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

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

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Our Opinion...

From the Editorial Board

STATE OF THE UNION: FREEBIES, SPENDING, & VETOES



A few weeks ago we listened to Obama's State of the Union (SOTU) address to the joint session of Congress. The Constitution calls for the president to report on the "state" of America from time to time. It has become an annual made-for-TV special production to promote the party in the White House. Proof of that is how the director and the TV cameramen know just who to focus on in the crowd when the president throws them a "bone" or mentions something they do or are supposed to do. Of course that is when he isn't publicly attacking some, like he did to the Supreme Court a few years ago. And let's not forget the well-orchestrated scenes of entering and leaving the room. We can do without all that needless pomp and circumstance. The President is just an equal branch of our government, not a king or emperor to be worshiped.

The President is just an equal branch of our government, not a king or emperor to be worshiped.

The SOTU has probably outlived its usefulness given how it has developed over the last 50 years and especially in the last six years. Instead of truthfully

describing the actual situation and condition in America, the president paints a false picture of reality, and then follows that by providing his list of "things" that would make America perfect (in his eyes). Somewhere during the speech he tells two or three mushy anecdotes about the people he has invited to sit with the First Lady. We are told that Ronald Reagan started that but we don't recall. We especially hate it when they use our soldiers as props for their partisan propaganda. The speech always starts with something about "the union is strong" and ends with some language about the "blessings of God." We surely need His blessings but are surprised that prayer has survived in these politically correct times. After the speech the pundits can't wait to tell us how many minutes the speech took, how many ovations, how many standing ovations, and how

many new programs the president called for. This is all rather silly and a waste of time and money. In the early days of our Union the president just sent a letter

over to Congress, suggesting how they might make America better by working together. As soon as presidents, and their handlers, realized the power of TV, it was changed forever. It is now far too much of an opportunity to "speak" to the American people. Let's review in general terms the last one. Obama called for more spending, more income redistribution, more taxes and more freebies while NOT speaking about the greatest threats to America's safety and security, his primary job. He told us the economy was strong and that unemployment was low. He knows these things are not true but he says them anyway. You should note that the "pumped-up" growth data released before the midterm elections that he referred to in his speech have recently been "adjusted" downward. That's always how it is. The "damage" is, unfortunately, already done in the minds of most Americans. They pay no mind to the little corrections issued later. So, after telling us how "strong" we are and how much he wants to work with Congress, he issues four veto threats and calls for FREE college. Wonder what the definition of free is to a liberal progressive? All in all it was not a very inspiring oration. Did anyone else notice the limited and subdued applause? Even the Democrats are "Obama-weary." These last two years cannot go

fast enough for the majority of Americans. His utopian speech culminated this last Monday when he released his proposed budget. It's not being taken seriously by anyone. The Congress is not going to raise taxes so Obama can play Santa Claus. His \$4Trillion 2016 budget adds at least one-half of a Trillion dollars to the debt. He proposes huge spending increases and huge tax increases to avoid what he calls "mindless austerity." What utter nonsense. This is not a real budget proposal at all. It's a political document meant to further the divide in Washington, D.C., and help the Democrats in the 2016 general election. The proposal grows bureaucracy and grows the debt and doesn't even make the smallest attempt to balance the budget or provide real opportunity for Americans to improve their lives. One crazy item is to increase IRS funding by \$2Billion. This, we guess, is so they can pay more bonuses, attend more conferences in Las Vegas, and make more Star Trek videos. He cannot be serious. The State of the Union speech has completely lost its purpose with this president. It didn't address the real threats to this country, served notice on the Republicans that his veto pen is "ready and willing", and listed one pie-in-the-sky idea and program after another. What's the point? Obama made no comments about our ene-

mies nor discussed what is clearly the greatest threat to our Union. He cannot even bring himself to say Islamic terrorism. Shortly after the speech Lieutenant General Michael Flynn, former Chief of the Defense Intelligence Agency, slammed the White House for having no strategies and not using the term "Islamic militants." He said, "You cannot defeat an enemy you do not admit exists." Finally, a senior military man speaks out. Several former Secretaries of Defense have also publicly said Obama has no strategy or the will to win the war. Please, Mr. President, send a letter next year.

A quick comment, however, on a local "speech" that was fantastic. At the end of the special meeting on Thursday, January 29, Commissioner Kit Shy delivered the best closing remarks we have ever heard in this county by an elected representative. First, he gave a great tutorial and explanation of the BOCC's decision-making process in the awarding of the public and legal notices to the low bidder and then "set the record straight" with respect to all the misleading and incorrect personal information printed the week before in the *Wet Mountain Tribune* about him and another local citizen. It was well said and very much needed to be said. The commissioners made the right decision. The low bid won, let's move on.



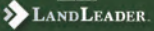
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Our Opinion...

From the Editorial Board



The Sentinel: Why, How and Now

by George Gramlich,
Managing Editor

(This is a speech I prepared to give at the special commissioners meeting last week. This meeting was set up for citizens to comment on the awarding of the contract to print the county's legal notices in the Sentinel (we were low bidder). There wasn't enough time to give it, but we thought our readers would appreciate it.)

I would like to spend a minute on why the *Sentinel* was started. Custer County is like hundreds, maybe thousands, of predominantly Christian conservative areas in our country that have a liberal newspaper monopoly. Why this has occurred in America is an interesting subject, but it is what it is. To alleviate this situation, some of us got together two years ago and talked about starting a conservative newspaper with Christian underpinnings for our county so that the majority of people living here would at least have a conservative alternative.

**Our volunteer,
citizen reporters
have simply
been outstanding.**

During our research phase, we realized that the 100-year-old, local, community, newspaper model wasn't going to cut it. We saw there was a reason that print newspapers were losing readership all over the country. They were boring and simply uninformative. Bowling scores, senior-citizen lunch menus and white-washed, let's-get-along local news articles weren't cutting it anymore with the advent of the internet, talk radio, and satellite TV. And we saw that for a vast majority of these liberal papers, it was Profit before Service.

We knew innovation was the key. So we built a new, fresh, business model based on a paid production and sales staff, voluntary citizen/taxpayer reporters, a commitment to reporting real community, Colorado, national and international news, an open and honest conservative viewpoint, a dramatic use of photo-journalism, and a

utilization of the internet's enormous, honest, news sources that refuse to white wash the news like the traditional news outlets like Reuters and AP. It was time for a change and guiding our entire effort is the principle: Service Before Profit.

Being completely new to the business it was a rough start, but after only 18 months the *Sentinel* has become one of the most successful new community-based, weekly newspapers in recent Colorado history. We have met or exceeded every business goal and objective including readership and revenue.

Our volunteer, citizen reporters have simply been outstanding. Their reporting on local issues is fresh, hard-hitting and written from the perspective of a fellow taxpayer neighbor rather than a paid reporter who doesn't want to make waves so that the paper doesn't lose subscribers. Boring, stylized, uninformative writing it is not.

Our reporting on our local government entities, the county, Westcliffe, and Silver Cliff, and special districts like the Clinic and Custer County Central School is extremely detailed, factual, and is not afraid to report on controversial and contentious items. It is second to none in Colorado. Walk through our school here and you can see dozens of the *Sentinel* articles and photo features plastered all over the walls. That is community commitment. Service Before Profit.

These brave and dedicated reporters have informed the public, that even in Happy Valley here, there are problems and issues that have been buried for years due to a press that refuses to expose it.

Without these citizen reporters the public would not have known about the absolute disaster that the clinic has been with its simply incredible mis-management and poor vision that has resulted in untold wasted dollars and human agony.

Without these citizen reporters the public wouldn't have know that, in an otherwise excellent school here in Custer County, that the school is failing in its primary mission - that of aca-

See SENTINEL
on page 23

Mr. Little's False Allegations Rebutted

(Editor/GG: Mary Seifert, my partner here at the Sentinel, completely rebutted false and outrageous allegations made by Mr. Little, the editor of the other newspaper in town (The Tribune), in a recent issue of his paper via her speech at a special Custer County Commissioners meeting last week. The meeting was held to allow the citizens of our county to explain their views on the Sentinel's winning sealed bid over the Tribune for the rights to publish the county's legal notices (our bid was one third of theirs!).

These allegations made by Mr. Little were so riddled with simply unbelievable errors (for example, switching the grantor and grantee on a deed and falsely stating the sales price!) that it infers something sad and dark. This seemingly pathological vendetta against Commissioner Kit Shy over the years, and now Mary Seifert (who is one of the most respected, honest, and civic-minded ladies in the county) reminds one of a spoiled brat child whose candy is taken away. Kit Shy has spent his life here in the valley working and serving the public. He is universally respected. These blatantly false accusations, Mr. Little, coming from the self-described King of Journalistic Ethics, is a sad commentary on how you view your fellow citizens and how you run your business.

Mr. Little, you are NOT the only game in town now. You have competition. The majority of the people in the valley now have a voice after decades of being suppressed. It is called "another newspaper". (Come on, you can say the word "newspaper" - nnnnnn, nnnnnn, newspaper! There you go.) Let's

compete on quality, service, content and analysis, not via some sick mission to destroy those who disagree with you. Or compete with you. The Sentinel is here to stay, Mr. Little, so get used to it. And you need to personally, and in print, not only retract, but also apologize to Kit Shy and Mary Seifert. Time to act like a man, sir.

This was Mary Seifert's speech to the Commissioners and citizens of Custer County:

I want to address four of the specific issues printed in the *Tribune* on January 22nd, since it appears to be a personal attack against my husband, myself, and Commissioner Shy. This particular article was written by Ms. Williams, and I assume Mr. Little, editor of the *Tribune*, gave final approval on the content of the article.

First: The sale of two lots in Silver Cliff in 2001 Seifert to Shy: This was either an intentional lie to mislead and besmirch reputations or shoddy journalism. Seiferts have never sold lots in Silver Cliff to Shy in 2001 or ever. Our esteemed assessor Mr. Henrich and his staff have made property transactions in the county readily available on the web for research with a mere keystroke.

Second: I have not been the primary financial backer of the *Sentinel* since its inception. Another intentional lie or shoddy journalism.

Third: The statement that on June 1, 2010, Seifert Enterprises obtained the services of Shy Surveyors: Irrelevant as of that date, and before that date as Jerry and Mary Seifert were not owners of Seifert Enterprises and Commissioner Shy was not a commissioner in 2010. This

information is also readily available on the Secretary of State's web site or perhaps a simple phone call to the Seifert Enterprise office would have revealed the ownership of that company presently and in 2010. Again, it appears to be shoddy, inadequate, and unprofessional journalism or just using the smear tactic to include even more victims.

**This was
either an
intentional lie
to mislead
and besmirch
reputations
or shoddy
journalism.**

Fourth: I will concede that one out of the four points is true concerning the Seiferts and the sale of a lot with a house in the Shadow Ridge subdivision to Mr. Shy. It is a registered PUD within the city limits of Westcliffe, with curb and gutter, city water and sewer, phone and high speed internet, and reasonably priced, the lots are for sale to anyone, regardless of race, creed, religion or political affiliation. My only comment to that, everybody has to live somewhere.

In close, it was brought to my attention Mr. Little suggested that the *Sentinel* board take a class in journalism 101. Perhaps Mr. Little should invest in a class in business 101, with the first module being the concept of the bid process in a free COMPETITIVE market system.

Thanks to the audience and the Board for their time and allowing me to speak.

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Letters to the Editor

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 250 words or less. No profanity or vulgarity, no personal attacks, and please sign your name. Also, please give us the general location of your residence and phone number or email - for confirmation only.

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

The Cobra and The Mongoose

I return to Westcliffe infrequently, and during this trip I was immediately bombarded by friends enumerating their concerns about the shifting fortunes of the two local newspapers. Although not a scale of the New York Times versus The Wall Street Journal, local news and how it is presented has been in the forefront of this community's concerns since the days of mineral mining.

I may be a rare breed because I like and respect both Kit Shy and Jim Little and consider them both

my friends. But, for at least 20 years, Jim and Kit have been like the cobra and the mongoose; this recent tussle about public advertising revenue is only their most recent contretemps.

One defense for switching the publicly funded advertising from The Tribune to The Sentinel was to foster the growth of small businesses in town. If that is the case, is that a new and active policy for the County Government, and should other small businesses expect this type of help from county coffers in the

future? Isn't that concept tantamount to supporting small but politically favored start-ups like Solyn-dra?

If switching the public newspaper advertising creates a better or equal service to the community, then the commissioners are indeed serving their constituency. If personalities or politics are guiding the commissioners, then reconsidering their decision would be a logical alternative for public officials.

Very truly yours,
L. Kravitz

Sentinel won the bid. Please note that if the Tribune's bid was lower than ours, and they won, you wouldn't have heard one word of complaint out of us. It is called "competition".)

(Editor/GG: Mr. Kravitz, as explained more fully at the special meeting by Commissioner Shy, it was simple economics. The process to select was a sealed competitive bid one. Lower bid wins. Our bid was one-third of the other paper's. So, the

2014 Community Spirit Campaign Results

We apologize that we haven't printed the 2014 results yet, but the organization that runs the fund drive, the Wet Mountain Valley Community Foundation, has not sent us the results yet. As soon as we get them, we will print them.

Valentine's Day at Eagles Summit Ranch

Next Friday, February 13th, the amazing folks at Eagles Summit Ranch are having a "Vow Renewal Ceremony" for several military couples who are in session next week. This is open to the public like other graduations, but instead of each participant speaking in order to graduate and receive a certificate, they will collectively renew their wedding vows.

Dinner will be at 6 p.m. and folks are asked to bring a covered dish. Eagles Summit will provide the meat and drinks.

Please RSVP with the number in your party to give the staff an idea of the expected attendance. You can email them at esrcolorado@gmail.com or call the office at 719-783-9729.

We look forward to seeing all of you there to support these great couples!! Bring your Valentine and be part of this fun evening!

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Local Mountain News & Notices

Controversy Puts Vets Service Officer Appointments on Holds

by Paul Sage

At the January 30th meeting of the Board of County Commissioners the issue of the Veterans Service Officer and Assistant Veterans Service Officer appointments was addressed. Some members of the local American Legion Post have brought objections to the current appointees, particularly the appointment of Lorraine Silva to the position of Assistant Veterans Services Officer, as she and some members of the group have come to philosophical disagreement on some issues.

The Veterans Service Officer (VSO) and assistant VSO are paid county positions appointed by the Commissioners to help veterans navigate the bureaucracy involved in obtaining their benefits from the Veterans Administration.

The American Legion organization is a private non-profit corporation which also provides support and services to veterans. A large part of their support comes through a grant the Legion applies for from the Veterans Trust

Fund, a fund administered by the federal government and doled out in grants to local veterans groups.

Anna Orgeron is actually the county appointed VSO and Lorraine is her appointed assistant, though in her testimony at this hearing, she admitted that Lorraine is the one who has attended the annual training sessions for this job and has actually done much of the job. She also stated that she has been remiss in providing the guidance and leadership necessary in her position. She stated that if she were reappointed she would create job descriptions and provide better oversight.

Commissioner Shy pointed out to Anna Orgeron that "she (Lorraine) works for you. We pay her wages. A lot of this appears to be an internal problem."

Various claims and counter claims were made by members of the American Legion Post and by other veterans in the community who have obtained services through the office of the VSO. Much of the discussion surrounded the question of whether Lorraine

has done her job adequately and whether the office currently used by the VSO is adequate, though some comments digressed to the point of discussing dirty carpet, dogs being in the office and whether people were rude to one another.

Opinions in the room seemed evenly divided on the issue raised by the American Legion Post.

The Commissioners suggested that everyone hang on to their hats and work toward working out their differences for the benefit of the veterans they all wish to provide services for. Plans will be made to obtain outside expert guidance on the subject in a future workshop before the new county appointments will be made.

Commissioner Shy, in closing, pointed out that "our only obligation as Commissioners is to provide a VSO office to guide people through the bureaucratic process. If they need these other things, we're not going to be able to provide that as part of what we're supposed to do. We're supposed to provide a VSO."



Ask a Pro: Frozen water or sewer lines a problem?

A properly installed water line should not freeze. However a cabin not used regularly that has a slow dripping faucet will build up ice in a sewer line slowly until plugging it.

A little known solution for this problem is a heat tape that installs inside the pipe.

