

School Board Meeting: FFA Issues a Big Concern

by Larry Luikart

School Board President Gaide led the Pledge, welcomed guests, then made two minor modifications to the agenda quickly approved by the Board at the start of the February 10, 2015, Custer County C-1 School Board meeting. Mr. Cline was absent due to a schedule conflict with a Westcliffe Town Board meeting being held at the same time.

The General Public Comments period proved interesting. Several parents and concerned citizens appeared before the Board

to come to the construction site to look over the progress.

The 2015-16 calendar was approved and six policy issues were discussed on a first reading basis. The Board also discussed and then approved with some minor clarification the contract language for a one-year contract for Superintendent Selle at his current salary and vacation day rates.

Along with the contract President Gaide, (during the Items by Board Members section of the meeting) requested a board work ses-

sions counselor. results of NWEA and preparing students for the format and vocabulary of state testing in March. Principal Jones is conducting mid-year review conferences with each teacher which involves discussing professional goals, measures of student learning, and best instructional practices. Two teachers attended the CCI-RA convention previously discussed in this article.

On February 19 there will be a class for juniors, Charting Your Course, which includes three seminars on resume building, career interest, and discovery, and ACT preparation conducted by volunteers Sam Frostman, Joanne Gearhart, and a retired college admissions counselor.

On February 25 there will be a PTSO Scholarship Preparation Workshop and ACT preparation with practice to be scheduled on a Friday morning in February depending on student interest and availability.

The National Honor Society as part of the “give back” is conducting a K-12 tutoring program to help struggling students improve academic subjects. The Knowledge Bowl Team placed first in the regional division, sixth overall, and will be competing at the state competition in April. Team members are: Cory Lewencamp, Michael Franta, Madeline Woods, Jenna Henrich, Tia Barnes and Jess Franta.

The Business Club attended a field trip to Great Big Color in Denver where they witnessed a product debut and were the first to try it. The Club sponsors are Michelle Selle and Alex Falciani. The Business Club is teaming up with local businesses to offer discounts/specials for the Father/Daughter Dance sponsored by the junior class for elementary students.

Superintendent Selle, in his monthly report, indicated

A Time to Draw Together



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

When a tragedy strikes, there can be a tendency to place blame, point fingers, and become angry. In these days following the tragic loss of another young man, please set those impulses aside, and instead, rally together in support of his family, his friends, and all those

most closely touched by this loss.

People were bringing little children to Jesus for him to place his hands on them, but the disciples rebuked them. When Jesus saw this, he was indignant. He said to them, “**Let the little children come to me, and do not hinder them, for the kingdom of God belongs to such as these. Truly I tell you, anyone who will not receive the kingdom of God like a little child will never enter it.**” And he took the children in his arms, placed his hands on them and blessed them.

~ Mark 10:13-16

The Community Mourns

From the Custer County Sheriff's Office

On Tuesday, February 10th, 2015 at approximately 10:00 p.m., Custer County Sheriff's Office received a 911 call from a juvenile needing assistance. Dispatch was able to determine another juvenile party had been injured and medical assistance was needed. Deputies and Emergency Medical Services Personnel responded to the area of Hermit Road and Grape Creek where they found a 15-year-old juvenile male had suffered a single gunshot wound to the head. The male party was deceased upon arrival.

Further investigation revealed the juvenile male party was last seen at approximately 6:30 p.m. by his friends and shortly thereafter, they began to look for him. It was not until 10:00 p.m. they found him on Hermit Road near Grape Creek.

At this time foul play is not suspected but the investigation is ongoing until all possible leads are extinguished. No further information is available or being released at this time.

Please check next week's issue of the Sentinel for more information on this sad news.

A Message
from C1
Superintendent
Selle on our
Community's
Tragedy
page 5

Middle School
Basketball
Photo Feature
pages 12-13

Oh, NO!
The Prairie
Dogs are Back!
page 6

Obama's
True Colors
page 17

PATRIOT
ALERT!
Colorado:
A Chinese
Immigrant
Explains Gun
Control
page 20



Surely God is my
salvation; I will trust
and not be afraid.
The Lord, the Lord,
is my strength
and my song;
He has become
my salvation.
Isaiah 12:2, NIV

**President Gaide... requested a
board work session to further
clarify the performance goals...
for the superintendent.**

to offer their opinions of the Custer County School FFA Chapter. Two students members of the FFA Chapter Board were impeached recently. The gist of the parents and concerned citizens were the poor response to their concerns by school administrators, the time it took for a response, poor performance on the part of the faculty advisor, and the disconnect of the local FFA and national FFA standards. The Board listened intently to these concerns. President Gaide offered her thanks for the mature, disciplined, and professional comments made by the former student chairman. The Board offered no comments to this situation.

The minutes from the Board meetings on January 13, 2015, and the Special Board meeting on January 30, 2015, were approved along with the resignation of custodian Ken Culpin.

Bruce May, Building Trades coordinator, reported on the progress of the home his group in currently building. They have some of the framing done and Mr. May invited the Board

sion to further clarify the performance goals under consideration for the superintendent. The Board will meet February 27, 2015, at 9:00 a.m. for this purpose.

Forty-two students and their families attended the Science Night on January 15. Ms. Anderson complimented the National Honor Society for putting on a great evening with many interactive experiments. Thirty-eight students attended the Family Literacy Night. The elementary staff provided four different rooms with interactive reading and writing events themed around a tour of Africa. Every student went home with two new books and prize of their choosing. The elementary students participated in a school-wide activity to “give back” to others. They ran a penny drive raising \$528.24 donated to Pencils of Promise which provides school supplies to students in Africa. The Winterfest 80's week had wide participation by the elementary students.

Principal Barb Jones presented her report indicating teachers are evaluating the

See SCHOOL
on page 24

Copyright©2015

A different view from
the same mountains!The newspaper
of record for
Custer County.

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

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

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

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

Editorial Board

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

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

Rob Canterbury - Secretary
Rob.Canterbury@sdcsentinel.com

Mary Seifert - Treasurer
Mary.Seifert@sdcsentinel.com

Key Personnel

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

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

Barbara Napolitan -
Advertising Coordinator
BNapolitan@gmail.com

Reporters

Carol Clemenson
cdclem65@gmail.com

Larry Luikart
pawprint2@centurylink.net

Paul Sage
mountainhigh21@centurylink.net

Business Hours:

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

Subscription Rates:

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

How to contact us:

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

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



coloradopress
ASSOCIATION

2015 Associate Member

Our Opinion... From the Editorial Board

OBAMA'S NATIONAL SECURITY(?) STRATEGY

On February 6, 2015, President Obama's National Security Advisor (NSA), Susan Rice, delivered his 2015 National Security Strategy at the Brookings Institute. This woman is way out of her element and given her track record should not be holding such an important position. We understand elections have

*It is clearly
a feeble
attempt to
turn Obama's
failures
into phony
successes.*

consequences and faithful campaign workers are rewarded in many ways. You might recall Ms. Rice was the UN Ambassador when she went out and knowingly and falsely blamed the Benghazi terrorist attack on a video. Later, as the NSA, she told America that the deserter Bo Bergdahl had served with honor and distinction. These are the reasons she has no credibility. At any rate it was a very strange presentation full of praise for Obama's delusional achievements and visions. It was very short on actual security measures, and in some cases, never even mentioned the most vital and important security issues at all. We know most Americans paid no attention to the address. We thought you should be aware of some of the main parts which are **bolded** below.

The best description we have heard is that it is a tossed "word salad" of meaningless phrases, most of which don't relate to the security of the United States. It is clearly a feeble attempt to turn Obama's failures into phony successes.

- **As a nation, we are stronger than we've been in a long time.** This is simply not true. Under this president and his policies we are the most divided we have ever been.
- **In 2010, our deficit topped \$1 Trillion; today we've cut that in half...** This is nothing to be proud of. Half means we still add \$500 Billion to our enormous debt annually and keep in mind it's all borrowed money.
- **...responsibly ending two long and costly ground wars and repurposing our military strength...** It is clear these wars were prematurely ended in a very irresponsible way. Obama's precipitous withdrawal from Iraq to fulfill a campaign promise led to ISIS.
- **...revolutionizing everything from the way we hail a cab to the way we treat disease.** How does this belong in our security strategy?
- **...a more diffuse terrorist threat.** This was included so they could take credit for destroying al Qaida. Now it's only the "Junior Varsity" (aka ISIS) we

have to deal with.

- **...the dangers we face...are not of the existential nature we confronted in World War II or the Cold War.** No, they are much worse. Islamic terrorists are everywhere and don't wear uniforms. We don't even know how many "cells" or "lone wolves" are already in America plotting away.
- **...where would the world be today without decisive U.S. Leadership.** This statement is almost laughable. The world today is a mess because of Obama's unwillingness to lead.
- **...no prospect for a global deal on climate change; no pressure for Iran to be at the negotiating table...** This statement goes with the leadership issue above. There will be No global deals and only fools believe the Iranians are "negotiating."
- **...economic growth... investing in the foundations of American power: education and health care; clean energy and basic research.** What does this have to do with our national security?
- **The first element of our strategy is to secure the U.S., through a dynamic global security posture..., forge diverse coalitions and support local partners.** Words, just words. You can't secure the U.S. without securing the

southern border which is never mentioned.

- **President is committed to maintaining the best trained, best equipped, and best led military force the world has ever known...** They left out the word "smallest." That's Obama's real plan for the military.
- **...we're implementing a comprehensive counter-terrorism approach...** Like they did in Yemen? No such thing is being implemented anywhere.
- **...Al-Qaida core has been decimated... home grown violent extremists...** Once again a delusional statement followed by a phrase without mention of what exactly is causing this "home grown" problem.
- **...International reach of our law enforcement and intelligence agencies...** It is all about crimes, not terrorism. Just a bunch of street thugs like every mayor has to deal with, right?
- **...closer to achieving the peace and security of a world without nuclear weapons. ... we've halted the progress of Iran's nuclear program...** They have done no such thing. The Iranians are moving full speed ahead with over 19,000 centrifuges and soon it will be too late. Totally delusional.
- **...pandemic disease.**

Wrong document.

- **American leadership is addressing the very real threat of climate change. The science is clear. ...like our ground breaking climate commitment with China...** This has no place in our national security strategy.
- **Second we will expand prosperity....and reduce inequality and poverty.** This has no place in our national security strategy.
- **...we'll keep sharpening our technological edge to keep the American economy at the forefront of innovation.** This has no place in our national security strategy.
- **...grounded in our commitment to end extreme poverty.** This has no place in our national security strategy.
- **Third...defend democracy and human rights, combat corruption, promote open government and stand with civil society. ... defending universal rights.** This has no place in our national security strategies.
- **...all girls deserve the same opportunities as boys. ...all humans are created equal and are worthy of the same love and respect—including our lesbian, gay, bisexual, and**

See STRATEGY
on page 3

JARED M. SMITH, DMD GENERAL & COSMETIC DENTISTRY

618 Main Street
Cañon City, CO 81212
719-275-0661
jaredsmithdmd.com
E-Mail: jmsdentist@gmail.com



Creating Beautiful Smiles in Colorado

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

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

AUCTION

The Spotted Pig
Liquidation

Saturday, February 21st

Start Time 9 am / 10 am at the latest
Open for viewing at 8 am

Location: 717 Main Street
Silver Cliff, CO 81252

(CHECKS OR CASH ONLY)



Your Opinions... “We the People” Speak



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

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

“Can’t we all get along?” ...Rodney King

by J Cascarelli

I attended the “Town Hall Meeting of the Century” on January 29, 2015, in Westcliffe. It brought to a head conflicting feelings, emotions, and, yes, facts regarding the county change of its newspaper of record. What started out as a simple financial matter, .16¢ per line vs. .44¢ per line, morphed into a knock down drag out fight about liberalism, conservatism, phony land scandals, hate speech, religious tolerance, honest reporting, characteristics of a qualified newspaper, special interest newsletters, and professional reporters vs. private citizen volunteers. Yes, on January 29th the good citizens of the Wet Mountain Valley heard it all.

As the session wore on, the cry from the left leaning members of the community kept coming back to that now famous Rodney King quote, “Can’t we all get along?” Let’s consider, the local issues of the day:

- Local marijuana grows
- Retail marijuana outlets
- A failing public school system
- A clinic on life support
- Ambulance Corps survival
- A contentious sheriff’s election
- Community parade sponsorship
- Firearm ownership in the community
- The death of a newspaper monopoly

As I look at this list, one can ask, “What is there to disagree about in the valley?” My answer is “EVERYTHING.” But, we not only live in the Wet Mountain Valley, we live in America, a constitutional republic. The law of the land includes the Bill of Rights. Free political speech is guaranteed. Listening to the attendees at the “Meeting of the Century,” one would think that all matters in the valley have been in peaceful accord since the 1880s. Could it be that the creation of a conservative newspaper has caused all this so-called animosity. I think not. Americans don’t need any justification to disagree. Actually, we have a long history of disagreement.

Here is what I know:

- Thomas Jefferson bribed a newspaper reporter to spread rumors of George Washington’s “dementia.”
- John Adams and Thomas Jefferson stopped talking for 20 years over political disagreements.
- Andrew Jackson’s beloved wife, Rebecca, died due to an illness caused by newspaper attacks on her during her husband’s run for the White House.
- Theodore Roosevelt so hated Woodrow Wilson that his loosing third-party candidacy virtually guaranteed a Wilson victory.
- It is common knowledge that Kennedy and Johnson hated each other.
- Lincoln was murdered by those who disagreed with his policies.

Americans have engaged in savage and destructive debate on political issues since before the founding. The ability to disagree on almost anything is one of the characteristics of Americanism. “Why can’t we all get along?” The answer is simple. We are a diverse nation and there are many world views. Political disagreement and debate are part of the strength of our system. In most countries, citizens would find themselves imprisoned or dead for speaking their minds. Recently, a Saudi Arabian citizen was sentenced to 1,000 lashes because he criticized the king. The simple fact is that Americans have never been in full agreement with any action of our government or with cultural aspects of society. Brave American colonists and thinkers committed high treason when they signed the Declaration of Independence... the penalty for which was death. Let’s not forget, many of these greatest of all Americans did die in the hulls of British prison ships. Some lost all of their personal holdings and many of their family members suffered in ways that we can only imagine today... all at the hands of the “civilized” British monarchy.

So, my counsel to my colleagues and neighbors is “grow-up.” This isn’t the 60s. We will never return to the 60s and I thank God for it... dissent for the sake of dissent. Political decisions will always disappoint half of the population. In theory, this should motivate all of us to engage in political discourse, study the issues of the day and vote. Whining and/or sobbing at public meetings are just unproductive.

STRATEGY From page 2

transgender brothers and sisters. How does this protect our national security? It doesn’t belong in this document.

- **Advancing equality is both morally right and smart strategy.** Meaningless phrase for security. It doesn’t belong here.
- **....empowers young people through educational exchanges and entrepreneurship.** Irrelevant to security. It doesn’t belong here.
- **....we’ve reduced the population of Guantanamo by nearly half...and we mean to keep going until we finish the job.** This makes it very clear. The Bergdahl exchange was just a way to get rid of the 5 worst terrorists we had under the guise of returning a soldier.
- **Finally our strategy leverages American leadership to uphold the liberal International order...reinforcing rules-of-the-road and strengthening and diversifying our alliances and partnerships...** What is “liberal” international order and how do we uphold it? What are the rules-of-the-road?
- **...we seek a Middle East that is more secure, prosperous, and where democracy can take root.** Then why didn’t we stay in Iraq and Afghanistan while it took root?
- **...strengthen the unique bonds that unite the peoples of Israel and America.** This may be the biggest

distortion of the truth in the whole document. Obama despises Israel.

- **...support those working to achieve political and social reform. ...foster progress that endures.** This doesn’t belong here.
- **...proudly shouldering the responsibilities of global leadership. Our unparalleled leadership is grounded in America’s enduring strengths and guided by a clear sense of purpose.** No we were wrong earlier; this is the biggest distortion of the truth. Unparalleled leadership indeed.
- **President Obama has two years left in his term – and two years is plenty of time...a blueprint... to leaving behind a world that can more effectively meet the dangers of climate change and disease, cyber threats, and extreme poverty.** This is the scary part. Unfortunately, it’s true, two years is plenty of time for Obama to do more damage.
- **Progress won’t be quick or linear...we are committed to pursuing a vision of the world as it can and should be.** The world as it should be – according to whom?

We would prefer a national security strategy that mentions “winning” the war on Islamic terrorism, securing America’s borders and maintaining a large, well-trained military to protect us all. Instead we get this disjointed “word salad” of how things ought to be in the mind of a liberal progressive community organizer. Remember this strategy is from the president who is “listening” to the two-thirds of Americans who didn’t vote. Good Grief!



- 205 4th Street Westcliffe
- Very Short Walk To Downtown
- On 6 lots - With RV Parking
- 2 Beds 1 Bath

Offered at:

\$199,500




Custer County Realty, Inc.

(719)783-9221





902 Main St.
Westcliffe, Colorado
81252
719.783.9221



Custer County Realty

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



Serving Custer County for over 40 years!

www.custerrealty.com • info@custerrealty.com

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 Four Horsemen

I am going to write on a subject that I will, in all probability, not be in agreement with any of my friends, family, or the general public. The four horsemen that I refer to in the title are the immoral pillars of a society which are to be realized in my lifetime. These four horsemen have been around in every society since the beginning of time. However, they have never reared their destructive heads simultaneously as is about to happen in America today. The most destructive horseman appeared in 1973 with the legalization of abortion. It gained its prominence as the most destructive because, in legalizing the taking of a human life, the acceptance of the remaining three horsemen was all but assured! The second most recent horseman was all but assured because it is already so accepted by Americans, the legalization of drugs and marijuana, in our drug dependent society. What could be more innocuous and innocent in a society than a mind-altering drug as marijuana? Besides, it is nobody's business but mine if I want to get stoned! The third horseman pulls on every one's heart strings, Love. If I choose to love

someone of the same sex, then regardless of societal norms, I should be able to marry whoever and whatever I want. Religion be damned! Since "love" is the only criteria to be applied, then society has no right to determine if I should be limited to the opposite sex or for that matter multiple partners of the same sex. The new America is one of unlimited tolerance, without societal limits and full acceptance of the previously unaccepted! The last and possibly most destructive horseman is about to take place once again in Colorado, 'the horseman' representing euthanasia. Its acceptance is all but guaranteed, since it disavows pain and suffering, and opens the door to, once again as with abortion, condoning the taking of human life for the "good" of the individual and society. We are ever so close to having a government panel making medical necessity decisions based solely on the economics of age.

These four horsemen have co-opted every society since the beginning of time. Once again, this society has decided to be more tolerant and disagree with Judeo-Christian dogma, which condemns, as sin,

the taking of human life from conception to a natural death or redefines the sanctity of marriage as the union between a man and a woman, and calls us to treat our bodies as God's gift, not subjected to drugs. Simply put, these Judeo-Christian dogmas are not mindless rules; rather they are the foundation of every society because they work. They are not meant to condemn the homosexual, the woman who has an abortion, the person taking drugs, or the person who wishes to end their life. Quite the contrary, in each fore mentioned case, we are called to befriend, love and help one another! However, every society, that comes to accept and condone the slippery slope of "no moral standard", will set its own time clock for replacement. As a nation, we can boast as having increased our collected intellect ten-fold, but intellect, without God's guiding wisdom, is of little value.

