



Former EMS Employees File Federal Suit Against Hospital District

by Paul Sage

Adding to the mounting legal woes of the West Custer County Hospital District, a new lawsuit by 12 former EMS workers was filed in the Federal District Court in Denver on July 18th. This is in addition to the ongoing appeal of a wrongful death suit filed by a Custer County resident related to the unavailability of EMS Service that was summarily dismissed by a lower court last month.

In this case the 12 plaintiffs challenge actions taken by the District to minimize the wage settlement amounts awarded by a federal Department of Labor (DOL) inquiry into the district's illegal employ-

ment practices as determined by the DOL in accordance with the Fair Labor Standards Act.

Members of the group did not accept the substantially reduced payouts offered to them as a result of the DOL investigation and instead are challenging how the lower numbers were arrived at. The repayment initially estimated at up to a quarter of a million dollars wound up being in the mid-\$30k's when the review was completed. The means by which the reductions occurred are at the heart of the federal lawsuit.

The Hospital District has argued that time sheets were missing or improperly filed, and added in de-

ductions for sleep time and other things while crew members were on duty. According to a Pueblo Chieftain report on the case filing, the Hospital District also argues that the employees "knowingly continued to work overtime hours without complaint or demand for overtime pay."

Members of the group were terminated for various reasons or quit their employment with the ambulance service during the same time frame last fall when the District came to the conclusion that its independent contractor arrangement with them was illegal but was demanding that all the workers sign new contracts anyway.

Although the Hospital District's EMS section is extremely short staffed, a meeting attended by this reporter this past weekend with members of the group of various levels of qualification and all from the local area revealed that none of them had been asked to return to work. Most expressed a willingness to do so with proper management and fair labor practices in place.

"It's not about the money, we just wanted to serve the people," and "It's about fairness" were comments heard frequently from the group.

Wilderness Trek Arrives in Westcliffe

by Carol Clemenson

The Wilderness Trek Christian Camp, Inc. is a 501(c)(3) Christian organization founded in 1975 that has served and guided more than 30,000 young people and adults through its 5 to 6 day adventure trips.

Their website, www.wildernesstrek.org, states: "We offer a rugged 5 to 6-day adventure in the majestic mountains of the southern Rocky Mountains. These trips include backpacking, hiking, rappelling, devotionals, solo times, and a climb to the summit of a 13,000 or 14,000-foot mountain. We specifically design trips to challenge young people (14-19 years of age), adults, and families of all ages to discover self-confidence, self-esteem, personal faith, and

to learn their awesome potential for living faith-filled lives."

The organization came to Westcliffe for the first time for one of their seven day camping trips and a great time was had. For this year, they plan on bringing a total of about 50 children and young adults in three separate trips with each group staying for seven days.

For this first trip, the kids camped in tents close to town for two days, then climbed Mt. Macy and camped there for the next five days. During the entire trip, a faith-based value system is taught along with wilderness management skills.

The trips are paid scholarships, the foundation church and other sponsors. Bob Harris is the execu-



A Wet Mountain journey. Wilderness Trek hikers heading into the forest for their five-day outing.

courtesy photo by Randy Hicks

tive director. The Trek staff works full time, year round getting donations, reservations and commitments from other organizations to sponsor the kids. A typical response from one of the kids from this Westcliffe camp was "This experience has turned my whole life around because I have found the Lord, and have been saved. It is a wonderful feeling". The group has a wonderful slogan: "Faith can move mountains. Let the mountains move your faith".

The organization estimates

that it will cost them approximately \$6,000 to run the three Westcliffe camping trips this year.

Mr. Harris says the community has been wonderful. They want to thank the Dollar Store, restaurants, Westcliffe Super Market, the Dawg Haus, and especially the Custer County Church of Christ who is involved with the local sponsorship of Wilderness Trek 2014. The church feeds the groups on Sunday evening after they arrive here, and have also provided and arranged for them to take

showers and swim on Friday afternoons after they come down off the mountain.

Mr. Harris would also like to thank Danny and Dagne Billings for allowing the groups to stay and camp on their property for the last three weeks. Some of these kids will come back to serve as mountain guides.

If you would like to donate to The Wilderness Trek Ministry, you can find them on Facebook Page: <https://www.facebook.com/WildernessTrek>. Your donations can help save a child.



A counseling and teaching break during their Trek in Westcliffe.

courtesy photo by Randy Hicks

Eagles Summit Ranch Wounded Warrior Graduation TONIGHT!

See page 4 for details

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School Board Hiring Decision Letter

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PATRIOT ALERT!

Doctor Defies Gun Ban and Saves Lives

page 20



The Lord is good, A stronghold in the day of trouble; And He knows those who trust in Him.

Nahum 1: 7, NKJV

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the same mountains!*

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

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

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Our Opinion...

From the Editorial Board

THE ILLUSION OF GOODNESS



Congress was so proud of itself on Monday. They proudly announced they had reached an agreement on fixing the VA and just in time for their 5-week vacation break. But, let us not rejoice just yet. When the VA scandal broke we suggested that Congress and the president would probably try to fix it with more money and not substantive reform. It appears that is exactly what they have done. More money even though it is reported they have money left over every year. Good management and caring attitudes seem to be what they need. Will more money accomplish that? Maybe, maybe not. Once again citizens and veterans will have to wait until the bill is passed and signed into law before we know exactly what is in it. This band-aid approach (more money) to treat the cancer may not do anything to change the culture of corruption and indifference rampant throughout the VA leadership and its ranks. The whistleblowers are still being harassed and threatened. Just this week the VA asked many of them to sign documents preventing them from speaking to the media. Recently, it was discovered that the VA Construction Director went \$1.5 Billion over budget and still received a

\$55,000 bonus. In another case a hospital director had six veterans die in his facility from Legionnaires disease and still received a \$63,000 bonus. Will the new law and band-aid put a stop to that sort of insanity? We will have to wait and see. Will this band-aid do anything to shorten the waiting lists? Hopefully, but again we will have to wait and see. This \$17 Billion should have been offset by other funding cuts as our overall federal budget is still spiraling out of control. However, the Republicans caved and accepted the bulk of it as new emergency spending. On the surface many will think that was a good idea. They had to "compromise" to make this deal for the veterans. Once again, however, no ridiculous and unnecessary funding was eliminated to make way for more what should be more important spending. So if the funding allows for some veterans to receive vouchers and get timely medical care, that will be great. It will probably not put much of a dent in the problem. Allegedly, there is language that will allow the new secretary to fire people. That would be refreshing but it remains to be seen if the courage and determination will be there. Excuse us for being skepti-

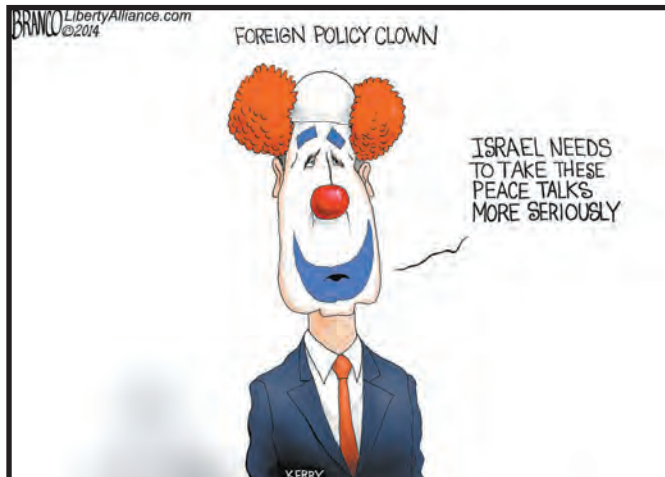
cal. It is very much needed but we will have to wait and see.