Sounds crazy but they are available and they work!

Problem: The lines have to be thawed before the devices can be installed. We do thaw water lines. At this time we don't thaw sewer lines; the two should never mix, use the same tools or even the same technician or service truck. Call me pernickety but; the ass should never meet the glass, (water or beer).

If your pump quits due to a frozen line **turn it off** as the pump will continue to run (bad very bad). Always turn a pump off; when having a problem.

With more than a few years experience we can offer common sense solutions to most any problem related to mountain living; except cabin fever. Please don't call if: your wife can't deal with the solitude.

-David Nequette /Lic.1043

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Local Mountain News & Notices

Sheriff Byerly Addresses Equipment Concerns

by Fred Hernandez

An air of anticipation was evident as the Rotarians gathered to hear their guest speaker, Sheriff Shannon Byerly after only less than three weeks in office. The noontime meeting on Monday was called to order promptly and was underway immediately after the Pledge of Allegiance and the Four Way Test invoked by Rotarians the world over at the start of their weekly get togethers. The Mining Company Restaurant on Main Street, venue for these meetings, was packed and all seats taken.

After a few short preliminaries, the main event was announced and the Sheriff walked up to the podium while answering a few personal questions asked by the club President. A true native of the state, Sheriff Byerly was born in Pueblo, has lived in the Westcliffe area for over fifteen years and comes from a long line of Coloradans, some of his ancestors arriving here on wagon trains from Missouri and Indiana and settling on ranches in old Truckton.

Anyone who has any ideas as to how to quickly acquire gun racks is welcome to come forward.

The Sheriff wasted no time by quickly getting to the point of his priorities given the lack of some basic equipment needed to do a good and proper job. The most glaring problem is the lack of a Computer Aided Dispatch (CAD). Of all the 64 counties in the state, only three do not have this basic tool of law enforcement; Custer and two other counties - one of which is only a two-man office and the other a four-man station. Custer County, by contrast, has a force of twenty persons, nine of which are the Sheriff, the Undersheriff Chris Barr and seven deputies.

At the moment Sheriff's Office personnel, including



Sheriff Byerly speaks at the Rotary lunch last Monday.

Sentinel photo by Fred Hernandez

deputies, do their work in a labor intensive manner using Excel spreadsheets and handwritten notes. Clearly inefficient, inaccurate, and time-consuming. Each item is manually entered and filed in three-ring binders. CAD automation on the other hand is big screen, precise, and super fast; able to coordinate multiple activities, manifold information, and any number of personnel by color-coded systems of tracking and maintaining control of myriad activities and actions. With CAD all the elements of service to the community including EMS, Search and Rescue, Fire, and Posse will be at his fingertips to do a professional job of protecting and serving the residents and visitors of Custer County as is his sworn duty.

including the posse which he considers an important team for the efficient and effective process of law enforcement.

Almost immediately during the talk, the floor was opened for questions from the public and one of the more interesting ones was a query regarding body cams and dash cams. The Sheriff is certainly in favor of this new equipment. However, there are basic needs that first have to be met which are urgent. He cited that all the departments vehicles do not have cages or gun racks. Cages are basic for the safety and protection of personnel and the proper containment of arrestees. The potential for disaster keeps the Sheriff awake nights. Fortunately the Sheriffs good friend, the Police Chief of Florence has kindly offered to provide some previously owned cages for which Sheriff Byerly will always be very grateful.

The Sheriff mentioned other details of his work including scheduling of deputies and others who are tasked with the supervision of inmates and problems with not enough personnel, night patrol schedules, and other challenges. He returned, however, to the main and critical changes that need to be addressed namely the acquisition of Computer Aided Dispatch and gun racks and cages. The CAD will be operational in March or earlier. Anyone who has any ideas as to how to quickly acquire gun racks is welcome to come forward. The Sheriff has extended a welcome to anyone who wishes to take a tour of the Sheriff's Office.

We wish Sheriff Byerly good luck and success in his new job.



A militia, when properly formed, are in fact the people themselves. They include all men capable of bearing arms. To preserve liberty is essential that the whole body of people always possess arms and be taught alike how to use them.

Thomas Jefferson

Founding Father and Third President of the United States

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Rebellion to tyrants is obedience to God.
Benjamin Franklin - Founding Father

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May the God of hope fill you with all joy and peace as you trust in him, so that you may overflow with hope by the power of the Holy Spirit.

Romans 15:13, NIV

Local Mountain News & Notices



Obituary Harvey Edward Opfer



Harvey Edward Opfer passed away in Cañon City on December 30, 2014, after a brief illness. He was born on September 3, 1921, in Joy Coy, Colorado, to John Henry Fredrick Opfer and Ethel Blanch (Gallop) Opfer. He was 93.

His parents were both deaf and his father, a German immigrant, was also a mute. They went on to have two more sons, John and Kenneth.

Harvey was a self-made man. Being born in the depression era to deaf parents, he worked hard from an early age at any job that he could find. He picked peas and lettuce in Westcliffe, had a paper route in Denver, washed dishes in Leadville, traveled with the circus, and helped on the farm.

In 1940 he joined the Marines and was at boot camp in San Diego when Pearl Harbor was attacked. Soon he was shipped out to the Solomon Islands in the Pacific, then sent to Guadalcanal where in 1942 he was hit, and carried the shrapnel in his arm the rest of his life. He was patched up and returned to duty for almost four more years. After he got malaria and went stateside for a while, he returned to fight as a machine gunner in the Hawaiian Islands.

Harvey left the Marines in 1946 and went to college where he earned a degree in accounting at Western State in Gunnison, working his way through school as a janitor.

In 1951, he joined the Air Force and retired with the rank of Major in 1972.

Harvey was well-known in Cañon City where he had a business on Main Street for over 50 years. He was a bookkeeper, tax preparer, in charge of vital statistics, municipal judge, and co-owner of a clothing store, Shoes-N-Things. He also was a charter member of Shadow Hills Golf Club, and an avid fisherman and hunter. He loved the river walk and for years made the walk from 9th Street to Four Mile and back, after work.

He worked until he was 87.

He was preceded in death by his first wife, Dorothy (Hotchkiss) Opfer with whom he had four children who survive; Janet Flick (Barney), Neldon Opfer, Ann Miller, and Terry Opfer (Winnie).

He was also preceded in death by his second wife, Betty (Stoner) Op-

fer and his step-daughter, Sandy Travis (Ron). He second step-daughter, Sherrie Fischer (Roger) survives.

His third wife, Rachel Welk-Opfer, survives as do his five step-children from Rachel; Kenneth Welk (Stephanie), Julie Blevins (Ken), Harold Welk (Kay), Linda Blevins (David), and Maxine Strong.

He was preceded in death by his parents and brother, John Opfer. His brother, Ken (Opfer (Phyllis Jean), survives.

Services will be on February 11, 2015, at Saint John Lutheran Church, 790 Greydene Avenue, at 1:00 p.m. with full military honors to follow at the Lakeside Cemetery.

Memorial contributions may be mailed to Westcliffe American Legion Post 170, P.O. Box 424, Westcliffe, CO 81252.



PUBLIC NOTICES

From page 1

Commissioner Shy challenged whether or not Mr. Little truly didn't understand the deed verbiage. "You've read enough deeds, Jim. You know that 'for ten dollars and other good and valuable considerations' is the preamble to every deed. The preamble to your house in Wetmore says 'for one dollar and other valuable considerations.' You got a better deal than they got."

At this point Mr. Little attempted to interrupt Commissioner Shy again about running it by legal counsel and real estate agents and his willingness to print a retraction, but was stopped by Commissioner Shy, who didn't interrupt Mr. Little the two times he spoke previously.

He explained, "The tax stamps on that deed indicate the value exchanged if you understand deeds: 7.5 is the tax stamp – a value of \$75,000. The tax stamp on your deed, 1.6 (indicates) a value of \$16,000." The good and other valuable consideration for the purpose of indicating that this action has taken place 'quid-pro-quo' – money for land. The amount is based on the

tax stamps. So that is in error."

Commissioner Shy went on to address another false claim in the article. "About the house that I live in now. Yes, I bought my house from Jerry and Mary Seifert. There were a lot of houses available at the time. I went and got a bank loan and paid them off in full so that I was not beholden to anyone locally by making payments to them." He pointed out that, "If doing business with people in this community makes you ineligible, then we are all in a lot of trouble." He specifically pointed out that he "bought over \$10,000 worth of advertising in the *Tribune* between 1984 and 2004." He questioned, "Did that give you an unhealthy advantage in this particular thing?"

Commissioner Shy also addressed complaints about not answering particular emails from residents, stating that he received 161 such contacts and simply could not respond to all of them in the short time, but had everyone in his computer and read each.

He concluded with "I will not make any motion to reverse this because all we've been asked to do here today is to reverse a decision that we didn't make based on politics, based on politics."

*All TRUTH goes through three stages:
First, it is ridiculed.
Second, it is fought with passion.
Third, it is accepted as being self-evident."*

Arthur Schopenhauer,
German Philosopher

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Local Mountain News & Notices

The Wet Mountain Distillery Is Open For Business

by George Gramlich

After two years of standard bureaucratic wrangling with the federal government, local rancher, Steve Rorick, finally received the OK from Washington, D.C., and is now producing the valley's first legal liquor! Local moonshiners beware, Steve is making some of the finest fire-water west of the Appalachians. And it is available now in the valley.

Steve grew up ranching with his family here in Custer County and until recently they ran the largest ranching operation in the valley. Getting on in years (sorry Steve), Steve started looking for an alternative business a few years ago. After much market and product research, he decided that the craft distillery industry showed promise, much as the micro-brew business was over the last few decades. So he decided to give it a go.

After applying for the state and federal licenses, Steve assisted in building the stills and other pieces of equipment with a friend who manufactures still equipment, James Jarrard who owns Jarrard Stills LLC in Silver Cliff. He rented a building in the Rangeview Loop industrial park, where there is an excellent water supply, and has been building the interior infrastructure to make liquor for the last 18 months.

Steve's company's name is Sangre Distilleries, LLC, and he is selling the product under the name of "Wet Mountain". Steve says there are only 632 federally licensed distilleries in the country and probably only about 50 or so of those are owned by a single person.

Steve is currently producing 3 rums and a whiskey: White Rum, Spiced Rum Blackberry Rum, and Donovan Lee Spiced Single Malt Whiskey. He is waiting on label approval from the feds for six more varieties: Straight Single Malt Whiskey, Wooded Single Malt Whiskey, and three kinds of distilled agave spirits (if these were from Mexico, they would be called tequila): White, Spiced, and Wooded.

The three rums and one whiskey products currently in production are available in town at The Liquor Cabinet and Antler Liquors. Nacho Moma's and several other local restaurants and bars are also carrying his products. Steve has also rented the building at 307 Main Street, Westcliffe (next to the Westcliffe Town building) where he will be opening a tasting and retail room starting in about a month. Hours will be depend on the season.

As production cranks up over the next several months, Steve plans on hiring several employees as the distilling operation is



Steve Rorick, founder of Sangre Distilleries.

Sentinel photo by George Gramlich

really a 24-hour-a-day-effort. He is also starting to market his products to the larger liquor retailers in Fremont and Pueblo counties.

Steve uses only organic malt in his products which he gets from a midwest organic malt grower. The fruit ingredients (e.g., blackberries) are purchased from our very own Westcliffe Supermarket.

When the government is involved, it al-

ways will impose its tax burden on a business, and the distillery arena is no exception. Colorado charges \$5,000 a year just for the license and \$5 for each gallon produced. Not to be outdone, the feds also charge an additional \$13.50 for each gallon made for a total per gallon tax of \$18.50!

It is great to see a new, innovative business start up in the valley by a local man who made his living the hard way - ranching. We wish him the best of luck.

Use Less Water So We Can Grow More Pot

by Paul Sage

At a meeting of the Colorado Water Congress on January 29th, Governor John Hickenlooper stated "We have to be smarter. We're not going to have enough to do everything we want," admitting that the state will be hard pressed to meet the water demands of its citizens in the future, according to a January 30th *Pueblo Chieftain* article.

With an anticipated future population growth of two to three million in a state already hard pressed to meet its water demands, the Water Congress chose not to address the excess demand on the resource by the marijuana growing industry in the state, instead handing out awards to companies who designed a system to control sprinkler systems with smart phones and the like.

While no one in the state government addresses the amount of water going up in smoke for the pot industry, estimates vary from one half gallon to 8 gallons per day for each plant grown, or about half of what estimates state the average person uses in a day. At the same time they "struggle" to address water shortages in the state, the Colorado Division of Water Resources approved the use of "household" wells in the state to water pot plants for homeowners. The same October 2014 policy statement approves the use of "residential" wells for irrigating pot in a greenhouse.

NBC reports in an article titled "Water Guzzling Pot Plants Draining Drought-Wracked California" reports on the consequences of irrigating pot in that state, in which only med-

ical use is approved and most grows are still illegal. The article states that "California growers may be making millions, but their thirsty plants are sucking up a priceless resource: water. Now scientists say that if no action is taken in the drought-wracked state, consequences for fisheries and wildlife will be dire."

As water resources become more stressed with every legal or illegal pot grow in the state, individual citizens are being called on to conserve and use less. Soon, like California, outdoor water recreation and wildlife may be threatened by the Colorado pot frenzy, and only areas like Custer County which so far does not allow commercial pot cultivation will have enough water to support the people living there.

*Be joyful in hope,
patient in affliction,
faithful in prayer.*

Romans 12:12, NIV



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Local Mountain News & Notices

Special C-1 School Board Meeting

by Larry Luikart

Chairman Gaide opened the meeting with the Pledge of Allegiance along with a welcome for guests present. The short agenda included one action item. Sam Frostman was hired as a Assistant Knowledge Bowl Coach based on the recommendation of Superintendent Selle.

The Board discussed the UIP (Uniform Improvement Plan). The UIP was required yearly until this year. Under new guidelines, any school system in Accredited or Accredited with Distinction category has the option to file every other year. Mr. Selle reported he felt the two year option was acceptable for Custer County because the data is one year old in the plan before it is written and approximately eighteen months old before implementation. It is a backward looking plan where the just completed Strategic Plan is forward looking. The Board members added: The Accountability Committee has already done work on the UIP. The changes in the new testing requirements are on the horizon and an

Attorney General’s opinion is pending regarding the legality of all the changes. The Board then directed Mr. Selle to complete the UIP this year and skip next year.

The draft Audit Review was discussed briefly. In the end the words of Bob Jolley summed up the discussion, “it is, what it is.”

Chairman Gaide offered her opinion after working with elementary students recently she felt that all transfer students into the District should be tested to assess the student for proper grade placement. Dr. Davis said she did not realize this was not being done as a matter of routine. Mr. Selle indicated that all new students are assessed but the assessment is not used for grade placement. It was decided to look more deeply into this issue including drawing up new requirements on the matter or revising the current policy in the Student Handbook.

Secondly, Chairman Gaide indicated she substituted for one of the office personnel recently allowing her to observe the workload of Principal Barb Jones. Chairman

Gaide felt Ms. Jones has too much on her plate and any talk of reducing from two principals to one was essentially nonsense. She felt certain members of the Board should do a “walk about,” so to speak, with the two principals in order to observe the work they do in a day. Dr. Davis indicated as a board member this was not her job and if she were to do the “walk about” she would have a tendency to fall into “evaluating” something she understood as a function of Mr. Selle’s position. She saw this “walk about” as a direct interference in the management structure of the District.

A rather long and spirited discussion ensued among the Board members regarding the two versus one principal possibility. Mr. Selle stated in regard to the current contract negotiations for his position this idea would effect the way he would view the various aspects of his job description. After more discussion Dr. Davis, Mr. Jolley, and Mr. Clince agreed to

See BOARD on page 14

CCHS Seniors Continue to Make Plans for Life After High School

Two more CCHS seniors have made the decision for post-secondary education. Seniors Alex LeBoeuf and Denver Mullett have made their decisions on where they will be attending in the fall of 2015. LeBoeuf will be attending Pueblo County Community College and Mullett will be attending Harrisburg Area Community College in Pennsylvania.