It is amazing to me that my code of morality would be hard pressed today to find one or more family members or friends who would agree with me!!!!!!!!!!!!

*Richard Kohler
Rural Custer County*

Antidote too "Narrow"

Since the "Meeting of the Century" there seems to be a firestorm brewing about the diversity of opinion here in the valley. It has some wringing their hands about the alleged "loss of civility" and the "disturbing and destructive in every way for our otherwise peaceful mountain community." It could be that Barack Obama has some insight into this. In a social media interview with Ezra Klein, Klein asked Obama, ..."according to the polls, you are the most polarizing president really since we began polling... In your State of the Union, you struck back at critics who say that the idea of healing some of these divisions is naïve or impossible. So when you welcome your successor into office, what would you tell them is worth trying that...would reduce the polarization?"

The president replied, "Well, there are a couple of things that in my mind, at least, contribute to our politics being more polarized... we just don't have a com-

mon place where we get common facts and a common worldview the way we did 20, 30 years ago." He has a point. Thirty years ago, most families got their information from *The New York Times*, *The Washington Post* and locally from the *Wet Mountain Tribune*. In those days, Tom Brokaw, Peter Jennings and Dan Rather all sang from the same left-of-center hymn book. Things were so much simpler when there was a "common place" to get "common facts" fitting neatly with a "common worldview." Today, with cable TV, hundreds of alternative media sources and print outlets like the *Washington Times* and now the *Sentinel*, citizens get a diversity of views and they can evaluate all to form one's own opinions. That is the way the authors of the First Amendment of the Bill of Rights intended it to be. Obama followed with, "And I'm not the first to observe this, but you've got the Fox News/Rush Limbaugh folks, and then you've got the MSN-

BC folks... the point is that technology, which brings the world to us, also allows us to narrow our point of view... my advice to a future president is increasingly try to bypass the traditional venues that create divisions and try to find new venues within this new media that are quirkier, less predictable."

Regarding the comment about "allows us to narrow our point of view;" nothing can narrow one's point of view more than a popular media that shares the same ideology. The antidote to "narrow" is numerous news outlets and a readership which reads all. I like the fact that we have two papers. One must wonder if the *Sentinel* is "quirky" enough for Obama.

*Sincerely,
Joe Cascarelli,
Westcliffe*

P.S. For the full interview <http://www.vox.com/a/barack-obama-interview-vox-conversation/obama-domestic-politics-transcript>

VSO Article Correction

This letter is to address the article written by Paul Sage. Mr. Sage, you should have checked your facts before putting this article in print.

The first error you made was, the Veteran Service Officer (VSO) is an unpaid appointed position. Our VSO, Anna Orgeron, donates countless hours to aid the Veterans of Custer County.

The complaints and concerns against the assistant

VSO were brought to the VSO and county commissioners by many Veterans. This is not an American Legion or VFW issue, it is a VETERAN issue. When a Veteran finally reaches out for the help of the Assistant VSO, they need a clean, quiet, professional office to go to. This has nothing to do with philosophical differences. It is about whether or not a person being paid by the County is doing their job to the fullest extent.

Support to the American Legion does not come from the Veterans Trust Fund. The Fund is specifically for Veterans in need of help to pay their housing or food costs. Both the American Legion and the VFW earn their operating funds through membership fees, and fund raisers, you may have attended some here in Westcliffe.

*Daniel and Michel
Hoffman (VETERANS)
Rural Custer County*

Inaccurate information about the Veterans Service Officer Position

I would like to take this opportunity to clarify an inaccurate statement made by Paul Sage in the article about the Veterans Service Officer position on page 4 of the February 6 edition of the *Sentinel*.

From 2008 until the BOCC meeting on 30 January, the Veterans Service Officer position was 'in title only'. This position must be filled by a veteran. The Veterans Service Office (VSO) Assistant must be a spouse, widow, or widower of a veteran. As the Custer County Veterans Service Officer, I am NOT a paid county employee. The

VSO Assistant is the only paid county position. It is the VSO Assistant that attends the annual certification training, and is paid "to help veterans navigate the bureaucracy involved in obtaining their benefits for the Veterans Administration".

The VSO is here to serve veterans and their families. As the Veterans Service Officer, I am always available to help fellow veterans.

*Anna Orgeron, USAF/Ret
Custer County Veterans Service Officer*

Editor/GG: We apologize for the errors.

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

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



First State Bank of Colorado

Banking as it should be



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



302 Main St, Westcliffe (at the 4-way stop)

Call 783-0631 for an Appointment

Taxes Done Right for Less

& You Don't Have to Go Down the Mountain!

Ask your friends about us.

Local Mountain News & Notices

Press Release from Superintendent Selle on our Tragic Loss

The Custer County School District has suffered the tragic loss of one of their young high school students. As per the Custer County Sheriff's office, on the evening of Tuesday, February 10, a 9th grade boy was found deceased from an apparent self-inflicted gunshot wound.

The Custer County Sheriff's office notified school administration at around one o'clock on the morning of Wednesday, February 11. The district's crisis team met early on the morning of February 11 to arrange for grief counselors and local pastors to be on site to provide support for students and staff. All school staff were informed of the incident in a staff meeting at 7:30 a.m. on February 11. High school and middle school students were notified by their first-hour teachers and a telephone call went out to parents of elementary students so that parents could talk to their children. Grief counselors have remained on site at the school during the day of February 11 and will be

on site throughout the day on February 12 to help in assisting students and staff members to cope with the tragedy.

Unfortunately, this is the second such tragedy experienced by the Custer County School District and Custer County community in less than a year. Following the suicide of a 7th grade boy last spring, additional counseling sessions were organized and held regularly starting in the fall of 2014. Students displaying tendencies for at-risk behaviors that could result in self-harm were identified. In cooperation with their parents, these students have been attending bi-weekly group sessions at the school to help them cope with these tendencies. This group consists of both middle and high school students. As the school year has progressed, additional students have been identified and added to the group. The school district has attempted to take a proactive approach to provide support for students at risk of self-harm.

The Custer County School District will continue to provide these services that are already in place to help support students that have demonstrated tendencies of self-harm. Additionally, the school district will be working collaboratively with mental health services in Custer County and in Colorado to further increase support for these at-risk students. Following this incident the school district will again send information to parents listing a number of warning signs for students in depression or at-risk of self-harm.

This incident creates significant pain and difficulty for many in our community. The school district's most sincere condolences are extended to the family that is navigating through this trying time. Please continue to keep them in your thoughts and prayers.

*Thank you,
Chris Selle, Superintendent
Custer County School
District C-1*

Fremont Commissioners Uphold Denial of License to Organic Seed, LLC.

by Candy Thompson

At their regular meeting on February 10, the Board of Fremont County Commissioners made a unanimous decision to uphold their denial for an Optional Premises Cultivation-Commercial Greenhouse license to Organic Seed, LLC. (D.B.A. Cannasseur). The appeal marked the end of the Commissioners' dealing with the most hotly contested marijuana business in Fremont County, but not the end of Cannasseur which has the right to take their appeal to the courts as Commissioner Payne stated at the end of the vote. Cannasseur was originally denied a license at a special meeting on January 5, 2015, of the Board.

Organic Seed, LLC., represented by Dan Corsentino, a former elected sheriff of Pueblo County and private investigative consultant, answered the Commissioners' denial with a 9-page appeal. He summarized in the appeal by apologizing for the statements of Ryan Griego saying effective immediately "Mr. Nick Dremel will be responsible for the site location and the operation of Organic Seed, LLC. Mr. Ryan Griego will

have no operational input and will not communicate with the Fremont County Board of Commissioners." He went on to say how Mr. Dremel and he wanted to establish the utmost professional and working relationship with Fremont County, but the Commissioners didn't buy it and still denied the appeal.

The appeal tried to answer the concerns of the Board of Commissioners that they were misled by statements by Mr. Griego concerning the Piñon Valley Properties, LLC and Mr. Corsentino admittedly characterized Griego's responses as "empty and inaccurate" with the excuse that he was unprepared. The issue of the newer building on the premises without building permits, inspections, and sanitation facilities was explained in the appeal as being pre-existing and not their responsibility, but did say that Mr. Griego admitted that he didn't check to see if the building could be lawfully used.

They did not admit that the allegation of a guard dog attacking a neighbor's dog was true and that the security guard had yelled profanity at the neighbor, ordering him off his own

property, but apologized in the statement for "alleged" actions of the security guard. They characterized the statements of the neighbor as "lies" from a "disgruntled employee". The appeal answered multiple allegations about other violations involving a recreational vehicle, storage containers, fencing requirements, lighting, sewage disposal, and water use to no avail.

Dan Corsentino ended his written appeal by asking the Board "to withdraw their initial denial and allow 90 days for Organic Seed, LLC, to be brought in compliance with the Fremont County Board of Commissioners and Resolution Number 22." The Board did not approve the appeal with no apologies.

Attending citizens of Fremont County burst into applause at the end of the vote and there was a noticeable sigh of relief in the room. The citizens of Fremont County that have been impacted by the operation of Organic Seed, LLC, at 1785 Kit Carson Trail have stood up and been vindicated, at least for now, as the operation will most likely be appealing the decision to the courts.

Silver Cliff Board of Trustees Meeting

by Fred Hernandez

The regular monthly meeting of the Silver Cliff Board of Trustees took place at the Town Hall on Monday, February 1st, with Mayor Larry Weber's call to order precisely on time followed by the Pledge of Allegiance, roll call, and introduction of attendees. The Board moved quickly into the fully loaded agenda starting with a comprehensive presentation by Ms. Christy Culp, Regional Manager of Colorado DOLA (Department of Local Affairs). Ms. Culp gave a detailed description of the services her organization brings to communities throughout the state, with specific advice to the Board on ways and means to take full advantage of the many benefits of working with her department, including but not limited to, training for officials and staff members, grants, financial assistance, economic restructuring, planning of local elections, information systems, and other tools to benefit communities and their leaders. Ms. Culp's expertise of the myriad programs and systems within her department was obvious in her professionalism.

The next item on the agenda was a brief report by Mr. Justin Krall of the Colorado Division of Wildlife who specifically addressed the concern of town leaders about the deer population in Silver Cliff. Mr. Krall gave suggestions and advised all concerned to look into the Wildlife Department's website where more extensive information is given regarding the deer.

Ms. Dee Ryan was next with a formal request to

hold a Winterfest at the town park. Activities will include snowman building, snow ball throwing at fixed targets, and broom ball. The event, which is insured for public safety, will take place on March 7th. On motion made and duly seconded, the Board approved Winterfest 2015 unanimously.

Sheriff Shannon Byerly was next, passing out a report to each board member after which he spoke briefly, giving highlights of his office's activities for the fourth quarter of last year as related to the town. Mayor Weber expressed his concern that enforcement has been light particularly when it came to repeat offenders. Many warnings given but no consequences for those who commit infractions such as not stopping for stop signs. Sheriff Byerly was aware of this matter and had already been working on a process that will address this problem. In fact, one of the benefits of a Computer Aided Dispatch system, which the Sheriff spoke about earlier in the day at the Rotary Club meeting, is the ability to track these offenses and errors.

Other items on the agenda included an update on the Custer County Community Sharing Center, Inc. Mr. Roger Camper stated that he would be conducting an inspection in the near future. He also gave a report on the introduction of Ordinance 01-2014 which deals with the street lighting of the town. There are fifty-two lights in town which cost about \$700 per month in electricity. The ordinance would approve the replacement of the lights with LED bulbs which would then

drop the monthly expense to less than \$300. The board agreed to draft the ordinance. A special meeting will be held after the public meeting of February 23 to discuss the draft prior to presentation to the Black Hills Company.

The Planning Commission recommended the appointment of Mr. David Schneider to fill the vacancy in the commission. Mr. Schneider spoke briefly telling the board that he is a citizen who wants to make a contribution ("I want to put my paddle in the water") to the town by serving in this capacity. On motion made and duly seconded, the board unanimously approved the appointment of Mr. Schneider and Mayor Weber addressed him with a hearty "welcome aboard".

The next item on the agenda was a consideration of the approval for renewal of the license for the Liquor Cabinet. There being no impediment to such, a motion was made and duly seconded, with the Board unanimously approving the request.

Just before closing, Mayor Weber expressed his disappointment at the results of the meeting with the Post Office who claims not much more can be done in terms of restoring a separate zip code to the town, and that addresses in Silver Cliff will have to be changed to reflect East Main Street. The Mayor is not giving up and will continue to pursue his objective to include a meeting with newly elected Senator Gardner.

The meeting, which was very well attended with all seats taken, closed with brief staff and committee reports.

TONIGHT: Valentine's Day at Eagles Summit Ranch

Tonight, Friday, February 13th, the amazing folks at Eagles Summit Ranch are having a "Vow Renewal Ceremony" for several military couples who have been in session this 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 to share. 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!

Local Mountain News & Notices

Westcliffe Town Board Meeting February 10, 2015

by Fred “P-Dawg” Hernandez

Just prior to the regular Town Hall meeting, there was a training session of the members of the Board of Trustees and all staff conducted by Ms. Culp of the Colorado Department of Local Affairs (DOLA). The subjects taken up during the training covered basic procedures during town hall meetings, ethics, proper decorum, and other topics that would improve the flow and efficiency of town hall meetings. The actual training started at 4:30 p.m. and ended promptly at 5:30 p.m. with Mayor Christy Veltrie calling the town hall meeting to order.

In the Old Business section the board considered a request to approve Ordinance No. 2-2015 amending Title 5, Chapter 2 Pride, Health, and Safety. Basically this ordinance has to do with the ongoing problem of prairie dogs. A vigorous discussion ensued including comments from the town attorney which advised the board that they had a right to invoke the ordinance that is already in place, but, as Mayor Veltrie commented, had no proper enforcement. Much dialogue was exchanged between board members and others in the audience regarding cost, enforcement, and fining violators, but where everything ground to almost a halt was in the definition of terms. No one could adequately describe what nuisance meant. What could be a nuisance to one might be desirable to someone else. It was therefore agreed to re-table the matter of the prairie dogs for further review and research on a definition of NUISANCE which everyone could agree on.

The next item on the agenda was New Business which included consideration of requests to approve street closure application, street closure for a summer event, and consideration to keep Christmas lights up for a longer period. The street closure has to do with the organization, Ride The Rockies, which has been around for the past thirty years. Through the Chamber of Commerce, they contacted local town officials to explore the possibility of either starting or ending their ride this year in Westcliffe. It was said that the town would benefit from this event because it attracts tourists and one of the 501(c)3 organizations which deal with the youth would benefit from a grant. The board approved this event

and approved the closing of parts of Main Street and Adams street fronting the bluff for which Ride the Rockies will pay the \$650 fee. It was also mentioned that the town needs at least one hundred volunteers to make sure that this event is a success and residents are invited to sign up at the ‘Town Hall. A meeting is scheduled for next Monday, February 16 at the bowling alley for further details. The ride through the town of Westcliffe is on June 20th, the sheriff’s office has been advised and they are on board.

The consideration for the Christmas lights to stay on longer was approved. The Board decided unanimously that the lights would be taken down after Valentines Day, February 14.

Still under New Business the board informed there would be a Public Forum to discuss the update on the GOCO Grant. GOCO is the acronym for Great Outdoors Colorado an organization which, among other things on its mission, oversees the design of and installation of equip-

schedule and after a ten minute break the public forum was convened with the full board and staff in attendance, but a rather sparse audience. The purpose of the forum was to further discuss the GOCO grant, the budget, the design plan, and the timeline for the rehabilitation of the park playground. The total cost to re-do the playground is \$60,000. The grant from GOCO (Great Outdoors Colorado) is \$45,000. The share from Westcliffe is \$14,000. The time line is tight with the grant approval scheduled for March 4th, the awarding scheduled for June 18 for a build date in August. The main sticking point was the merry-go-round which the park designers, a company called PLAYWORLD, removed from the proposed new playground design. While the merry-go-round has been taken out of most new playgrounds having been banned by most states, the state of Colorado still has not banned it. In which case, one of the members of the Town Board, Mr. Brian Cline vigorously called for the merry-go-round to remain in the playground.



The love of the Merry-Go-Round crosses all boundaries!

Sentinel photo by Fred Hernandez

ment in playgrounds. They offer grants for communities to purchase and install the proper equipment for the benefit of the children. The public forum took place immediately after a break at the conclusion of the Town Hall meeting.

The meeting concluded with brief staff and committee reports. One report informed the board that there had been two bids to do the website design and the board approved the lower bid of \$1,500. The other staff comment worthy of note was from Mr. Jerry Keffer who informed the board that, with regard to the prairie dog issue, any eradication program would not be one hundred percent successful immediately and that this process is usually a two or three year endeavor.

The meeting adjourned on

There was some opposition based on the time line but there was also some support from others in the board and from some in the audience. It was decided to make a call to GOCO and see if there was a way to keep the merry-go-round in the design at least until it is officially banned by the state. Merry-go-rounds are banned because of safety issues.

The community is called upon to support this project by writing letters to insure that the grant is given. Also, a community build seeks those who can help in the construction of the new playground by coming in to help with the building. It is expected that with help this project will be completed in one day.

The meeting adjourned at 7:30 pm.

Celebrating 30 Years Ride the Rockies Unveils the 2015 Route of the 30th Anniversary Tour

DENVER, CO

Ride The Rockies is proud to announce the route for its 30th anniversary tour. The 2015 ride will take place over seven days, June 14 through June 20. Cyclists will ride 465 miles and ascend 40,537 vertical feet through Mesa, Delta, Montrose, Gunnison, Chaffee, Fremont, and Custer counties.

From Colorado’s wine country and the Black Canyon of the Gunnison National Park to Blue Mesa Reservoir and the Arkansas River Valley, this year’s course takes cyclists through some of Colorado’s most scenic and breathtaking terrain. Beginning with a loop stage through the iconic Colorado National Monument, cyclists will then venture across the Grand Mesa, Curecanti National Recreation Area, and Royal Gorge Bridge & Park, along with climbing Cottonwood Pass and Hardscrabble Pass. Host communities include tour favorites Grand Junction, Hotchkiss, Gunnison, Crested Butte, Salida, and Cañon City; and joining the cast for the first time is the town of Westcliffe, where the ride will culminate at Bluff Park with the picturesque backdrop of the Sangre de Cristo Mountain Range.

“This year’s cyclists will climb to new heights, ascending 40,537 vertical feet,” said Chandler Smith, Tour Director. “Ride The Rockies is all about the awe-inspiring, beautiful, and rugged experience of touring some of Colorado’s most renowned regions. This year’s tour will deliver on that promise while

also allowing participants to take in the sights and sounds of each host community.