We just learned of some absolute crazy spending. It was reported last week that the president and secretary of state extended the deadline for a nuclear agreement with Iran for another 6 months without the old or any new sanctions. Most rational and intelligent citizens knew there would be no agreement but the current administration played this meaningless game anyway. But, here's the real kicker. We agreed to pay Iran \$2.8 Billion to keep "negotiating" with us in bad faith. This is insane. Remember \$1 Billion is One Thousand Millions. So we are giving them 2,800 Millions of dollars for what exactly? Reminds us of the old saying – a billion here, a billion there and pretty soon you're talking about real money. When will this kind of insanity stop? And this leads us to the latest Obama/Kerry debacle. Kerry went to Paris and offered such a pitiful cease-fire agreement that it was rejected by Israel on a 19-0 vote. It was nothing more than the old Hamas demands on United States letterhead. It was so bad

it should be a major embarrassment to all Americans. An unnamed Israeli official called Kerry's proposal a "strategic terrorist attack." This was the reaction from our real ally in the region. Also included in that deal were billions of dollars for Hamas. More insanity! Kerry's cease fire proposal was a one-sided agreement for the Palestinians and played right into Hamas' hands. It was another major blunder by this administration. When will this kind of ineptness end? Well, it can end in November 2014 and November 2016, if enough citizens vote correctly.

One last blunder we must highlight. The president has nominated Rabbi David Saperstein as our Ambassador at Large for International Religious Freedom. Kerry said he is the gold standard for religious free-

doms. But consider these facts. Two years ago Saperstein sent a letter to every congressman asking them to NOT vote in support of the ban on partial birth abortion. Sad, right? But even sadder is the fact that this man, whose very title requires him to promote our religious freedoms, said this on July 21st: "The real problem is the Hobby Lobby case. By giving religious exemption to a broad category of employers – millions of employers in this country – and allowing them to make religious claims to discriminate on the basis of religion – this is deeply, deeply troubling." Here is what we find deeply troubling. November 4, 2014, is still almost 100 days away. It can't get here soon enough. Americans must root these liberal progressives out everywhere they can! VOTE!



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Dissenting Opinion on Custer County School Board Hiring Decision

by Larry Luikart,
Rural Custer County

The Custer County Board of Education voted by a three 'in favor' two 'against' decision to hire a High School English teacher for the coming school year. Some of the readers may be asking, "Why is this important enough to report in the Sentinel?" School boards hire new teachers all the time as part of their routine business. Normally there would be no story, no question of the board's decision. There would be no need to offer to the public the reasons the board split their decision. As a matter of course, an Elementary Mathematics Interventionist teacher was hired in this meeting by a unanimous vote.

The issues from the minority dissenting Board members, Dr. Terre Davis and Mr. Robert Jolley, brought out significant concerns regarding the education of our students.

Dr. Davis began her remarks by indicating she had nothing against the applicant, Mr. Eric Thompson. Mr. Thompson has a college degree but it is not in Education and he has no major in English. He has no teaching certificate in any area. He expressed an interest to Superintendent Mr. Selle approximately a year ago that he would be interested in changing professions from law enforcement to education. There

is no indication he did anything to prepare for that challenging career change.

This citizen happens to have a Master of Education degree and certification in kindergarten through twelve. I saw the advertisement in the local paper but I had the common sense not to apply. English is not my major automatically making my chances of being successful for this position if I were hired nebulous at best. Mr. Thompson may succeed and I certainly hope he does for our students sake, but he has no idea at this point the yoke that has been placed on his shoulders. In reality, his hiring is a disservice to him.

The obvious lack of the applicant's education, certification and experience pushed Dr. Davis and Mr. Jolley as well as Chairman Gaide to request and to make recommendations in order to make some concessions to the students who will be instructed by the applicant. More frequent evaluations, lesson plan reviews and methodological issues were all discussed and to some degree settled.

Mr. Selle said he planned to hire a mentor to assist Mr. Thompson somewhere in the twenty dollar per hour range. However, no one had been hired by the meeting time to fill the mentor position. Dr. Davis indicated an already fi-

nancially strapped District would now be paying for this mentor which leads to the obvious concern of fiscal responsibility.

The applicant is to be paid the same starting salary as another new teacher who has a bachelors degree in education and who is certified in Colorado. Dr. Davis asked how such a practice could possibly be considered fair? A question that fell on deaf ears obviously. Furthermore, the state of Colorado standards for teachers are nearly useless in my opinion. There is no time limit to obtain certification based on a program known as "Alternative Licensing Program." The applicant can take as much time as he pleases to achieve his certification and the state of Colorado is perfectly fine with the arrangement. There is no guarantee anyone from an accredited institution of higher education will ever evaluate the teaching capability of the applicant. Mr. Selle reported to the Board that five candidates were offered jobs and they all turned down the position based on salary. Yet evidence suggests that only the two local papers and the Cañon City paper were used to advertise the position. Only one internet site was utilized. There is no evidence anyone in the School District did any networking or attended any job fairs. One of Mr. Selle's complaints regarding hiring is a rationale that he and the two prin-

cipals are just too busy. Well, this citizen has no reason to believe he is not telling the truth. But, recruitment of teachers should be a priority no matter how busy they are. It should be an on-going year-round endeavor because we are a small district and we have difficulty recruiting qualified teachers. No one denies the task is difficult, possibly daunting, but it is not impossible.

Dr. Davis made a palpable and quite reasonable suggestion to solve this obvious debacle. Hire a permanent substitute until a full-time fully qualified teacher is recruited. If this suggestion would have been adopted the students would have been protected, the position would have been filled properly, and I would not be writing this letter.

It was this citizen's understanding the current School Board made a commitment to the creation of a better performing Custer County School District. This was supposed to be a district that raised its achievement scores, put students first, and fought the implementation of the awful Common Core standards. I do not wish to imply the decision-makers do not care. I know they all care. Instead, there is a willingness to accept mediocrity rather than expecting excellence. They seemed to be more concerned with filling an open spot on the roster than finding a good teacher for this

critical position. Just one more vote, just one other board member voting "no" would have sent a message to the superintendent that he needed to work harder and delve deeper in finding qualified candidates for our students, their parents, and the taxpayers who so willingly support our public schools. Alas, President Gaide, Ms. Rowland, and Mr. Lee found a way to justify their "yes" votes.

The School Board has a difficult task and no one denies they make many appropriate and worthwhile decisions on behalf of our students. Every governance board makes errors. Some are minor and some are whoppers. This was a whopper!

There will be those who will read this article and immediately believe this was some attempt to politicize the situation, or to lay unfair scrutiny on the applicant, or to believe there was some attempt to disparage the teachers, students, and parents in our District. Nothing is further from the truth. The education of the children in Custer County should be a non-partisan, non-political, non-ideological endeavor. Our children are the future of our great Republic. The disappointment in this instance is the fact their education now hangs on, "hope it works," rather than on a strong, proven fully actualized commitment to excellence.



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Local Mountain News & Notices

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Custer County Community Sharing Center, Inc. Continues to Grow

The Custer Community Sharing Center, also known as the Community Sharing Center and sometimes the Free Store began its efforts around 1999. The Methodist and Episcopal Churches hosted it until 2003, when the Center moved to Hope Lutheran Church at the invitation of Pastor Wayne Riddering and the congregation.

From its inception, numerous churches in our community have consistently supported the Sharing Center monetarily and with volunteer staff. Ruth Mitchell has been the Director of the Sharing Center for several years. Under her guidance the food pantry has grown from offering a few cans of food to helping provide several meals a week to our neighbors in need. Through her hard work and our community's donations the Sharing Center is able to help furnish homes when fires have caused our neighbors to lose everything. It is able to provide household needs to anyone in the community who may need something from a kitchen glass to dining room chair. You name it. The Sharing Center probably has had it donated. The need is always there and continues to grow.

The need to once again grow has been apparent for several years as the need for more food, furniture, and clothing keeps growing to serve our neighbors. The Sharing Center has outgrown the property and buildings at Hope Lutheran Church.

Because this is such a vital need in the community the Sharing Center is once again on the move.

This endeavor will be a huge community effort as the Sharing Center will remain grass roots, available to anyone in need in our community.