“I have a cousin attending HACC and it is close to my family,” stated Mullett. He plans on a visit over spring break to finalize his enrollment in the community college. Mullett will work towards an associate degree in graphic design. It was during his sophomore year in Applied Tech that Mullett discovered his interest in graphic design. “We had the chance to use the computer for graphic design and I really enjoyed that,” Mullett said. “I plan to get the two-year degree and then see about more education after that. My dream job would be working in design for a major apparel company.”

LeBoeuf is planning on studying Occupational Therapy at PCCC. “The medical field runs in the family on my mother’s side,” said LeBoeuf. “It’s just something I’ve always wanted to do and I’ve spent



Denver Mullett and Alex LeBoeuf

Sentinel photo by Jim Silver

time at work with my mother and grandmother and really enjoyed it.” LeBoeuf’s main area of interest is elderly care. She plans to transfer after two years to complete a four-year-degree. LeBoeuf just arrived in Custer County at semester but says she has enjoyed the valley and the smaller class sizes from her previous school.

“I am very excited for Denver and Alex!”, exclaimed CCHS counselor Troy Bomgardner. “They both have clear direction on their post-secondary education and have chosen schools that fit their plans. It will be exciting to see where it takes them!”

★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★

Bobcats Honor Rolls

Custer County High School is pleased to announce this list of students whose grade point average for the first semester qualifies them to be named as Honor Students, as reported by Troy Bomgardner, School Counselor:

QUALIFIED FOR HIGH HONOR ROLL, 4.0+

Grade 9: Schepmann, Sara Smith, Riley	Moulton, Hannah Mullett, Mackenzie	Grade 12: Franta, Michael Lewenkamp, Corey McCarthy, Erin Woods, Madeleine
Grade 10: Cordova, Ce’Nedra Ham, Serenity	Grade 11: Henrich, Jennifer Selden, Amy Short, Kayli	

QUALIFIED FOR HONOR ROLL, 3.5-3.99

Grade 9: Barnes, Celestina Batson, Michael Franta, Jess Henrich, Nicole Penkoff, McKensie Schlabach, Hannah	Grade 10: Benoit, Kirsten Chase, Kaylee Millard, Seani	Grade 12: Cordova, Savannah Platchek, Brandi
	Grade 11: Henrich, Madisen	

CONGRATULATIONS, BOBCAT SCHOLARS!

★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★

Short Mat Times for Matmen in Center

by Michelle Pedigo

The Bobcats joined eighteen other teams in Center for the 2015 Valley Classic. It was a little like being small fish in a big pond when it came to the competition, and once again Paonia took home the top team honors. But the Cats didn’t come home completely empty-handed.

Kody Aldrich placed 5th

after pinning his opponents in three of his four wins and dropping in two matches. Cody Koble contributed five team points with his two wins, one by fall and one by decision. Koble ended 2-2 on the day.

For the rest of the team, it was just one of those days. Dylan Schoch, Titus Crawford, Taiyr Seiilkhan, Ian Aldrich, Andrew Feldmann, and Edgar Pedigo all

came home unable to post a win for the tournament. Weldon Rusher and Kyle Rose were not on the mats.

And so it’s hot in the practice room this week, as the grapplers identify problem areas and work to correct them before the showdowns in Crowley County on Saturday. Next week watch for Crowley results and pre-regional details.



New Bobcat Bus!

At the regular November meeting of the Custer County School District Board of Education, the school board approved the purchase of a new school bus. CCSD had not purchased a new bus since 2008 and currently has multiple buses with over 200,000 miles and one bus that is 24 years old. The 71 passenger 2016 Bluebird Vision bus was recently delivered to Denver. It was picked up and driven to Westcliffe by transportation director Dave Bennett on January 22 and is now safely transporting children in the Custer County School District!

Courtesy photo

Local Mountain News & Notices

Bobcat Youth Basketball

by Kristen Foster

Another great round of basketball for the Bobcat Youth Basketball League. In the Junior Division, the Hawks shut down the Broncos with a score of 26-2. Once again, Samantha Gray led her team with 18 points for the Hawks. Matthew Ensy added 6, while Lexi Wetendorf had two. Great defense was played by Grant Rusk and Ty Stoltzfus. For the Broncos, Christopher Mullett had the team's only basket. Great team effort was displayed by Brooke Bomgardner and Isaac Smerchek.

Also in the Junior Division, the Lions took

down the Blue Jays with a score of 20-2. Mia Sayhouse led the Lions with 12 points, while Ainsley Selle banked in 8. Quick defense was played by Lily Bomgardner and Alyssa Gaide. For the Blue Jays, Josh Wofford scored the team's only points (2). Good team work was shown by Raina Rusch and Ethan Dulohery.

In the Senior Division, the Lakers won a close game against the Thunder with a score of 22-14. Well rounded play was played by the Lakers with everyone on the Lakers scoring. Zach Fischer and AJ Stoltzfus each had 6, Micah Zeller had 3, Morgan Foster, Ashtin Wetendorf, and Cameron Penkoff

each added two, while Ty Bomgardner knocked down a free throw. The Lakers team as a whole had outstanding defense. For the Blue Jays, Ben Penkoff led his team with 12 points and Chad Lewis dropped in two. Good defense was played by Hailley Ann Widger and Eryn Lemoine.

Games are played every Saturday in the East Gym starting at 9am. Come out and cheer on our little Bobcat Basketballers. The Senior Division will play a halftime scrimmage at both the Girls and Boys Varsity games THIS Friday, February 6th, starting at 3 p.m. in the East Gym. Come out and support all of our BOBCATS!

Bobcat Girls Turned It Up a Notch to Win!

by Jim Silver

The Custer County basketball teams went down the road on Thursday, January 29, to play the Center Vikings, and the Lady Bobcats headed back home afterward with a satisfying win. Head Coach Gary Fischer summed up the game with these words: "For the first three quarters we played them even. We were making a lot of turnovers. The fourth quarter started and we turned it up a notch—outscored Center by 7 to win the game. We're getting better each game."

This is well-deserved

praise for the efforts of the whole team, and adding a little more detail rounds out the picture. Leading the Bobcats in scoring were Taylor Staton and McKenzie Penkoff, each with 13 and followed closely by Nicole Lorenzen with 10. All three of these girls were on the mark with shooting percentages in the high 50's and 60's, and the whole team scored points with 45 percent of their shots taken from the floor—not bad! The girls sank half of their shots from the free-throw line, accounting for 11 of the 50 points on the scoreboard. Leading the team in rebounding was Lorenzen with 9, followed right in

line by Penkoff and Elizabeth Mullett.

The Bobcats play against their nearest neighbor on Thursday, February 5, when they travel to Cotopaxi-- JV game scheduled for 3 p.m. to start things off. On Friday the 6th Crested Butte will come to town to play on the Custer County court, with games starting at 3 p.m. Join up with "Custer's Cavalry" and WEAR WHITE to show support for our teams! Following this weekend, the next game on the schedule is an away game against Sanford on Friday, February 13, games starting at 3:30 p.m. GO BOBCATS!



Future Bobcat star, Micah Zeller, gets NBA level airtime at the foul line.

Sentinel photo by Jim Silver

Bobcats Start Strong, Come Up Short

by Jim Silver

The Bobcats traveled to Center to play the Vikings on Thursday, January 29, with this week's team of 6 not crowding the bus. Coach Jim Bistodeau describes the game: "The team came out determined to have a good start and was able to match the intensity of the number two team in our district with a tie game at the end of the first quarter. Unfortunately, Center was able to roll in three groups of five players to Custer County's six total players. As a result, the Bobcats could not keep up

with Center throughout the rest of the game. The final score saw the Bobcats on the losing side of the 59-32 game."

Coach Bistodeau went on to highlight some achievements in the hard-fought game, saying, "Cody Lyons had a good game, leading the Bobcats with 13 points and working hard under the boards. Jordan Rhodes led the team in rebounds with 12, and in steals with 6." We'll add that Lyons hit 5 of his 9 field goals attempted, for 56% and sank 3 of 5 from the free-throw line. On the defensive end of the

court, Rhodes also came up with 2 blocked shots and 3 deflections—up off the floor with quick hands!

The Bobcats will play 2 games this first week of February, traveling to Cotopaxi on Thursday, the 5th, with games starting at 3 p.m. On Friday, February 6th, the Bobcats will host the Titans of Crested Butte at the Custer County gym, with the JV game starting at 3:00. Come out and support the team, and remember: WHITE-OUT! Join in with "Custer's Cavalry" wearing white to show you're behind our teams.

Bobcat Menu • Feb. 9 - Feb. 12, 2015			
 Monday breakfast Cheese Quesadilla Fruit Milk lunch Chili w/ Crackers Choice of Veg. Choice of Fruit Milk	Tuesday breakfast Scrambled Eggs W. W. Toast Fruit, Milk lunch Baked Ziti Garlic Bread Choice of Veg. & Fruit Milk	Wednesday breakfast Bagel, Cream Cheese Ham Fruit, Milk lunch Hamburger Choice of Veg. Choice of Fruit Milk	Thursday breakfast Sausage Gravy Biscuit Fruit, Milk lunch Cheese Pizza Choice of Veg. Choice of Fruit Milk
Elementary: Main dish, bread, milk, choice of 1 veg. & 1 fruit No K-5 on Thursday Middle & High School: Salad Bar			

KIDS Friday, February 6, 2015

RONALD REAGAN February 6, 1911 – June 5, 2004

Ronald was born in Tampico, Illinois to Edward "Jack" and Nellie Reagan. The family settled in Dixon, Illinois where Mr. Reagan opened a shoe store. Ronald graduated from Dixon High in 1928 and just four years later from Eureka College in Eureka, Illinois. Ronald was an all-around athlete, acted in drama productions, and participated in student government. His first job after graduation was working as a radio sports announcer in Iowa.

From his humble, mid-west beginnings, Ronald landed a 7-year contract with Warner Brothers Studios in 1937 and spent nearly 30 years in Hollywood. He also served during WWII in the Army Air Corps. However, due to poor eye sight, he didn't see combat, but appeared in training films. During this time, he was known as a "New Deal" Democrat.

Around 1960 his interests turned to politics, and he was elected Governor of California in 1966 as a Republican. He served two terms, until 1974. Aiming higher, he became the Republican party's candidate for President in 1980. He defeated then President Jimmy Carter in a "landslide," becoming our 40th President. He served two terms in office.

President Reagan showed a no-nonsense image of American strength to foreign leaders. He worked the release of American hostages in Iran. He was also instrumental in ending the "Cold War" with Russia and "tear down that wall" in Berlin unifying Germany. President Reagan put into place tax cuts to stimulate the economy and reduced some social programs, bringing about a 10-year economic recovery. He also made history by appointing Sandra Day O'Conner as the first woman to the Supreme Court.

Ronald Reagan died in 2004, at the age of 93, after a long struggle with Alzheimer's disease. He is buried on the grounds of the Reagan Presidential Library in Simi Valley, CA.

Source: www.history.com, www.biography.com

Sangre de Cristo Sentinel • Westcliffe, Colorado

CORNER

Bobcats Sport Schedule

VARSITY BASKETBALL

Friday, February 6
4 p.m.: Crested Butte HOME

Thursday, February 12
4 p.m.: Cotopaxi AWAY

WRESTLING

Saturday, February 7
9 a.m.: Crowley County H.S. at Crowley

Friday - Saturday, February 13-14
TBA: Regionals at Rye



The following is a list of all bills presented, audited, and ordered by the Board of County Commissioners of Custer County, Colorado, from their respective funds at the regular meeting on January 30, 2015.

See CUSTER COUNTY LEGAL NOTICES
Continued on page 11

Local Mountain News & Notices

CUSTER COUNTY LEGAL NOTICES

Continued From page 10

Payments for CONSERVATION TRUST FUND Jan 2015		
Approved on 1/30/2015 for Payments Through 1/30/2015		
Vendor Name	Description	Amount
ALL ABOARD WESTCLIFFE	2015 CTF CONTRIBUTION	1,000.00
CUSTER COUNTY SENIOR CITIZENS	2015 CTF CONTRIBUTION	4,000.00
TOWN OF SILVER CLIFF	2015 CTF CONTRIBUTION	3,000.00
TOWN OF WESTCLIFFE	2015 CTF CONTRIBUTION	1,000.00
WET MTN VALLEY SADDLE CLUB	2015 CTF CONTRIBUTION	2,000.00
WETMORE COMMUNITY CENTER BOARD	2015 CTF CONTRIBUTION	5,000.00
WETMORE COMMUNITY LIBRARY	2015 CTF CONTRIBUTION	6,000.00
Final Totals.....		22,000.00

STATE OF COLORADO COUNTY OF CUSTER

I, Debbie Livengood, County Clerk in and for said county, and in the state aforesaid, do hereby certify that the above and foregoing is a true, full, and correct list of all office bills allowed paid by the Board of County Commissioners of said county and state, at the regular meeting held in January 2015, as shown by the records and files of my office. Given under my hand and official seal this month of January A.D. 2015.

Debbie Livengood
County Clerk

Date published: February 6, 2015
Sangre De Cristo Sentinel
Westcliffe, Colorado

PUBLIC NOTICE

Round Mountain Water and Sanitation District,

located in Westcliffe, Colorado has a vacancy for the position of District Manager. Job requirements: 5 years' experience in Business Management and/or experience in municipal water and wastewater utility operations preferred. Must be community and economic development minded and have extraordinary customer service skills. Must have experience in working with Budgets/Audits, Finances, Capital Improvements, and Personnel Matters. A complete job description can be found on the

Round Mountain Water and Sanitation District's Website at www.rmwsd.com. Salary and benefits depending on experience. Equal Opportunity Employer. Interested persons should send a resume to RM-WSD, PO Box 86, Westcliffe, CO 81252. Deadline for applications is Tuesday, February 17, 2015.

First published on January 23, 2015
Second publication on January 30, 2015
Third publication on February 6, 2015

Public Service Announcement

Custer County, Silver Cliff, and Westcliffe

Snow Removal Information

Prioritization of Plow Routes

- Roads are plowed based upon the following prioritization criteria:
- 1. Arterial Roadways and School Bus routes:** Arterial roadways are major roadways and used for inter-regional, inter-county travel needs.
 - 2. Collector Roadways:** Collectors distribute traffic between arterial and local roads, serve as main collectors within subdivisions and link one subdivision with another. Collectors generally do not provide direct access to private property.
 - 3. Local Roadways:** Local roads proved for low to medium traffic volumes within county/towns maintained subdivisions and provide direct access to residences or private property.
 - 4. Cul-du-sacs**

Property Owners Who Create Hazards In A Public Right-of-way

Property owners, who create hazards in a public right-of-way, e.g., plowing snow off private drives, piling construction material or timber, or placing garbage bins, may be subject to prosecution under C.R.S 43-5-301. A property owner may also be liable for any injury attributable to a hazard or the removal of a hazard s/he has created in a public right-of-way. Vehicle owners and property owners in a public right-of-way are likewise subject or prosecution and vehicle impoundment.

Sheriff's Report...

Between 1/28/15 and 2/2/15, there were 102 calls for service.

As of 2/2/15, there were three men in the county jail.

01/28/15

0238 Hours: Inter-departmental assistance: The Custer County Sheriff's Office received a request from the Huerfano County Sheriff's Office to assist with a police pursuit on Hwy 69. Suspect had felony warrants and violated parole. Suspect crashed his vehicle south of the county line but was not apprehended.

01/28/15 Case #15-013

0910 Hours: Arrest: Miller, Richard Scott (DOB 02-05-65) of Westcliffe was arrested for domestic violence, harassment, and violation of a protection order. He was held with no bond.

01/28/15 T-15-064

1637 Hours: Hwy 96 at mile marker 24; Traffic Summons: Dickens, Jeremy (DOB 06-15-76) of Cañon city was issued a summons for speeding. 72 in a 55 mph zone.

01/28/15

1754 Hours: Ambulance run: EMS was called to the clinic to transport a stable 80-year-old patient to Parkview Hospital in Pueblo.

01/28/15 I-15-527

Parties came to the Sheriff's Office to turn in a suspicious looking item that

was left behind by renters. It is unknown where the renters moved to in Texas and the item was disposed of for the citizens.

