer’s dimes in Hawaii instead of being in NYC honoring two dead police officers. Yes, yes, we all know presidents need vacations, but

Will the Republicans, now in total control of the U. S. Congress, have the guts and courage to finally enforce the conservative values and principles they were elected to promote?

job. These are the stupid that think Obama gives a hoot (make that Howl) about the Constitution or the Rule of Law. These are the clueless that really believe Obamacare is a net gain for Americans. These are the do-gooders that believe in open borders; that believe America must take in everyone in the world and then feed them, clothe them, educate them, and eventually care for them the rest of their lives. These are the enviro-wackos that stop the San Francisco authorities from blowing up a bridge that is dangerous and needs replaced because 800 birds live on it. These are the shameless twits from Planned Parenthood that go into a California high school and teach our kids how to “select” their own gender and do so without parental awareness. These sickos used a “Genderbread Person” chart to help young students “figure out”

the line needs drawn somewhere. His first 5 Hawaii Christmas vacations have cost over \$20 million. Go to Camp David once in a while, okay? WOOF!

2015 will be an interesting year. Will the Republicans, now in total control of the U. S. Congress, have the guts and courage to finally enforce the conservative values and principles they were elected to promote? Stay alert and keep your eyes wide open. WOOF!

Note: About a year ago I lost my best dog ever (Mati) that has been pictured in my column. I finally have a new little Australian “Sheepdog” named “Rosie” who is now pictured above. She is about 5 months old and agrees with everything I write. She’s my new best dog! WOOF!

May God Have Mercy On America! JMH



Deportations Down, Illegal Border Crossings Up. Anyone Surprised?

by Allen West,
AllenBWestc.com

During a recent interview on Univision, President Obama was referred to by the interviewer as the “Deporter-in-Chief.” Of course we’ve discussed here that the Obama administration has counted turning illegals back at the border as a “deportation” — which is just another example of the “Lucy and the football” routine of this administration. And now we have to contend with an unlawful executive action that uses the so-called “prosecutorial discretion” — down South we call it “cherry picking” — of a president who believes in selective enforcement of laws based on his political objectives and ideology.

But Deporter-in-Chief? Hardly. Our good friends over at Judicial Watch, under the stalwart leadership of Tom Fitton, continue to shine the light on this administration. As they report, *“While Islamic terrorists exploit the Mexican border to enter the United States as they please, the latest Homeland Security figures show a drastic decline in deportations — especially among illegal immigrants with criminal records —as the number of people caught crossing illegally rose.”*

“Obtained from Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE) this month by a mainstream newspaper, the figures reveal that President Obama deported fewer illegal aliens in the last year than at any time during his tenure. This despite the fact that federal agents caught nearly half a million people trying to cross into the U.S. in the fiscal year ending in September. “An even bigger decline came in the numbers of people removed after living for some time in the U.S., mostly after being ensnared in the criminal justice system,” the newspaper reports.”

It’s very difficult for average Americans to know when the truth is being told. And when it comes to this issue of illegal immigration, truth is necessary in order to discern the way forward. I did find it interesting that President Obama was attempting to use Mary and Joseph metaphors for illegal immigration — Joseph was returning to his familial hometown

for the census. So what exactly has been going on with the Obama administration and deportations? “The new ICE report says federal agents removed 315,943 last year, a 14 percent drop from the previous year. The administration went even easier on illegal aliens with criminal records, removing only 102,000, a 23 percent drop from 2013 and fewer than half the number of people deported in 2011. Only two-thirds of the illegal immigrants caught at the border were sent back, marking a 9 percent decline from the previous year.”

And, of course, we know tens of thousands of illegals entered this past summer only to be covertly dispersed across the country — at taxpayer expense. Judicial Watch reported earlier this week regarding the case of an al-Qaida terrorist on the FBI’s most wanted list who for years crossed back and forth into the United States from Mexico. “The jihadist, Adnan G. El Shukrijumah (also known as “Javier Robles”), met with fellow militant Islamists in El Paso, Texas, according to JW’s law enforcement sources, and even piloted an aircraft into the Cielo Dorado airfield in Anthony, New Mexico, earlier this year.”

Shukrijumah is the poster child for the need to secure the perpetually porous southern border. However, he was reportedly killed in Pakistan, so I guess he’s not coming back. Ladies and gents, we have a serious problem with our border security and this is not about keeping illegal families intact. It’s about whether or not we are a sovereign nation under the rule of law.