Each day of the ride brings on average \$250,000 in economic impact to its host communities. Local businesses such as hotels, restaurants, bike shops, and retailers benefit from the tour. Additionally, The Denver Post Community Foundation, in partnership with Wells Fargo, awards a \$5,000 grant to a non-profit organization in each town. Thanks to more than 100 dedicated volunteers and its gracious hosts, Ride The Rockies has continued to bring riders to Colorado’s most beautiful sites and welcoming communities for a remarkable 30 years.

Ride the Rockies is a non-competitive event. However, training for the tour is strongly recommended. Training information is available online. For more information, contact Ride the Rockies at (303) 954-6700 or visit the event website at ridetherockies.com. Cyclists may register for the event online at ridetherockies.com. Applications will be accepted February 8 - March 1. Once the lottery is conducted, applicants will be notified of their status on March 6.

Representing the Custer County Chamber of Commerce, Donna Hood is announcing a public forum meeting to be held on February 16 at the Ranchers Roost beginning at 5:30 p.m. Everyone interested in being involved with the planning and details involved in hosting Ride the Rockies is invited to attend.

Consequences of Marijuana Use in Young People

Analysis & Commentary by Paul Sage

While the evidence that marijuana use by young people can lead to long-term problems has always been available, since the state of Colorado signed up as lab rats in this drug experiment, the evidence has become clearer than ever.

Following the will of the people on the Amendment 64 vote legalizing pot in the state, Custer County has opted out of the experiment. The Town of Westcliffe has not taken a stand on the issue as of this date. The town of Silver Cliff has actively pursued “education” from pro-drug lobbyists on the issue to determine its future course, expressing its willingness to trade the future of the youth in the area for the perceived economic stability of the town.

According to statistics

provided by the Healthy Kids Colorado Survey, young people in Custer County already have a marijuana abuse problem. The Healthy Kids Colorado Survey is conducted every odd numbered year by the Colorado Department of Health and Public Environment.

In 2013 the survey found that between 19% and 23% of high school students in Custer County had used marijuana in the past 30 days. This puts the county in the group among the third highest users of pot in the state and above the statewide average. In neighboring Pueblo County where the pot industry is legal and booming, the survey found use of the drug among high school students among the highest in the state with past 30-day use topping out at over 32%.

County Public Health,

the school district, and the local media have, in general, failed to get the word out to the young people of the consequences of the use of this drug. That task has become more difficult and more important with the state legalization of use by adults.

Just some of the findings of the various studies regarding marijuana use among young people provided by the Colorado Department of Health and Public Environment are as follows:

1. Regular marijuana use by adolescents and young adults is associated with impaired learning, memory, math, and reading achievement, even 28 days after last use. These impairments increase with more frequent marijuana use.

See CONSEQUENCES on page 14

Local Mountain News & Notices

West Custer County Library Borneo Exhibit and Presentation

A display of Borneo photographs, maps, and mementos from local photographer and world traveler Gushikawa are the focus of a display at the West Custer County Library during the month of February. To see more photographs and hear stories from her 1995 journey through the Borneo Rainforest and its indigenous inhabitants, the community can attend a free presentation by "Gushi" on Friday, February 20 at 5:00 p.m. in the Library Community Room.

During her trip, Gushi visited the people who have been displaced into settlements, much like what happened to the Native American Indians of North America. She then traveled up the river to the Iban and Dayak people who were celebrating the rice harvest with the Tuak Festival. Gushikawa ate, drank, and slept with families in their long houses as they have lived for centuries. Her next adventure was to go deeper into the rainforest on a guided trek to find the nomadic Penan, hunter gatherers. Her trip to find



Gushi with Borneo natives

them was successful which will be visible in this intriguing presentation.

Gushikawa was born in Okinawa and has been a colorful character in the Custer County community since 1996. She is a woman of many talents: world traveler, photographer of indigenous people, and a Ceremonial Sword Danc-

Courtesy photo
er for Peace with a loving spirit for all.

The capacity for the library's Community Room is 50 people, so it is suggested that attendees arrive early to ensure a seat at this free presentation. For more information on the event, contact Library Director Amy Moulton at 783-9138.

Colorado State University Extension to Host Estate Planning Workshop

Sensitive issues such as money, death, and family relations are difficult issues not only to bring up but also to talk about in any depth. It is hard to approach these issues calmly when there are strong feelings about what is important. Some people avoid discussing these subjects because they believe it to be disrespectful and uncomfortable.

A survey of Americans found that both parents and adult children were uncomfortable discussing the one-dimensional topic of leaving an "inheritance", but both enthusiastically embraced the idea of leaving a "legacy". People believe a legacy captures all facets of an individual's life-including family traditions, history, sharing stories, values, and wishes. For most people inheritance or estate planning are scary, dry terms. A complete legacy, according to the study, is built on four pillars: Values and Life Lessons, Personal Possessions of Emotional Value, Instructions and Wishes to

be Fulfilled, and Financial Assets/Real Estate.

"Everyone should determine what and to whom they want to pass on the legacies of their lives and then communicate those wishes with family members," said Tranel, CSU Agricultural and Business Management Economist and author of *Leaving a Lasting Legacy*. He added, "The difficult part of succession and estate planning is talking with family members. It is much easier to visit with a qualified accountant and attorney to apply the available tools."

The day long workshops will walk participants through the four pillars of a Lasting Legacy. Past workshop participants have greatly enjoyed Tranel and Dalsted's use of stories, discussion, examples, clickers, and other educational tools to help farm and ranch families begin documenting their legacies. Dr. Dalsted said "this program truly helps farm and ranch families get things in order before they consult with an attorney. There are

many tools available for estate planning. However, if a family does not know what it wants to have happen to their personal assets and farm, the tools may not be the right ones."

Passing on one's life work is important and critical to the success of the farm and ranch business. People should really discuss their wishes with family members, develop and document good succession and estate plans, and then consult with their attorney and accountant. The issue is so important that the USDA Risk Management Agency is funding CSU's efforts to help Colorado's farmers and ranchers.

The programs will be presented by Jeff Tranel and Norm Dalsted and are designed to help farm and ranch families to document their wishes and communicate those wishes to family members. People interested in participating in the workshops should contact the County Extension Agent at 719-783-2514 or e-mail at robin.young@colostate.edu.



*Your Valentine
Headquarters!*

We have everything for your sweetie!!

411 Main St. in beautiful Westcliffe, Colorado • 719.783.9393 • Open Mon.-Sat. 10-5 & Sun. 12-?



SEIFERT ENTERPRISES

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

Phone: 719-783-2757

Info@SBCompanies.com

Fax: 719-783-2988

www.SBCompanies.com



Concrete
Resurfacing
with epoxy
Elite Crete
System

Sentinel Steel
Buildings,
Sales, Erection



www.sentinelbuildings.com



- Over 45 Years of Experience
- Most Insurances Accepted
- Same Day Repairs and Relines
- Custom Night Guards and Dentures



Rick Fortner

Now Accepting Medicaid for Dentures

318 Orchard Springs
Pueblo West, CO 81007

1227 S. 9th Street
Canon City, CO 81212

719.924.8623

719.285.4784



www.housefamilydental.com

Local Mountain News & Notices

A Princess Ball

The CCHS class of 2016 is hosting the
Annual Father/Daughter Dance
on **Saturday, February 28th**
in the multi-purpose room at Custer County Schools
from 6:30-8:00 p.m.



All princesses and their daddies (or other significant male role model) in grades K-5 are welcome to attend. The price is \$15 per couple and \$5 for each additional person. Plan on an absolutely unforgettable night of dancing, competitions, crafts, and indulging in succulent snacks from the chocolate fountain!

Please RSVP by February 17th to Michelle Selle at 783-4940.

The following businesses are partnering with the CCHS Business Club to offer generous discounts and specials for your special evening with your princess:

- 10% Discount - Chappy's, Tony's Mountain Pizza, Rancher's Roost
- 15% Discount - Alpine Lodge, Nacho Mama's
- Buy one entree, get 2nd entree 1/2 price - Sangrita's
- TBD - Silver Cliff Mountain Inn

Salty Pine Floral and Boutique will be selling mini corsages for \$15 and boutonnieres for \$12!

PLEASE CALL AND
MAKE YOUR RESERVATIONS NOW!!



Bobcat Youth Basketball

by Kristen Foster

What an amazing day of basketball! It was a packed house this week in the gym for the Bobcat Youth Basketball League and the games did not disappoint!



A jump ball at the youth basketball league.

Sentinel photo by Jim Silver

In the Junior Division, the Hawks were handed their first loss of the season by the Lions, with a close score of 12-11. Mia Sayhouse led the Lions with 10 points, while Lily Bomgardner added two. Great team defense was played by Ainsley Selle and Ariana Eicher of the Lions. For the Hawks, Matthew Ensy and Samantha Gray each had four, Ben Stafford had two and Grant Rusk sunk a free throw. Tough defense was played by Zach Smerchek and Stephen Hess.

Also in the Junior Division, the Broncos and the Blue Jays ended in a tie after a single overtime with a score of 15-15. Harry Kroker tied up the game with a free throw for the Blue Jays with 32 seconds left in regulation. Josh Wofford led the Blue Jays with 12 points. Also for the Blue Jays, Raina Rusch drained two free throws in the sec-

ond half. Elijah Anderson and Adison Selle played amazing at the point guard position for the Blue Jays. For the Broncos, Christopher Mullett led his team with eight points, Isaac Smerchek had four, Brooke Bomgardner had two and Colt Moulton added a free throw. Great defense was played by Andrew Flynn and Michael Cessnun of the Broncos. It was an amazing game!

In the Senior Division, the Thunder got their first win of the season! They took down the Heat in another great game of the day with a score of 20-18. Ben Penkoff showed amazing guard skills with his crossover dribble and layups for the Thunder and had a total of 16 points for his team, while Chad Lewis added four. Sheyenne Shy and Bailey Sluder played amazing defense for the

Thunder. Garrett Stepanich of the Heat, led his team with great point guard play with 14 points. Brooke Flynn and Jackson Mullett each added two. Bubba Widger and Weston Jones played strong defense for the Heat. What another exciting game!

The Senior Division played a halftime scrimmage at the Girls Varsity game against Crested Butte. Congrats to the Lady Bobcats on their win!

Games are played every Saturday in the East Gym starting at 9 a.m. Come out and cheer on our little Bobcat Basketballers. The Championship games for the Bobcat Youth Basketball League will tip off at 9 a.m. on Saturday, February 28th! Awards for the season will be immediately following the completion of all games.

Bobcats Boys Sandwich a Win!

by Jim Silver

For the first time this season, and most seasons for that matter, the basketball team played three games, in a week-- Wednesday, February 4th, Thursday, and Friday. The first and last were games played on the Custer County home court, and Thursday's game was a short trip up the road to Cotopaxi. Thursday's game was against Swallows Charter Academy, a school in Pueblo West. The Bobcats put an impressive 59 points on the scoreboard, with Devon Hockaday leading with 19, followed by Cody Lyons and Conner Rowley with 13 and 12 points each. Also impressive is the 52% shooting from the floor. The team contended in all but the second quarter, when they were outscored 15-4. The Spartans also scored some points, to leave with an 86-59 win over the Bobcats.

In Thursday's away game, the Bobcats came out on top against the Cotopaxi Pirates, 50-38. Rowley led his team with 25 points, followed by Jordan Rhodes who scored 11. The team hit 46% of their shots from the floor and 67% from the



Conner Rowley sinking a 3-pointer.

Sentinel photo by Jim Silver

free-throw line--both are respectable. Cody Lyons pulled down 7 rebounds, leading the team in that category. The Bobcats show that they've gained some composure in moving the ball on offense. They gave up 15 turnovers in this game and the previous night against Swallows, and did nearly as well in Friday's game.

Crested Butte came to play on the Bobcats court on Friday, the 6th. The hometown fans were treated to some good basketball by Custer County, but for a slow start in the first quarter. At the end of the first eight minutes the Titans were ahead 16-3. The Bobcats nearly matched the Titans point-for-point thereafter, but couldn't pick up that deficit. Crested Butte left with a 50-34 win at the end of the 32 minutes of play. Rowley led the Bobcats' scoring with 12 points, and Lyons again worked for 7 rebounds.

Looking at a basketball game in terms of 32 minutes of play tells part of the story of what this season's Bobcats are up against, being a roster of seven players. For these three games, the team was down to six players due to illnesses of a couple of its players. With just a one-man bench to substitute from, the starters are getting very little relief. This team has come together and has shown a lot of effort and determination.

The Bobcats travel to Stanford to take on the league-leader on Friday, February 13. On Friday, the 21st of February, Custer County will play their final home game against South Park, with the girls game scheduled to start at 3 p.m. and the boys to follow. Come out and support the Bobcats! The team travels to Antonito the next day, Saturday, February 22nd for the final game of the regular season.

Bobcats Sport Schedule

VARSITY BASKETBALL

Friday, February 13
4 p.m.: Sanford AWAY

Friday, February 20
4 p.m.: South Park HOME

Friday, February 21
4 p.m.: Antonito AWAY

WRESTLING

Friday, February 13
5:15 p.m.: Regionals at Rye

Saturday, February 14
10 a.m.: Regionals at Rye

Thursday - Saturday, February 19-21
TBA: State at Pepsi Center

Soup Suppers at Hope Lutheran Church

Please join us in sharing a light meal during Lent.
We will be eating around 6 p.m.

Wednesdays:
Feb 18, Feb 25, Mar 4, Mar 11, Mar 18, Mar 25,
and April 2 (Seder Type Foods)

There will be a worship service at 7 p.m.

Local Mountain News & Notices

Lady Bobcats 3 and 0 Last Week!

by Jim Silver

The Swallows Charter Academy Spartans came from Pueblo West to our town to play basketball on Wednesday, February 4, with the girls' game starting at 5 p.m. This was a hastily scheduled, non-league game, so attendance was just a bit down. The Lady Bobcats didn't disappoint their hometown fans who turned out though. Simply put, the Bobcats outplayed the Spartans with the final score telling the story: 80 to 28. The Spartans were outgunned and unable to stop the Bobcats offense, as the scoreboard shows. On defense, the Bobcats forced turnover after turnover with a very effective full-court press. As Head Coach Gary Fischer describes this aspect of the game, "our defense is really improving! We are starting to understand exactly how to work together in order to stop opposing teams. 'Help defense' has been outstanding!"

On Thursday, February 5, the Bobcats traveled just a few miles for an away game against the Cotopaxi Pirates. Custer County took a 15-20 first quarter lead and never let up. The next quarters were evenly



Elizabeth Mullett sinks a jump shot

Sentinel photo by Jim Silver

matched until the fourth, when the Bobcats outscored the Pirates 17-2. They walked away with a satisfying final score of 56-33. The team was able to pull down an impressive 22 offensive rebounds, which always helps put points on the scoreboard. The defensive attack was much the same as the first game of the week for the Lady Bobcats. The relentless full-court press forced Pirate turnovers, and Custer County accounted for 15 steals. The Bobcats posted an amazing total of 43 rebounds--both ends of the court--which defines their control of this basketball game.

Crested Butte came to the Custer County home court on Friday to contend with the Bobcats in their third game of the week. The Titans weren't up to the challenge. The Lady Bobcats took an 11-0 first quarter lead and kept on rolling to win 62-11. In the words of Coach Fischer, "The

great thing about our team on offense is, each game's leading scorer is someone different. When we can get all the girls clicking on the same night, I believe we can beat anyone. These girls are a pleasure to coach! They really work hard at improving and are understanding what a 'TEAM' is all about. No individuals, just team players."

A down-side to the report on the week's games is that 9th grader McKensie Penkoff suffered a knee injury in the first game against Swallows. Coach Fischer says that he has challenged all the girls to get three more rebounds per game to make up for the loss of McKensie, and "they are up for the challenge!" The Bobcats take on the Sanford Indians in an away game on Friday, February 13. They hope to continue their four-game winning streak, as they face one of the top three teams in the District. GO BOBCATS!



A Visit to VALI

Custer County 5th Graders visited with the residents of VALI Assisted Living on Tuesday and sang several songs that they had rehearsed for the occasion. The fun was contagious as folks were singing along, clapping, and really enjoying the afternoon.

Sentinel photo by Audrey Slater



Bobcat Menu • Feb. 16 - Feb. 19, 2015

Monday breakfast
Cheese Quesadilla
Fruit
Milk
lunch
Hamburger Hash
W.W. Roll
Choice of Veg. & Fruit
Milk

Tuesday breakfast
Scrambled Eggs
W. W. Toast
Fruit, Milk
lunch
Pancakes & Sausage
Choice of Veg
Choice of Fruit
Milk

Wednesday breakfast
Banana or Blueberry Mini Loaves
Ham
Fruit, Milk
lunch
Mac 'n' Cheese
Birthday Cake
Choice of Veg. & Fruit
Milk

Thursday breakfast
Sausage Gravy
Biscuit
Fruit, Milk
lunch
Corn Dog
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

Matmen Have Season Finale in Crowley County

by Michelle Pedigo

The regular season of grappling has ended with the team posting a 7-14 record in Crowley County. It seems the team has been plagued this year with an abundance of illness and injury, and only six Bobcats were on the mats. Titus Crawford, having committed to serve our country in the U.S. Air Force, conceded to following advice not to risk further injury, and effective with this tournament became the videographer for the team.

The 113-pounder weight class was a round robin, in which Dylan Schoch logged a win by decision and four losses. When 126-pounder Taiyr Seilkhan was pinned in a quick first match, he came back with determination. Although he held off a pin in his second match, he was unable to post a win. Andrew Feldmann, 145-pounder, had his best day of the season, posting

three wins for the day, while 152-pounder Edgar Pedigo continued to gain experience at 0-2. A win by decision for Cody Koble, 152-pounder, gave him a 1-2 record, and 170-pounder Kody Aldrich had a split day at 2-2.

With the regular season complete, that brings us right up to Regional competition for Friday night and Saturday in Rye. CHSAA 2A Region 2 includes teams from Antonito, Centauri, Centennial, Center, Del Norte, Fowler, John Mall (Walsenburg), La Veta, Manzanola, McClave, Monte Vista, Rye, and, of course, our own Custer County. Weight classes are set up in 16-man brackets, and it is anticipated each class will have 12-13 wrestlers. The top four wrestlers in each weight class qualify to compete at the State competition starting February 19 at the Pepsi Center in Denver.

KIDS Friday, February 13, 2015

February: Black History Month Harriet Tubman Civil Rights and Women's Suffrage Activist and Union Scout

Harriet Tubman was born into slavery in Dorchester County, Maryland, perhaps in March, and perhaps in 1822. She had only a general idea when she was born. Tubman was well known and respected during her lifetime, but became an "American icon" in the years after she died, which was on March 10, 1913, at the age of 91. She has been called one of the most famous civilians born before the Civil War.

As a child, Tubman worked at the home of a planter doing field and forest work, driving oxen, plowing, and hauling logs. She was brutally treated and suffered seizures for the rest of her life because of a blow to the head. Though she was an illiterate child, Harriet held tightly to her Christian faith, a faith received through Bible stories told her by her mother.