A newly formed not-for-profit corporation, Custer County Community Sharing Center, Inc., has been formed, currently comprised of a Board of Directors representing many local congregations: Myron Mullett: Sangre de Cristo Fellowship; Rev. Deb Christine: Community United Methodist Church; Marci Gregg: St. Luke's Episcopal Church; Associate Pastor Bradley Reinke: Westcliffe Community Church; Monte Hess: First Baptist Church of Westcliffe; Pastor Dave McConnell: Cody Park Community Church; Dr. David Custer: Hope Lutheran Church; Pastor Larry Smith: Wild West Cowboy Church.

Several other churches and community leaders have been invited to join the current board.

The Sharing Center will need your prayers and help as they work to better serve our community. For more information, the Sharing Center's phone number is 719-371-7664.

Hospital District's CFO Dice Resigning

by Paul Sage

At the July 23rd Hospital District Board meeting Clinic Director Delwin Lester announced that "Miss Mary

Dice has tendered her resignation. She has accepted another position back in Cañon City so she doesn't have to drive 100 miles a day. Her last day is August 5th."

CODE RED: TAX ALERT

The Clinic/Hospital District has filed a notice stating they intend to ask for a mill levy increase. Folks, they have more than enough money from the existing mill levy. They need to stay within their budget like we all do.

Hey, Hospital District Board - Wake up! Money isn't the answer, we need better management from you folks.

Editor/GG

Special C-1 School Board Meeting Report

On July 23, the Custer County School District held a special board meeting to accept two letters of resignation, hire two people, and discuss bond refunding. The modification and approval of the agenda were made before the action items brought a split vote regarding personnel hires.

A new Math Interventionist, Jan Kraus, will be joining the elementary staff and a new secondary English teacher, local resident, Eric Thompson, will join the secondary staff. Much discussion ensued following the recommendation of hiring Mr. Thompson as an English teacher. Concerns that he is not qualified to teach and the process and reasoning for hiring were questioned by several board members. Superintendent Chris Selle explained that the hiring of Mr. Thompson was not a "whim" or a "kneejerk response". Mr. Selle said that Mr. Thompson approached him a year ago about how to enter into teaching.

Mr. Selle further explained to the board that in Colorado there is an Alternative License that can be obtained in situations like Mr. Thompson is in (a career change, as he just resigned as a deputy with the

Custer County Sheriff's Office). This allows for the candidate to be employed full-time while receiving instruction, mentoring (which would probably be an extra expense), and supervision while obtaining the license.

Mr. Selle started interviewing for this position in mid-April with thirteen interviews, offering the position to five. Out of the five offered, the last one accepted and then was offered another position in another district.

Mr. Selle sees Mr. Thompson as a "long-term benefit" in that "he is committed to the community and the school", he will have mentor help and have the same evaluation as other teachers. It was suggested by two board members that Mr. Thompson have more frequent evaluations to monitor his progress and that the review process be year to year. Mr. Thompson was accepted as a new hire by a 3 to 2 vote.

The other items introduced by the board members included the approval to re-finance the Bond which will result in lower rates that will save the district \$13,000 annually. Mr. Selle stated that additional mills are still needed to bring the district into a more positive

financial stance. Dr. Davis requested a list of all employees showing their current assignment, major, and current certification by the August board meeting to be clear on the number of "highly qualified" teachers as designated by the Colorado Department of Education. Mr. Selle stated that all teachers but one are highly qualified. The board will be working on the district vision and mission statements to go with the strategic plan in an upcoming meeting.

The general public comments session brought a few comments of dissatisfaction of the board hiring someone who does not have a teaching degree and has no academic experience in the area to be taught (secondary level English). Mr. Selle stated he believed that Custer County will do the best with what "we have" and reiterated that this hire is not a "kneejerk response", nor is the district "settling", but while not an ideal situation, Mr. Thompson will need to follow the designated process to obtain an alternative license and can also be hired as a substitute or obtain emergency licensure. For more information the alternative licensing website is; www.cdeprof.licensure_alt1_info.asp



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Local Mountain News & Notices

Return from Argentina

by J. Cascarelli

Jordan Beach, age 17, has returned from her Rotary sponsored trip to Argentina. Jordan was the second exchange student who was awarded the trip. She went to live with three Argentinian families from September 2013 to July 2014. Since Argentina is in the southern hemisphere, the seasons are reversed; Jordan did not attend a full year at a school. The school she attended was a parochial school, the best in the city.



Jordan's first trip, in December, to the south, Perito Moreno glacier.

The Rotary allows students to request the country that awarded students will visit. Jordan, with two years of high school Spanish in her background, selected Argentina as her first choice. Spain and Ecuador were her other choices.

A lifetime resident of Westcliffe, she spent her visit in a city of 40,000, a three-hour drive south of Buenos Aires. This experience alone was a real eye-opener for Jordan. In August, she will return to C-1 as a senior to finish high school prior to attending college.

The families Jordan stayed with provided an interesting experience for this young woman. Her first host family was a married couple with a son and daughter. Mother and children were exchange students in the past, so it must have been fascinating for Jordan to hear about their experiences. All discussions were in Spanish, however.

The second family, a single mother with two daughters, eight- and twelve-years-old, all lived in a one bedroom apartment. Jordan

and the two younger "host sisters" shared bunk beds. The third host family was a husband and wife with three grown children. Ironically, their youngest child was an exchange student living in California. The host mother is the sister of Jordan's second host mother. It appears that Jordan's living arrangements added to the richness of the total experience.

Jordan explained the Rotary's Four "D"s. They are: don't drive, don't drink, don't do drugs, and don't date. These are good guidelines even for non-exchange students, but they no doubt ease the minds of exchange student's parents. There is a lot more to the exchange student experience. Jordan said that the most memorable activities were two "class trips" made up of fifty or so exchange students from all over the world, who were visiting Argentina. One trip was the southern part of the country (don't forget that it gets colder as one travels south in the southern hemisphere) where Jordan and the oth-

ers were able to walk a glacier. The second trip was to the northern part of the country. So, not only did the exchange students get a tour of the country, but they were able to compare notes with other students. Jordan said that in many respects these were the highlights of her stay.

For those who don't follow international affairs, in 2001 Argentina suffered a major financial collapse complete with food riots in the streets. I asked Jordan if the country had recovered and she said that evidence of the financial collapse is still visible and that the country is still suffering.

What lasting impact did Jordan get from the months away from friends and family? She said that when she left, the thought of talking to a group or having feelings of self-confidence were not part of Jordan's skill set. Because of the trip, she is much more confident and she told me that not only would she address a group in English, but she would be able to do it in Spanish. Based on the time I spent with Jordan during the interview, one could easily see the poise and maturity that she now possesses. It is certain that this delightful young woman will have a bright future in any field of study she selects.

Jordan expressed a great deal of gratitude for the Rotary. This exchange student opportunity allowed her to learn a new language and learn about a different culture. She would like to work with the Rotary in some capacity in the years ahead. Who can blame her?



Jordan and her classmates on the last day of school. They knitted all the blankets in this picture and donated them to the poorer parts of Argentina.

courtesy photo

Correction: National Night Out in Custer County

The times given for this event were incorrect in last week's paper. The event will be from 5 p.m. - 9 p.m. Please see their ad on page 11 for more info.

Open House at the SilverWest Airport

by Carol Clemenson

A great time was had by all at the July 26 Silverwest Airport's fly-in and open house. A large contingent of residents turned out for the day's festivities which included many fly-ins, fly-overs, and good food.

Many attendees commented on how great the runway improvements looked. Various pilots commented on how smooth the runway is now with the crack seal, fog seal, and repainting greatly improving the surface.

Many of the pilots took to the air to show off their planes. Meed Geary launched his Cessna 210 and did some great flyovers. Meed is fresh out of high school and can fly with the best of them. Johnny Smith



John Baker's French Fouga jet - a rare sight in Westcliffe.

Sentinel photo by Carol Clemenson

flew his SFEX Calibur several times over the airport wowing the crowd with several inverted loops and smoke trails. Dick Blake and Bruce Claremont flew their jet over the cheering crowd. Also, John Baker brought his twin engine French Fouga jet.