01/29/15 T-15-069

Yenney, Brandon of Denver was issued a traffic citation for speed 5-10 over the posted limit in a school zone

01/29/15 T-15-068

Smith, Tony of Redmond Washington was issued a summons for speeding 10-19 over the posted speed limit and driving with expired license plates.

01/31/15 I-15-595

12:24 AM - Officers responded to a house party involving underage consumption. Four citations were issued to juvenile parties for Underage Consumption/Possession.

01/31/15 I-15-605

7:47 PM - Follow-up on information pertaining to the sales/manufacturing of illegal substances in Custer County. No further information available at this time.

02/01/15 I-15-619

02:21 AM - Responded to a suspicious vehicle call in the Catholic Cemetery. Vehicle was located but not found to be in violation and no crime is believed to have occurred. Nothing further at this time.

02/01/15 I-15-633

07:00 PM - Officers arrived at a potential dispute between neighbors

on Butler Ave. Incident was observed to be a vocal dispute only and both parties decided to settle their issues amicably. No arrests were made and no further actions were taken.

02/01/15 O-15-015

07:39 PM - Report taken on a theft at the Village Shop on Main Street. The suspect is thought to have stolen shoes valuing around \$131. Investigation is ongoing.

02/02/15 I-15-649

10:33 AM - Party (Blatnick, Stanley - DOB : 09/07/1945) was found deceased at Lake De-weese. No foul play is suspected and natural causes appears to be the cause. Nothing further as the investigation is ongoing.

02/02/15 I-15-651

12:00 PM - Report of a possible sexual assault on a minor. Investigation is ongoing.

02/02/15 I-15-653

1:44 PM - Officer responding to a civil standby on CR 170 arrested party (Cose, Rhaun) on a outstanding warrant out of Mesa County.

02/02/15 T-15-078

4:50 PM - Citation issued for 10-19 over in the area of CR 395 and Hwy 96.

02/02/15 T-15-079

4:50 PM - Citation issued (to second party/vehicle) for 10-19 over in the area of CR 395 and Hwy 96.

02/02/15 I-15-661

6:30 PM - Officer responded to a call for service for an out of control juvenile. Juvenile fled, on foot, after possible assault on his grandmother. He returned to his residence at approximately 9:30 PM. Party was calm when he returned and prosecution was not desired. Nothing further at this time.

02/03/15 I-15-670

0831 hours: Custer County School Superintendent Chris Selle called the Sheriff's Office to report someone had driven through the school parking lot with a firearm in his vehicle. The party in question was contacted by a deputy and advised that firearms are not permitted on school property, including those in vehicles driving through the school parking lot.

02/03/15

1128 hours: Ambulance Run: EMS was called to the Custer County Clinic to transport a 55 year old male experiencing chest pains. The patient was taken to St. Mary Corwin Hospital in Pueblo.

02/03/15 I-15-677

1303 hours: A deputy attempted to serve civil papers to a party on CR 323 in Rosita. Negative contact was made.

02/03/15 I-15-680

1414 hours: A deputy attempted to serve civil papers to a party on CR 235 in Westcliffe. Negative contact was made.

U.S. Forest Service Welcomes New Salida District Ranger

SALIDA, Colo., February 3, 2015

The U.S. Forest Service (USFS), Salida Ranger District welcomes Acting District Ranger Mark Sando to the Upper Arkansas Valley. Sando will serve through mid-May as the interim replacement for former Ranger Amy Ormseth.

"I'm very impressed with the employees on the Salida District. They are knowledgeable and have a positive approach to getting work done. I want to continue to build on what is happening in the district. Salida is a very friendly and welcoming place and I look forward to learning about the district and the communities in the valley," said Sando.

In his permanent position, Sando manages range and watershed issues on the Lincoln National Forest, Gualupe Ranger District. In addition, he has held positions on the Cibola National Forest in New Mexico and Kaibab National Forest in Arizona.

Before coming to the USFS, Sando served in the United States Air Force

from 1982-1987 as a structural and aircraft firefighter with duty stations in Texas, Illinois, California, and Belgium. He attended the Southwestern Indian Polytechnic Institute and in 2008 returned to school and received a Bachelors degree in Range Science at New Mexico State University.

Sando was raised on the Jemez Pueblo, which is part of the Jemez Reservation located west of Albuquerque, New Mexico. Growing up he participated in ranch and agricultural practices that are a part of everyday life on the Reservation.



Acting District Ranger Mark Sando

Courtesy photo

Bobcat Youth Basketball

First Through Sixth Grade Boys and Girls

Every Saturday Morning Through February, 9 am - Noon



Lions, Gold, Junior Division back row from left Paige Lorenzen, Ainsley Selle, Mia Sayhouse, and Coach Brenda Gaide. Front row from left Lily Bomgardner, Alyssa Gaide, Willie Bo Cline, and Coach Shawn Gaide. Not pictured: Ariana Eicher.



Heat, Orange, Senior Division from left Coach Shelly Penkoff, Weston Jones, Samantha Gray, Garrett Stepanich, Adrian Crawford, and Bubba Widger. Not pictured: Jackson Mullett and Brooke Flynn.



Blue Jays, Blue, Junior Division from left Brylee Shy, Ethan Duloher, Harry Kroeker, Raina Rusch, Josh Wofford, Graycee Cravens, and Adison Selle. Not pictured: Elijah Anderson and Coach Jach Swartz.



Lakers, Green, Senior Division back row Coach Gary Fischer, middle row from left A.J. Stoltzfus and Zach Fischer. Front row from left Ashtin Wetendorf, Ty Bomgardner, Micah Zeller, Cameron Penkoff, and Morgan Foster. Not pictured: Coach Kristen Foster.



Broncos Orange and Hawks Green, Junior Division back row from left Coach Shelly Penkoff, Coach Trent Stafford and Coach Gary Fischer. Middle row from left Ty Stoltzfus, Zach Smerchek, Matthew Ensy, Lexi Wetendorf, Ben Stafford, Samantha Gray, Grant Rusk, and Stephen Hess. Front row from left Colt Moulton, Michael Cessnun, Brooke Bomgardner, Isaac Smerchek, Viola Gurule, and Christopher Mullett. Not pictured: Andrew Flynn for the Broncos.



Thunder, Blue, Senior Division from left Coach Shawn Gaide, Sheyenne Shy, Chad Lewis, Ben Penkoff, Hailey Ann Widger, Bailey Sluder, and Eryn Lemoine. Not pictured: Malakai Anderson and Coach Jack Swartz.

Local Mountain News & Notices

Classifieds

For Sale

1978 Ford

2,000 gallon fuel tank, 5 separate tanks, good pump system, engine in good shape. Would make a great in-field refuel vehicle. \$8,000. See Mullett Excavating at DeWeese Business Park on Lake DeWeese Road. Call 783-2056

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

Help Wanted

Mullett Excavating is looking for a heavy equipment/diesel mechanic for about 2 months work. Call at 783-2056 to discuss details and your experience or drop off your résumé (320 CR 241).

The Custer County School District is accepting applications for a full-time custodian. Starting salary for this position is \$10.26 per hour, but open to negotiation based on previous custodial experience. Full health insurance and PERA benefits will be provided as well. Typical working hours will be from approximately 3 p.m. to 11 p.m. Monday through Thursday with additional hours on Friday depending on school district needs. Occasional work on Saturday and Sunday may be required depending on school activities. Applications must be received by 4:00 p.m. on Friday, February 20. Classified staff applications are available at www.custercountyschools.org or the Administration office at 709 Main St. in Westcliffe Monday-Thursday from 8 a.m. through 4 p.m. CCSD is an equal opportunity employer and does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, creed, national origin, sex, age, or handicap in employment.

SCBOCES and Custer County District are joining efforts to offer Adult Basic Education courses to assist adults in obtaining their GED. We are seeking instructors to teach Adult Education: 2 days per week, 2 hours per day, (plus 1 hour prep time per day).

Please apply at:
<https://southcentral.tedk12.com/hire/index.aspx>

Real Estate

Lori Kastendieck
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Real Estate
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719/269-0653
Serving buyers & sellers
since 1982

Services

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Accurate sharpening. Multiple chain discount. 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.
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Kohler Back-up Stand-by Generators - Power when you need it!

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Locally sold & serviced by G P Power Systems (formerly Miller Automotive & More).
Call Glenn
at 719-371-8625

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783-3360
to place
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BOARD

From page 8

Mr. Cline agreed to some form of a day with the two principals. (Reporter's Note: This discussion should probably have taken place in Executive Session. While the issues of two principals versus one is a valid discussion point for the Board, this reporter felt uneasy knowing two individuals livelihood was being discussed in an open and obviously contentious manner.

The Board is elected to make these decisions in the best interest of the taxpayers and the school district. Personnel matters are always delicate, sensitive, and easily misunderstood by those involved and by the public. The Board was going into Executive Session anyway to discuss Mr. Selle's evaluation and contract. (This topic should have been held for that session.)

Chairman Gaide also observed during her time in the office a need for a full-time nurse at the school. The office staff, due to the restrictions imposed by liability issues, cannot even provide a cough drop to a student who asks for one.

The office staff is not medically trained, so the dispensing of even over the counter remedies, including cough drops, is a gigantic opening for a law suit.

Finally, Chairman Gaide, in a rhetorical moment, asked the Board "why teacher salary increases were still being discussed." It appears that since the increases are in the Strategic Plan that issue is moot. No comment from the rest of the Board.

Candi Sage requested time to speak during the Public Comments Session. She added some valuable comments regarding the two principal issues including a request that the Board look at each principal's total workload rather than just a "walk about" for one day. She suggested the job descriptions of each principal might need reworking based on current requirements. She indicated she attended the meeting initially because she heard in her words, "scuttlebutt," regarding the retention of Mr. Selle. As a retired teacher she offered her support of Mr. Selle's tenure as superintendant with very nice compliments.

The public meeting adjourned so that the Board could resolve into Executive Session.

The deadline for getting your information into the Classifieds is Monday at 5 p.m. for that week's edition. Call 719-783-3360 or email sdc.sentinel@gmail.com

Custer County School District C-1 Regular School Board Meeting Great Room - February 10, 2015 - 4:30 p.m.

1. Call to Order and Pledge of Allegiance
2. Welcome of Guests
3. Modification/Approval of Agenda
4. General Public Comment Session
5. Consent Agenda
 - a. Minutes of regular board meeting on January 13, 2015
 - b. Minutes of special board meeting on January 30, 2015
6. Reports from Students/Staff
7. Reports from Public
 - a. Excellence in Education report
 - b. Accountability report
8. Board Committee Reports - Accountability Committee, BOCES, FFA, Legislative Update, Preschool Advisory
9. Action Items
 - a. Approval: Personnel Hires
 - i. Vol. Wrestling Coach - Manny Pedigo - pending background check (rec. by AD Greg Cravens)
 - ii. Spring Coaches as Presented (recommended by AD Greg Cravens)
 - b. Approval: Check Vouchers
 - c. Approval: Financial Reports
 - d. Approval: Middle School Washington D.C. Trip
 - e. Approval: 2015-2016 District Calendar
 - f. Approval: Policy IHBIB (Primary/Pre-Primary Education) - first reading
 - g. Approval: Policy IHBIB-R (Primary/Pre-Primary Education Regulation) - first reading
 - h. Approval: Policy JEB (Entrance Age Requirements) - first reading
 - i. Approval: Policy IKF (Graduation Requirements) - first reading
 - j. Approval: Policy KE (Public Concerns and Complaints) - first reading
 - k. Approval: Policy JF (Admission and Denial of Admission) - first reading
 - l. Approval: Superintendent Contract
10. Principal's Reports
 - a. Elementary – Holly Anderson
 - b. Secondary – Barb Jones
11. Superintendent's Report
12. Items introduced by Board Members
13. General Public Comment Session
14. Executive Session (If needed)
15. Adjournment



Come and Worship



Christian Science
9:30 a.m. Worship
8 Bassick Place
Westcliffe
719/783-4601

Church of Christ
9:30 a.m. Bible Study
10:30 a.m. Worship
1:30 p.m. Worship
Wed., 6 p.m.
818 Ohio Street
Silver Cliff
719/783-4601

Church of Jesus Christ of Latter Day Saints
10 a.m. Sacrament Mtg.
12:10 p.m. Sunday School
240 Ridgeline Drive
Westcliffe
719/783-9356
719/404-4585

Community United Methodist Church
8 a.m. Worship
10 a.m. Worship
202 S. 6th Street
Westcliffe
719/783-2511

Cody Park Community Church
9:30 a.m. Sunday School
10:30 a.m. Worship
517 County Rd. 27A
Cotopaxi
719/942-3462
719/942-3526

Cotopaxi Community Church
9:45 a.m. Sunday School
11 a.m. Worship
6 p.m. Worship
20326 Hwy. 50
Cotopaxi
719/942-4185

First Baptist Church of Westcliffe
9:30 a.m. Sunday School
10:30 a.m. Fellowship
10:45 a.m. Worship
6 p.m. Worship
417 S. 6th Street
Westcliffe
719/783-2498

High Country Mennonite Church
9:30 a.m. Worship
10:45 a.m. Sunday School
110 Rosita Avenue
All Aboard Westcliffe Bldg.
Westcliffe
719/783-9045

Huerfano Community Bible Church
10:30 Sunday Worship
7 p.m.: Thursday Bible Study
603 Leon Street
Walsenburg
(719) 251-9053

Hope Lutheran Church
9 a.m. Sunday School
10 a.m. Fellowship
10:30 a.m. Worship
3rd & Powell Streets
Westcliffe
719/783-9773

Our Lady of the Assumption Roman Catholic Church
Diocese of Pueblo
11 a.m. Sunday Mass
10 a.m. Tuesday Mass
11 a.m. - 6 p.m. Tuesday Adoration
109 S. 5th Street
Westcliffe
719/783-3507

Our Lady of Mt. Zion Catholic Church
11 a.m. Mass
3rd Sunday of each month
210 S. 2nd Street
Westcliffe
719/783-2491



*Don't love the world and what it offers.
Those who love the world don't have the Father's love in them.
Not everything that the world offers--
physical gratification, greed,
and extravagant lifestyles--
comes from the Father.
1 John 2:15 - 16 GW*

Sangre de Cristo Fellowship
8:45 a.m. Sunday School
10:15 a.m. Worship
Tuesdays 7 - 9 p.m.: Prayer Mtg
120 Jerry Drive
Westcliffe
719/783-0903

Sangre de Cristo Seminary Chapel
10 a.m. Worship
6160 County Rd. 130
Westcliffe
719/783-2447

St. Luke's Episcopal Church
10:30 a.m. Worship & Eucharist
11:30 a.m. Fellowship
3rd & Rosita Streets
Westcliffe
719/783-2477

St. Patrick's Anglican Church
11 a.m. Worship
401 2nd Street
Westcliffe
719/783-2500

Valley Bible Fellowship
10 a.m. Worship
116 Hermit Lane
Silver Cliff
719/783-9050

Westcliffe Community Church
10 a.m. Worship
103 N. Adams St.
Westcliffe
719/429-4256

Wetmore Baptist Church
9:45 a.m. Sunday School
10:45 a.m. Worship
6 p.m. Worship
Wetmore
719/784-4197

Wetmore Community Church
9:00 a.m. Sunday School
10 a.m. Worship
County Rd. 395
Wetmore
719/784-0596

Wild West Cowboy Church
3 p.m. Sunday School
4 p.m. Worship
Followed by Potluck
Tuesdays 6 p.m.: Bible Study
60260 Hwy. 69 North
Westcliffe
719/783-2676

Local Mountain News & Notices

Events Calendar

Friday, February 6 9 p.m. - midnight: Winter Ball at high school hall	school computer lab
Saturday, February 7 8 a.m. - 12:30 p.m.: ACT test in school library	Friday, February 13 Custer County School Incident Training 6 p.m.: Potluck and ceremony for Couples Session at Eagles Summit Ranch; public invited
February 9 - 13 Eagles Summit Ranch Couples Session	Monday, February 16 Presidents Day: Courthouse CLOSED; Check with your local bank
Tuesday, February 10 8 a.m. - 4 p.m.: FAFSA Workshop - high	

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 9:30 a.m. - 11 a.m.: Line dancers meet at the Methodist Church. 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	Saturday 10 a.m.: Wet Mountain Al-Anon Family Group meets at St. Luke's Episcopal Church, 201 Third St.; Call Dee (719) 404-1851 or Jean (719) 371-1229 10 a.m. – 2 p.m.: West Custer County Library open in Westcliffe

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 NationalDayCalendar.com and check them out. For February we especially like Cherry Pie Day (20th) and Tooth Fairy Day (28th). Or maybe Creative Romance Month would better suit you. Anyway we are sure you can find some reason to smile. See you at the bakery on the 20th.