In 1849 Harriet escaped from slavery, which in her case meant fleeing northeast out of Maryland through Delaware and into Pennsylvania - across the Mason-Dixon Line - a journey of nearly 90 miles. She was aided by an informal but well-organized system called the "Underground Railroad." Harriet became a "conductor" and worked for eight more years, aiding the escape of hundreds and finally her own parents out of slavery. Her leadership earned her the nickname "Moses."

In 1863, Tubman guided three Union steamboats around Confederate minefields, rescuing more than 750 slaves in the "Combahee River Raid." She worked for two more years with Union forces, scouting and nursing. Later in her life, she worked alongside Susan B. Anthony in the cause of women's suffrage.

Harriet Tubman contracted pneumonia which led to her death. She was buried with semi-military honors in Auburn, New York.

Source: www.wikipedia.org, www.bibliography.com

Sangre de Cristo Sentinel • Westcliffe, Colorado

Corner



Local Mountain News & Notices

CUSTER COUNTY LEGAL NOTICES



EMPLOYEE COMPENSATION PAID BY CUSTER COUNTY FOR THE YEAR 2014

EMPLOYEES INDICATED * RECEIVES ADDITIONAL COMPENSATION
IN THE FORM OF FRINGE BENEFITS BY CUSTER COUNTY.
THE AVERAGE FOR SUCH BENEFITS IS 12% OF GROSS SALARIES.

COUNTY GENERAL		
*County Commissioner	\$49,700.04	*Detention Officer \$36,536.28
*County Commissioner	\$49,700.04	*Detention Officer \$16,056.00
*County Commissioner	\$49,700.04	*Detention Officer \$26,395.59
*County Commissioner	\$49,700.04	*Detention Officer \$25,390.90
*Board Administrative Asst.	\$15,468.11	*Detention Officer \$7,992.26
*Planning & Zoning Director	\$39,703.92	
*Planning & Zoning Clerk	\$33,934.20	EMERGENCY SERVICES
*Information Technology/GIS Director	\$44,658.96	*Communications Dispatcher Sergeant \$7,152.51
*Finance/HR Director	\$49,419.85	*Communications Dispatcher \$24,782.63
*County Coroner	\$22,100.04	*Communications Dispatcher \$25,420.48
*County Clerk	\$49,700.04	*Communications Dispatcher \$28,201.52
*Chief Deputy County Clerk	\$43,318.64	*Communications Dispatcher \$3,985.00
*Deputy Clerk /Motor Vehicle	\$31,417.68	PT Communications Dispatcher \$16,674.52
*Deputy Clerk/Recording	\$26,889.36	*PT Communications Dispatcher \$12,294.41
PT Clerk Help	\$3,420.00	PT Communications Dispatcher \$2,821.25
*County Treasurer/ Public Trustee	\$56,930.04	
*Chief Deputy County Treasurer	\$35,423.88	* Office of Emergency Management
PT Treasurer Help	\$866.25	Director \$33,440.16
*County Assessor	\$49,700.04	ROAD & BRIDGE
*Chief Deputy County Assessor	\$31,858.92	*Supervisor \$58,828.35
*Transfer Clerk	\$26,180.16	* Supervisor \$33,632.86
*Cartographer	\$35,955.96	*Asst. Supervisor \$62,533.90
*Appraiser	\$32,959.44	*Asst. Supervisor \$51,214.81
PT Custodian	\$6,441.75	*Administrative Asst. \$24,672.12
*Maintenance/Custodian	\$13,270.05	*Mechanic \$54,082.98
*Landfill Operator	\$31,106.64	*Mechanic \$15,991.75
*Landfill Operator	\$26,262.56	*Operator \$38,232.07
Landfill PT Help	\$934.80	*Operator \$30,732.89
Recycling Coordinator	\$10,497.59	*Operator \$46,549.82
*Public Health Nurse	\$49,951.13	*Operator \$27,310.62
*Public Health Admin Asst.	\$25,057.50	*Operator \$11,206.28
Public Health PT Help	\$17,836.77	*Operator \$29,992.15
Useful Public Service Coordinator	\$6,894.00	*Operator \$28,039.68
PT Veteran’s Service Officer	\$10,157.04	\$75.00
*Extension Secretary	\$36,461.76	*Operator \$29,220.75
*County Sheriff	\$66,600.00	*Operator \$27,862.26
*Under-Sheriff	\$72,470.58	*Operator \$13,171.68
*Sheriff Administrative Asst.	\$40,911.71	*Operator \$33,632.86
*Deputy Sheriff	\$19,511.07	*Operator \$29,671.85
*Sheriff Code Enforcement Officer	\$12,376.25	Custodian \$2,099.40
*Court Security Officer	\$43,946.76	HUMAN SERVICES
*Deputy Sheriff	\$38,591.41	*Director \$65,252.40
*Deputy Sheriff	\$42,164.00	*Social Caseworker \$51,994.80
*Deputy Sheriff	\$24,963.02	*IM/Legal Tech \$56,028.32
*Deputy Sheriff	\$44,284.21	*Case Service Aide \$19,088.64
*Deputy Sheriff	\$35,243.88	*Case Manager \$16,639.80
*Deputy Sheriff	\$5,887.46	
*Deputy Sheriff	\$33,856.04	
*Detention Sergeant	\$31,051.34	

Published February 13, 2015
Sangre de Cristo Sentinel
Westcliffe, Colorado

PUBLIC NOTICE

**Custer County
BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS
Tentative Agenda
WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 18, 2015
9:00 AM**

Meeting Location: Wetmore Fire Station

- Call meeting to order
- Pledge of allegiance
- Roll Call
- Amend agenda
- Audience introduction
- Approval of minutes
- Public Comment
- Commissioner Items
- Attorney Items
- Executive Session
- New/Old Business
- Airport Advisory Board
- Wetmore Road and Bridge
- Wetmore Project

- Sheriff Computer Aided Dispatch (CAD) System
- EagleNET

NOTICE TO PUBLIC: To meet publishing deadlines, all agenda items must be submitted either by calling the Commissioners Office at 719-783-2552; in writing to the Commissioner’s Office at PO Box 150, Westcliffe, CO 81252; or by e-mail to kris@custercountygov.com no later than 9:00 AM on the Monday of the week prior to the BOCC meeting. Items not submitted in time may be tabled for one month so they may be properly published. True emergency items will be heard.

Published February 13, 2015
Sangre de Cristo Sentinel
Westcliffe, Colorado

PUBLIC NOTICE

The Custer County Board of Zoning Adjustment will hold a public Hearing on February 24, 2015 at 1:00 P.M. Custer County Commissioners room. The following will be considered:

1. Hearing for Black Hills Energy electrical substation/ Creation Undersized lot for an electrical substation, County Road 255, Custer County Colorado.

The agenda is posted on the bulletin board located in the hall of the Custer County Courthouse. Copies of the agenda are available in the Custer County Planning and Zoning office.

Anyone wishing to comment may do so at the Hearing or by mail to Custer County Planning and Zoning office, P.O. Box 203 Westcliffe CO 81252; by fax 719-783-9907 or by e-mail Jackie@custercountygov.com

Ordered published by
Kenneth Patterson, Chairman
Custer County Board of Zoning Adjustment

Published February 13, 2015
Sangre de Cristo Sentinel
Westcliffe, Colorado

PUBLIC NOTICE

The Westcliffe Planning Commission needs to fill a vacancy on the Commission. The member must be 18 years of age or older and must live within the Town of Westcliffe limits. If interested please submit a letter of interest to Alan Clark at P.O. Box 406 or Benson Hall – 305 Main Street, Westcliffe, Colorado 81252.

Letters of interest must be submitted on or before Wednesday, February 25th, by 5:00 p.m.

Alan Clark
Building /Zoning Official
Town of Westcliffe

First Publication: February 13th, 2015
Final Publication: February 20th, 2015
Sangre de Cristo Sentinel
Westcliffe, Colorado

PUBLIC SERVICE ANNOUNCEMENT

Custer County’s Veterans Service Office
511 Main Street, Westcliffe
now has new hours:
Monday & Tuesday
9 a.m. to 4 p.m.
719-783-9470

Classifieds

For Sale

99 Chevy S10 ZR2 3Dr 161K
5-speed KN Air intake Vortex
V6 bedliner, nearly new tires
\$4K - OBO PH 719-783-9452

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

The Custer County School District is accepting applica-

tions 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>

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).

Real Estate

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

Services

CHAINSAW SHARPENING:
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. Don't let your septic fail!
NORDYKE SANITATION

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

Local Mountain News & Notices

Sheriff's Report...

Between February 4th and February 9th, there were 126 calls for service.

As of February 9th there were three men in the county jail.

02/04/15
10:41 AM, Ambulance Run: EMS was called to the Custer County Clinic for a transport of a 72-year-old male with an altered mental status. The patient was taken to St. Mary Corwin Hospital in Pueblo.

02/04/15 I-15-698
11:00 AM: A deputy was dispatched to Marcey Road in Silver Cliff Heights to investigate a reported burglary of a private residence.

02/04/15 T-15-089
5:26 PM: N. Fourth Street & Hwy 69: Traffic Summons: Boh, Abbigale (DOB in 1984) of Cañon City was issued a summons for speeding 5 to 9 mph over the limit.

02/04/15
10:08 PM, Ambulance Run: EMS was dispatched to Linda Lane in Silver Cliff Heights for a male (age unknown) suffering from hypertension and uncontrollable shakes. A deputy also responded to the scene.

02/04/15 T-15-90
8:22 PM, Butler Street & Hwy 96: Traffic Summons: Bertoldo (DOB in 1996) of Pueblo West was issued a summons for speeding 10 to 19 mph over the limit.

02/05/15 T-15-094
08:27 AM: Vehicle red-tagged on 5th and Hermit.

02/05/15 T-15-095
09:00 AM: Party cited for driving 10-19 MPH over the posted limit in the area of the 59000 block of Hwy 69.

02/06/15 I-15-750
09:03 PM: Subject called about a friend whose daughter was causing a disturbance. Daughter had left the scene by the time officers responded. No criminal activity was found to have occurred and no charges were filed.

02/06/15 I-15-096
Deputies responded to a single vehicle roll over T/A on CR 271. Richard Miller (DOB in 1965) of Westcliffe was cited for Careless Driving.

02/07/15 I-15-755
12:18 AM: Suspicious subjects behind bar (Somewhere Saloon). Parties turned out to be two juveniles waiting for their parents who were inside the establishment.

02/07/15 I-15-764
02:30 PM: Officers were contacted in regard to a handgun that had been potentially illegally altered into a fully automatic firearm. Investigation is ongoing.

02/07/15 T-15-098
09:47 PM: Party (Day, Kyle DOB in 1980) issued a citation for reckless driving on

Butler Street in Silver Cliff.

02/08/15 T-15-099
01:17 PM: Citation issued to Goerke, Steve (DOB in 1954) for 10-19 over the posted limit on Hwy 69 and Hermit Rd.

02/08/15 T-15-101
04:58 PM: Citation to Baptist, Ronald (DOB in 1955) issued for expired plates in the area of HWY 96, MM 24

02/09/15 O-15-20
04:38 PM: Officer on a traffic stop in the area of HWY 96, MM 25 issued citations to two underage parties for possession of marijuana.

02/09/15 T-15-107
04:45 PM: Theisen, Dawson (DOB in 1994) was arrested for driving on a suspended license after failing to yield for the stop sign at the intersection of HWY 96 and HWY 69.

02/09/15 T-15-105
02:32 PM - Officers took a report from a party on damage to a vehicle in the Custer County High School parking lot. Accident report was issued. Nothing further at this time.

02/09/15 I-15-809
08:00 PM - Officers responded to EMS call involving a juvenile with severe head pain and a black-eye. Nothing suspicious was found in regards to the injury. Nothing further at this time

Events Calendar

Friday, February 13
Custer County School Incident Training
6 p.m.: Potluck and ceremony for Couples Session at Eagles Summit Ranch; public invited
Monday, February 16
Presidents Day: Courthouse CLOSED; Check with your local bank
5:30 p.m.: Ride the Rockies public forum at

Rancher's Roost regarding planning details for 30th anniversary cycling tour ending here
Wednesday, February 18
9 a.m.: BOCC meeting in Wetmore
Friday, February 20
3:15 p.m. - 4:45 p.m.: Westin Denver Downtown in Foyer, Denver, CO: Colorado Press Association's Student Internship/Job Fair

Recurring Events and Business Hours

Monday
6 p.m.: Closed step study Alcoholics Anonymous at St. Luke's Episcopal Church in Westcliffe. Call Jim at 783-2053 or (360) 509-9172 or Lisa at (719) 783-0809
Monday through Friday
8 a.m. - 5 p.m.: Custer County public transit service available to everyone through Wet Mountain Valley Rotary Club. Call 783-2343
Monday, Tuesday, Thursday
Noon: Lunch served at Custer County Senior Center located on first floor of Silver Cliff Town Hall. Call 783-9508 to RSVP by 9:30 am
Monday and Thursday
11 a.m. - 5 p.m.: Lighthouse Pregnancy Resources in Silver Cliff assisting new mothers and families. Free pregnancy tests, ultrasound, counseling, and more. Call 783-4357
Tuesday
12 - 4:30 p.m.: Bridge Club meets in the library community room in downtown Westcliffe.
6 p.m. - 8 p.m.: Jammin' band at The Mining Company Restaurant in Silver Cliff
First Tuesday of the Month:
6:30 p.m. at Cliff Lanes - American Legion
Post 170 monthly meeting
6:45 p.m. Post 170 Auxiliary monthly meeting
(March-October) at the Saddle Club.
Tuesday through Friday
10 a.m. - 5:30 p.m.: Library open in downtown Westcliffe; 783-9138
Wednesday
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
Thursday
Second Thursday of the Month: 10 a.m. - 11 a.m., "Ask a Nurse" at the library
Friday
6 p.m.: Open discussion Alcoholics Anonymous meeting at St. Luke's Episcopal Church. Call Jim at 783-2053 or (360) 509-9172 or Lisa (719) 783-0809
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

Grand Opening

The Custer County Chamber of Commerce
and The Custer County
Economic Development Corporation

Are happy to announce the opening of their offices at
107 N. Third Street, Westcliffe, Colorado, 81252

Come and join us in our celebration!
Sunday, February 15th, from 1 - 4 p.m.

RSVP to 783-9163

THE BIBLE ON TRIAL Beyond A Reasonable Doubt

The world's most widely circulated book is also one of its most highly debated. Check out how the Bible has withstood intense scrutiny from critics and cynics alike in *The Bible On Trial: Beyond a Reasonable Doubt*. You'll come away with a fresh appreciation of the Bible as an historical document and the Word of God.

Hope Lutheran Church
Beginning February 27 at 9 a.m.
at the Lange Hall Library



Norup Gas Inc.
28 Rangeview Loop
(Rangeview Industrial Park)

Located
one mile north of Westcliffe
on Highway 69.

Office hours:
Monday through Friday
8 a.m. until 5 p.m.

719-783-9338

Custer County Bobcats Middle School Basketball



Boys Team back row from left Coach Cravens, Cash Rowley, Dalton Wommack, Dillion Kinsey, Billy Berry, Tyler Ferron, Austin Fenley, Daniel Hunter, Patrick Post, and Coach Thompson. Front row from left Hunter Speer, Truman Fenley, Colin Hess, Alex Gall, Chad Lewenkamp, Wesley Curtis, and Wyatt Aldrich.



Girls A Team back row from left Coach Kinsey, Katie Florom, Sierra Stepanich, Alisha Lyons, Jessie Henrich, Lindsey Gilmore, and Coach Parrish. Middle row from left Kylinn Wisecup, Holly Wenger, Brittany Brandon, Holly Young, Grace Flynn, Emma Aldrich, and Katherine Mullett. Front row from left Violet Funk and Brittany Benoit.



Girls B Team back row from left Coach Kinsey, Kamri Garhart, Holly Young, Memphis Curry, Kate VonSteinman, Lindsay Anaya, and Coach Parrish. Front row from left Brittany Benoit, Katherine Mullett, Nora Lewis, Hannah Kennedy, Anna Berry, Sydney Cooper, Kylinn Wisecup, and Addie Vittitow.





Colorado State News



“Takin’ It To The House...” A Calendar And Commentary From The Golden Dome

From: Representative Jim Wilson – HD 60
February 8, 2015

This past week was a week of “Bigs” at the Capitol – Big bills, Big issues, and Big crowds. Large numbers of people turned out to testify for and against bills dealing with the repeal of Gun laws, Felony DUI, and Death with Dignity. The gun bills turned out as we predicted in last week’s column – all the House bills died in committee and the Senate bills move on to the Senate floor. No surprises there!

Probably the biggest surprise of the week (along with one of those “What was I thinking?” moments) occurred in the House Judiciary Committee that heard the Felony DUI bill. A large crowd of witnesses was gathered in Hearing Room 271 when the Committee Chair, Rep. Daniel Kagan (D-Greenwood Village) announced that the Felony DUI bill would be laid over and not be heard that day. The TV cameras were rolling as a lady who had driven in from Grand Junction went off on Chairman Kagan. Other witnesses joined in the protest as the State Patrol Capitol Security was alerted. Chairman Kagan called for a recess...

Following the recess, Chairman Kagan announced that testimony would be heard but no action would be taken – that decision did not sit well with the crowd either! Long story short -- the bill was heard, testimony was taken, and the bill was passed by committee on a unanimous vote. In the end, witnesses were heard, the bill sponsors were happy, and Chairman Kagan survived his “What was I thinking?” moment...

The week’s finale of the “Big 3” was the Friday committee hearing on “Death With Dignity” or “Physician Assisted Suicide”. The bill, sponsored



by Rep. Joann Ginal (D-Ft. Collins) and Rep. Lois Court (D-Denver) aired emotions on both sides of the issue for several hours. The “Death With Dignity” bill was ultimately defeated on an 8-5 bipartisan vote.

My personal “biggie” for the week was the big headache I developed while listening to a K-12 funding forecast given to the Joint House and Senate Education Committees. I have known for some time that funding the state’s education budget was headed for a cliff -- I just did not realize the cliff was so close! Here is the *Reader’s Digest* version: imagine emptying your savings account to purchase something that would cost you that same amount or more every year thereafter with no money to pay the recurring bill... Welcome to the Governor’s latest education budget proposal!

I will be sharing more about the education budget as the session continues, but simple math shows we are in trouble. The Governor’s proposal will deplete the State Education Fund and

create a projected \$524.4M obligation from the General Fund in FY 2016-17. The experts predict a total increase in the General fund of \$856M. Bottom line? It would take 62% of all new revenue just to fund the Governor’s education proposal! But wait...there’s more: If the TABOR refund kicks in for 2016-17, \$620M would be returned to the taxpayers leaving only \$236M in the General Fund. Let’s see...\$236M in available revenue less a projected \$524.4M obligation for K-12 funding -- Oh, that equals a deficit of \$288.4M with no monies available to fund any other state programs! Are you starting to understand why I developed a headache?