The C-1 Volleyball team from the school served hot dogs, potato salad, and baked beans as a fundraiser to raise money for new uniforms. Elaine Jolley made baked beans as a donation.

A lot of credit goes to the volunteers who manage this airport. They are Bob Jolley, Bob Keister, Mary Seifert, Meed Geary, and Johnny Smith. They have made it so wonderful that more and more people are coming into our community even just for a day, and going into town for lunch or dinner, buy souvenirs at the local shops and really leaving a lot of revenue here in our community. If the proposed air museum is approved and built, Custer County could see a big jump in fly-in and drive-in tourism.



Johnny Smith in his Calibur, blowing smoke, is always a favorite.

courtesy photo by Ginger Smith

Thank You For Supporting our Local Kids

at the 4-H & FFA Livestock Sale

Beef Buyers

Town and Country Auto (2)
Seifert Enterprise
Trails End Ranch
Ranchers Roost
Texas Creek Ranch
First State Bank

Goat Buyers

Trails End Ranch
Samuelson Ranch
Macy Creek Ranch II
Sharpe Equipment
Rusler Implement (2)
Westcliffe Supermarket (2)

Lamb Buyers

Sangre de Cristo Electric
Don and Linda Kaufman
Wet Mountain Tribune
Ranchers Roost (2)
Faricy Ford
Jack and Connie Thompson
First State Bank
Samuelson Ranch
Farm Credit Services of Southern Colorado
Dynamic Ag Solutions
Trails End Ranch

Rabbit Buyers

Santa Fe Trail Rabbit Company (3)

Swine Buyers

Dynamic Ag Solutions-Tanner Camper
Westcliffe Super Market (2)
Trails End Ranch (3)
Beach Redi-Mix (2)
Sangre De Cristo Sentinel
First State Bank of Colorado
Seifert Ranches (2)
Texas Creek Ranch
Don Camper Trucking
Valley Feed
D & K Feed
Nacho Mama's
Rusler Implement
Lamp Post Lodge
53 Peaks Restaurant Colorado Springs
Black Hills Energy
F Bar Four Ranch
4 Rivers Equipment

2014 4-H & FFA Buckle Sponsors

Watson Land Company, Triple T Construction/General Contracting, Schlabach Masonry LLC, Dave and Candi Hobby, Ricks Trees, Lynn & Sandra Attebery, The Freeburg Family, Family Dollar, Westcliffe Home and Ranch/Diane Rose, Ludvick Propane, Town & Country Salon, All Safe Storage, Ula Builders, Hutton's High Hopes Horses, LLC/Ashten Hutton, The Cliffs Veterinary Clinic, Don Camper Trucking Davis Designs (for making our Buckle cabinet)

Livestock Sale Supporters

Chop Shop - Jeff and Jane Thomas, Valley Feed, Rusler Implement, Hot Shotz, D&K Supply, Clyde and Josh Walden, Ranchers Roost, Ace Hardware, Gonzales Lamb Club, Ricks Trees, Sharp Equipment, Fred and Sharon Berry Auctioneer: John Campbell, Winter Livestock Auctioneer: Kirk Ruzanski, KER Auctions Photographer: Elizabeth Watson

A Huge Thank You
to Beverly and Robin
and All the Buyers!

Local Mountain News & Notices

Grammie Tammie's Quilt Shop and The Creative Closet Closing Up Shop

Grammie Tammie's will be closing the quilt shop after the 16 annual quilt show on August 26th. She has personal issues that really need her attention. There will be a BIG sale and the ONLINE SHOP will remain open. Thank you Tammie for the 3 years that you have given to all the quilters in this valley as well as the out of town folks. We will miss your shop, Candace, and YOU TERRIBLY. Best wishes and God Bless.

Also, The Creative Closet in Cañon City is in the process of closing the shop within the next few months. There will be a BIG sale there also. Denise says it is time for a long overdue road trip. Please stop by an visit her shop.

Please don't forget about the 16th Annual Quilt Show sponsored by the Olde School Quilters of Westcliffe. The show starts Thursday, August 26th, through Sunday, August 31st. This will be at the Old Schoolhouse & Museum of Westcliffe, 320 4th Street, Westcliffe, CO. Hours are 10 a.m. – 5:00 p.m. Daily. There will be a drawing for the raffle quilt at 5:00 p.m., Sunday, August 31. Hope to see you there.

by Jean Canterbury

Living here in the Wet Mountain Valley, we have always known that our high mountain hay is the best hay available, sought after by discriminating livestock owners far and wide. So what's really in hay and how do you know if you are getting the good stuff?

Because of our high altitude the Valley typically harvests only one cutting of grass hay per season. The grass grows slowly in our cool temperatures resulting in a higher protein content product that is also more palatable than lower altitude forage products. The Valley hay is primarily red top, Timothy, brome and/or clover with some alfalfa and is cut and baled the latter part of July through August and September. Red top, Timothy and brome are grasses, whereas clover and alfalfa are legumes. This grass/legume mixture has been proven to produce a superior hay product.

Crude protein content is the most important factor determining the quality of the hay. The grass hay produced here varies between

Hay! What's in Yours?

8 and 11%. Mature horses, for example require 10-12% crude protein in their diets. A grain concentrate can be used to supplement the hay ration, increasing its protein, vitamin and mineral content. Cattle hay, on the other hand, does not need to be of the same quality as horse hay because cattle are not as adversely affected by dust or mold and get their nutrition by digesting the cellulose (ruminating) and converting it into energy. Cattle protein requirements vary with stage of production, size of the animal, and expected performance. During lactation, larger cattle typically require more pounds of crude protein per day than smaller cattle but as a lesser percentage of their total dry matter intake. In other words, lighter cattle require higher quality feeds and forages at lesser quantities compared with heavier cattle. Cattle requirements for crude protein increase with increasing lactation and rate of gain. Protein is required for milk production and reproductive tract reconditioning after calving.

Producers test their hay for protein by taking samples.

The CSU Extension Office has a probe you can check out if you want to do this on your hay. The Extension Office will also send the sample in to the lab for you or give you the address for you to do it yourself.

Palatability is also a major factor because, obviously, if the animals don't like the taste, they won't eat it. Palatability is affected largely by the state of maturity of the hay. Hay harvest in the early stages of bloom has more leaf and less stem and therefore more palatable. Some growers actually inject their hay with protein, sugar and other ingredients to improve its nutrition and taste.

Hay is also sprayed with preservatives in some locales in order for it to be baled with a high water content, and to keep it from molding. Years ago, farmers used salt to preserve the hay, but found that in order to have a preservative affect they had to use so much salt that it was not good for the livestock. Organic acids and their salts have been used successfully to preserve grain and silage and are being marketed as hay preservatives. The ef-

fective ingredient in most commercially available preservatives is propionic acid. It can be mixed with acetic acid, some inorganic acids, formaldehyde, water or flavoring ingredients.

Organic acids function as fungicides and must be applied to hay to contact as much of the surface as possible. Formaldehyde has bactericidal as well as fungicidal properties. Organic acids have a residual effect, providing long-term protection if not diluted by wetting and moisture migration. If hay bales and stacks are open, volatilization of organic preservatives will occur and their effectiveness will decrease. Rain will dilute and leach the additives out of the hay so treated hay should be covered. Anhydrous ammonia, when added to hay, reacts with moisture, condenses, and prevents mold growth. Forage crude protein levels increase due to the nitrogen content of the ammonia. and treated hay has a higher digestibility than untreated hay.

Jean Canterbury is the co-owner/broker of United Country Wapiti Realty in Westcliffe.



A Painted View Ranch Events 2014

SUMMER HORSE CAMP

Offered to All Levels of Experience

**Class Dates:
August 11 - 15**

It's a great way to have fun while learning about horses from the ground up. Our experienced camp counselor will work with you teaching safety, grooming, handling, parts of the horse, and knowledge of tack and saddles.

Each class runs Monday - Friday 9 AM - Noon
Students should be 8 - 12 years old
A Painted View Ranch will supply experienced horses, tack and saddles.