February 6 National Lame Duck Day	National Margarita Day National Cook a Sweet Potato Day
February 7 National Fettuccine Alfredo Day	February 23 National Dog Biscuit Day
February 8 National Boy Scouts Day National Kite Flying Day	February 24 National Tortilla Chip Day
February 11 National Make a Friend Day National Don't Cry Over Spilled Milk Day	February 26 National Pistachio Day National Tell a Fairy Tale Day
February 12 Abraham Lincoln's Birthday	February 27 National Kahlua Day National Polar Bear Day
February 13 National Tortellini Day National Blame Someone Else Day	February 28 National Public Sleeping Day National Tooth Fairy Day Rare Disease Day USA
February 15 National Gumdrop Day Singles Awareness Day	The month of February is also observed as the national month of:
February 16 National Random Acts of Kindness Day National Cabbage Day	American Heart Month An Affair to Remember Canned Food Great American Pie Month Grapefruit
February 20 National Cherry Pie Day	
February 22	Find your day and celebrate!

US Law Shield Seminar

by J. Cascarelli

As some of you may know, the Southern Colorado Patriots Club and the Custer Count Sheriff's Posse will co-sponsor a seminar for firearms owners and Concealed Carry Weapon holders. These seminars will be held at the Cowboy Church on both February 26, 2015, (full) and on March 5, 2015, (still open) starting at 5:30 p.m. until 8:30 p.m. US Law Shield will host the event and will bring one of their associate attorneys to address issues pertaining to self-defense incidents involving firearms. As some of you many know, may citizens who use deadly force in a self-defense situation often find themselves in trouble with law enforcement. The remedy often involves legal expense, incarceration, loss of private property, depositions, juries, and many

To stimulate your thought process, let's cover some simple questions regarding ways that Colorado residents can inadvertently run afoul of the law. Here are some questions that will be addressed on February 26. It will be helpful if you ask yourself and/or a family member these:

- You have a CCW and plan on attending a local movie house. There is a small sign that says "NO Firearms Allowed." You buy a ticket and enter the movie house with your concealed weapon. What are your risks?
- You own an old WW II firearm that has been in your family for decades. Your uncle, who brought it home from Europe, must have tried to remove the serial number. Is there any liability for you as the current owner?

You are accosted by three teenagers who stop you on the street and demand money. They are very aggressive and threatening, so you draw your licensed handgun and they run away.

What is your liability if they call the police immediately and say that you threatened them?

hours of personal time. Citizens may be able to avoid these experiences, but not without a good education about how the system really works. Besides criminal charges, some who have defended themselves can also face civil law suits.

- You are accosted by three teenagers who stop you on the street and demand money. They are very aggressive and threatening, so you draw your licensed handgun and they run away. What is your li-

ability if they call the police immediately and say that you threatened them?

- You are cleaning your legally owned handgun in your kitchen. The handgun goes off and the bullet lodges in the floor. No one is injured, but your neighbor hears the shot and calls the police. Are you in any trouble?
- You go to a restaurant/tavern after work with your friends. Since you have a CCW, so you are armed. All are enjoying the evening and one drink leads to another and you are now pretty tipsy. One of your friends agrees to walk you home. Are you in any legal jeopardy?

Any honest, law-abiding gun owners could find themselves in one or more of these situations. If by some circumstance, you find yourself dealing with the police following one of these mostly innocent situations, you may find yourself in legal trouble. These are just the kind of situations that US Law Shield was designed for. It isn't like you were robbing a convenience store or selling illegal drugs, but anyone could find themselves facing serious charges and tens of thousands in legal expense. If answering these questions gives you an uneasy feeling, sign up for the seminar. The USLS legal staff will answer all of these directly. And, you will be offered an affordable strategy for dealing with innocent bad luck.

Enroll today at the *Sentinel* office at 610 Main Street, the Sheriff's Office, or online at www.gunlawseminar.com. This will be the best \$15 you have ever spent.

The Town of Westcliffe Board of Trustees

Welcomes the public to attend a meeting about new playground equipment at Memorial Park Playground

PURPOSE

- Provide information
- Receive information
- Create a dialogue
- Share Ideas

TOPICS

- GOCO
- Design plan
- Community Build
- Timeline

Tuesday, February 10 at 6:30 pm
Cliff Lanes Community Room

Immediately following the Board of Trustees Meeting

Refreshments

For information contact
Kathy or Gail at Town of Westcliffe
Benson Hall, 305 Main Street - 719-783-2282

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.

sdc.sentinel
@gmail.com



Florence Explorers Post 911 First Anniversary

by Charlotte Burrous

Celebrating its first anniversary, the Florence Law Enforcement Explorers Post 911 organizers said they are happy with the program.

“The Explorers program is part of the Boy Scouts of America,” said Florence Police Lt. Shane Prickett, advisor. “(Participants) have to be in high school. It’s (for boys and girls ages) 14 to 21. After they’re 21, they have to graduate out (of the program).”

The Explorers provide an opportunity for youth to discover whether or not they would like a career in law enforcement after they graduate from high school or before they enter the police academy.

Recently, the members went through a Youth Protection Training, where they learned Internet safety, suicide prevention, sexual harassment, as well as several other subjects. For the upcoming class on February 11, they will partici-

pate in an “Edged Weapons & Defense” course, which the Florence Police Department just went through.

“It’ll be basically defending yourself against somebody with a knife or other weapons,” Prickett said. “Two weeks after that, they’ll have arrest control and handcuffing. (Later we’ll) do traffic stop training (and) traffic control. Last year, the (members) were all certified in CPR and First Aid.”

In the first year, the coroner and the Colorado Bureau of Investigations were part of the presenters. The Explorers also had an opportunity to go to the shooting range, which is scheduled four different times this year. In addition, the members helped with the Florence Merchants Car Show, Pioneer Day festivities, the Fourth of July Parade, and the Cañon City Christmas Parade of Lights. In the near future, they will participate in the “March in Time Steampunk and Wine” festivities the first

weekend in March.

Prospective members, who pay \$24 per year to the Boy Scouts, can start at any time.

“(The program) renews every year,” Prickett said. “They wear uniforms. We provide the shirts. They pay for their shoes and pants.”

To participate, prospective members are asked to fill out an application, go through a background check, and sign a form stating they will not disclose sensitive matter to their friends or to the general public. Currently, there are nine members, but the program has room for 20.

The idea of the Explorers began with one of the Florence City Council members and a police officer, who brought it to city council, who unanimously approved it. Then the po-



Florence Explorers: Caleb Campbell, Nick Cucinelli, Nathan Sharp, Lt. Mitchell Prickett, Sgt. April Beckman, Megan Grisenti, Miranda Prickett, Sgt. Tyler Lancaster and Sierra Kimbler

Courtesy photo by Charlotte Burrous

lice department began the funding on it, but donations are still needed. Recently, the program received \$500 from the Florence Rotary Club, \$300 from City Auto Plaza, \$500 from Rocky Mountain Bank and Trust, \$300 from Fremont Masonic Lodge No. 97, as well as numerous donations from citizens.

The meetings are from 6-8 p.m. the second and fourth

Wednesday of each month in the Florence Police Department at 600 E. Third Street in Florence.

For more information or to make monetary donations, equipment or merchandise, contact Florence Police Chief Mike DeLaurentis or Prickett at 784-3411 or e-mailmike.delaurentis@pd.florencecolorado.org or shane.prickett@pdflorencecolorado.org.

Women’s Safety Night Draws Full House

by Candy Thompson

An audience of over 100 gathered, mostly women, at the Abbey in Cañon City on Thursday evening, January 29, to find out how avoid being a victim in the wake of an astronomical increase of assault on women and children in Fremont County in the last few years. The women’s safety event was sponsored by Dave and Linda Lambert in conjunction with KRLN, the local Damsel in Defense organization, as well as the Sheriff’s Office, and was offered to the community free of charge. “You can be victimized without being a victim,” Sheriff Beicker told the group. The dangers that threaten to victimize women in Fremont county are sexual assault or rape, robbery, kidnapping, domestic violence, and many types of scams.

These crimes rarely happen with complete strangers. Captain Worley of the Sheriff’s Office said that in his 22 years of investigation of sexual assault cases in Fremont County he has only had one true stranger rape. 99% of the cases of assault are perpetrated by someone the victims know. Women are more trusting, nurturing, and even though he didn’t say it, more prone to be led by their feelings. Captain Worley feels that women have an

internal alarm that warns instinctively about “creepy guys,” but many women ignore this important protective asset. They may also ignore warnings from other people because of having a trusting nature and let this “creep” in their lives and around their children, letting themselves be used and abused. Captain Worley advises women to “walk away from that person and situation” and listen to your internal “creep-o-meter” and to those who care about you. Don’t try to fix the guy or overlook what you know to be true about him.

Sheriff Beicker said that women should always be prepared to fight back rather than succumb to the attacker even though there have been incidents where the victims life was saved by yielding to the attacker, as one woman testified in the group. If it’s with a gun, know how to use it so the attacker cannot use it on you, he warned. Always being aware of your surroundings in parking lots and other isolated places is essential to women’s safety. Avoid being alone in those places and let someone know where you are going and who you are with as a routine safety measure. It’s those poor decisions and choices that we make without thinking that can also sometimes lead to being a victim.

He also spoke about the dangers of the social media. Predators are out there looking for victims on the internet and the Sheriff warned women about dating sights and putting out too much information for everyone to see. Never go alone to meet someone. Also, selling or buying items on the internet can be dangerous as seen recently when an older couple in Georgia were killed in answering an ad on Craigslist for a car. Predators are ready to pounce on anything and they are very clever at what they do, easily ensnaring the innocent and unaware.

Women must also use their minds and quick wit. Women have been known to save their lives by beginning a conversation with the attacker who has depersonalized their victim. By turning the tables on her attacker and “putting a face on herself,” a woman may be able to foil the intended assault as happened recently to Pauline Jacobi, a 92-year-old woman in Tennessee. In broad daylight, a

man jumped in her car beside her in a parking lot with a gun and demanded her money threatening to kill her. She refused to do so three times and then began talking to him. “I’m not going to give you my money. If you kill me I’ll go to heaven, but you’ll go to hell.” After 20 minutes the robber, crying, said he was going to go home and pray. She said why wait and prayed with him, then gave him her money and never reported him. Although this isn’t the recommended way to prepare for a life-threatening situation, for this elderly woman, it may have saved her life.

The sheriff also warned about robbers along the highway pretending to be broken down and how mo-

See SAFETY
on page 22

Mr. Ed’s Family Restaurant



1201 Royal Gorge Blvd., Cañon City

719-275-5833

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

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

Coyote Den
Highway 115 & 6th Street
in Penrose

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

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

16th Street
Cafe

302A N. 16th St.
Cañon City

719-275-5211

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.

Historians Pinpoint Football's Origin in the Bible

Isaiah 22:18 says of the judgment of the evil servant Shebna, "He [The Lord] will surely violently turn and toss thee like a ball into a large country." Commentaries agree that Shebna was in the hands of the Lord like a ball in the hands of a strong man, and would be hurled out of his place--thrown at a great distance by a strong arm. Park H. Davis wrote what is known as the first history of football in 1911-- "Football: The American Intercollegiate Game"--where he wrote: "This allusion, slight as it may be, is sufficient unto the antiquary to indicate that some form of a game with a ball existed as early as 750 years before the Christian era, the epoch customarily assigned to the Book of Isaiah."

Davis chronicles the development of a football-like game played by the Greeks and the Romans through 28 B.C. Davis writes: "...among the first acts of Augustus after settling his right to succeed his great uncle, Julius Caesar, was to demand a revision of the football rules." Davis quoted Julius Pollux circa 100 A.D. in describing the game played in Rome: "The players divide themselves into two bands. The ball is thrown upon the line in the middle. At the two ends of the field, behind the line where the players are stationed, are two other lines, beyond which these two bands endeavor to carry the ball, a feat that can not be accomplished without the pushing of one another backward and forward." Davis says this game, eventually called Calico, was played throughout Italy after the fall of Rome through the Middle Ages and into 1898. Football

teaches life lessons, galvanizes communities, and promotes diversity where men are defined not by the color of their skin, but the content of their ability and teamwork. It is the game of leaders as characterized by President Dwight Eisenhower: "Morale--the will to win, the fighting heart--are the honored hallmarks of the football coach and player. Likewise, they are the characteristic of the enterprising executive, the successful troop leader, the established artist, and the dedicated teacher and scientist." Presidents who played football include Eisenhower, Kennedy, Nixon, Ford, and Reagan--in contrast to the current "president" who says he wouldn't allow his son, if he had one, to play football. NFL Executive Vice President of Football Operations Troy Vincent says, "The lessons of football--character, leadership, tenacity, and perseverance--are qualities that every one believes to be important to achieving excellence. The value of football inspires the very things that we want to see in ourselves as we experience life and pursue happiness and success. In a day when some are clamoring that the risk with football is too great, we believe that the risk is far greater to an America without football." Those of us who use football to teach character and leadership see the value not only to young men in their overall development, but to a society in remaining strong and vibrant.

Have a Blessed and Powerful Day!
Bill Wilson

www.dailyjot.com
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**If anyone chooses to do God's will,
he will find out whether my
teaching comes from God or
whether I speak on my own.**

John 7:17, NIV

The Hollywood Jihad Against American Sniper

by Daniel Greenfield,
FreedomOutPost.com

American Sniper is the movie that should not have existed. Even though the book was a bestseller, nobody in Hollywood wanted the rights.

And why would they?

The Iraq War already had an official narrative in Hollywood. It was bad and wrong. Its veterans were crippled, dysfunctional, and dangerous. Before *American Sniper*, Warner Brothers had gone with anti-war flicks like *Body of Lies* and *In the Valley of Elah*. It had lost a fortune on *Body of Lies*; but losing money had never stopped Hollywood from making anti-war movies that no one wanted to watch.

Even the *Hurt Locker* had opened with a quote from leftist terrorist supporter Chris Hedges.

An Iraq War movie was supposed to be an anti-war movie. There was no other way to tell the story. Spielberg's own interest in *American Sniper* was focused on "humanizing" the other side. When he left and Clint Eastwood, coming off a series of failed films, took the helm, it was assumed that *American Sniper* would briefly show up in theaters and then go off to die quietly in what was left of the DVD aisle.

And then *American Sniper* broke box office records that had been set by blockbusters like *Avatar*, *Passion*, and *Hangover Part II* by refusing to demonize American soldiers or to spin conspiracy tales about the war. Instead of pandering to coastal progressives, it aimed at the patriotic heartland.

Selma is a mediocre movie, but it was meant to be a platform for the usual conversation that progressives want to have about how terrible Americans are. Instead, audiences chose to see a movie about how great Americans can be even in difficult times.

In a sentence you no longer expected to hear from a Hollywood exec, the Warner Brothers distribution chief said, "This is about patriotism and all the things people say the country is lacking these days."

The backlash to that patriotism and the things the country is lacking these days didn't take very long to form and it goes a lot deeper than snide tweets from Michael Moore and Seth Rogan. Academy members were reportedly passing around an article from the *New Republic*, whose author had not actually seen the movie, but still denounced it for not showing Chris Kyle as a bigoted murderer.

Hollywood progressives are both threatened and angered by *American Sniper*. And with good reason.

The most basic reason is the bottom line. Between *Lone Survivor*, *Unbroken*, and *American Sniper*, the patri-

otic war movie is back. Hollywood could only keep making anti-war movies no one would watch as long as that seemed to be the only way to tackle the subject. Now there's a clear model for making successful and respectful war movies based around the biographies and accounts of actual veterans.

Hollywood studios had been pressured by left-wing stars into wasting fortunes on failed anti-war conspiracy movies. Matt Damon had managed to get \$150 million sunk into his *Green Zone* failed anti-war movie before stomping away from Universal in a huff. *Body of Lies* with Leonardo DiCaprio and Russell Crowe had a real budget estimated at around \$120 million, but had opened third after *Beverly Hills Chihuahua*, whose titular, tiny, dog audiences preferred to either star and their political critiques.