One final note: Rep. Polly Lawrence, (R-Littleton) is the new Asst. Minority Leader and Rep. Perry Buck (R-Windsor) is the new Minority Whip. Please feel free to contact us at 303-866-2747 or e-mail us at wilsonforhd60@gmail.com or james.wilson.house@state.co.us.

Yours for HD 60 --
Representative Jim Wilson

Colorado Legislators Propose Bill to Reduce Socially Undesirable Citizens

Analysis and Commentary
by Paul Sage

During her regular report to the Board of County Commissioners, County Public Health Nurse Gail Stolzhus brought a controversial piece of legislation to the attention of the Commissioners for their information. The Commissioners asked to be kept apprised of its progress in the legislature.

House Bill 15-1194, introduced by Boulder Democrat Kathleen Collins Becker and Montrose Republican Dan Coram would allocate \$5 million of your tax dollars from the general fund of the state to make “Family Planning Services” more widely available across the state, resulting in a significant decrease in the birth rates of young women with incomes at or below one hundred fifty percent of the federal poverty level.

The bill is a response to what is being promoted by some as the great success of a five-year trial program in the state. The trial program was begun in 2008 and funded by a “\$23 million anonymous donation,” according to the *Washington Post*. The August 20, 2014, *Post* article quotes a federal CDC and Colorado study which both reflect the great statistical success of the program. The program “provided more than 30,000 IUDs or implants to women served by the state’s 68 family planning clinics.” It further states that, “the state’s analysis suggests the initiative was responsible for three quarters of the decline in the

state’s teen birth rates.”

The trial program primarily targeted young 15- to 19-year-old girls with low income and education levels, which resulted in “observed birth rates in 2011 (which) were twenty-nine percent lower than among low income women between the ages of fifteen and nineteen years,” to quote House Bill 15-1194. Remember parental consent is not required in Colorado for a fifteen year old to receive this kind of “service”.

According to a scholarly review of Edwin Black’s 2003 *War Against the Weak: Eugenics and America’s Campaign to Create A Master Race*, by Rodney Daniels, “Black’s thesis is that American elites used eugenics as a method of social control meant to completely annihilate the lower classes.”

For those educated in the later 20th century, when the theory of eugenics in western society – formerly a common science textbook subject – went underground in response to Nazi Germany’s adaptation and practice of it being declared war crimes, some background may be necessary.

The term “eugenics” was coined by 19th century French theorist Francis Galton. “Eugenics is the study of all agencies under social control which can improve or impair the racial quality of future generations,” according to Edwin Black.

The theory of “negative eugenics” in play in the

current Colorado initiative states that “1) The lower classes and minorities, including non-assimilated European immigrants, poor white Americans, Blacks, Mexicans, and Native Americans were genetically inferior; and 2) they were by definition of ‘unfit’ heredity, only capable of reproducing genetically inferior offspring,” according to Daniels’ review of *War against the Weak*.

The hormone implants and copper ion emitting IUDs the Becker and Coram Colorado House Bill seeks public funding for are also the very “birth control” measures the U.S. Supreme Court recently ruled Hobby Lobby would not be required to supply employees through Obamacare insurance requirements because they can be interpreted to cause abortions, depending on the perspective of when life begins.

The provision of these reversible long-term sterilization methods in the state of Colorado “which result in costs avoided by the state and local governments” (HB 15-1194) to low income and uneducated citizens smacks of social engineering not seen since the days of Nazi Germany.

In addition to reducing the number of costly and “genetically inferior” high-cost citizens in the state, the funding “resulted in seven new clinics opening, business hour increases at thirteen contractors, and staffing and outreach increases at twenty contractors,” according to the proposed legislation.

Note on the above article, from State Representative Jim Wilson:

HB15-1194 (Rep. Coram: R – Montrose) seeks to permanently fund a grant-based, expanded family planning program, the primary focus of which was to expand access to long-acting, reversible contraception (LARC) and related services. I do not support this bill.

However, Rep. Coram also is sponsoring HB15-1079 which is a prevention program. This bill is based on a 3-year pilot program in which only 1 out of the 140 teen participants reported a pregnancy. This bill differs from the LARC bill in that it:

- Emphasizes abstinence and teaches effective ways to avoid pregnancies and disease

- Helps participants develop skills for making responsible and healthy decisions

- Includes discussions of how alcohol and drug use impairs responsible and health decision-making

- If a client is sexually active, it provides information about the benefits of using contraceptives to prevent disease and pregnancy.

I believe HB15-1079 deserves serious consideration. It focuses upon abstinence, information, and prevention – not LARC distribution! If you hear I am supporting a “Coram Bill”, please check with me to see which one it is... Thanks!

CONSEQUENCES From page 6

2. Regular marijuana use by adolescents and young adults is strongly associated with developing psychotic symptoms and disorders such as schizophrenia in adulthood. The risk is higher among those who start using marijuana at a younger age. The risk is higher with more frequent marijuana use.

3. Starting marijuana use during adoles-

cence or young adulthood is associated with future marijuana addiction.

4. Marijuana use by adolescents may be associated with low academic achievement, such as not graduating from high school or attaining a university degree, lower income, and more unemployment.

In the already challenging educational environment in Custer County, more marijuana influence does not need to be added to the mix to further challenge the system and stretch the available resources.

Fremont County Bulletin

News, Opinion, Commentary

Lt. William Ray Replaces Shannon Byerly At CCPD

by Charlotte Burrous

Following in his father's footsteps, William Ray served in the Marine Corps before going into law enforcement.

"My father is retired from law enforcement," he said. "He was in the Marine Corps, as well. So I followed his steps."

Recently, Ray was selected to serve as lieutenant in the Cañon City Police Department, where he works in internal affairs, budget, department policy and training.

"I'm the liaison to coordinate the training that's required by state POST," Ray said. "I'm to make sure that

for the Department of the Army as a police officer at Fort Carson, then he transferred to USP Florence as a correctional officer before transferring to Department of Defense Police after 9/11 when they instituted a Civilian Police Department in Fort Carson. He graduated from Highlands Ranch Law Enforcement Academy in Littleton then he worked as a police officer in Castle Rock for three years before coming to Cañon City.

"I've enjoyed everything within law enforcement -- the interaction with the public, helping people, of course, and quality of life," Ray said. "Crime displaces people. When people are the victims ... you do what



Welcome to Lt. William Ray!

Courtesy photo

(we're) in compliance with state POST standards."

Ray started his career in January 2010 as a police officer in Cañon City, where he worked as a full time field training officer before being promoted to corporal in 2012. Several months later, he was promoted to sergeant and now serves as the lieutenant at the local police department.

A 1994 Cañon City High School graduate, Ray joined the U.S. Marine Corps, where he was deployed to Okinawa, Japan, and Kuwait, serving six years before being discharged.

From there, he worked

you can to put normalcy back into their lives by helping them achieve the goal -- whether it's getting their property back if it's stolen, or if they're a victim of an assault -- all the way up the line. A lot of times, (victims) don't have people or a 'to go to' person to try to get some resolve from whatever crisis is affecting them at the time." That's one of the things I've always enjoyed - helping people."

He is married to Erika, who works with the Social Security Administration. His son, William, is in Marine Corps Boot Camp, and his and Erika's 6-year-old son, Carter, is in kindergarten.

Fremont County Planning and Zoning Gives The Go-Ahead to Manufacturing of Marijuana Infused Products (MIP) in Penrose

by Candy Thompson

In a 4-3 vote, the Fremont County Planning and Zoning Committee voted to recommend that the County Commissioners approve the use of the historic Apple Shed property for manufacturing of marijuana infused products (MIP) for medical use. The audience at the meeting on Thursday, February 3rd, was reminded by the Chairman to behave like adults, possibly referring to former hearings when emotions ran high on the subject of marijuana. The hearing ran for almost two hours without outbursts and went smoothly without a hitch for the applicant. Apprehension, however, is very acute when it comes to an MIP business in Fremont County, given the history and problems that have resulted with medical marijuana grows in Penrose and in the western part of the state. As expected, this meeting was well-attended by both sides.

All seven board members were present and had copies of the application by Chris Haight, a Colorado Springs resident who will be leasing the building from owner Ali Abrahamin, who gives his address as Nashville, Tenn. Mr. Haight, who calls his business "Thressor, LLC", will not only be manufacturing marijuana infused products for medical use but will be growing approximately 1000 plants hydroponically indoors. When questioned about the disposal of the water, he said that he had contracted with a company to remove the waste hydroponic water rather than draining it into the sewer. Their handling of the water will follow the guidelines for hazardous waste materials even though the waste would not be classified "hazardous".

Another great concern mentioned was the possibility

of an explosion with the use of butane gas in the manufacturing process because of the high flammability of the marijuana products. The safety measures proposed were discussed and the board also heard from

eral area. He also checked "yes" to question #36 on the application which asked, "Will the proposed project in any way enhance the community pride felt by the residents of Fremont County?" Recent voting,

They will be holding a meeting in March to determine whether to approve the Special Review Use and issue a license.

the Captain of the Penrose Fire Department. He had great concerns about a possible explosion that could result in closing down Hwy 115 and their capacity to handle a catastrophe such as could occur.

Board member Fey who voted "no" cited #28 on the application: "The proposed use should have minimal effect on adjacent uses, the use and its location should be compatible and harmonious with its surrounding neighborhood... should not impact the rural character of the county, should not impair public health, welfare, prosperity and safety."

The applicant listed "none" on anticipating any impact of the proposed use on existing adjacent land uses, which includes a home east of the property that is for sale and a church whose property is adjacent on the south side. The pastor of the church, however, feels differently. No one else on the board gave any reason for their vote, whether yea or nay.

Although many would disagree, the applicant checked that the proposed use would have no effect on property values in the gen-

attendance to public meetings, and the general outcry of residents in Penrose and in the western part of the state would seem to belie this though no one has done an actual official poll.

The only positive effect that was mentioned was that the property would get a face lift and then, of course, there's the property taxes that will be collected. Otherwise, the products that are produced are supposed to be traced by the state from "seed to sale" and are supposedly being shipped out to be sold for medical marijuana use only.

#43 of the application begins, "The purpose of the Fremont County Zoning Resolution is to promote the health, safety, morals, convenience, order, prosperity, and welfare of the present and future inhabitants of Fremont County..." The applicant says this business meets this purpose by "positive growth in economy, with new jobs, added taxes, and low energy use with water recirculation for watering." Even though there will be a half dozen jobs

See MIPs on page 16

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

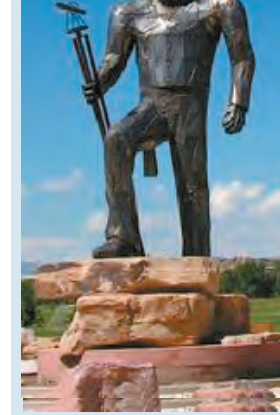
printed here, or

covered in an

upcoming issue.

sdc.sentinel

@gmail.com



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

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

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

Coyote Den
Highway 115 & 6th Street
in Penrose

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

Cotopaxi Community Church Invites You...

Come and enjoy a free breakfast and auction at the Cotopaxi High School Cafeteria on Saturday, March 14 from 8 a.m. until noon.

The Cotopaxi Community Church is hosting their annual fundraiser to support local missions during the month of April.

The breakfast starts at 8AM and last year included sausage, eggs, pancakes, biscuits and gravy, juice, and coffee.
The menu this year will be similar.

There will be a silent auction and a live auction - all quality items, many hand made by local artists. Also for sale will be art, books, household items, goods or gift certificates donated by local area businesses, and food and entertainment. This year there will be an ATV trip complete with a meal cooked over an open fire. Donations and auction proceeds go to support the church's home missions week, which provides material, helping hands and free labor for local (Chaffee, Custer, and Fremont counties) residents.

If you have something you would like to donate, please call Bruce Dunavin at 719-942-4864."



When the people fear their government, there is tyranny; when the government fears the people, there is liberty.

Thomas Jefferson
Founding Father and Third President of the United States
Sponsored by Critical Path Metalworks, Westcliffe, Colorado

CITY
Auto Plaza

3151 E. Highway 50
Cañon City
1-855-971-3536



Jeep DODGE RAM

Fremont County Side Line News

by Edward Whitcraft, RGTP

The Fremont County Republican Central Committee held an organization meeting on Saturday morning, 7 February 2015, and during the course of the meeting new officers were voted in. Approximately 60 people gathered at the meeting, however, only 42 were authorized to cast ballots during the election phase of the committee meeting. There were no real surprises during the meeting with the order of business being conducted as outlined in the agenda. Item number 10 on the agenda was to elect new officers for the Republican Central Committee.

The first position to be filled was the chairperson. Surprisingly, only one person was nominated that being Richard Hollabaugh. Since there was no other nominations, a voice vote was taken with Richard being elected to the Chair position. Richard is well known in the Fremont County area as being an active conservative. Not only is he active in the Republican Party but also in the Royal Gorge Tea Party and the All American Freedom Festival. Richard should bring a lot of energy, conservative ideas, and "let's get-er-done" attitude to the central committee. The next position to be filled was the Vice Chair. Two people were nominated and after the votes were

tabulated Dee Stubbs was elected to that position. Dee is a local business woman here in Cañon City and is very active in different organizations in the community. Nominations for the position of committee secretary was next on the list. Again only one person was nominated. Roxanna Hollabaugh was nominated through a voice vote. She was elected to the position. Roxanna is also very well known as a lifelong Republican and very conservative. Roxanna is also an officer and member of the All American Freedom Festival and Royal Gorge Tea Party. Two nominations were made for the position of Treasurer and after the vote was taken and tabulated Eric Embry was the new Treasurer. Eric just recently returned from his second tour in Afghanistan and completed his obligation to Uncle Sam. He is the Chair for the Fremont County Young Conservatives and is very interested in seeing the Republican Party move to bigger and better things. Lastly Fremont County is allowed two Bonus members. Four nominations were presented and after the tabulations of votes were complete Caroline Grantham and Barbara Pascoe were our new Bonus members. Both ladies are stalwart workers and members of the Republican Party. All positions were filled with new people with the exception of the Bonus positions. I'm sure a learning

curve will take place but all will hit the ground running and wanting to do a herculean job.

Richard should bring a lot of energy, conservative ideas, and "let's get-er-done" attitude to the central committee.

Last Thursday, 5 February 2015, at Fremont County Planning and Zoning meeting members voted 4 to 3 to recommend to the Fremont County Commissioners that the application for a manufacturing facility for marijuana be approved. The location of the facility is a nine-acre place known as the Apple Shed which borders State Highway 115 in Penrose. For those familiar with Penrose it's the property that has the giant rocking chair next to Highway 115. The application calls for the growing of approximately 1,000 plants. This should be a very interesting vote for our commissioners as each one of them is on record as opposing any new marijuana facilities in the county. More news to come on this after it is placed on the county agenda.

MIPs

From page 15

and property taxes, does that outweigh the negative impact to this county that may not be visible or measurable? Are we prostituting ourselves for the money to be used by people who could care less about our county so they can get very wealthy?

The County Commissioners will have to make the final decision. Should we have a business manufacturing MIP at a historic piece of property in Fremont County on Highway 115, the gateway to Fremont County? Does this business proposal meet the requirements and standards we think they should meet as stated in the applica-

tion? They will be holding a meeting in March to determine whether to approve the Special Review Use (SRU) and issue a license. The MIP business must get a county and a state license and have their SRU approved by the Commissioners who can still deny a county license at this point. Given the problems that have ensued over medical marijuana grows in Fremont County, it is hoped that our Commissioners will have the wisdom and courage to say "NO".

For input to Commissioners email them at debbie.bell@fremontco.com, ed.norden@fremontco.com and tim.payne@fremontco.com

Stay Informed

Get Involved



Will the Fremont County Commissioners vote to turn the former Apple Shed into a grown house and manufacturing facility for marijuana infused products?

Courtesy photo

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.

Separation of Church and State, Islamic Style

Separation of church and state is gaining a lot of steam these days. The Islamic State, the new Islamic Caliphate, burned alive in a cage a Jordanian pilot, what *Reuters* reports as a form of killing that is “considered despicable by Islam.” All of a sudden it is revealed the religion that enslaves women and children, is an extensive dealer of drugs and human trafficking, cuts off limbs, buries people up to their waists and stones them to death, beats people to a pulp with whips, and beheads men, women, and children who do not agree with Islam, is now against burning someone alive. Such humanitarians these people! All over the Middle East, *Reuters* reports, even IS supporters are saying it crossed the line. *Reuters* reported, “King Abdullah cut short an official visit to the United States on Tuesday. In a televised statement to the nation, he urged national unity and said the killing was a cowardly act of terror by a criminal group that has no relation to Islam.” Jordan promptly hanged two Islamic State Islamists—one a woman already sentenced to death for terrorism, and the other a man, sentenced to death for his leadership in al Qaeda. The Jordanian pilot’s father said, “I want the state to get revenge for my son’s blood through more executions of those people who follow this criminal group that shares nothing with Islam.” So separation of Islam and Islamic State apparently rests on a method of killing. I’m not kidding. This is the way it is with Islam. There is always some contradiction that gives plausible deniability that this act or that one is associated with Islam. The clerics always point to the “peace of Islam” and how Islam is a peaceful religion. It is if you agree to submit to its brutal system of Sharia Law and make no waves, living your life in fear of upsetting someone. Because if you do, there is aplenty in the Koran to make sure what ever you do has severe and inhumane consequences. In 2012, an Islamic husband killed his wife because she bore him a daughter when he wanted a son. In 2013, an Islamic father burned to death his wife and injured his three daughters because one daughter wanted to marry for love. American politicians often point out that everything bad about Islam is not representative of Islam. But we have to have the discernment of Jesus on these things. He said in Matthew 7:15-16, “Beware of false prophets, which come to you in sheep’s clothing, but inwardly they are ravaging wolves. Ye shall know them by their fruits.” Indeed, a system that uses a book written by a false prophet and separates its morals from its actions at will using such a book is a huge contradiction. And politicians that parrot this dialectic are their allies. The U.S. “president” for example, said the Islamic Jordanian pilot represented “universal human values that stand in opposition to the cowardice and depravity of ISIL.” There is nothing in Islam that represents universal human values.

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

Obama Revealed His True Colors at Prayer Breakfast, and True Ignorance of History

by Allen West,
AllenBWest.com

There is grave danger in statements supporting moral equivalency and religious relativism. What happens is horrific behavior is excused because you have a certain recalcitrance in admitting the existence of evil.

President Barack Obama had the chance to affirm our Judeo-Christian faith heritage at the National Prayer Breakfast just days after the world was exposed to the savage and barbaric actions of ISIS in the burning to death of the captured Jordanian fighter pilot. But he did not.

The world has been exposed to the brutality of militant Islam for some 1,400 years – a theocratic-political totalitarian ideology that spread by way of the sword, not peaceful proselytization.

As we reported yesterday, instead the Islamapologist-in-Chief attempted to find moral equivalency between the brutality of ISIS and Christianity, saying that violence rooted in religion isn’t exclusive to Islam, but has been carried out by Christians as well.

“Unless we get on our high horse and think this is unique to some other place, remember that during the Crusades and the Inquisition, people committed terrible deeds in the name of Christ,” Obama said. “In our home country, slavery and Jim Crow all too often was justified in the name of Christ.”