Students advised to register one week in advance.
Tuition for the full week is \$250.
Students are requested to wear riding boots while working with the horses.

Located 3 miles West of downtown at the base of the Sangre de Cristo Mountains.
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Local Mountain News & Notices

Custer County 4-H/FFA Livestock Sale Results

Sale Total: \$127,592.75

SELLER	WGT	CWT	TOTAL PRICE CWT	F/C	FLOOR PRICE	BUYER	BUYER PAYS
BEEF					\$1.40		
Ed Berry	1240	5.00	\$6,200.00		\$1,736.00	Town and Country Auto Sales	\$4,464.00
Conner Rowley	1392	3.75	\$5,220.00		\$1,948.80	Ranchers Roost	\$3,271.20
Zachary Fischer	1230	4.00	\$4,920.00		\$1,722.00	Seifert Enterprises	\$3,198.00
Anastasia Berry	1214	3.25	\$3,945.50	F	\$1,699.60	Trails End Ranch	\$2,245.90
Taylor Staton	1104	4.25	\$4,692.00		\$1,545.60	Town and Country Auto Sales	\$3,146.40
Nicole Lorenzen	1293	4.25	\$5,495.25	F	\$1,810.20	Texas Creek Ranch	\$3,685.05
Billy Berry	1181	4.00	\$4,724.00	F	\$1,653.40	First State Bank	\$3,070.60
Total Weight/Sales	8,654		\$35,196.75		\$12,115.60		\$23,081.15
Average Price/LB		4.07					
LAMB					\$1.20		
Lindsey Gillmore	137	21.00	\$2,877.00		\$164.40	Jack and Connie Thompson/ Faricy Ford	\$2,712.60
Grace Watkins	147	16.00	\$2,352.00	F	\$176.40	Sangre De Cristo Electric/ Don and Linda Kaufman	\$2,175.60
Morgan Foster	153	13.00	\$1,989.00	F	\$183.60	First State Bank	\$1,805.40
Garrett Stepanich	119	14.00	\$1,666.00		\$142.80	Wet Mountain Tribune	\$1,523.20
Kyle Rose	129	15.00	\$1,935.00		\$154.80	Samuelson Ranch	\$1,780.20
Sierra Stepanich	160	14.50	\$2,320.00	F	\$192.00	Farm Credit Services of Southern Colorado	\$2,128.00
Sheyenne Shy	132	15.00	\$1,980.00		\$158.40	Ranchers Roost	\$1,821.60
Jaycie Cardenas	140	13.50	\$1,890.00	F	\$168.00	Dynamic Ag Solutions	\$1,722.00

See LIVESTOCK SALE RESULTS on page 8



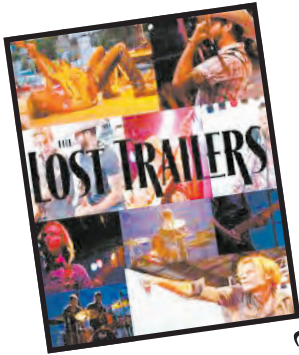
A Painted View Ranch Events 2014

**NATIONAL CHUCKWAGON COOK OFF
AND SHOW WITH DONOVAN LEE
OPENING FOR THE LOST TRAILERS
SATURDAY, AUGUST 9**

DINNER AT 5 P.M.
Dinner Numbers Are Limited
Order Tickets or Come Early!
Adult Beverages For Sale

SHOW AT 6:30 P.M.

Featuring The Lost Trailers



**TICKET INFORMATION**

DINNER \$20

DINNER & SHOW \$40

SHOW \$25

**TICKETS CAN BE PURCHASED ONLINE AT OUR WEBSITE
OR BY CALLING 719.783.9100**

Tickets are non-refundable. Credit cards now accepted.

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Custer County 4-H/FFA Livestock Sale Results

Continued from page 7

SELLER	WGT	CWT	TOTAL PRICE CWT	F/C	FLOOR PRICE	BUYER	BUYER PAYS
LAMB <i>continued</i>					\$1.20		
Noah Tillotson	160	13.00	\$2,080.00	F	\$192.00	Trails End Ranch	\$1,888.00
Rebecca Tillotson	152	12.00	\$1,824.00	F	\$182.40	Ranchers Roost	\$1,641.60
Total Weight / Sales	1429		\$20,913.00		\$1,714.80		\$19,198.20
Average Price/LB		14.63					

SWINE					\$0.85		
Lindsey Gillmore	276	14.00	\$3,864.00		\$234.60	Dynamic Ag Solutions	\$3,629.40
Kyle Rose	259	9.50	\$2,460.50		\$220.15	Trails End Ranch	\$2,240.35
Sierra Stephanich	290	6.00	\$1,740.00		\$246.50	Four Rivers Equipment	\$1,493.50
Lane Byerly	290	6.50	\$1,885.00	F	\$246.50	Don Camper Trucking	\$1,638.50
Sydney Feldmann	290	7.00	\$2,030.00		\$246.50	Valley Feeds	\$1,783.50
Halie Lemons	237	8.50	\$2,014.50	F	\$201.45	D&K Feeds	\$1,813.05
Cash Rowley	251	8.50	\$2,133.50	F	\$213.35	Nacho Mama's	\$1,920.15
Garrett Stephanich	275	8.50	\$2,337.50		\$233.75	Beach Redi-Mix	\$2,103.75
Andy Feldmann	290	8.50	\$2,465.00		\$246.50	Rustler Implement	\$2,218.50
Ashley Gillum	254	8.50	\$2,159.00		\$215.90	Seifert Ranches	\$1,943.10
Sheyenne Shy	284	12.50	\$3,550.00		\$241.40	Beach Redi-Mix	\$3,308.60
John Feldmann	290	9.50	\$2,755.00	F	\$246.50	Trails End Ranch	\$2,508.50
Taylor Staton	240	9.00	\$2,160.00	F	\$204.00	Westcliffe Supermarket	\$1,956.00
Sam Dunlap	256	8.00	\$2,048.00		\$217.60	Lamp Post Lodge	\$1,830.40
Morgan Foster	274	9.00	\$2,466.00	F	\$232.90	Westcliffe Supermarket	\$2,233.10
Grace Moos	283	9.00	\$2,547.00	F	\$240.55	Sangre de Cristo Sentinel	\$2,306.45
Henry Watson	290	9.00	\$2,610.00		\$246.50	53 Peaks Restaurant Colorado Springs	\$2,363.50
Zachary Fischer	247	9.00	\$2,223.00		\$209.95	Seifert Ranches	\$2,013.05
Jaycie Cardenas	258	9.50	\$2,451.00	F	\$219.30	First State Bank	\$2,231.70
	0	0.00	\$0.00	F	\$0.00		\$0.00
Ben Penkoff	270	8.00	\$2,160.00	F	\$229.50	Trails End Ranch	\$1,930.50

See LIVESTOCK SALE RESULTS on page 10



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Custer County School District C-1

ENROLLMENT

Wednesday, August 6, 2014
from 9 a.m.-12 p.m. & 1 p.m.-3 p.m.
in the Multi-Purpose Room

All new students and incoming kindergartners

Please bring:
*Immunization Records, Birth Certificate, Address
of old school, Current address and phone number*

Middle School Volleyball

*All incoming 6th, 7th, and 8th grade girls
are invited to Pre-Season Practice!*

August 14-15
9 a.m. - 11 a.m.
East Gym

All players must have a current Sports Physical and
all paperwork turned in to the school office.

Although the pre-season practice is not mandatory,
it is a great benefit for all players to prepare them
for the upcoming season.

Please bring knee pads and a water bottle.

For more info contact Coach Rebekah Cravens at 970-396-0057.

Bobcat FUN/k & Walk

2014

Saturday, August 9, 11:00 a.m.

Come join the Custer county Cross Country
team for the 1st annual fundraising 5k.
The course starts in downtown Westcliffe
and provides scenic views of the
Sangre de Cristo Mountains.

Prizes for overall and age division winners.