But why spend over a hundred million on anti-war movies no one wants when *American Sniper* has already made over \$120 million on a budget only half that much?

Hollywood progressives don't look forward to having to write, direct, and star in patriotic pictures and, if they can't destroy *American Sniper* at the box office, they can taint it enough that no major star or director will want to be associated with anything like it.

Adding to their undercurrent of anger is the way that *American Sniper* upstaged *Selma* at the box office and at the Academy Award nominations. *Selma* is a mediocre movie, but it was meant to be a platform for the usual conversation that progressives want to have about how terrible Americans

are. Instead audiences chose to see a movie about how great Americans can be even in difficult times.

There's nothing that threatens the left as much as that.

In a Best Picture lineup that includes the obligatory paeans to gay rights and the evils of racism, *American Sniper* distinctly stands out as something different. It displaces Richard Linklater's *Boyhood*, the previous sure winner which had its obligatory drunken Iraq War veteran claiming that the war was fought for oil, with an authentic veteran instead of Hollywood's twisted caricature of one.

American Sniper and *Lone Survivor* signal a shifting wind in which the focus of movies about the War on Terror moves from the organizational conspiracy theories that Hollywood liked to make to the personal narratives of the men who fought in them. Many

of the smarter progressive reviews of *American Sniper* grapple with the fact that the time when they could even have their favorite argument is going away.

Progressives would like Dick Cheney to be the face of the war, but are forced to deal with a world in which Chris Kyle and Marcus Luttrell will be how America sees the conflict. The lens through which the left liked to view the war, its obsessions with WMD, Bush, and the path to war, have been eclipsed by the rise of ISIS and the return of American veterans. Their worldview has become outdated and irrelevant.

***It doesn't
confront the left;
instead it acts
as if the left
isn't there.***

It's easier for the left to vent its anger on *American Sniper* than to deal with its own irrelevance. The most shocking thing about the movie is not any political statement, but its presumption in dealing with the Iraq War and the men in it as if it were WWII. It doesn't confront the left; instead it acts as if the left isn't there. It fails to acknowledge the entire worldview through which Hollywood dealt with the war.

The left spends most of its time living in its own bubble and is shocked when events remind it that the rest of the country does not really share its opinions and tastes. *American Sniper's* success is one of those explosive wake-up calls and the left has responded to it with all the expected vicious pettiness.

A billboard for the movie was vandalized and attacks from lefty outlets like *New Republic* and *Vox* not only target the movie, but the dead man at the center of it. The smear campaign against Kyle has reached new lows, because in death he has become an even more powerful symbol of everything that the left hates.

Hollywood tried to "Vietnamize" Iraq in the popular imagination. *American Sniper* shows they failed.

Whether or not *American Sniper* wins the requisite number of Oscars, its impact on Hollywood and on ordinary Americans will not go away. The anti-war movie is in eclipse. The movies that tell the stories of the sacrifices that American veterans have made in the war against Islamic terrorists are rising.

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Team Effort: Coffman and Gardner Push Bill to Right VA Hospital Project

by ColoradoPeakPolitics.com

Representative Coffman continued his fight for great veterans services with the introduction of a bill in the U.S. House of Representatives that will keep the Aurora VA hospital moving forward by naming the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers as the permanent construction authority and increasing the budget to \$1.1 billion. Senator Gardner offered the companion bill in the Senate.

This time, the entire delegation signed on to the bill. We'd like to take credit for publicly shaming the Democrats, including Rep. Diana Degette, Rep. Jared Polis, and Rep. Ed Perlmutter, into signing on to the bill, but it's really probably due more to Coffman's ability to work across the aisle than our snark. Sen. Bennet also signed on.

Here's what Coffman said about the bill:

"We cannot erase the unforgivable er-

rors that have already been committed by the VA, but we can fire the VA and bring in competent managers to get this critical hospital built. We owe it to Colorado's veterans, taxpayers, and the 1,400 construction workers to ensure this project is completed as quickly and cost effectively as possible going forward."

The bill is meant to fix the blunders that occurred due to Perlmutter's mess of a situation. The hospital project has been quagmired by lax oversight and cost overruns, which led to the contractor Kiewit Turner walking away from the project in December. A federal appeals judge ruled that the construction company could walk away due to breach of contract by the VA, leaving over 1,000 construction workers out of work just before Christmas.

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Flu Shot? You've Been Had

by Karl Denninger,
Market-Ticker.Org

From a journal dealing with the actual practice of nursing (Editor/GG: The Journal of Advanced Practice Nursing)--you know, the people who **actually** take care of 90% of the job when you get sick enough to require help?

Flu results in "about 250,000 to 500,000 yearly deaths" worldwide, Wikipedia tells us. "The typical estimate is 36,000 [deaths] a year in the United States," reports NBC, citing the Centers for Disease Control. "Somewhere between 4,000 and 8,000 Canadians a year die of influenza and its related complications", according to the Public Health Agency of Canada, adding that "Those numbers are controversial because they are estimates."

The CDC invented the "threat" for the purpose of selling flu vaccines.

"Controversial" is an understatement, and not just in Canada, and not just because the numbers are estimates. The numbers differ wildly from the sober tallies recorded on death certificates -- by law every certificate must show a cause -- and reported by the official agencies that collect and keep vital statistics.

According to the National Vital Statistics System in the U.S., for example, annual flu deaths in 2010 amounted to just 500 per year -- fewer than deaths from ulcers (2,977), hernias (1,832) and pregnancy and childbirth (825), and a far cry from the big killers such as heart disease (597,689) and cancers (574,743). The story is similar in Canada, where unlikely killers likewise dwarf Statistics Canada's count of flu deaths.

In other words the **claimed death risk from flu is a scam.**

But it's even worse than the reported actual numbers -- you see, *cause of death* is often wrong. It's especially wrong when "flu" is involved because, as is explained, *few people who get the flu, even if they die from it, are tested to be sure it really is the flu!*

So many people who die from the "flu" really had a heart attack and, while they were sick at the time *it might not have been the flu they had -- they might have a common cold virus, for example.*

So how does this happen?

Read the article for the process, but the simple answer is this: **The CDC invented the "threat" for the purpose of selling flu vaccines. In other words, the government intentionally lied (and continues to lie) about the risk of dying from the flu for the purpose of industry profit.**

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Gallup: 70% of Teachers 'Not Engaged' or 'Actively Disengaged'

by Victor Skinner

(Editor/GG: Not good news from the public school teacher front. The primary reason for these disturbing statistics is simply "tenure". For many, many people, if you can't get fired, why bother with really working. Not a theory, folks. For public schools to work today, tenure, in any form, has to go. Also, read the part about how much more the students are engaged than the teachers. Sad. And read one teacher's comments at the end of the article to see how tough it is on the honest teachers who have to put up with scam educators. Also, with tenure, the jobs of superintendents and principals are much harder to do well. We need to reward our good teachers with performance pay, not punish them by grouping them, compensation wise, with underperforming teachers.)

WASHINGTON, D.C.

A recent Gallup survey found that K-12 teachers who are "not engaged" or "actively disengaged" -- about 70 percent of all teachers -- miss a combined 2.3 million workdays than their "engaged" colleagues.

In *Gallup Daily* tracking surveys between January 3, 2013, and September 30, 2014, the polling firm used "responses to questions about workplace elements with proven links to performance outcomes" to place teachers into three categories: engaged, not engaged, and actively disengaged.

Engaged teachers are enthusiastic and committed to their work, and represent about 30 percent of teachers. Not engaged teachers are satisfied but not connected to their jobs, and rarely go above and beyond for students. They represent about 57 percent of teachers.

Actively disengaged teachers not only hate their work, they find ways to undermine their coworkers or schools. Those teachers account for about 13 percent of U.S. educators, according to Gallup.com.

"A majority, 57%, of full-time K-12 teachers in the U.S. are 'not engaged.' They report, on average, 11.3 unhealthy days per school year -- days that keep them from doing usual activities -- resulting in an estimate of about 3.5 missed workdays per school year," Gallup reports.

"Additionally, about 13% of U.S. teachers are 'actively disengaged' in their jobs, somewhat lower than the 18% average for all

American workers. These actively disengaged teachers average 20.4 unhealthy days per school year, resulting in slightly more than six missed workdays per school year -- more than twice as many missed workdays as engaged teachers reported."

I worked very hard... to engage the students and try to make learning fun using various methods of instruction, but I saw MANY veteran teachers who either sat and read newspapers in their classroom or staff meetings, lectured all the time, some cussed out the kids all the time, and I knew they were getting paid more than I.

"Not engaged" teachers missed an estimated 781,921 more days per year than engaged teachers, and "actively disengaged" teachers missed about 1,521,101 more days. Combined, those teachers missed about 2.3 million more days of school than "engaged" teachers.

"Absenteeism associated with a lack of teacher engagement creates a drain on school productivity. School districts must foot the bill for classroom replacements. And when substitute teachers are relied on to execute a regular teacher's lesson plans, often with limited advance notice, it can easily create a suboptimal learning environment for students," Gallup reports.

The Gallup findings build on a similar Gallup study released in August 2013 that showed the percentage of K-12 educators, who are engaged in their work, drops significantly after the first year of employment.

In that poll, conducted between January 1 and December 31, 2012, Gallup categorized teachers in the same way as the most recent survey, and the results showed 35 percent of educators on the job less than a year were "engaged" in their work.

At the one year mark, that figure dropped to 30.9 percent, then to a low of 27.9 percent for educators in the third to fifth year of their career, according to the Gallup data analyzed by *Ed Week*.

When compared to other professions, teachers are more engaged than most during the first year, but "the measurable decline in engagement by years of experience is smaller for those in other types of jobs (than for teachers)," *Ed Week* quoted from the 2013 study.

Another Gallup poll, conducted with nearly 1 million students in grades 5-12 from

2009 to 2011 showed that, when compared to the 2013 teacher survey, they're more engaged than their teachers, overall, *Ed Week* reports.

Ed Week suggests "it stands to reason that people would begin a new career with enthusiasm -- and that that

would wane as reality sets in," but asked educators to weigh in on the data.

Poster "Liberty in Exile" offered his take on why some teachers become disengaged -- which the most recent Gallup poll shows is a key factor in teacher absenteeism and lost instruction time for students.

"Every year for the first three years of my teaching career I received a pink slip. I put off buying a house for fear of being unable to make payments in the event I would lose my job. I worked very hard (and continue to do so after 7 years) to engage the students and try to make learning fun using various methods of instruction, but I saw MANY veteran teachers who either sat and read newspapers in their classroom or staff meetings, lectured all the time, some cussed out the kids all the time, and I knew they were getting paid more than I. They did not receive any pink slips by virtue of their tenured status and were clearly indifferent to their performance being evaluated in such a way as to pose a threat to their employment," Liberty in Exile wrote.

"I've seen the worst and laziest employees rush to the union to file complaints or to mitigate issues for them and the union went to bat for them, but when it came to the newbies the sentiment was something like 'tough break, folks.' This could all account for the high rate of low engagement, don't you think? Little or no responsibility after tenure? Little concern for the fresh and idealistic teachers who are bringing energy and new ideas to the classroom? Any real change in the education system should consider these issues."

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**Who shall separate us from the love of Christ?
Shall trouble or hardship or persecution or
famine or nakedness or danger or sword?**

Romans 8:35, NIV

Taxpayer Funded School Celebrates Hijab Day

by Eric Owens,
DailyCaller.com

(Editor/GG: Can't bring a Bible or wear a cross to school, but this is OK?)

Hijab Day happened at a taxpayer-funded charter school in the suburbs of Sacramento on Wednesday, January 28. All female students — but only female students — were encouraged to wear Muslim headscarves.

The school is Natomas Pacific Pathways Prep in Natomas, California, local Fox affiliate KTXL reports.

Wednesday's "NP3 Hijab Day" in Natomas was a student-organized event. School officials swear they neither encouraged nor stifled it.

The school and the school district began to receive criticism after Robert Spencer of Jihad Watch publicized a Hijab Day flyer sent to him by a reader.

Spencer claims that the student who organized Hijab Day at Natomas Pacific Pathways Prep has worked as an intern for the Council

on American-Islamic Relations (CAIR).

Spencer also claims that the same student delivered a presentation about Islam and Islamophobia at a meeting that was mandatory for school employees. A CAIR representative attended that meeting, he says.

not forcing an opinion on anyone."

Rutten said that Hijab Day was part of a student's senior project. The student wanted to teach other students how to wear Muslim headscarves properly.

"Hijab Day is a way of teaching tolerance and

school refused to talk on camera but did provide a letter to KTXL.

"At a time when anti-Muslim sentiment is growing, I wanted to let my classmates and teachers know about the challenges that young Muslim women face when they put on a headscarf," the student wrote.

"The person who promoted the misinformation about this issue, Robert Spencer, is one of the most notorious Islamophobes in America," the student added.

"This extreme reaction clearly demonstrates why this presentation was needed in the first place."

Spencer, who holds a Master's degree in religious studies from the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill, wrote a weekly column for many years for Human Events. He now writes for PJ Media and FrontPage Magazine. He has spoken at dozens and dozens of prestigious universities and has led FBI and United States Army seminars on radical Islam.

The Hijab Day in Natomas

was not the first time students in American public schools have decided to wear Muslim veils to make political statements.

Around the country, the trappings of Christianity have often not been accorded the same celebratory status as the veil forced on women in many Muslim countries.

Last year, for example, public school teachers in both Texas and Missouri either confiscated Bibles or yelled at students for carrying Bibles on school premises.

In 2013, the Madison, Wisconsin-based Freedom from Religion Foundation — which is strangely absent from the Natomas hijab fracas — bullied a New Hampshire school

district into forbidding a mother from praying on the front steps of her kids' high school each morning.

In September 2014, the same group bullied a Florida school district into banning team chaplains, signs with Bible verses, and praying before football games.

In 2013, a biology teacher in a Buffalo, New York, suburb filed a lawsuit claiming that school district officials threatened to fire her unless she removed several objects referencing religion — including a quote by Ronald Reagan — from her classroom.

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Around the country, the trappings of Christianity have often not been accorded the same celebratory status as the veil forced on women in many Muslim countries.

He also says that Tom Rutten, the principal at Natomas Pacific Pathways Prep, had strongly urged female students to participate in Hijab Day by wearing veils.

Rutten insists he doesn't understand what the big deal is.

"It's not school-sponsored," Rutten told KTXL. "It's not school run. We're

understanding of others," Rutten told the Sacramento Fox affiliate.

Rutten said he has received a number of phone calls from people around the country. The high school principal described those callers as "pretty close-minded."

The student who organized Hijab Day at the public

President Obama Pushes Tax on College Savings Plans

by Lauren Clark,
Campus Correspondent,
CampusReform.org

After recent promises to simplify the tax code and assist the middle class, President Obama is now pushing a tax increase on many families that earn less than \$150,000 annually.

Currently, those who participate in a 529 college savings plan can withdraw their children's college nest egg without facing a tax, an incentive that has boosted enrollment in the state run savings programs.

"Middle income families that have worked hard and saved to send their children to college should receive our support, not a new tax bill to pay for his agenda."

The popular 529 section of the tax code is designed to help families save for future college costs and functions in a manner similar to an IRA account, a perk that has not gone unnoticed within the Obama household (the Obama's are paying for their daughters' college education through 529 accounts).

However, the plan is most commonly taken advantage of by middle-income families. The College Savings Foundation found that in 2014, 70 percent of 529 plans were held by households with incomes below \$150,000.

In an ambitious effort to overhaul many aspects of education in America, the White House wants to tax withdrawals from 529 college savings plans. This revision to the wildly successful program, which analysts estimate holds over \$217 billion for roughly seven million families, has some experts predicting a significant divestment from college savings plans.

President Obama's proposal would also unite all education tax breaks into the American Opportunity Tax Credit—using it as a funnel to later direct all federal assistance.

Rep. Lynn Jenkins (R-Kan.) has come out against the president's plan, pointing to the current success of the 529 tax-free savings plans.