Our economy isn’t stable enough to absorb millions of low-income illegals. However, it seems the Obama administration is moving forward with preparing the necessary government agencies to support providing documents to these illegals. And with the “cromnibus” spending monster passed last night, the funding of a bloated federal government marches on. Reprinted with Permission. Please see: allenbwest.com/2014/12/deportations-illegal-border-crossings-anyone-surprised/

COWARDS From page 13

never, by the grace of God, ask for permission from corrupt man to obey a just and holy God (Acts 5:29; Matthew 10:33). Also, keep in mind that after this prayer was over, there were over 2,000 outlets that reported on it within 10 minutes. First, I was labeled the “anti-gay preacher.” Then I was called the “bigot.” And then when the people figured out that I said nothing about homosexuality, they then tried to figure out why there was such an uproar over my prayer. This worked out well because it exposed the state-controlled media for who they are and how they operate (Proverbs 26:27; Psalm 7:15). Minutes later, Speaker Zellers apologized on the House Floor: *“I respectfully apologize to all members in the Minnesota House of Representatives and all citizens of this*

state for today’s morning prayer. As Speaker of the House, I take responsibility for this mistake. I am offended at the presence of Bradlee Dean on the floor of the Minnesota House of Representatives. I denounce him, his actions, and his words. He does not represent my values or the values of this state.” Two homosexual lawmakers — Rep. Karen Clark and Sen. Scott Dibble — reacted. “In my 30 years in the House, I have never seen such a hateful person be allowed to deliver the opening prayer,” said Rep. Clark. “The Republican leadership should be ashamed of themselves. It reveals the underlying hateful nature of the anti-gay constitutional amendment movement,” said Dibble. “In this time of divisiveness, it’s disgraceful and appalling to see the speaker of the House of Representatives, the body that is supposed to represent all Minnesotans, invite hatred into the opening prayer. Instead

of providing a message of inclusion and hope, the House began this day with hate and discrimination.” “This morning’s action is a sad commentary on House Republican leadership’s apparent ambivalence for supporting the equal rights and beliefs of all Minnesotans,” Dibble added. Going back to the beginning. Consider now that I had asked the man who had approached me where all of those cowards that failed to take a stand are today. He answered me and said that they were “no longer in office.” It is noteworthy that though it may take time and men may need to suffer for God’s answers to come (James 5:10), one thing is for sure: They will always come if we are willing to stand so that He can prove His point. Reprinted with Permission. Read more at <http://freedomoutpost.com/2014/12/conservative-cowards-hid-prayer-capitol/#GCCuih3qoCHKf5Y4.99>

HALFWAY From page 14

If we are interested in stopping the rapidly deteriorating cycle of violence, **we must be honest about what has prompted the destruction of trust between peace officers and the public starting with the redefinition of peace officers into law enforcement officers.** We then continued by militarizing those forces and intentionally creating an air of intimidation they project onto the public from their big honking SUVs (what do you need one of those for, complete with its sub-15mpg fuel piggishness and outrageous cost to the taxpayer, when a Prius will do just as well as a routine beat cop?) to com-

mando-style outfitting and equipment. We must **reverse** those changes; we must stop trying to claim that lawful acts such as being in your lawfully-parked vehicle while intoxicated constitute crimes such as “DUI”, we must **prosecute** each and every trumped up stop, detainment, or false arrest; we must file **obstruction of justice** charges against **every** cop, DA, and other person who tampers with or slants investigations, destroys or obscures evidence and we must apply the **exact** same standard for use of force to *peace officers* that we apply to civilians. Further, these *peace officers* along with our mayors, governors, and others must **stop** claiming some

sort of “valor” or “distinction” simply based on their job; **they are not first responders you as citizens are. It is settled law that they have no responsibility whatsoever if they fail to protect you in any particular instance -- even if said failure is due to their voluntary decision or intentional delay in response.** When -- and only when -- all of that happens then *peace officers* can expect the cooperation and trust of the public. Until then they have no right to expect any such thing irrespective of how often they bray to the contrary. Reprinted with Permission. Please see: market-ticker.org/akcs-ww-w?post=229683

FYI...

for your information...

The Sangre de Cristo Sentinel is published every Friday. Our office hours are Monday-Thursday 9:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m. Friday 9:00 a.m. - 1:00 p.m. Closed Saturday and Sunday. Deadline for classified ad copy is Monday by 5:00 p.m. Deadline for display ad copy is noon on Friday the week before the ad is to appear in the paper. Deadline for all other submissions is noon on Monday, and can be emailed to sdcsentinel@gmail.com Please send us information on clubs and organizations, news stories and pictures, and upcoming events. Please limit Letters to the Editor to 250 words and “We the People” Speak to 500 words. Please include your name, address and phone number. Garage/Yard sales are printed free, however verbiage is limited to date, time and address. Birth, Engagement, Wedding Announcements and Obituaries are also printed free of charge with a 350 word maximum and one photo included.