\$25 5k / \$20 1 Mile Walk / \$15 Student 5k (ages 6-18)

Online registration at imathlete.com

Local Mountain News & Notices

2014-2015 Custer County School Supply Lists

All Students K-12: 3 boxes of tissues

All students, K-5th Grade, will need a pair of rubber sole non-marking tennis shoes for physical education.

Middle School students will need tennis shoes and gym clothing.

When 3-ring binders are requested, please do not purchase Trapper Keepers.

Backpacks are suggested for all students (appropriately sized)

Kindergarten

- 1 box Crayola brand crayons (16)
- 1 box Crayola brand washable markers
- 1 package dry erase markers
- 1 Elmer's white glue
- 2 pocket folders
- 1 box Ziploc sandwich bags
- 1 backpack- no wheels
- 1 pair non-marking tennis shoes



First Grade

- 1 box Crayola brand crayons
- 10 glue sticks
- 1 eraser (large pink)
- 4 pocket folders
- 4 fine point dry erase Expo markers
- 1 pair non-marking tennis shoes



Second Grade

- #2 pencils (24)
- 1 box Crayola brand crayons
- 1 box 24 count colored pencils
- 1 (4 pack) dry erase Expo markers
- 4 glue sticks and 1 Elmer's glue
- 4 erasers (large pink)
- 20 pencil top erasers
- 1 spiral notebook (1 subject)
- 4 pocket folders (no brads)
- 1 pair non-marking tennis shoes



Third Grade

- #2 pencils (36)
- 1 box Crayola brand crayons
- 1 box colored pencils
- 1 box markers
- 5 glue sticks
- 1 package dry erase markers
- 1 package pencil top erasers
- Pencil box/container for loose supplies
- 2 highlighters
- 4 pocket folder
- 2 spiral notebooks
- 2 packages loose-leaf notebook paper (wide rule)
- 1 pair non-marking tennis shoes



Fourth Grade

- #2 pencils
- Markers
- 1 Elmer's glue
- 2 erasers (large pink)
- 2 Composition Notebooks
- 6 pocket folders (different colors)
- 2 sprial notebooks (wide rule)
- 2 packages loose-leaf notebook paper (wide rule)
- 1 pair non-marking tennis shoes

Fifth Grade

- #2 pencils (48)
- crayons, colored pencils, markers
- 2 highlighters
- 4 glue sticks
- 2 erasers (large pink)
- 1 small pencil sharpener (with shaving holder)
- 4 pocket folders
- 1 pocket folder (with brads)
- 2 spiral notebooks
- 2 composition notebooks (not spiral - 200 pages)
- 1 pair non-marking tennis shoes

Middle School

- Blue, black, and red pens
- 1 box #2 pencils and colored pencils
- College-rule loose-leaf notebook paper
- 1 eraser (large pink)
- 7 pocket folders
- 7 spiral notebooks (1 subject)
- 2 Composition notebooks (reading & writing workshop)
- 2" 3-ring binder (writing workshop)
- 2 packages of ruled 3x5 index cards
- 3-ring zippered trapper keeper binder (optional)
- 1 3-ring binder with dividers (science)
- calculator
- Math**
- 1 box #2 pencils
- 1 subject notebook
- graph paper
- 1 package black dry-erase markers (chisel tip)
- Algebra**
- calculator T1-83 graphing calculator (recommended for Algebra Students)
- Physical Education**
- T-shirt with sleeves (no tank tops)
- Non-marking tennis shoes, mid-thigh shorts or sweat pants

High School

- #2 pencils
- blue, black, and red pens
- colored pencils
- index cards
- notebook paper
- Art & Music Students**
- 9"x12" spiral sketchbook
- package #2 pencils
- package erasers
- English**
- 1 3-ring binder
- 4 dividers
- Yearbook**
- 3-ring binder
- Math**
- calculator T1-83 graphing calculator (optional)
- graph paper
- compass
- protractor
- 3-ring notebook with paper



KIDS Friday, August 1, 2014

COLORADO, THE CENTENNIAL STATE

Why is Colorado called the Centennial State? Colorado became a state in 1876 during the United States' centennial celebration.

Congress created the Territory of Colorado in 1861. Its name came from the Rio Colorado (the Colorado River) which was named by Spanish explorers. Colorado means "colored red."

On August 1, 1876, the State of Colorado became the 38th state admitted to the Union. The United States was celebrating its 100th anniversary of the signing of the Declaration of Independence. Colorado was the only state admitted in 1876 as well as being the only one between 1867 and 1889.

Information source: Wikipedia

Sangre de Cristo Sentinel • Westcliffe, Colorado

Corner

Local Mountain News & Notices

Custer County 4-H/FFA Livestock Sale Results

Continued from page 8

SELLER	WGT	CWT	TOTAL PRICE CWT	F/C	FLOOR PRICE	BUYER	BUYER PAYS
SWINE <i>continued</i>					\$0.85		
McKensie Penkoff	290	15.50	\$4,495.00		\$246.50	F Bar 4 Ranch	\$4,248.50
Noah Tillotson	246	9.50	\$2,337.00		\$209.10	Texas Creek Ranch	\$2,127.90
Rebecca Tillotson	257	9.00	\$2,313.00		\$218.45	Black Hills Energy	\$2,094.55
Total Weight/Sales	6197		\$57,204.00		\$5,267.45		\$51,936.55
Average Price/LB		9.23					

GOAT					\$1.00		
Anastasia Berry	66	20.00	\$1,320.00	F	\$66.00	Samuelson Ranch	\$1,254.00
Grace Watkins	80	15.00	\$1,200.00	F	\$80.00	Trails End Ranch	\$1,120.00
Dalton Wommack	56	18.00	\$1,008.00	F	\$56.00	Sharpe Equipment	\$952.00
Lucas Comerford	98	13.00	\$1,274.00	F	\$98.00	Rustler Implement	\$1,176.00
Katlyn Freeburg	55	18.00	\$990.00	F	\$55.00	Westcliffe Supermarket	\$935.00
Jacob Comerford	90	16.00	\$1,440.00	F	\$90.00	Rustler Implement	\$1,350.00
Dillon Wommack	55	20.00	\$1,100.00	F	\$55.00	Macey Creek Ranch II	\$1,045.00
Scott Freeburg	62	18.50	\$1,147.00	F	\$62.00	Westcliffe Supermarket	\$1,085.00
Total Weight / Sales	562		\$9,479.00		\$562.00		\$8,917.00
Average Price/LB		16.87					

RABBIT					\$0.00		
Katelyn Roberson	0	0	\$3,300.00		\$0.00	Santa Fe Trail Rabbit Co.	\$3,300.00
Dillon Womack	0	0	\$800.00	C	\$0.00	Santa Fe Trail Rabbit Co.	\$800.00
Dalton Womack	0	0	\$700.00		\$0.00	Santa Fe Trail Rabbit Co.	\$700.00
Total Weight / Sales			\$4,800.00				\$4,800.00

GRAND TOTAL			
TOTAL SALES	\$122,792.75	\$19,659.85	\$107,932.90
Verification of Sales	\$127,592.75		



Great job, kids!
Thank you to everyone who came out to support these young men and women of 4-H and FFA, and to all of the volunteers who work so hard to make this sale such a success!

courtesy photos

Colorado State News

Western Conservative Summit 2014

by Jeanene Comerford

The fifth annual Summit was held last week at the Hyatt Regency in Denver and drew at least 3,000 conservative enthusiasts; a number that continues to increase each year. The speakers included an all-star line-up, from Jenny Beth Martin, who was founder of the Tea Party Patriots, to Sarah Palin and Dr. Ben Carson.

Louisiana Governor Bobby Jindal led off on Friday night with an amazing speech. The things this man had accomplished before age 30 will astound you, not to mention what he's done since. Taking over after Katrina, he has moved Louisiana from the bottom in jobs, to number eight. His state's ranking in education has gone from last to number five. He's a true believer in American exceptionalism, moral foundation, and our importance in the world. He would be an outstanding choice for President of the U.S.A.!