In the Republican Leadership Press Conference following the State of the Union address, Jenkins noted that once college savings withdrawals became tax-free in 2001, account holders grew from one to 12 million.

According to Forbes, in the first year of the tax law change, from 2001 to 2002, assets in 529 plans expanded from \$13 billion to \$26 billion and the program saw an increase of more than two million accounts, a near doubling in plan participation.

Jenkins is expected to unveil her own proposal in response to President Obama's plan. She would instead expand the scope of 529 plans to include

computers as an educational expense able to be purchased with the savings.

"I know few students trying to get a degree that don't need access to a computer," Jenkins said in her reaction to Obama's State of the Union. "It's a very expensive part of heading off to college."

Jenkins believes that a reversal in the current tax-free status of the plan would disincentivize saving and hurt middle-income families.

"Now President Obama wishes to turn back the clock and further burden hard working families with new taxes," Rep. Jenkins said. "Middle income families that have worked hard and saved to send their children to college should receive our support, not a new tax bill to pay for his agenda."

She later added that it would "remove the incentive for families to provide for themselves."

Please see: campusreform.org/?ID=6226



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The Second Amendment Corner Liberty's Line in the Sand

2015



FBI Confirms That While Gun Sales Are Up, Violent Crime Is Down

by Bob Owens,
BearingArms.com

Various anti-gun groups claim that the increased acceptance of firearms in American society has lead to more violent crime and gun accidents.

Unfortunately for the deceivers, we know that gun accidents have been steadily declining for decades for both children and adults, and are now at all-time historical lows, even as firearms ownership in the United States is at an all-time high both in terms of raw numbers (more than 300 million firearms) and in terms of the percentage of the population believed to be armed (more than 100 million), and the number of permitted concealed carriers (more than 11 million).

There are those who hype fear to sell gun control, and then there are those who look at the hard data and come to the inescapable conclusion that firearms ownership reduces crime.

Both the number of gun owners and the number of total firearms in the United States every day is theoretically meeting new all-time highs *each and every day*.

The gun control groups and the media outlets attempting to carry their proverbial water have been reduced to claiming that the social acceptance of "Gun Culture 2.0" is somehow leading to more violent crime.

Perhaps they should have spoken with the FBI before crafting that lie.

Figures released today in the FBI's Preliminary Semiannual Uniform Crime Report reveal overall declines in the number of violent crimes and property crimes reported to law enforcement during the first six months of 2014 when compared to figures from the first six months of 2013.

Violent crimes reported for January through June of 2014 were down 4.6 percent from the same time period in 2013. All of the offenses in the violent crime category—murder and non-negligent manslaughter, rape, aggravated assault, and robbery—showed decreases. And the number of property crimes during the same time period decreased 7.5 percent, with all three offenses—burglary, larceny-theft, and motor vehicle theft—showing declines.

There are those who hype fear to sell gun control, and then there are those who look at the hard data and come to the inescapable conclusion that firearms ownership reduces crime.

The science is settled.

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New York Sheriff on Gun Registration Letters: *Toss Them in the Trash*

by Tim Brown,
FreedomOutPost.com

I have to tell you that I like this Sheriff! Fulton County, New York Sheriff Thomas Lorey volunteered his county to participate in a pilot program that asked gun owners to go online and register each of the guns they own. However, Lorey did so with a specific purpose and that was to send a message to the bureaucrats in Albany, including the governor. What message did he want to send? "We will not comply."

"I'm asking everyone that gets those invitations to throw them in the garbage because that is where they belong," Lorey said to a group of conservative activists. "They go in the garbage because, for 100 years or more, ever since the inception of pistol permits, nobody has ever been required to renew them."

The State of New York wants to implement their new online gun registration database in February, but Lorey doesn't think they will be able to accomplish that task.

"Let's have everybody's permit expire the same day and let 'em see what they're going to do with it," said Sheriff Lorey.

He also told the group that his office is not to be feared. "I want to assure you that everyone in Fulton County has nothing to fear from the sheriff's office. We've got real crime and real criminals to occupy our time with."

The real motive behind the SAFE Act is control and money.

Alan Gottlieb, President of the Second Amendment Foundation, praised Sheriff Lorey saying that he wished

more sheriffs were like him.

"Sheriff Lorry is a patriot," Gottlieb told WND. "His stand in defense of the Second Amendment is an example for all law enforcement."

Implementation of the NY SAFE Act has been difficult, largely due to the fact that is how tyranny works. It has to be meticulous and requires many challenges to crush freedom.

The *Times Union* reports:

The challenges of creating vast state-wide databases have become apparent with other components of the NY SAFE Act.

A system allowing background checks for all ammunition sales was originally supposed to be in place by January 15, but its rollout has been indefinitely postponed amid reports the database isn't ready.

Nor has it gone unnoticed that county clerks were told the pace of work on the handgun effort would likely pick up at the end of the year — after the November elections, in which voters who are still upset about the NY SAFE Act could be a factor.

According to Leo Hohmann, Sheriff Lorey had something to say about that too.

Lorey said New York's gun permit law was never meant to be restrictive in nature. He said the new rules can be applied in an arbitrary manner and are open to abuse. It will also likely be used as a revenue producer for the state, he said, as one county is already charging \$15 for the "recertification."

"The judges of the state of New York have gotten together and thought this up on their own," he said. "It's just a little device that helps them revoke your permit if they should suddenly get mad at you."

As for the renewal fee, Lorey said, "The state of New York now wants to charge you for a renewal permit, for a right you already have."

He's exactly right. This is all about control and money. It isn't about safety. That is just the slogan used to advance the agenda. The real motive behind the SAFE Act is control and money.

New York, a bastion of tyranny, passed the SAFE Act back in 2013. Since that time numerous arrests have been made that have been a result of that legislation and one of those arrests was due to an unlawful search that revealed a man had three more bullets in his gun than he was supposed to. In fact, even the police were considered in violation of it. Now, it has grown to the point where the state is claiming that nearly 300 gun owners, who have legally obtained their guns and permits, are "mentally unstable" and could have their weapons confiscated and lose their ability to legally obtain a firearm.

Gun maker Kahr Arms declared they were finished with New York following the SAFE Act's implementation.

New York Patriots stood up against the SAFE Act, including Iraq combat veteran Aaron Weiss who gave a powerful declaration that his rights trumped any number of dead children killed with a gun. Some even gathered for a day of burn barrels and burned their gun registration forms.

Lorey just may be on to something by demonstrating that there will be no way to enforce this pretended legislation that seeks to control a free people. I hope for New Yorkers' sake it works.

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Police Chief Shot During An Apparent SWATting Raid: Homeowner Will Not Be Charged

by Bob Owens,
BearingArms.com

There is a bizarre story unfolding in Sentinel, Oklahoma, where a police chief was shot numerous times Thursday morning by a homeowner, but the homeowner isn't facing any charges.

On Thursday morning, someone called in a bomb threat to a local school district.

According to the local news, the caller "identified himself" as Dallas Horton, and then claimed

he had placed a bomb in a school. While Oklahoma State Police EOD were dispatched to handle the bomb threat, Sentinel Police Chief Louis Ross and two Sheriff's deputies went to the Horton home.

They kicked in the door, and made entry, and things quickly went south from there.

Around 6 a.m. Sentinel Police Chief Louis Ross and two Sheriff's deputies went to a home in the 200 block S. 4th.

Officers entered the home

and cleared the first room. But as they entered the second room, a man identified as Dallas Horton shot Chief Ross three times, twice in his bullet proof vest and once in the arm. OSBI said the chief actually borrowed the bullet proof vest from one of the deputies just before entering the home.

After firing numerous shots, Horton surrendered himself to the officers. OSBI officials said no officers fired their weapons during the incident. Horton and his wife were taken into custody for ques-

tioning.

According to the OSBI, authorities found some type of explosive device inside the home.

However, the OSBI said Horton will not be arrested at this time. He was taken into investigative detention after the shooting. For the past several hours, OSBI investigators said they extensively interviewed Horton. Facts surrounding the case lead agents to believe Horton

**See SWATting
on page 21**

There Is No Inflation (Unless You Eat Food, Use Water, Live In A House, Get Sick, Go To School, Or Do Taxes)

by Jim Quinn, The Burning Platform
Blog, via ZeroHedge.com

Government data reports are so funny. The blaring headlines today tells us that prices dropped in December. **We are all saving billions from the drop in oil and gas. Hallelujah!!!**

The corporate MSM never digs into the numbers to get the real truth. These reports and their distribution to the sheep are designed to keep you sedated and calm. Facts are not necessary. How this data pertains to your everyday life is not important to the .1% who control the flow of information.

Here is the web address to the detailed inflation numbers by category: <http://www.bls.gov/news.release/cpi.t07.htm>

We already know they massage these numbers to achieve a happy ending, but even the massaged numbers tell an entirely different story than the one peddled to the masses by the government and corporate media.

The following are the annual price increases for items that might impact

your life on a daily basis:

- Food at home – 3.7%**
- Food away from home – 3.0%**
- Meat – 12.7%**
- Fish and seafood – 5.6%**
- Eggs – 10.7%**
- Milk – 5.2%**
- Fruits & vegetables – 4.1%**
- Coffee – 4.2%**
- Butter – 22.5%**
- Natural gas – 5.8%**
- Footwear – 2.8%**
- Prescription drugs – 6.4%**
- Newspapers & magazines – 4.8%**
- College textbooks – 5.0%**
- Cigarettes – 3.1%**
- Apartment rent – 3.4%**
- Owners equivalent rent – 2.6%**
- Hotels – 7.3%**
- Water & sewer – 5.6%**
- Medical care -2.4%**
- Hospital care – 4.9%**
- College tuition – 3.4%**
- Postage – 4.1%**

Tax preparation – 6.1%

I don't know about you, but the costs listed here account for a significant amount of my budget. Do those price increases jive with the message being spewed by the government controlled media?

The credibility of their numbers is highly questionable in that they say health insurance accounts for .75% of a person's annual budget. They actually have the hutzpah to say health insurance fell by 0.5% over the last year. I'd love to hear from anyone out there whose health insurance premiums fell in the last year. Mine went up by 20%.

Your government keepers will continue to drown you in propaganda and misinformation. But the average person should know that they are being lied to. They see how much money they have left over at the end of every month. If any.

Reprinted with Permission. Please see: www.zerohedge.com/news/2015-01-17/there-no-inflation-unless-you-eat-food-use-water-live-house-get-sick-go-school-or-do

SWATting From page 20

was unaware it was officers who made entry.

Horton has been released from police custody.

I think it is fair to say that when a citizen shoots a law enforcement officer numerous times and the citizen is not charged, something about the situation is abnormal, and it appears that gun blogger Miguel Gonzalez was right on the money when he speculated that Dallas Horton may have been SWATted.

Miguel's speculation seems born out by an investigation conducted by the Oklahoma State Bureau of Investigation which indicates that none of the phones owned by the Horton family placed the bomb threat.

OSBI says they have gone through phones at the home where they thought the bomb threat originated and found the phone calls did not come from that location.

OSBI says the man who shot a Sentinel police chief will not be arrested at this time. Agents interviewed the man and believe he was unaware it was officers entering his home.

Police say the Sentinel Police Chief Louis Ross was shot three times in the chest and once in the

arm as he and two Washita County deputies were investigating the home of a bomb threat suspect around 6 a.m. Thursday. The home was located on the 200 block of S. 4th.

All three law enforcement officers and the entire Horton family were placed in extreme danger by the apparent SWATter... which was the point of the SWATting call. I sincerely hope that authorities are able to trace this false bomb threat back to the source, and then arrest the caller for multiple counts of attempted murder, one for every law enforcement officer, and Horton family member. Until SWATters start going to prison, this sort of thing is going to continue to happen.

We're very thankful that Dallas Horton is a good shot and kept all his shots center mass where Chief Ross's bullet-resistant vest was able to absorb the majority of the damage from Horton's bullets. We're also very thankful for the professionalism of the Washita County Sheriff's deputies, who kept their cool and did not unload on Horton and allowed him to surrender in what must have been an incredibly tense situation where an officer was shot just seconds before.

Hopefully Chief Ross will fully recover from his wounds and be back on duty shortly with no long-term physical or psycho-

logical damage, and we hope that the Horton family fully recovers from the trauma as well.

As for you, Mr. SWATter... we hope that the authorities catch you, and send you to prison for a **very** long time.

The continuing law enforcement practice of no-knock raids is also part of the problem which continues to make SWATting such an effective terrorist act, and a serious threat to the lives of all concerned. While we're aware of the fact that law enforcement likes to use the tactic to quickly take control of a scene and prevent suspects from either arming themselves or possibly depositing evidence, the practice has led to numerous innocent people being killed either on purpose or by accident, and to a number of officers being shot by both suspects and other officers.

Effectively carrying out no-knock raids is always high-risk, and the risks are heightened by the lack of training of most officers. Most law enforcement agencies simply lack the training budgets to get their officers to a competent level to conduct this sort of raid, and as this instance and the murder (yes, I consider it a murder) of Jose Guerena point out, these are often mixed agency raids by under-trained officers, com-

pounding the likelihood of deadly errors.

Horton was likely still asleep as the 6:00 AM raid began, and clearly didn't hear the officers announce themselves (if, in fact, they did announce themselves). If officers had simply knocked on the door or rang the doorbell until Horton answered the door, this entire situation could have been resolved without any shots being fired or lives put at significant risk.

It is our opinion that no-knock raids are used far too frequently in situations where they are simply not needed. The law enforcement community needs to take a long, hard look at their use of this tactic, and retire it except for a very narrowly-defined set of circumstances.

[The first story cited notes, "some type of explosive device" was found in the home. This has not been substantiated in later reporting, suggesting that the media account was erroneous. It is also possible that Horton, an avid shooter according to his Facebook page, owned some sort of binary explosive targets, such as Tannerite, which is perfectly legal to own.]

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See this week's classifieds for our listings

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 Test of a True Prophet

After reviewing all 114 chapters (called Suras) of the Koran, one cannot help but be struck with the idea that it lacks any concrete prophecies. As a “prophet”, Muhammad was an abject failure unable to prophesy anything. All he could do was to repeat some past prophecies taken from the Old Testament about which he heard; he hadn’t even read them. Muhammad was illiterate. He had no prophetic insights whatsoever, although “the testimony of Jesus is the spirit of prophesy” (Rev. 19:10).

For example, all Bible believers know where they are going when they die (see 2 Peter 1:13-14; 2 Tim. 1:12; 1 John 5:13; 2 Kings 2:1-10, etc.). Nothing in the Koran indicates that Muhammad had absolute assurance of salvation for any of his followers (Sura 19:71-72). There is not one personal statement of faith in 114 chapters. All you have is his own words that if anyone does what he thinks they should do, they are bound for Paradise. “Let God be true, but every man a liar,” (Rom. 3:4).

One of Muhammad’s attempts at forecasting the future is found in Sura 3:111...“If they [the Jews] fight you, they will turn their backs to you.” There hasn’t been one war fought in Palestine since 1947 (five of them, and seven if you count the mess in Lebanon) where Israel hasn’t beat the socks off Islam, even though the Jews have been outnumbered as much as seven to one.

Common sense would dictate that before any politician would an-

nounce publicly that Islam is one of the great religions of the world they would spend a little time in comparison. Simple mathematics elevates the Bible light years above the Koran. Consider the statistical probability of one man being born in Bethlehem (Micah 5:2), with 48 prophecies connected with him which is one out of 280,000. Only one in a 1,000 would have a forerunner (Malachi 3:1). Only one in 10,000 would enter Jerusalem on “the foal of an ass” (Zech. 9:9). Only one in a 1,000 would be betrayed by a close friend so that he’s wounded in the hands (Zech. 13:6). Only one in 10,000 would be betrayed for “thirty pieces of silver” (Zech. 11:13). Only one out of 10,000 would die by crucifixion (Psalm 22:16).

If only eight of the forty-eight prophecies were used, the total chances would be one out of ten with 28 zeroes after it (1028). By the time you allow for 48 prophecies, the odds are one out of ten with 157 zeroes after it. There are not that many electrons in the universe. But I don’t suppose that anyone who has no concern for an 18 trillion dollar debt is very good at math.