Obama also denounced Islamic State terrorists for professing to stand up for Islam when they were actually “be-

traying it.” “We see ISIL, a brutal vicious death cult that in the name of religion carries out unspeakable acts of barbarism,” he said criticizing them for “claiming the mantle of religious authority for such actions.”

Now, being a simple student of history, I’d like to share a simple analysis — and please, I ask all the Islamapologists reading this to sit down and take a deep breath.

First of all, Pope Urban II called for the Crusade in response to Muslim brigands and raiders who were attacking Christian pilgrims in the Holy Land. I find it rather odd that Obama would refer

to something that is over 900 years old in order to make a statement of relativism. The sad truth is that no one is running around in Knights Templar white robes declaring “God wills it.” However, the same enemy that Pope Urban II saw as a threat exists to today and still declares, “Allahu Akhbar.”

As for the Spanish Inquisition, consider that this came after the expulsion of Muslim domination on the Iberian Peninsula for some 700 years. It was, however, an overreaction to ensure that Catholicism reigned superior and was never again subjugated as it had been under the Moors of North Africa.

I found it interesting that Obama failed to mention the exchange between the Dey

of Algiers and Thomas Jefferson concerning the attacks of American vessels and enslavement of Americans by Muslims, the infamous Barbary Pirates. The Dey of Algiers conveyed to Mr. Jefferson that they were only carrying out the dictates of their prophet towards infidels, kafirs. Interestingly enough, hundreds of years later, the Maersk Alabama and Captain Phillips had to deal with the same — Islamic piracy. Back then Jefferson sent the Marines. And thank God a sharp thinking U.S. Navy Commander made a decision to give the green light to the exceptional U.S. Navy SEAL snipers in the case of the Maersk.

You see religious relativism in this case dismisses the actions of ISIS who is actually more closely following the exploits of Mohammad.

If you study history and begin at the Medina phase, approximately 622 AD, you’ll find a murderous warlord who used terror and “religious manipulation” as he led almost 25 combat raids, the first being the Nakhla raid, circa 622 AD. This all came after the “peaceful” first phase of Islam, just 12 years in length.

The world has been exposed to the brutality of militant Islam for some 1,400 years – a theocratic-political totalitarian ideology that spread by way of the sword, not peaceful proselytization. Hence why the flag of Saudi Arabia has a koranic verse above the sword of Mohammad.

And if you understand the Koran and the hadiths you’ll find the history laid out here corresponds to a shift in the verses and traditions towards violence — which the latter verse under the premise of “nakeesh” (abrogation) su-

persede the previous “peaceful” verses — yet all are still held in equal regard as the words of Allah as revealed to Muhammad.

Lastly, as we shared yesterday, Obama should be careful in equivocating slavery and Jim Crow to the actions of ISIS — after all it was those righteous Democrat Christians who supported such heinous actions as lynchings.

I have a simple recommendation for President Obama — don’t attend any more National Prayer Breakfasts. The angst created by these ill-conceived words is just not worth it — better to just not be there, than to be there and call into question your loyalties to the Judeo-Christian faith heritage of America.

Obama once again attempted to lecture us and failed miserably. ISIS is Islamic, they are militant Islamists and they represent an evil that came from a man who went rogue and used a religious belief as a means to an end — power. Now, that should have been the crux of Obama’s comments, but I suppose those “undisclosed” Muslim leaders with whom he met had a different idea.

Mr. President, true, you are not running again, and true, you did win twice. But even truer, you are (condemning) your reputation as a president and may never hold any regard or esteem of the American people. Then again, perhaps that was always your aim, as you fundamentally transform our beloved Constitutional Republic.

Reprinted with Permission. Please see: allenbwest.com/2015/02/obama-revealed-true-colors-prayer-breakfast-true-ignorance-history/

Colorado Sheriff: Executive Amnesty Is ‘Slow Way of Erasing the Border’

by Barbara Hollingsworth,
CNSNews.com

(Editor/GG: Folks, give thanks for our Colorado Sheriffs. They stood up against the unconstitutional gun laws the democrats passed two years ago and they are standing up against Obola’s illegal immigration invasion of our country. They are the last line against federal tyranny.)

(CNSNews.com) –

Larimer County, Colorado Sheriff Justin Smith, who calls President Obama’s executive amnesty “a slow way of erasing the border,” took to Face-

book to criticize what he called a “veiled threat” by Department of Homeland Security (DHS) Secretary Jeh Johnson.

In a February 3 DHS press release, Johnson warned of “consequences” to local public safety agencies if Congress does not pass a bill “unburdened by politically charged amendments that attempt to defund our executive actions on immigration reform.”

Smith told CNSNews.com that he was “offended” by the press release, which was forwarded to him and other sheriffs and chiefs of police.

Current funding for the department expires on February 27. On Tuesday, Sen-

ate Democrats again blocked a House appropriations bill that strips funding for executive amnesty.

“I received a very interesting veiled threat letter from Jeh Johnson, the Secretary of Homeland Security addressed to all police chiefs and sheriffs around the country,” Smith said in a February 3 Facebook post.

“His letter made it clear that if Congress didn’t send President Obama the DHS funding bill that he wanted (rubber-stamping the president’s executive am-

See BORDER on page 10



Young's

Drilling & Pump Services

719-275-5482

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

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

NORDYKE SANITATION LLC

Don't let your septic fail!

Call Art

for your septic pumping and inspections.

719-783-2747 or 719-371-3523



Cañon City Coins

Collector & Investor Coins - Buying, Selling & Trading

(719) 269-7507



123 S. 5th St. - Cañon City, CO 81212

Your Satisfaction Is Our Goal

OASIS

Outdoor Improvement

Sam & Trish Deatherage 719-371-2899
oasisimprovement@outlook.com

FREE ESTIMATES
Senior & Military Discounts

Landscaping / Lawn Care
Tree Trimming & Removal / Fencing
Exterior Construction & Remodeling



POWER OUTAGE? NO PROBLEM!

GP POWER SYSTEMS

(Formerly Miller Automotive & More)

Serving your needs, BIG & small since 1992

Contact Glenn at
719-371-8625

We Sell & Service
Locally and to
Surrounding Counties

Made & Assembled in America!



KOHLER
Generators



Wapiti Realty Ltd. • Jean Canterbury

719.783.9052 • 217 Main Street
www.westcliffecolorado.com

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

A Proud Strategic Partner With



For everyone who exalts him-
self will be humbled,
and he who humbles himself
will be exalted.”

Luke 18:14, NIV

The EPA Is Ready to Regulate American’s Wood Stoves

by Michael Bastasch,
DailyCaller.com

(Editor/GG: More liberal love for us rural folks. Note that their private jets are exempt.)

The EPA has finalized a 344-page rule to make wood stoves more environmentally friendly, meaning that millions of Americans will soon be forced to buy more expensive wood-fired stoves.

Republican lawmakers have opposed the rule, saying it would harm millions in rural America that rely on wood stoves to heat their homes every winter. With natural gas and electricity prices on the rise, wood stoves can be an economical choice for many living in the countryside.

“The EPA’s shortsighted regulatory overreach is once again hitting hard-working Montanans in their pocketbooks,” said Montana Republican Sen. Steve Daines.

Some 2.4 million American households rely on wood stoves for heat. When the agency proposed the rule last year, critics argued 80 percent of wood stoves in use would not meet tightened standards and consumers would never be able to buy them brand new — raising energy costs for millions of people during

the coldest times of the year.

“Thousands of Montanans rely on wood burning stoves for affordable, cost-effective energy — yet once again, the EPA is moving forward with new, costly regulations that could stand in the way of Montanans’ access to new residential wood heaters or burden Montana families with higher costs,” Daines said.

But EPA claims the rule will save lives while only costing \$45.7 million per year. EPA also argues that forcing people to ditch their wood stoves will result in 360 to 810 fewer deaths per year from reduced emissions of carbon monoxide and volatile organic compounds.

“To the extent that children and other sensitive populations are particularly susceptible to asthma, and that minority populations and low-income populations are more vulnerable, this rule will significantly reduce the pollutants that adversely affect their health,” the EPA said in regulatory documents.

The finalized version of EPA’s rule also gives manufacturers more time to make and certify stoves that emit fewer pollutants. Politico’s Morning Energy notes that “[c]ompanies that make

small wood-burning forced air furnaces will have to meet first-step emissions limits by 2016, with large furnaces having until 2017.”

“All sizes have to meet second-step limits by 2020,” reports Politico. “EPA will also allow conditional certification for up to a year for several devices if the manufacturer gets an EPA-accredited lab to certify an emissions test.”

Despite the EPA selling its final wood stove rule as more lenient, worries from lawmakers persist in states with frigid winters.

Wisconsin Republicans State Rep. David Craig and State Sen. Frank Lasee introduced legislation to prevent state regulators from implementing the EPA’s wood stove rules. Craig and Lasee argue the rule will only serve to raise energy prices for state residents and hurt manufacturers. Missouri has also introduced a law to block the EPA wood stove rule.

“The Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) continues to introduce regressive standards that hurt Wisconsinites, particularly low income families who rely on wood heat,” said Craig.

The wood stove lobby has also opposed the rule, say-

ing the EPA “missed the mark” on certain issues.

“To be clear, our industry does not oppose new emission standards,” said Jack Goldman, president of the Hearth, Patio & Barbecue Association. “We simply want to ensure that these future standards produce a real clean air benefit that consumers can afford.”

“For example, some of the future standards proposed for wood-burning appliances do not meet the government’s duty to set standards based on data that shows both a tangible benefit to consumers and cost-effectiveness,” Goldman said. “From what we have learned from EPA about the final rule, the new standards for cordwood performance are of particular concern, since the Agency appears to have acknowledged that there are no cordwood test methods yet for many appliance categories, much less data using such test methods.”

But Goldman tried to ease concerns from lawmakers saying these new standards “do not affect appliances already owned by consumers or already in the marketplace.”

Reprinted with Permission. Please see: dailycaller.com/2015/02/05/epa-wood-stoves/

BORDER

From page 17

nesty), local and state public safety agencies would not receive federal grants they were counting on because the president would veto the DHS funding bill.

“Let me get this straight - the president believes he has the authority to nullify federal laws that don’t serve his personal agenda, but if Congress dares to exercise it’s responsibility of controlling the purse strings, he will willingly hold public safety grants hostage just to get his way?

“Mr. President, you don’t have to love the Congress we elected, but you do have to respect their role as established under the Constitution -and Mr. Johnson, please show some integrity and stop with the threats. Sheriffs don’t take kindly to them.”

“I was very offended by the tactics, the veiled threat, the attempt to bully us,” Smith told CNSNews.com. “It’s a political game that is below the dignity of a Cabinet secretary. You’d be a fool not to recognize that what he’s saying is that we need to put pressure on our senators because the president will veto the bill if he doesn’t get his way.”

Smith, who is serving his second term as sheriff, said none of the projects Johnson threatened are in Larimer County, although the press release did mention funding for upgraded oxygen masks and tanks for firefighters in nearby Denver.

“I have actually not gotten into federal grants as much as some local law enforcement agencies,” Smith

told CNSNews.com. “I appreciate that there are some appropriate times when the federal nexus is necessary, such as in the border counties. But all too often, they sell their souls to the federal government.”

CNSNews.com asked Smith whether his county is affected by illegal immigration.

“I don’t know a county in the U.S. that isn’t,” he replied. “We certainly have issues here on a regular basis: horrible motor vehicle crashes and violent crimes committed by illegal immigrants. The big concern I have with executive amnesty is that it is a very complex chess game that dismantles the Secure Communities program.”

The Secure Communities program “prioritizes the removal of criminal aliens...who pose a threat to public safety and repeat immigration violators,” according to U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE).

“Under Secure Communities, when we have somebody in the jail, we put them in the system to see whether they appear to be here illegally, match them up with the immigration folks, and hold them on a detainer if they are,” Smith explained.

“But the new Priority Enforcement Program (PEP) won’t let us know who is and who isn’t in the country illegally. It’s an attempt to hide this information from the local community. It’s a slow way of erasing the border. It makes every county in America a border county.”

The sheriff said that PEP has a three-tier evaluation system to determine whether a person should be deported. “Maybe Osama bin Laden

would have a chance of being deported under Tier 1, but everybody else? Heck no,” he pointed out.

“Mr. President, you don’t have to love the Congress we elected, but you do have to respect their role as established under the Constitution.”

Smith said that he and many of his fellow sheriffs are “done with being pawns. We are not tools of the federal government. We banded together two years ago when the federal government tried to push gun control regulations, which we felt were unconstitutional,” he told CNSNews.com.

“We will not sit quietly when the federal government oversteps its bounds,” he added. “Sheriffs in Colorado, and more and more across the country, are becoming the front lines on these issues. Over the past four or five years, we’ve realized that we have just as much responsibility to protect the rule of law and the Constitution as we do to enforce the laws already there.

“The people’s rights and due process are also our responsibility, and we’re speaking out louder and louder about that.”

Reprinted with Permission. Please see: cnsnews.com/news/article/barbara-hollingsworth/colorado-sheriff-executive-amnesty-slow-way-erasing-border

Army Revokes Green Beret's Silver Star for Killing Known Enemy and Bomb-Maker

by Allen West,
AllenBWest.com

Just when I think the news cannot possibly get any worse and it's gonna be hard for me to find something to talk about – we hit a new low. The U.S. Army is hiding a deserter — Bowe Bergdahl. We have Army Lieutenant Clint Lorange in prison for killing the enemy. And my Army finds a way to go even lower.

As reported by the Washington Post, “CPT. Mathew L. Golsteyn was leading a Special Forces team in Afghanistan in 2010 when an 80-man mission he assembled to hunt insurgent snipers went awry. One of the unit's five vehicles sank in mud, a gunshot incapacitated an Afghan soldier fighting alongside the Americans, and insurgents maneuvered on them to rake the soggy fields with machine-gun fire.”

“Golsteyn, already a decorated Green Beret officer, responded with calm resolve and braved enemy fire repeatedly that day, according to an Army summary of his actions. He received the Silver Star for valor for his actions during a 2011 ceremony at Fort Bragg, N.C. Top Army officials later

approved him for an upgrade to the prestigious Distinguished Service Cross, second only to the Medal of Honor in recognizing combat heroism by U.S. soldiers.”

But here's the kicker.

The Post says the officer, a former member of the 3rd Special Forces Group and graduate of the U.S. Military Academy at West Point, N.Y., was later investigated for an undisclosed violation of the military's rules of engagement in combat for killing a known enemy fighter and bomb maker, according to officials familiar with the case.”

The investigation closed last year without Golsteyn's being charged with a crime, but Army Secretary John M. McHugh decided not only to deny Golsteyn the Distinguished Service Cross, but also to revoke his Silver Star. McHugh cited a provision in Army regulations that if facts become known that would have prevented the awarding of a medal, the award can be revoked.”

Ok, here we go again. How does one “violate the rules of engagement in combat by killing a known enemy

fighter and bomb maker?” What does Secretary of the Army McHugh recommend — sharing MRE recipes?

Now, unless Major Golsteyn killed this enemy fighter by dismembering his body while alive, I truly don't give a doggone. Remember the Combat Restraint Medal that was once considered? Well, thankfully it was defeated by those combat veterans who made their voices heard. But what kind of Army do we have now when we revoke medals for heroic actions because the same fella killed an enemy fighter! Doggone Secretary McHugh, that is what happens in COMBAT! And this is what happens when we've turned these positions into nothing but political appointments.

I'm beginning to believe we should just eliminate the Military Service Secretariats — Army, Navy, Air Force. We should just keep the Secretary of Defense organization. Think about the cost savings in the defense budget.

Reprinted with Permission. Please see: allenbwest.com/2015/02/army-revokes-green-berets-silver-star-killing-known-enemy-bomb-maker/

OAK CREEK GRADE
GENERAL STORE
YOU MADE THE GRADE



**CLOSED
FOR THE
WINTER**
783-2245

 **Wright Electric**

COMMERCIAL ♦ RESIDENTIAL ♦ INDUSTRIAL

MASTER ELECTRICIAN

LICENSED ♦ INSURED

783-3787



WET MOUNTAIN STORAGE
FOR ALL YOUR STORAGE NEEDS

VALLEY VIEW
PARK HOME COMMUNITY
Park Home Sales & Lots for Lease
Our Community is Growing - Lots Limited
Offices at 300 Main Street • Westcliffe
custompropertyservices@yahoo.com
719-783-9321 • 888-783-0002

The Liquor Cabinet



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

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

Michael Thiem's HVAC
Service, Repair, & Installation of
Forced Air Heating Systems
Provider of Venting Materials for
Fireplaces, Wood & Pellet Stoves
Licensed and Insured
719-429-9989





**BUY A NEW 2014 ARCTIC CAT® ATV OR PROWLER® AND GET:
FINANCING AS LOW AS 5.9% & 2-YEAR LIMITED WARRANTY***

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



Stanwood Motorsports West, LLC
705 Ohio Street,
Silver Cliff - CO - 81252 - 719.783.2880
www.stanwoodwest.com - email: stanwoodwest@aol.com

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

Are Christians and Muslims the Same?

by Matt Barber,
FreedomOutPost.com

“Offend a Christian and he is obliged to pray for your salvation. Offend a Muslim and he is obliged to murder you.” So observed conservative journalist Robert Stacy McCain in the wake of this week's horrific *Charlie Hebdo* massacre in France.

And then we have Islam's useful idiots — the politically correct set: secular-“progressive” media-types and other left-wing ivory tower elitists bent on bowing in subservient dhimmitude to the “religion of peace.” You know, people like Barack Hussein Obama who, in 2012, demanded from his lofty perch at the U.N.: “The future must not belong to those who slander the prophet of Islam.”

I assume that by “the prophet of Islam,” the current leader of the free world was referencing Muhammad, a child-molesting, Christian-and-Jew-beheading slave trader who, for the purposes of selfish ambition and political power alone, plagiarized and perverted the Judeo-Christian Bible to cobble together the Quran — an incoherent owner's manual to nearly a quarter of the world's population. Islam is Christianity's photo-negative, and a cheap knockoff at

**“Offend a Christian
and he is obliged to pray for
your salvation.
Offend a Muslim and he
is obliged to murder you.”**

that. (Mr. President, you went to law school. You should know that truth is an affirmative defense to slander.)

Liberals: You can't live with 'em, you can't slaughter 'em en masse. Unless, of course, you're a Muslim terrorist. Then, and as per Hillary Clinton, we must “respect” and “empathize with [your] perspective and point of view.”

Like the battered wife who keeps coming back for more (but didn't she really bring it on herself?) secular-“progressives” will trip over themselves to rationalize the barbaric acts of those who take seriously the express dictates of this savage cult.

Better still, and as an alternative to excusing the global explosion in Islamic violence, these same “progressives” might choose to exploit the bloodshed for their own socio-political gain. If the Muslim world gives them lemons, they'll compare apples to oranges. They'll leverage the Islamic vio-

lence to actually slander the one religion they do hate: Christianity.