Senator Mike Lee was up next, followed by Dr. Ben Carson. Dr. Carson had a list of excellent ideas for restoring our nation. His website, saveourhealth.org, explains his plan for a lifetime HSA for each American which we would accumulate over time and could be used by other family members also. An additional insurance plan would be only for major medical.

Ben Carson's plan is summed up as "Common Sense." We can shrink the government by not replacing retirees and have only one favored group - Americans. He said "the world is like a third grade class with no teacher in it." "We are the pinnacle nation and we need to lead."

On Saturday we listened to Senator Tim Scott, Senate replacement for Jim DeMint, who talked about an "opportunity agenda" and said the GOP should become known as the Great Opportunity Party!

Ralph Reed, founder of the Faith and Freedom Coalition, quoted Winston Churchill, "America always does the right thing - AFTER we've exhausted every other option." Reed said "as the family goes, so goes the nation" and "it's time to restore One Nation Under God." "America has faced dark days before, but we need to stand and fight."

A panel discussion ensued with the likes of Bo Snedley who said the young voters need to know the Left are "nanny state fun-suckers." Mary Katherine

Ham pointed out that Reagan persevered with Dems who hated him (and some Republicans, too) as well as a media in opposition.

KT McFarland asked if we are subject to the historical "rise and decline of nations" or do we keep reinventing ourselves? She believes fracking and directional drilling are a strategic game changer that, along with nano-technology and bio-engineering, will give us another 20-year run.

A representative of Western Energy Alliance was there to discuss oil and gas in Colorado. He said fracking has been around since 1947 but now big interests want to gut it. A "Fairness Measure" on our ballot would require communities that ban fracking to forfeit the money they would get from this \$30 billion industry.

Sarah Palin spoke about the open border: "America - the unfunded charity." And regarding Obama's lawlessness: "We don't do Kings."

Betsy McGaughy was the person who actually read the bill, Obamacare, and continues to point out little known facts in it. For example, the bill allows government to regulate private policies, too! Our entire government was established in 18 pages, and Obamacare took 2,000 pages (and growing) to tear down the best healthcare in the world!

A panel discussion asked if our nation is "post-racial" and Tammy Bruce said, "Racist is no more relevant than Cocker Spaniel. We're Americans." All agreed we're post racial when we can tell a black President "NO."

The black state Senator from Louisiana who switched from Democrat to Republican 14 months ago, Elbert Guillroy, was a well-received speaker. His U-tube video on the history of blacks and democrats is well worth sharing. He said our Founders' vision was for a very small government. "We are the Minutemen who must throw off the yoke of oppression." And, "The weapons used to protect Obama's family are good enough for you to protect yours."

Dennis Prager said this country is based on a trinity: Liberty, In God We Trust, and E Pluribus Unum. Also, "The bigger the government, the less important the citizen."

The head of the Heritage

Foundation, Jim deMint, said, "Change won't happen in Washington, the battle is out in America." We need to get the message right - do we want Centralized power OR Freedom through de-centralized power?

The final speaker on Saturday was Senator Ted Cruz. His view of politics comes from the root- poly, which is many, and tics, which are blood sucking parasites. To fix the IRS and border issues we should adopt the Flat Tax, and then put the 100,000 IRS agents on the southern border! That morning he had been down at the border where 1200 illegal kids were at Lockland AFB; ALL of them had been victimized. In 2011 we had 6,000 unaccompanied minors cross the border. This year there will be 90,000 and in 2015, up to 145,000.

Allen West was the final keynote speaker; you have no doubt read many of his blogs in the Sentinel.

In addition to the aforementioned speakers, there were 16 citizen action workshops to choose from. They ranged from Grassroots Organizing to Endangered Species Madness to Power of Conservative Film (i.e. America the Movie and Fracknation) to Civilizational Jihad.

I attended the "Jihad" workshop, presented by NSA experts, and came away believing the issue of the Muslim Brotherhood's agenda in the U.S. is a bigger problem for America, as we know her, than all the other issues covered at the Summit. Because the "friendly Muslims" are our source of information on Islam, our country is sympathetic to the Muslim Brotherhood, from 100% of our schoolbooks to the highest levels of government. Check out Muslim Brotherhood in America. com. This is a topic for another article or two!

This superbly organized summit was interspersed with many gifted entertainers. We enjoyed the Legacy Quartet, The Silhouettes (see them on U-tube), the amazing art of David Garibaldi, and world-class Irish Tenor Anthony Kearns.

The Conservative Western Summit is the West's take on CPAC and I highly recommend adding it to your calendar for next year. We had 3 local conservatives in attendance this year... lets make it 30 in 2015! It doesn't get much more convenient than Denver!

Three More Cases Of Most Deadly Form Of Plague Found In Colorado

by Tyler Durden, ZeroHedge.com

It has been a very busy week for viral epidemiologists, who have been following the ongoing Ebola epidemic in West Africa, which has claimed over 600 lives by now and has become the worst Ebola breakout in history with anxiety and dread. But what may soon be even bigger news is what we reported a week ago, namely that a Colorado man is infected with the rarest and most fatal form of the pneumonic plague, an airborne version that can be spread through coughing and sneezing.

Shocked by this development, the state was working to investigate the source of exposure and to identify those who may have been exposed through close contact with the individual, the Colorado Department of Public Health and Environment said in its statement. "Any individuals exposed will be recommended for antibiotic treatment." Alas, that may be futile, because while untreated plague is fatal, antibiotics have to be given within 24 hours of the first symptoms to reduce the chance of death. Symptoms of the disease include fever, headache, and chest pain, along with a pneumonia that develops rapidly causing shortness of breath, chest pain and bloody mucus, according to the CDC.

Since there is no vaccine available for plague in the U.S., one can understand why the authorities are doing their best to prevent a panic: Colorado officials recommended that residents keep pets away from wildlife, especially dead rodents. The plague can

spread from animals after a large die-off of prairie dogs, when fleas with the bacteria seek new hosts, according to the state. "The message we're trying to get out is that the plague bacteria is present here in Colorado, and to take necessary precautions to avoid getting infected."

Alas, the message appears to not have gotten out in time. According to Bloomberg, things in Colorado are about to get worse as three more plague cases have been found in Colorado, a week after the first infection of the deadliest form of the disease was reported in the state in a decade.

The man initially reported with pneumonic plague on July 11 is hospitalized. Two of the new cases also had pneumonic plague, while the third had a milder form. All four cases may be linked to the original man's dog which died from the illness, state health officials said. Or they may not.

The good news is that the people newly-found to be infected were treated with antibiotics, recovered, and are no longer contagious. Health officials suspect the dog that died may have been exposed to plague-infected fleas from a prairie dog or rabbit, said Jennifer House, a spokeswoman for the Colorado Department of Public Health and Environment department.

The bad news is that the last time we heard about a case of plague in Colorado, that, too, was supposed to be the last one. But that won't prevent the authorities from attempting to talk down the spread in cases.

There are three main

types of plague. Septicemic plague occurs when the bacteria proliferates in the bloodstream. Bubonic plague takes hold underneath the skin. Pneumonic plague, the most serious, can be spread through coughing and sneezing and occurs when the bacteria enters the lungs.

Plague in all of its forms usually infects an average of seven people yearly in the U.S., and is found mostly in the western states of Arizona, New Mexico, and Colorado, according to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention. The disease is transmitted by fleas which pick up a bacterium called Yersinia pestis in infected animals such as chipmunks, prairie dogs, ground squirrels, mice and other mammals.

"While this is not a daily, weekly, or monthly occurrence, it isn't without precedence," said Jim Siedlecki, director of public information of Adams County where the original victim lives, in a telephone interview. "A case of plague where fleas and prairie dogs are involved isn't earth shattering for Colorado."

What about four cases?

In any event, we are confident that along with the surge in other tragic news from around the globe in the past week, this too will at most send the stock "market" to even higher all time highs.