That isn’t all—there are 400 more prophecies about the same man yet to be fulfilled with the light of Scriptural sunrise gaining illumination every day. Why would the alleged “smartest man on earth” ignore these facts? Surely Rev. Wright pointed out some of these profound truths from his Chicago pulpit.

There are 737 subjects

prophesied about in 1,817 Bible prophecies. They take up 8,352 verses out of 31,102 verses, making a rate of 27% of all the verses in the Bible. They do this without apologies to anyone daring the greatest critic to disprove their claims.

The Scriptures go to great lengths to warn us about false modern prophets. Some of their characteristics are:

1. They are positive thinkers—smooth talkers (Rom. 16:18, Isa. 30:10)
2. They all believe that “man is the measure of all things” (2 Cor. 10:12)
3. False prophets emphasize “liberation theology” (Rev. Wright’s brand of doctrine)—(2 Pet. 2:19)
4. They speak eternally of “peace”, but always peace without God’s intervention or the return of His Son (Jer. 14:13; Micah 3:5).
5. All modern false prophets emphasize the essential goodness of human nature and all recommend unity and cooperation at the expense of truth and reality (2 Tim. 4:3,4)
6. Truth is relative; science is the final authority (1 Tim. 6:20).

After an examination of these characteristics, it becomes obvious that not all false prophets are clothed in clerical garb. Some anchor the evening news, others walk the halls of Congress, and even the White House harbors voices that can only guess at the future lacking any substantial evidence for anything...if you like your doctor you can keep him.

A Sheepdog Barks!

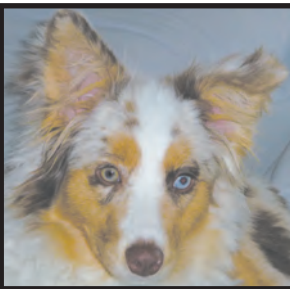
Did any of you force yourself to watch the State of the Union (SOTU) address to Congress a few weeks ago? I did. It’s a hard thing to do but a sheepdog has got to do it. For those of you that might have had more important things to do like rearrange the socks in your drawers, allow me to capsule. This is sort of a quick paraphrasing recap without all of the pauses for the applause lines, but you will get the drift. “My fellow Americans, lend me your wallets, our economy is good, our jobs are many and therefore our union is strong. I have brought America back from the brink of disaster. I have brought several people here today so I can tell a stupid little anecdote about them while my fellow democrats clap. I want to give more free stuff to those who need more stuff by taking more stuff away from other hard-working Americans. I want to raise taxes on the rich. I want to raise taxes on corporations. I want to provide everything to all of the 99 percenters. Here’s a good idea – what about free college? Yes, that sounds good. I’ll do that. And to my Republican friends that now control Congress, I want to work with you. I want you to know, however, that I hate you and all your ideas and I will veto everything you do and send to me. Did I already say I want to give all Americans some more free stuff? I want to borrow more money and spend more money than all the rest of the U.S. Presidents combined. I hate coal and oil but I’ll take credit for our increased production on private land. I saved America. It is important to remember that all my policies are working great. I have even more regulations coming out to better assist small businesses. I want to fix all the roads and bridges in America – who could be against that? Oh yes, those dirty un-American Republicans are. Notice as I get to the end of my speech that I will NOT mention Islamic terrorism even though it is the greatest threat to Americans that exists. I WILL mention

climate change however. Notice that I will also NOT mention immigration. I need that unconstitutional executive order to be forgotten by all the stupid Americans out there. As I finish and do my slow walk out of here for my worshippers, I want you to know I love our military, especially the veterans and we need God (sometimes) to bless America.” There you have it. Any questions? WOOF! The SOTU has become moronic and useless. It’s a made-for-TV spectacle. Obama has used it to repeatedly lie to the American people. More than any other president he brings truth to the old saying “if his lips are moving he is lying.” We need to return to the early days of our Union when the presidents sent Congress a letter suggesting a few things they could work on to really make America better and stronger. The Constitution says the president should report on the State of the Union from time to time. That sounds good. Maybe that could be a once-a-term letter. In Obama’s case a tweet would be sufficient as I think they are limited to 140 characters. WOOF!

Here are a few more “Only In A Liberal Progressive America” stories for you:

OIALPA: Bristol County, Massachusetts. The District Attorney finally had to drop the criminal charges he brought on a company to block the shipment of 40,000 tons of coal. He said, “I admit I am sympathetic to the Climate Change Crisis.” It’s a theory, not settled science. Of course, the LPSDs that promote their crazy ideas won’t unplug their office air conditioners or quit driving their electric cars (which are charged on electricity generated at coal-burning plants). The war on coal is obscenely punishing millions of Americans. The LPSDs don’t care. WOOF!

OIALPA: Seattle: The LPSD leaders have decided it’s illegal to leave too much food in your garbage. If the garbage collectors believe that 10% or more of the contents



of a garbage can might be considered food they must put a scarlet tag on the can. I’m not kidding! This “can” (pun intended) lead to fines and the scarlet tag is sure to embarrass you to your neighbors. Wonder if it’s got a big “A” on it? This reaches new heights of power for the food police. So if you live in Seattle, be careful throwing out the spoiled food or the leftovers. The LPSDs are watching you. WOOF!

OIALPA: Liberal presidents continue to go on TV and other media sites and make fools of themselves. Clinton did talk about “not inhaling” or even discussing whether he wore boxers or briefs. Shameful! Now Obama goes on YouTube and gives an interview with a wacko woman named Glo-zell. A stupid woman with bright glow-in-the-dark, green, lip gloss saying things like “Castro put the Dic* in Dictator” and Obama laughing. Then she says she cuts the tops off her husband’s hoodies “so the Po-Po (aka the police to grown up intelligent people) don’t shoot him.” This is what LPs believe serves as journalism and worthy of a Presidential interview. We are lost. WOOF!

OIALPA: Washington, D.C. Border agents are told to “ask” the illegals they apprehend, illegally crossing the border “if they believe they qualify under Obama’s new deportation law” and release them if they say yes. Our border agents are not referees. This would be like asking those ferocious 300 lbs defensive linemen if they really intended to “rough the quarterback” and when they say no, just pick up the flag. Sounds good to a LPSD I guess. WOOF!

May God Have Mercy on America! JMH



SAFETY

From page 16

torists can be lured into stopping to help a woman in distress, an actual incident that occurred in this area some years ago. Waiting in the brush by the road were her accomplices ready to rob whoever stopped. Never stop for anyone who is on the side of the road and not even for a law enforcement car at night if you suspect that it may not be legitimate. Drive to a public place or call the police or sheriff’s office and ask if it’s legitimate if you’re followed at night by police and afraid to stop.

There is help, education, and training

available in Fremont County for women who choose to defend themselves with weapons or with various means of self-defense. Damsels in Defense, whose mission is to equip, empower, and educate women in defense, had a table of various defensive items that they promote such as stun guns, pepper spray, and kits for roadside emergencies. For more information call Jeanne Henderson at 719-369-6195. Classes on self-defense are also available through “Fight Like a Girl” at 722 Main Street in Cañon and there are many gun classes and training available to women through the NRA.

Stay Informed

Get Involved!

SENTINEL

From page 3

Without these citizen reporters, the public wouldn't have known that the newest holy grail of liberalism, marijuana, legal and illegal, has literally created a war zone in the Copper Gulch area with Cuban and Mexican cartels, Texas biker gangs, and local thugs terrorizing the local citizens with gunfire and threats.

We are proud of our paper. After only 18 months, take any other local community newspaper and lay it side by side with ours. Our visual presentation, article mix, detailed and honest local reporting, our outstanding photo-journalism, our internet-sourced Colorado, state, national, international, veterans, business, economic, political, and religious news outshines any paper I have seen.

Our non-local news sources are some of the finest available, including CNS News and The Daily Caller on general news; Zero Hedge, Karl Denninger, and The Mises Institute on business and economic news; Colorado Peak Politics, Watch-Dog.Org, The Blaze and Allen West on political news; nationals level evangelicals Bill Wilson and Paster Jim Modlish on religion, and Colorado Chalkbeat and EAG News on the educational scene. I could go on but there are dozens more. People just don't read our paper and throw it away, they study it. That is called "content".

So we now have two newspapers in our community, a liberal one and a conservative one. It has resulted in a dramatically more informed public, which has been sorely lacking here in Happy Valley. It is a good thing.

Just a few quick points.

Some of the liberals here today who will talk are simply using this sealed bid, common sense, decision by Commissioners Kit Shy and Lynn Attebery as a foil to simply bash the *Sentinel*. They don't like our clinic reporting; they don't

like our school academic reporting; they think pot will save the world; and saying the word "God" or "Jesus" offends their little hearts. And the list goes on. These aren't "concerned citizens". These are people who refuse to accept any opinion except their own, biased progressive viewpoint and wish to suppress any speech or press that doesn't agree with their views. And it makes them very angry to even have an alternate view available in the valley.

Our liberal friends seem outraged when we criticize their public actions. They immediately cry that they are being personally "attacked" when we are simply informing the citizens of their actions. It is a classic liberal technique to avoid responsibility by claiming that the criticism is personal.

Our liberal friends also seem to take offense when the *Sentinel* uses common, time-proven techniques of humor, parody, sarcasm, comedy, and hyperbole to make our points. It seems it is ok for liberals to use it, but when applied to them, it is "offensive". Folks, if things like calling Governor Hickenlooper, Governor Chickenlooper, is offensive and out-of-line, you better stop taking yourself so seriously. I know it is hard for liberals to laugh, but come on, grow up a bit and appreciate some cutting humor.

There seems to be some confusion about how much money the county and our taxpayers will save with the *Sentinel's* winning low bid on the public notices. There are two types of county based legal notices, statutory and non-statutory. Statutory is when a government entity pays (e.g., the county for a Treasurers Report) and non-statutory is when the county does the publishing but the notice is eventually payed by the taxpayers as the county will bill them (e.g., foreclosures). There is a different rate charged for each one.

If we use the figures provided by the *Tribune* for 2014, that of \$3,745 for statutory and \$11,534 for non-statutory,

and the *Sentinel's* low bids to compare (in each case, about a third of the *Tribune's* bid), the savings for 2014 would have been \$2,397 for statutory and \$8,074 for non-statutory, for a total savings of \$10,471 for the county and our fellow taxpayers. Note that the statutory notices are paid by county tax dollars and the non-statutory notices are paid by us, the citizens and businesses after the county bills us. Whether it is tax dollars or right out of our own pockets, it is still our money.

Also, it has been recently alleged that the *Sentinel* is overcharging the county because we are printing in larger type than what the bid specified. We have stated publicly and even in print last week, that we will be printing many of the notices in larger type so that the public can actually read them, at NO extra charge to the county or the taxpayers. For you Common Core journalists, we are billing at the bid print size and publishing at a larger print size. We have even revamped our website to post the notices on there for Free so if the thought of spending 50 cents on the *Sentinel* is a moral or ethical crime in your universe, you don't have to do it.

And finally, I want our liberal friends to hear this loud and clear. You can disparage our newspaper, you can mock the efforts of our outstanding volunteer citizen reporters, you can directly infer that my partner, Mary Seifert, one of the most honest and caring women I have ever met in my life, has committed crimes because she sold some real estate to her lifelong friend, Commissioner Kit Shy, over the last decade or so, you can attempt to destroy our Constitution, you can try to take our guns and right to defend ourselves away, you can mock our paper's Christian viewpoint and conservative values, you can even ridicule our God. And you know what? We will still pray for you.

With God's help, the *Sentinel* is here to stay, my liberal friends, so you had better get use to it, cause we ain't going nowhere.

WHO'S COUNTING?

US NATIONAL DEBT

\$18,110,685,437,890

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 #1,515

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 #1,187

TERRORIST ATTACK IN BENGHAZI FOLLOWED BY RELENTLESS LIES AND COVERUPS.

NO ACCOUNTABILITY YET!

NOW ON DAY #868

IRS TARGETING OF CONSERVATIVE GROUPS ADMITTED BY LOIS LERNER.

NO ACCOUNTABILITY YET!

NOW ON DAY #637

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

NO ACCOUNTABILITY YET!

NOW ON DAY #494

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

NO JUSTICE YET!

NOW ON DAY #291

*For I am convinced that neither death nor life,
neither angels nor demons,
neither the present nor the future,
nor any powers,
neither height nor depth,
nor anything else in all creation,
will be able to separate us from the
love of God that is in Christ Jesus our Lord.*

Romans 8:38-39, NIV

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.

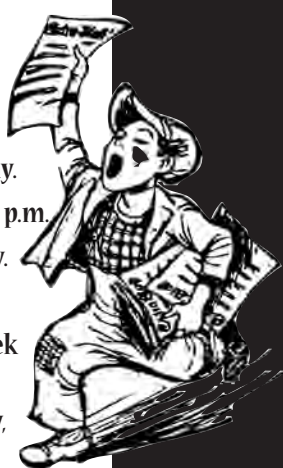
Deadline for all other submissions is noon on Monday, and can be emailed to sdcsentinel@gmail.com

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.



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Local Mountain News & Notices

“Takin’ It To The House...”

A Calendar And Commentary From The Golden Dome

From: Representative
Jim Wilson – HD 60
February 1, 2015

The Super Bowl may be over for the NFL, but the “Big Game” continues under the Golden Dome. For example, this week there were no less than seven gun bills scheduled to be heard in the House and Senate. Because the Senate is 18-17 Republican, SB15-086 (Repealing the Ban on Private Gun Sales) and SB15-032 (Constitutional Carry) are expected to pass in committee. On the House side (34-31 Democrat), House Bills 15-1049 (“Make My Day Better”), HB15-1009 (Standard Capacity Magazine Ban repeal), HB15-1086 (Timely Processing of NFA Applications), HB15-1127 (No Liability for Permitting Concealed Carry) and HB15-1050 (Repealing the Ban on Private Gun Sales) are all expected to die in committee.

A new feature is available this session – remote testimony will be available from remote sites within the state. This session,

any bill dealing with controversial or philosophical issues will have to run the gauntlet of split houses in order to see the Governor’s desk this session. The legislative process may not have any of the entertaining Super Bowl commercials, but it certainly has the intensity among the 100 participants!

Another “game” going on this week will be the Republican Caucus elections in the House. If you recall, Republican Assistant Minority Leader (Rep. Libby Szabo, R-Arvada) is now a JeffCo County Commissioner. An election to fill her vacated position between Rep. Polly Lawrence, R-Littleton (currently the Minority Whip), and Rep. Clarice Navarro, R-Pueblo, was held Monday. The vacated Whip position was also up for grabs as Rep. Tim Dore (R-Elizabeth) and Rep. Perry Buck (R-Windsor) were both in the running.

I was disappointed that two of my bills that were “constituent generated” did not make it through

committee. I try to help constituents when they make me aware of ideas that might make their lives a little easier. It was not meant to be with these two bills. One bill would have eliminated the penalty fee on late registration of vehicles and the other would have more strictly defined the “impeding traffic” law. The penalty fees for late registration generate over \$17 M in state revenue, so revenue triumphed over relief on that one... It was interesting on the impeding traffic bill (opposed by Motor Carriers and the State Patrol) that a Patrol Officer told me, “It is just not safe for a patrolman to turn around, work their way to the front of a long line of vehicles to cite a driver impeding traffic.” My response was, “If it is unsafe for a trooper with a Hemi, red and blue lights and a siren to work their way to the front of a long line of vehicles, try doing it safely in a regular passenger vehicle!” I am planning on taking this issue to an interim committee to see if there is a way to make highways jammed with long lines

of vehicles safer for the public.

One of the special things that happen at the Capitol each year is the Legislators’ support of the National Western Jr. Livestock Sale. Every year the House and the Senate challenge each other to see which chamber can raise the most money towards purchasing a steer at the National Western Jr. Livestock Sale. This year Senators Baumgardner, Donovan, and Sonnenberg along with Representatives Corum, Dore, Navarro and myself were on hand to bid on and purchase a Colorado steer for \$9,250. It was a fun evening for the Legislators and a great opportunity to invest in the young people of Colorado!



The deadline for filing all bills has now past – the “big ones” will be hitting the floor soon. Please feel free to contact us at 303-866-2747 or e-mail us at wilson-forhd60@gmail.com or james.wilson.house@state.co.us.

*Yours for HD 60 --
Representative Jim Wilson*

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