Even before the bodies of the French fallen had grown cold, former Rolling Stone executive editor and home-lobotomized liberal Eric Bates did just that. In perhaps the dumbest comment ever uttered on liberal television (and there is no short supply to choose from), Bates, who was a guest on the always-dependable MSN-BC newsy network, compared the late Rev. Jerry Falwell to the Charlie Hebdo terrorists, suggesting that “religious fundamentalists of all stripes and of nationalities have this penchant to say, we want to be able to tell you what you can and can't portray.”

In an email addressing Bates' remarks, Deryl Edwards, president of Liberty Counsel Action and close friend and confidant to Jerry Falwell for over two decades, said the following:

“To compare Dr. Falwell's lawsuit against Hustler

publisher Larry Flynt to the murderous thugs who gunned down the editors of *Charlie Hebdo* is mind-boggling. When I heard this comparison I was instantly reminded of the first time I ever spoke with Dr. Falwell. I was a student at Liberty Baptist College (now Liberty University) at the time. As my Christian service that semester, I was working the tape ministry, which, in those days, meant duplicating sermon messages onto cassettes that were sent out to radio stations.

“I was there by myself in one of the adjacent buildings to Thomas Road Baptist Church when the door suddenly opened and I heard a booming voice shout out ‘Hello!’ Turning around to see Dr. Falwell, I was more than a little scared and intimidated. But he nicely asked me if my supervisor was around. I said ‘no’ and Dr. Falwell proceeded to ask me to relay a message. Dr. Falwell told me that in a recent sermon he had been critical of pornographers and, specifically, Larry Flynt. He added that Larry had just been shot and was paralyzed, so it wouldn't be right for that tape to go out right now.

“Even as a college sophomore, I right then knew the measure of the man that

**See CHRISTIANS
on page 24**

Colorado: Chinese Immigrant Explains What Gun Control Means to Her

by ColoradoPealPolitics.com

Last night, the Colorado State Legislature heard eight hours of testimony on legislation to roll back the over-the-top gun control bills that East Coast Democrats imposed on Colorado in 2013, including the Magban, which limited the legal capacity of a magazine to 15 rounds. Lily Tang Williams testified that she immigrated to the United States when she was 24

powerless to defend themselves.

She accurately noted that only law-abiding citizens were subject to magazine round limits:

“Why do you limit our fire arms only have 15 round magazines? Do the criminals limit theirs? Does the government limit theirs? If we use our guns primarily for self defense, I need as many magazines as needed to defend my family

speech was an incredible testament to the importance of gun rights in Colorado – and in the United States. The following is a transcript of her testimony.

Her testimony:

My name is Lily Tang Williams, State Director of Our America Initiative, a non-profit grassroots organization. I am here to represent the organization and myself to strongly support HB15-1009 Repeal Large Ammo Magazine Ban.

I was born and grew up in People's Republic of China, where the Communist Party rules everything. Chinese citizens are not allowed to have any guns ever since the Communist party took over in 1949. So, Chinese people are left helpless when they need to defend themselves. I grew up with fear like millions of other children. Fear police will pound our doors at night for no good reason (search warrant is not necessary for them to do that), fear bad guys will come to rob us (there were

crimes in our poor neighborhood), fear my parents and brothers would get hurt and taken away. I have seen local people who defend themselves with kitchen knives, rocks, glass bottles, and sticks against criminals. But when it comes to dealing with the Chinese government and police brutality, there is nothing we could do. Remember June 4th Tiananmen Square massacre in 1989? Our own soldiers, ordered by the top leaders in Beijing, killed thousands of students. Even though the local residents were supporting students, but they had no ways to help them. Some Beijing residents begged for the tanks to stop but they did not. What if the residents and students had guns? What if there was militia in China that time? What if the citizens had unlimited magazines? The history might have been different.
(the Peak emphasis)

Why do you limit our fire arms only have 15 round magazines? Do the criminals

limit theirs? Does the government limit theirs? If we use our guns primarily for self defense, I need as many magazines as needed to defend my family and myself because I am a bad shot. It seems not fair at all to limit law abiding citizens' ability for self defense. What if the shop owners only could fire 15 times during the famous LA riot? What if the home owners ran out of the bullets during the looting after the Hurricane Katrina? What happens to the ranchers near the border have to face a big group of drug cartels who threat them? How about the famous cases of our government gone wild: Ruby Ridge, Waco Texas, Athens Tennessee – a small town in the U.S.A at the end of the World War Two, where the local dictators wanted to highjack the election results with their guns, local residents organized and armed themselves to take their town back.

I came to the U.S. for freedom, including the freedom granted by the 2nd amendment:

the right to keep and bear arms shall not be infringed. When I held my own gun for the first time in my life in this country, I felt empowered and for the first time, I felt free.

If the Communist government took my gun rights away, why are you limiting my gun rights in Colorado? Are you becoming communists? I hope not. I lived under tyranny for 24 years, I do not want to ever live under it again.

Please vote as if the constitution actually means something, because it does! Didn't you swear that you would uphold the U.S Constitution and Colorado Constitution when you became a house representative? I urge you to vote yes on HB15-1009 Repeal Large Ammo Magazine Ban. Making our beautiful state free again. Thank you.

Reprinted with Permission. Please see: coloradopeak-politics.com/2015/02/03/peak-feed-chinese-immigrant-explains-gun-control-means/

Are you becoming communists? I hope not. I lived under tyranny for 24 years, I do not want to ever live under it again.

to escape communist rule in China. Her powerful speech told of how Chinese police could knock on your door and enter your home without warning, and how the people of China felt

and myself because I am a bad shot. It seems not fair at all to limit law abiding citizens' ability for self defense.”
The remainder of her

Community Activist Receives Sobering Lesson: 'I Could easily See Me Pulling My Gun Quicker

by Bob Owens, BearingArms.com

(Editor/GG: Now this IS precious.)

Quanell X, the head of Houston's New Black Panther Party and one of the agitators who has gone after everyone from George Zimmerman to Ferguson Police Officer Darren Wilson, has almost always sided against the police in officer-involved shootings of suspects.

He is now singing a different tune after personally going through “shoot/no shoot” training with the Missouri City Police Department.

X played the role of a law enforcement officer responding to calls in a number of different scenarios, and had to chose whether to use his gun (a realistic training weapon that fires man-marker rounds), a taser, or

not to employ any force at all.

Now that he's seen life through the eyes of an officer, his views of the challenges faced by police have changed.

He'll walk away, calling for people to comply with police.

“Please brothers and sisters, if they tell you to do something, do it,” said Quanell. “When the suspect started being combative or argumentative, I want to pull my gun.”

He's shocked at how many shots he fired, something he so often questions in police shootings.

“I think I might have emptied my clip,” said Quanell, and standing in a cop's shoes, Quanell wants them to have more back-up.

“I think police shootings would go down if you had at least two cops assigned to every vehicle,”

said Quanell. “You're trying to see everything and guess everything at the same time.”

After a lifetime of second-guessing police, Quanell now sees shades of gray in situations that once seemed purely black and white.

“How do you think you are going to change the way you approach the next situation like this?” Barr asked. “You gotta gather the facts,” Quanell answered. “As an activist, we want to respond to the family's hurt and pain immediately, but we could possibly respond very incorrectly, if we don't take our time to gather some facts ma'am, because these situations, they go from zero to 100 in a split second.”

Quanell X is the second “Black Lives Matter”/“Hands Up, Don't Shoot” activist who has radically changed his views on officer

involved shootings within the past month.

In January, Phoenix-based Reverend Jarrett Maupin went through very similar scenario-based training with the Phoenix Police Department, and came to a similar conclusion:

Up until the moment Reverend Maupin put on his holstered airsoft gun, he had a false preconceived notion of how police officers interactions with the public take place. He had a false understanding of just how fast a seemingly non-violent encounter can turn into a deadly-force situation, and he didn't understand that it is how the suspect chooses to respond to an officer's commands that drives the encounter.

His eyes have now been opened.

“I didn't understand how important compliance was,” he stated. “But after going through

this, yeah, my attitude has changed.”

“This is all unfolding in ten to fifteen seconds... people need to comply with the orders of law enforcement officers for their own safety.”

Both X and Maupin will continue to be activists working to reduce the tension between officers on the street and minority communities, but they will now do so after having a taste of what officers go through on a daily basis, and having experienced first-hand how a seemingly benign situation can become a violent encounter where the officer must employ deadly force to survive.

The vast majority of controversial police shootings have come as the direct result of suspects

See ACTIVIST on page 21



Lonnie & Suzanne Lasha

Mantiques

Guns • Antiques • Collectibles
Buy - Sell - Trade - Consignments Welcome

211 W. Main St., Unit D • Florence, CO
719.784.3131 • 719.429.9391

ADVANCED WEAPONS



Concealed Carry Classes • Special Orders Guns & Ammo • Gunsmithing • Transfers Buy • Sell • Trade Custom Builds

401 E. Main St. #D • Florence 719-784-0572



On Mark Arms

Open Mon. - Sat. • 719-371-3158
GUNSMITH-Guns-Ammo+Boxes
Freeze Dried Food
113 N. Mill, Silver Cliff, Colorado

Buy-Sell-Trade
Consign
Gifts
Estates
Online Auction

Contrasting Fears: Disarmists v. Second Amendment Supporters

by Dean Weingarten,
GunWatch.BlogSpot.com

dis•arm•ist (dis-ärm•st)
alt. dis•arm•en•ter
(dis-ärm •n-ter) n.

1. A political operative who works to disarm political opposition through the use of irrational and/or emotional arguments.
2. A person who believes that disarming citizens will reduce crime or unjustified violence, in spite of contrary evidence or facts.
3. A person who wishes to disarm others because they do not trust themselves to bear arms responsibly.

Disarmists often claim that armed citizens are afraid, fearmongers, or cowardly. All of these accusations are projections of the disarmists' own fears. Most armed Americans are less fearful than those who wish to disarm them, but both sides have fears, just of different things and groups.

Who or what do the disarmists fear, and who or what, do the second amendment supporters fear?

Second amendment supporters fear: Tyrannical governments

Disarmists fear: Limited government.

Second amendment supporters fear: Criminals

Disarmists fear: Their fellow citizens.

Second amendment supporters fear: Terrorists

Disarmists fear: Their fellow citizens

Second amendment supporters fear: Being helpless

Disarmists fear: Being responsible for self defense

Second amendment supporters fear: Being disarmed

Disarmists fear: Guns

These different sets of fears stem from different assumptions about the nature of reality. If these assumptions reflect deep seated, basic beliefs that form the core

of a persons' understanding of the universe, they are almost impossible to change with mere facts or ordinary evidence. But facts have a way of overcoming false beliefs over time, because a new generation does not have the same accumulated investment in beliefs that the old generation did.

The idea that fellow citizens are more to be feared than criminals and terrorists stems from a discredited theory that the groups are all basically the same. You often see it in comments on stories about citizen disarmament.

A second amendment supporter will write: You do not have to fear law abiding citizens.

A disarmist will reply: They are only law abiding because they have not committed a crime yet.

The disarmist theory is the progressive elite theory of homicide: murderers are just ordinary people who "go off" while a weapon is present, and kill someone. We

[T]he facts have been in favor of the second amendment supporters, and have discredited the theories of the disarmists.

now know that is not correct for the vast majority of murderers.

The opposing theory of homicide is the "Trust the People" model. In it, most murders are committed by a tiny group of violent people who are easily identified in society by their violent past records. Most citizens do not commit violent crimes, and will never commit violent crimes. This model has been validated by the work of Professor David Kennedy, co-chair of the National Network for Safe Commu-

nities.

Only a small percentage of the population are hardcore disarmists that operate while rejecting facts and logic that disagree with their core beliefs. Most supporters of citizen disarmament have not been exposed to the arguments put forward by second amendment supporters. When they hear and read the actual arguments, they often become neutral, or converted to second amendment supporters.

It is common for supporters of citizen disarmament to be converted to second amendment supporters, especially among academics who study the issue. It is exceedingly rare for the opposite to occur. Every time a new proposition is proposed to advance the disarmists agenda, more second amendment supporters are created, in three stages.

First, a new push for restrictive legislation is mounted, based on emotion driven fear.

Second, the issue is debated in the media, online, and in person. Facts are presented.

Third, some percentage of people who were uninformed, become educated, and converted from the disarmist camp to second amendment supporters. This ratchet effect is how support for a ban on handguns has dropped from 60 percent in 1959 to 26 percent in 2014.

Both groups have fears. But the facts have been in favor of the second amendment supporters, and have discredited the theories of the disarmists. It is why the disarmists advise all their followers to use emotion, and to pass legislation quickly, before it can be debated.

©2015 by Dean Weingarten: Permission to share is granted when this notice is included. Please see: gunwatch.blogspot.com/2015/02/contrasting-fears-disarmists-v-second.html

a gun on a Home Depot security during a robbery attempt and then attempted to carjack three vehicles before being shot by Emeryville, CA police) are examples of the latter that "community activists" have been attempting to exploit.

The simple fact of the matter is that officers on the street don't think about race when engaging a potential suspect. They instead look

and respond to actions and physical threats.

If you aren't a threat to police, they probably won't be a threat to you.

It's not that hard to understand.

Reprinted with Permission. Please see: bearingarms.com/easily-see-pulling-gun-quicker-community-activist-receives-sobering-lesson/

The Death of the American Dream In 22 Numbers

by Michael Snyder,
FreedomOutPost.com

(Editor/GG: Ah, the wonder of socialism. Our liberal friends somehow revel in this decline. More government spending and laws are obviously needed.)

We are the generation that gets to witness the end of the American Dream. The numbers that you are about to see tell a story. They tell a story of a once mighty economy that is dying. For decades, the rest of the planet has regarded the United States as "the land of opportunity" where almost anyone can be successful if they are willing to work hard. And when I was growing up, it seemed like almost everyone was living the American Dream. I lived on a "middle class" street and I went to a school where it seemed like almost everyone was middle class. When I was in high school, it was very rare to ever hear of a parent that was unemployed, and virtually every family that I knew had a comfortable home and more than one nice vehicle. But now that has all changed. The "American Dream" has been transformed into a very twisted game of musical chairs. With each passing year, more people are falling out of the middle class, and most of the rest of us are scrambling really hard to keep our own places. Something has gone horribly wrong, and yet Americans are very deeply divided when it comes to finding answers to our problems. We love to point fingers and argue with one another, and meanwhile things just continue to get even worse. The following are 22 numbers that are very strong evidence of the death of the American Dream...

- #1 The Obama administration tells us that 8.69 million Americans are "officially unemployed" and that 92.90 million Americans are considered to be "not in the labor force." That means that more than 101 million U.S. adults do not have a job right now.
- #2 One recent survey discovered that 55 percent of Americans believe that the American Dream either never existed or that it no longer exists.
- #3 Considering the fact that Obama is in the White House, it is somewhat surprising that 55 percent of all Republicans still believe in the American Dream, but only 33 percent of all Democrats do.
- #4 After adjusting for inflation, median household income has fallen by nearly \$5,000 since 2007.
- #5 After adjusting for inflation, "the median wealth figure for middle-income families" fell from \$78,000 in 1983 to \$63,800 in 2013.
- #6 At this point, 59 percent of Americans believe that "the American dream has become impossible for most people to achieve."
- #7 In 1967, 53 percent of Americans were considered to be "middle income." But

- today, only 43 percent of Americans are.
- #8 For each of the past six years, more businesses have closed in the United States than have opened. Prior to 2008, this had never happened before in all of U.S. history.
 - #9 According to the New York Times, the "typical American household" is now worth 36 percent less than it was worth a decade ago.
 - #10 According to one recent report, 43 million Americans currently have unpaid medical debt on their credit reports.
 - #11 Traditionally, owning a home has been one of the key indicators that you belong to the middle class. Unfortunately, the rate of homeownership in the U.S. has now been falling for seven years in a row.
 - #12 According to a survey that was conducted last year, 52 percent of all Americans cannot even afford the house that they are living in right now.
 - #13 While Barack Obama has been in the White House, the number of Americans on food stamps has gone from 32 million to 46 million.
 - #14 The number of Americans on food stamps has now exceeded the 46 million mark for 38 months in a row.
 - #15 Right now, more than one out of every five children in the United States is on food stamps.
 - #16 According to a *Washington Post* article published just recently, more than 50 percent of the children in U.S. public schools now come from low income homes. This is the first time that this has happened in at least 50 years.
 - #17 According to the Census Bureau, 65 percent of all children in the United States are living in a home that receives some form of aid from the federal government.
 - #18 In 2008, 53 percent of all Americans considered themselves to be "middle class." But by 2014, only 44 percent of all Americans still considered themselves to be "middle class."
 - #19 In 2008, 25 percent of all Americans in the 18 to 29-year-old age bracket considered themselves to be "lower class." But in 2014, an astounding 49 percent of all Americans in that age range considered themselves to be "lower class."
 - #20 It is hard to believe, but an astounding 53 percent of all American workers make less than \$30,000 a year.
 - #21 According to one recent survey, 62 percent of all Americans are currently living paycheck to paycheck.
 - #22 According to CNN, the typical American family can only "replace 21 days of income with readily accessible funds."
- Read more at <http://freedomoutpost.com/2015/02/death-american-dream-22-numbers/#s7E-0qFecok63OjZD.99>

ACTIVIST From page 20

refusing to comply with lawful police commands, often exacerbated by suspects then going for weapons. The recent fatal shootings of Ladarious Williams (an ex-con who pulled a stolen Springfield Armory 1911 on St. Louis officers, MO officers) and Yvette Henderson (who pulled

Politics & The Bible

From Pastor Jim



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

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



God’s Polarities

The obvious intent of Muslim terrorists, aside from the elimination of Israel, is to force others to conform to their ideology and doctrine. Not all efforts of “conformity by intimidation” are accomplished by the gun or sword. Many a youth has been ridiculed and mocked publicly by government school teachers when the student has suggested that creation presents a scientific alternative to evolution. A blatant refusal to consider the evidence on the opposite side is not a celebration of diversity but rather unification through propaganda.

So-called “multiculturalism” simply means to drag everything down to a common level. Al Gore and friends will never be content until alleged climate change is indelibly impressed upon the minds of every school child. This must be done in spite of a vast body of competing science. “Healthcare” must be dictatorially applied to every individual regardless of the economics or common sense involved. Is not all of this designed submission just a more subtle form of terrorism?

The endeavor will continue to make men like women, boys like girls, Orientals like Westerners, Protestants like Catholics, Christians like Muslims, Republicans like Democrats, communism like capitalism, humanism like Christianity, sex perverts like normal people, etc. Eventually you will have to take the position that good is evil and evil is good, Heaven

is Hell and Hell is Heaven, the Devil is God (Satanism and the occult) and God is Satan. (see Isaiah 14:12-14) Since differences have always existed (and always will), all the world’s troubles come from “differences” ---- at least according to most college-educated Westerners, Muslims, members of the United Nations, philosophers and humanists. This formidable array of Bible-rejecting fools all work day and night to find a solution for all the trouble. The “cure” is simple: just eliminate the differences.