Thank You for Your Support!

Sangre de Cristo Sentinel · 610 Main Street · Westcliffe Colorado 81252 · 719/783-3360

Subscribe to the Sangre de Cristo Sentinel

“The voice of conservative Colorado!”

Help us spread the word! Subscribe today!



Name: _____

Mailing Address: _____

City & State: _____ Zip Code: _____

Phone Number: _____

Payment: \$_____ Type: (circle one): Cash Check Number _____ Credit Card

\$29 yearly for 81252 zip code · \$39 yearly for out of 81252 zip code.
\$2 discount for Seniors 65 years and older, and Wounded Warriors.

Please mail or bring your payment to:
Sangre de Cristo Sentinel
610 Main Street, Westcliffe, Colorado 81252
719/783-3360

"It's Basically Tree Bark Now:"

Students Up Complaints About Michelle Obama's Lunch Menu

by Kyle Olson,
EAGNews.Org

(Editor/GG: This is just a symbol of federal tyranny. The Constitution has been turned upside down by the socialists. Let's start fixing this locally and statewide. Vote conservative and make sure these politicians do what they said they were going to do.)

Ballwin, Mo.

Students have no problem Stelling adults exactly what they think of the new "healthy" school lunches championed by First Lady Michelle Obama.

"It's basically tree bark now," Parkway West High School senior Stone Ramatowski tells St. Louis Post-Dispatch. "That's all you can eat."

Lunch lines used to be "out the door" for sandwiches brought in from fast-food chains like Chick-fil-A or Arby's, but now with the "healthy" lunches, they're only a few students deep.

Parkway West has experienced a 20 percent drop in lunch sales since the rules were implemented.

Statewide, Missouri schools have seen a 11 percent decline in sales since the 2009-2010 school year.

Sales in the Fort Zumwalt

School District are down by 10 percent since last school year.

"Everybody is looking the same way: Sales are down," says Paul Becker, nutrition services director for the district and recent president of the Missouri School Nutrition Association.

Fewer sales have a real impact and they could mean fewer work hours for employees, among other things.

"Do we have to look at cutting staff hours? What other ways can we save money on product?" he says, according to the Post-Dispatch.

"The little guys are eating more fruits and vegetables than they were three years ago," Marlene Pfeiffer, director of food services for the Parkway School District, tells the paper. "It takes a few years to get the palate turned around, and that's harder for older students."

While schools are trying to get students' "palates turned



Courtesy photo

around," it's questionable about the success they'll have when they continue serving lunches like these:

Parkway West High Principal Jeremy Mitchell tells the Post-Dispatch parents of athletes say the food is not enough to satisfy their active children.

"The parents say they need more calories," Mitchell says. "They are running three miles a day. They are wrestling. They are here for practice until 6:30 p.m."

"The palatability is just not there," Parkway West's Marlene Pfeiffer says.

Reprinted with Permission. Please see: eagnews.org/its-basically-tree-bark-now-students-up-complaints-of-michelle-os-lunch-menu/

WHO'S COUNTING?

US NATIONAL DEBT

\$18,030,475,965,392

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 #1,480

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 #1,152

TERRORIST ATTACK IN BENGHAZI FOLLOWED BY RELENTLESS LIES AND COVERUPS.

NO ACCOUNTABILITY YET!

NOW ON DAY #833

IRS TARGETING OF CONSERVATIVE GROUPS ADMITTED BY LOIS LERNER.

NO ACCOUNTABILITY YET!

NOW ON DAY #602

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

NO ACCOUNTABILITY YET!

NOW ON DAY #459

VA NON-TREATMENT OF VETS LEADING TO EXCESSIVE WAITS AND DEATH LISTS.

NO JUSTICE YET!

NOW ON DAY #256

Westcliffe Super Market

Market Made
Sausage

Breakfast, Italian Hot & Mild,
German, Chorizo, Ground Pork

\$2¹⁹
lb.

Happy New Year!
2015

Movie
Rentals!!

Wolf Brand
Chili

15 oz.

With Beans
Select Varieties

\$1¹⁹

No Beans
Select Varieties

\$1³⁹

Shurfine
Milk

2 Gal.
for
\$7⁰⁰

Halos
Clementine Mandarins

2 lb. bag

\$2⁹⁷
Each

Open 7:00 a.m. • 8:00 p.m.
7 Days a Week

Prices Good Through Sunday
No Rainchecks on Weekend Ads

50 Main Street
719/783-0550