The Holy Bible was written by the most holy, supreme “Cosmic Consciousness” that ever existed. (Revelation 1:8) In His omniscient intellect, He declared to mankind that good and evil are not relative terms; nor are right and wrong, Heaven and Hell, sin and righteousness, truth and error, nor salvation and damnation --- no matter what anyone thinks. They are “polarities.” All propositions in the Bible that are essential are stated positively and negatively. For example: “Repentance unto life” (Acts 11:18) versus “Except ye repent” (Luke 18:3); “He that believeth on the Son hath everlasting life” (John 3:36) versus “and he that believeth not the Son shall not see life; but the wrath of God abideth on him.” (John 3:36); “The blood of Jesus Christ his Son cleanseth us from all sin” (I John 1:7) versus “and without shedding of blood is no remission.” (Hebrews 9:22)

The matter of emphasizing

ing opposites that stand 180 degrees against each other, has been universally condemned by every Bible rejecting intellectual who ever lived. Most American religious leaders and politicians believe that “fences make bad neighbors,” but bridges work better. All major news media outlets have been pretending for at least fifty years that all things are equal, and that all things can be integrated. The truth is that all things are not equal: all people are not equal, nor are all nations, books or food. Nothing is exactly equal in the entire universe.

As long as you integrate instead of divide (II Timothy 2:15), you will never learn the Bible in any language. God Himself was the Author of division in Genesis 1:6,14,18; 3:23-24; 7:13-16; 11:8-9 and Deuteronomy 32:8. He was the Schismatic Divider in John 17:9,16; Acts 17:26; II Corinthians 6:14-16; Ephesians 5:7-12 and Revelation 22: 14,15. God divides sheep from goats (Matthew 25:32,33). They are not the same, and their diversity never unites them. Sheep (John 10:26-29) are not pigs or dogs. (II Peter 2:22)

The world tries to reduce all reality to atomic structures so that the actual appearance of things is destroyed and you can mix them. That is the philosophy that has produced 185 wars between 1945 and the present. Terrorism, overt and covert, will win without Divine intervention----take heart..... He is coming.

A Sheepdog Barks!

I have to believe this is the most corrupt, deceptive, and incompetent president and administration in our history. WOOF! I hope America never suffers again like it has for the last 6 years and will for 2 more. Just listening to Obama, his White House staff, and current State Department spokesmen discuss, twist words, and outright lie about the latest Islamic terrorist act in France is sad and disheartening. What linguistic gymnastics! Obama and his staff know full well that it was a targeted attack on Jews in the Kosher Deli Market. It was NOT random. One of the terrorists holding the hostages called a reporter and said he just wanted to kill some Jews. They embarrass all of us as they spew lies and distortions from their mouths. Then they go back and tweet out things like “we’ve always been clear on this” or “the President misplaced an adverb and he didn’t mean to imply” blah, blah, blah. Liars, liars, liars, and shame on them! WOOF! David Axelrod, Obama’s aide in his first term, just admitted in his book that Obama lied about believing marriage is between a man and a woman when he was campaigning. Any honest American with an IQ higher than a tree always knew he was full of lies and deception. You can tell by looking at his arrogant facial expressions, that he is not an honorable or trustworthy man. These are not just the observations and warnings of a “rabid” sheepdog as the LPSDs believe. The Inspectors General of 47 different federal government agencies have reported that the Obama administration and the White House will not cooperate and provide the information and documents they need to do their jobs. They make the case there is no transparency in Obama’s reign. It is ludicrous to claim otherwise.

There is much to be concerned about with respect to Obama’s role as the Commander-in-Chief. That constitutional responsibility and duty is to keep America and Americans safe. He is a total failure at that. The consequences of his inaction will be felt by us all for years and years to come. I have always sus-

pected, but now truly believe, that he is a terrorist sympathizer. What else would explain his irrational behavior and comments? He cannot be so wrong on this issue by accident. In a recent speech at the National Prayer Breakfast he cautioned us to get off our high horses and remember that Christians did horrible deeds in the name of Christ during the Crusades, the Spanish Inquisition, and American slavery. It seemed like he was telling us to calm down about what the Islamic terrorists are doing today. Without getting into the argument that there is really NO moral equivalency in these actions, what Obama needs to grasp is that was then (200-1,000 years ago) while the Muslims are committing unspeakable atrocities NOW. Deal with the NOW, Mr. President! But he has no plan and no strategy to really do anything about it. He said as much during his State of the Union speech and just last week when he had his so-called National Security Advisor (Susan “Benghazi-liar” Rice) lay out his 2015 National Security Strategy. It didn’t address the real dangers facing America today at all. It was mostly about social justice. The rest of the document was an attempt to portray Obama’s many failures as phony successes. You might want to read the editorial on page two for a quick review. Better yet, go on the internet and read the entire eight pages of lies, distortions, and irrelevant social issues while not ever mentioning “winning” the war on terrorism, destroying ISIS, securing our borders, stopping illegal immigration, or maintaining a large enough military to protect us. Nope, it expressed the need to love and respect our gay, lesbian, bisexual, and transgender brothers and sisters. Really? In a National Security Strategy plan? If anyone can explain that to me please do. Maybe he is trying to tell us that love and respect will also win over the Islamic terrorists that want to cut off our heads, burn us alive, and crucify children. Maybe that is what our Commander-in-Chief is trying to tell us. Let’s all hold hands and sing Kumbaya together and then all will be right



in the world. Peace is not the absence of WAR, my fellow sheepdogs; it is the absence of EVIL. Instead of what we need, we have a president that gives an interview to VOX.com where he suggests that the media and the news overhype the terrorism going on in America and around the world. During this TV interview he equates his role as the most powerful leader in the world that must defeat a barbaric Islamic terrorist organization (ISIS) to the same thing a mayor of a city has to deal with to stop street thugs in order to reduce crime. He also says we must be vigilant. Wow, what a strategy. He walks like a community organizer; he quacks like a community organizer, so he must be a community organizer. We need and deserve better. WOOF!

Make no mistake. We are at war with an ideology – Radical Islam. Forget about all the “good” Muslims because they are irrelevant. We better worry about the 400,000-600,000 or so (10-20%) that, according to Obama, have “hijacked” Islam and are committing all the atrocities. Okay, let’s quit denying what is motivating them and do something about it. Not all Germans were Nazis. So What? Instead we have a Commander-in-Chief asking for “strategic patience.” He will “slow walk” the required response to ISIS and the preventing of an Iranian nuclear ICBM precisely because he is a sympathizer. Obama only wants to talk about extremists. And here are some of the ones on his “Top Extremists” list: Conservative Talk Radio Hosts; Fox News Anchors; Tea Party Patriots; Military Veterans; the alarmist Media Reporters and Broadcasters; Republicans in Congress and Conservative Christians. Watch out friends! The LPSDs are on the attack. WOOF!

May God Have Mercy on America! JMH



Obama Defies Congress, Busts Cap on Work Permits

by Kenric Ward,
WatchDog.org

The Obama administration is running a massive parallel immigration system outside the laws and limits written by Congress, according to data obtained under the Freedom of Information Act.

Since 2009, some 5 million work permits were issued to immigrants who otherwise would be prohibited from working in this country. The Center for Immigration Studies found:

- 1.7 million permits were granted to immigrants whose legal status was not known the by U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services.

- 1.2 million were foreign students and dependents of guest workers.
- 982,000 were illegal immigrants or “aliens unqualified for admission” to the United States.
- 470,000 were foreigners on tourist visas.

“Inexplicably, 1,200 new work permits were issued to aliens who were denied asylum, were suspected of using fraudulent documents, were stowaways, or were refused at a port of entry,” said Jessica Vaughn, director of policy studies at CIS.

All told, these work permits are over and above the statutory cap on new green card and temporary worker admissions from 2009-2012.

“This is a huge parallel immigrant work authorization system outside the limits set by Congress that inevitably impacts opportunities for U.S. workers, damages the integrity of the immigration system and encourages illegal immigration,” Vaughn said.

Legal analyst Jon Feere concluded there is enough ambiguity in President Obama’s executive decrees for USCIS to stop counting family members of legal immigrants toward annual visa limits. This would significantly increase the level of permanent immigration without the consent of Congress, CIS asserted.

Calling work permits “gateway documents” for driver’s licenses and other benefits,

Vaughn said U.S. citizens should have fiscal and national security concerns.

“If the government agency issuing them does not know or will not disclose how the bearer arrived in the country, how can others rely on the authenticity of an individual’s identity?” she asked.

Congress could block the issuance of the next 5 million work permits by voting to withhold funds for USCIS to implement Obama’s executive action plans.

USCIS did not respond to Watchdog’s request for comment.

Please see: watchdog.org/197740/obama-work-permits/

Colorado MisFire: Senate Dems Are Pro-Bureaucrat, Not Pro-Gun

by ColoradoPeakPolitics.com

(Editor/GG: These dems sound like our Clinic board of directors last year, just throw our tax money at a non-financial problem. The problem can’t possibly be poor management. More money will solve anything. Just ask Greece. Heck, it’s only the taxpayers’ money.)

As proof that Democrats will try anything to grow the size of government, yesterday State Senate Democrats laughably claimed to carry the banner of gun rights, in a maneuver that was actually nothing more than a scheme to add headcount to the beleaguered Colorado Bureau of Investigation background check department.

This Trojan horse, brought to the Capitol dome by none other than former Bloomberg employee Michael Merrifield, was a proposed amendment to a Department of Public Safety appropriation that would have dumped an additional

\$369,323 into the CBI coffers. The claim was that the CBI was so, so backlogged.

Of course, a massive CBI backlog was triggered by Democrat legislation passed in 2013 that vastly expanded the circumstances that would require a firearms-related background check. The antiquated processes and systems at CBI are not helping matters either. Today, the wait time for a CCW background check is approximately 54 days. And Democrats are threatening that this could grow longer if more money is not aimed at the machine.

Republican State Senator Kevin Grantham was quick to offer resistance to Merrifield’s farce: “Senate Democrats once again showed their lack of understanding for gun ownership and the Second Amendment today. CBI is riddled with problems and Democrats have never found a bureaucrat they don’t want to hire. Unfortunately for the Democrats, they are two years and two recalls too late to this issue.”

But how about improving processes before hiring more people and dumping more money into this CBI bureaucracy? Does the CBI even need a state level background check – why not do what most other states do and use the widely adopted and highly-efficient NICS system? You can get your background check results in a few minutes this way.

The bottom line is that the CBI background check system, which facilitates the transfer of firearms, issuance of CCW licenses and licenses for approximately 60 professional designations, has for a long time underperformed and is in need of improvement. Republicans in the Colorado Senate seem to be in no hurry to throw more money and full time employees at this problem before the CBI demonstrates improvements on their own.

Reprinted with Permission. Please see: coloradopeakpolitics.com/2015/02/06/misfire-senate-dems-pro-bureaucrat-not-pro-gun/

The Evil Conflater In Chief

by Karl Denninger,
Market-Ticker.org

You’re nuts, Mr. President.

“Humanity has been grappling with these questions throughout human history,” he told the group, speaking of the tension between the compassionate and murderous acts religion can inspire. “And lest we get on our high horse and think this is unique to some other place, remember that during the Crusades and the Inquisition, people committed terrible deeds in the name of Christ. In our home country, slavery and Jim Crow all too often was justified in the name of Christ.”

Yes, Christianity has indeed grappled with these things. **Christianity discarded them hundreds of years ago.** Never mind that there is plenty of controversy over the Crusades themselves; **how convenient to forget the various Muslim “crusades” of the same period and preceding Caliphates (Mongol invasions anyone?) or the Ottoman empire that followed.**

The *Inquisitions* are a different matter; that’s a fairly clean allegation. Well, at least clean compared to the Crusades. *However, both are literally hundreds of years in the past and the claimed “justification” for same has been long debunked and buried.*

The outrage here is found in Obama trying to *conflate* a series of ancient hatreds (*inspired by acts on both sides, which he conveniently “forgets” to mention*) and **today’s** claim of “Jihad” as some sort of “holy obligation.”

Utter and complete nonsense.

This President has *never* displayed a willingness to call things what they are -- especially when it comes to Islamic Terrorism. We can debate all day long **why** that is, but the fact remains that you cannot deal with a threat **until you are willing to label it accurately**; only then can you decide what sort of response is warranted -- and necessary.

Reprinted with Permission. Please see: market-ticker.org/akcs-ww-w?post=229817

FYI... for your information...

The Sangre de Cristo Sentinel is published every Friday.

Our office hours are Monday-Thursday 9:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m.

Friday 9:00 a.m. - 1:00 p.m. Closed Saturday and Sunday.

Deadline for classified ad copy is Monday by 5:00 p.m.

Deadline for display ad copy is noon on Friday the week before the ad is to appear in the paper.

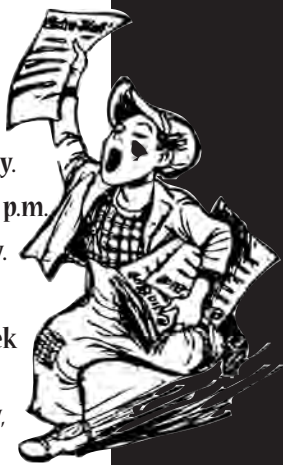
Deadline for all other submissions is noon on Monday, and can be emailed to sdcsentinel@gmail.com

Please send us information on clubs and organizations, news stories and pictures, and upcoming events.

Please limit Letters to the Editor to 250 words and “We the People” Speak to 500 words. Please include your name, address and phone number.

Garage/Yard sales are printed free, however verbiage is limited to date, time and address.

Birth, Engagement, Wedding Announcements and Obituaries are also printed free of charge with a 350 word maximum and one photo included.



Thank
You
for
Your
Support!

Subscribe to the Sangre de Cristo Sentinel

“The voice of conservative Colorado!”

Help us spread the word! Subscribe today!



Name: _____

Mailing Address: _____

City & State: _____ Zip Code: _____

Phone Number: _____

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

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

Please mail or bring your payment to:

Sangre de Cristo Sentinel

610 Main Street, Westcliffe, Colorado 81252

719/783-3360

Denver VA Chief Retires: Pretends It Has Nothing To Do With the Scandals

by ColoradoPeakPolitics.com

The Veterans Affairs hospital director in Denver has come down with a severe case of sudden retirement syndrome, the symptoms of which are cost overruns, delayed patient care, and a 9News investigation.

In the days of yore, public officials were held accountable for malfeasance, but Lynette Roff has been rewarded with a paid, lifetime vacation at the taxpayer's expense.

The Denver Post reported that "the VA had denied keeping any secret or unauthorized waiting lists. VA bonuses are based partly on minimizing wait times for medical appointments."

Obviously the lists are not a secret, now. VA also claimed the lists were not unauthorized. Are we to assume the lists were, in fact, authorized? By Roff, perhaps?

But the implausible claim by a VA spokeswoman that Roff's retirement has NOTHING to do with the recent scandals is preposterous, and only suggests that this administration will not hold accountable its officials who have grossly vi-

olated the public trust.

As has become all too common in cases of sudden retirement syndrome, the onset is often triggered by complaints from members of Congress.

In Roff's case, U.S. Rep. Mike Coffman was the key voice in calling for the inspector general to investigate the entire Denver VA system, calling the secret waiting list "the tip of the iceberg."

Coffman didn't mince words when he spoke of Roff's "sudden retirement" in a statement issued by his office.

"The men and women who have served our nation in uniform and sacrificed so much for our freedom deserve better than Director Roff's leadership," said Coffman. "She did the right thing by leaving. The veterans of this nation are desperate for leadership in the VA that will challenge its culture of bureaucratic corruption. The VA needs new leadership at every level."

Meanwhile, Roff remains oblivious to the scandal surrounding her tenure, which includes substantial cost overruns at the Aurora facility.

"I have elected to retire after almost 42 years of government service. It's been my honor to work with so many in the Denver community, and my thanks goes to all that have surrounded and supported me."

Not a whole lot of remorse there, for a job well-failed.

The Denver Post also reports that U.S. Sen. Michael Bennet weighed in with his concerns that the VA kept their transgressions secret.

"I am troubled, not only (by) the very existence of this type of wait list at the Denver VA Medical Center, but also by the failure of the VA in Denver and Washington, D.C., to come forward and proactively share the potential existence of the list. The lack of transparency is deeply concerning."

In the grand scheme of things, we consider it critical that the VA failed to care for veterans, that it declined to confess its sins to Michael Bennet, not so much.

Reprinted with Permission. Please see: coloradopeakpolitics.com/2015/02/04/denver-va-chief-retires-pretends-nothing-scandals/

CHRISTIANS From page 19

his enemies would never acknowledge. Dr. Falwell could have easily used this tragedy to attack Flynt and call it God's judgment or something, but because of his compassion, he refused to verbally attack a man who had been injured. Compare this to the horrific images this week of an Islamic radical calmly and methodically executing the wounded French officer lying on the sidewalk."

And there, Mr. Bates, is your contrast/comparison between Christianity and Islam. Dr. Jerry Falwell was a man with more love in his heart and righteousness in his soul than, absent your own coming to King Jesus as your Lord and Savior, you'll possess in a lifetime. This is the dif-

ference between Christianity and Islam. They are as day and night.

One loves its enemies. The other murders them.

One frees women and children. The other binds them.

One welcomes conversion. The other compels it.

One suffers persecution. The other inflicts it.

One is truth. The other a lie.

One offers eternal salvation. The other, damnation.

Islam is the poison.

Christ is the cure.

Reprinted with Permission. Read more at <http://freedomoutpost.com/2015/01/christians-muslims/#P3cQEWuPJBcv9tJU.99>

SCHOOL From page 1

the Legislative Session has started and K-12 school funding will be a hot topic. The possible triggering of TABOR refunds will influence the 2015-16 state budget. The negative factor for Custer County Schools remains at \$495,000.00. The Governor's budget had proposed a one year reduction in the negative factor to approximately \$374,000.00. Due to needed changes in BOCES support of its staff, (currently the lowest of all the school districts in the South Central area) there will be a need for a higher assessment to the District.

In the area of technology Superinten-

dent Selle reported a technology committee meeting is set. They are prioritizing a list of needs that includes additional desktops, network switches, additional laptops and router.

There will be a table top drill with CES on February 13 to test the Crisis Response Plan. Professional development is focusing on "Classroom Instruction that Works." Mr. Selle gave a very informative talk and power point presentation on the use of the MAP testing data. This MAP data is very useful in recognizing both positive performance and less than positive performance by the students.

Chairman Gaide ended the public meeting so that the Board could proceed into Executive Session for the purpose of discussing a student issue.

Westcliffe Super Market

Nolan Ryan Rib Grillers



\$3.89 Pkg.

Castello Havarti

8 oz. -Assorted



\$4.99

Wild Kalgin Island King Salmon Steaks



\$28.99 Lb.

Strawberry & Cream Ice Cream Cake

36 oz.



\$14.99



Valentine Roses

\$19.99 Doz.



Also see our Arrangements

Hefty Clip Fresh Containers



\$1.00 Off

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

Prices Good Through Sunday
No Rainchecks on Weekend Ads

50 Main Street
719/783-0550