Reprinted with Permission. Please see: www.zerohedge.com/news/2014-07-19/three-more-cases-most-deadly-form-plague-found-colorado



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is a registered trademark of NATW. Please feel free to contact
us online or call 800-NITE-OUT.



DATE: **August 5th**

TIME: **5 pm till 8 or 9 pm**

LOCATION: **Hermit Park Pavillion**



Downtown Westcliffe Art Galleries - Part 1



The Sangre de Cristo Gallery & Rock Shop

The Sangre de Cristo Gallery & Rock Shop is located at 114 Main Street. This gallery, which is owned by Steve and Peggy Willman, opened 14 years ago. The gallery features watercolors by Steve along with artwork from local artists and artists throughout the world. They showcase minerals and fossils from around the world as well as minerals with healing properties, animal carvings, Native American flutes, Raku, and jewelry made by Peggy and other local artists.



The Outpost Gallery Western Artwork and Gifts

The Outpost Gallery Western Artwork and Gifts is located at 219 Main Street. This gallery has been owned by Lynn and Sally Branam since April of 2008. The gallery features Lynn's work along with the work of over twenty local artists. They have five woodcraft artists along with jewelry artists and Native American crafts and paintings. This is one of the largest galleries in Westcliffe.



3rd Street Gallery

The 3rd Street Gallery is located at 59000 N. Highway 69 just north of Main St. This gallery is operated by the Sangres Art Guild and managed by Linnea Laurila. This gallery, which is run by volunteers, hosts art shows and promotes local art events.



Local Mountain News & Notices

Classifieds

Announcements

Castillian Creek Property Owners Association's annual meeting will be held at 18 Night-hawk Way on August 10 at 2 p.m.

For Rent

.1 BR 1 BA Rental Cabin
1/4 mile from Nat'l Forest and Alpine Lodge Restaurant. Weekly/Monthly. Comfortable; private setting. Background check and deposit required. (719) 269-0379

For Sale

Steinway Baby Grand Piano
for sale. 1980 model S. Walnut, in mint condition. Call 783-0710

Cuerno Verde Pines, 5.6 acres. Well in place, trees, views, culdesac. \$23,900. Broker/owner. Mountain Land Properties, LLC 719-783-0563

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

GUNS, AMMO, and Gunsmithing
THRIVE Freeze-Dried Food
OnMarkArms.com
113 Mill, Silver Cliff
11 - 5, Thurs. - Sat.
719/371-3158

Free Siding

Free siding - 50 **Certain-
teed fiber cement** 12'L x 8"W primed. About 7 have been painted beige. None ever mounted. 783-4880

Help Wanted

The Custer County School District is accepting applications for a **school nurse**. Starting salary for this position is \$12.55 per hour, but open to negotiation based on previous school nursing experience. Full health insurance and PERA benefits will be provided as well. Typical working hours will be from approximately 9 a.m. to 2 p.m., Monday through Thursday. Applicants with any type of nursing certification will be considered. Applications

must be received by 12:00 p.m. on Monday, August 11. 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.

The Custer County School District is accepting applications for a **full time paraprofessional for kindergarten, and a full time paraprofessional for grades 3 - 5**. Starting salary for both positions is \$9.99 per hour, but open to negotiation based on previous education experience. Full health insurance and PERA benefits will be provided as well. Typical working hours will be from approximately 7:45 a.m. to 4:15 p.m. Monday through Thursday. Applications must be received by 12:00 p.m. on Monday, August 4. Classified staff applications are available at www.custercountyschools.org or the Administration office at 709 Main St. in Westcliffe Monday-Thursday from 8 a.m. through 4 p.m. CCSD is an equal opportunity employer and does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, creed, national origin, sex, age, or handicap in employment.

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Have you read a good book lately?
Come by the Sentinel to see what they have to offer. Opportunites abound! If interested in reporting on your community's events, contact the Sentinel at 783-3360 or submit interest to submittals@sdcsentinel.com.

Real Estate

Lori Kastendieck
Independent Broker
Real Estate
[Westcliffe Broker.com](http://WestcliffeBroker.com)
719/269-0653
Serving buyers & sellers since 1982

Services

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

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

CONCRETE FLATWORK
Roofing. Decks. Over 25 years experience. Licensed. Bonded, Insured. Call (719) 429-0219 or (719) 543-0235

Wanted

Conservative Christian searching for work in Westcliffe. **Strong experience with beef, dairy, grass, and soil production.** Please call David (541) 315-1261

PASTURE/BOARDING for 1 or 2 horses October thru May. Phone 719-406-8761

HELP WANTED
TONY'S MOUNTAIN PIZZA
Call 783-9300
for inquiries between 9 am and 11 am

The deadline for getting your information into the Classifieds is **Monday at 5 p.m.** for that week's edition. **Call (719) 783-3360 to place your ad.**

Come and Worship

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

**Oak Creek Grade
General Store**
4 p.m. Worship
Followed by Potluck
12 miles north on Cty. Rd. 255
719/783-2245

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

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

**Sangre de Cristo
Mennonite Church**
9 a.m. Worship
120 Jerry Drive
Westcliffe
719/783-0903

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

Wild West Cowboy Church
4 p.m. Worship
Followed by Potluck
60260 Hwy. 69 North
Westcliffe
719/783-2676

Eateries

Alpine Lodge
6848 Cty. Rd. 140 • Westcliffe
719/783-2660
Thurs. - Sun. 5 p.m. - 10 p.m.
Sun. 11 a.m. - 2 p.m.
Reservations recommended

Campstyle Cookin'
108 S. 2nd St. • Westcliffe
719/783-0533
Mon. - Sat., 6 a.m. - 2 p.m.
Sun., 10:30 a.m. - 2 p.m.
Sun. Brunch & Omelet Bar

Candy's Coffee
106 S. 2nd St. • Westcliffe
719/783-9516
Mon. - Sat., 9 a.m. - 2 p.m.

**Chappy's Mountain View
Bar & Grill**
213 Main St. • Westcliffe
719/783-0813
Mon. - Sat., 11 a.m. - 8 p.m.
Sundays 11 a.m. - 6 p.m.

Have a Nice Day Cafe
104 Main St. • Westcliffe
719/783-2313
Mon., Tues., Fri., & Sat,
10 a.m. - 3 p.m.
Grill closes at 2 p.m.

Hunger Buster
824 Main St. • Westcliffe
719/783-9228
Call for hours

Letter Drop Inn
6654 Cty. Rd. 328 • Rosita
719/783-9430
MAY: Thur. - Sun., Open at 5 p.m.
JUNE: Wed. - Sun., Open at 5 p.m.

The Lodge at San Isabel
59 Cty. Rd. 371 • San Isabel
719/489-2280
May 26 - Oct. 15
Wed. - Mon., 8 a.m. - 9 p.m.

Mining Company Restaurant
60 Main St. • Westcliffe
719/783-9144
Daily 7 a.m. - 2 p.m.
Tues. 7 a.m. - 8 p.m.

Nacho Mama's
(Formerly Mavericks)
404 Main St. • Silver Cliff
719/783-3333
Mon. - Thurs., 11:30 a.m. - 8 p.m.
Fri. & Sat., 11:30 a.m. - 9 p.m.
Open Sundays after Memorial Day

**Oak Creek Grade
General Store**
12 miles north on Cty. Rd. 255
719/783-2245
Fri. and Sat., 7 a.m. - 11 a.m.
Opening June 6

Rancher's Roost at Cliff Lanes
25 Main St. • Westcliffe
719/783-2147
Mon. - Sat. 8 a.m. - 8 p.m.
Sun. 8 a.m. - 3 p.m.

St. Andrews Golf Course Café
801 Copper Gulch Rd. • Westcliffe
719/783-9410
May 16 - October
Lunch Daily 11:30 a.m. - 4 p.m.
Patio Happy Hours
Thurs. - Sat., 3 p.m. - 7 p.m.

Sangrita
212 Main * Westcliffe
719/783-4054
Reservations recommended
Thurs. - Sat., 11 a.m. - 9 p.m.
Sun., 9 a.m. - 8 p.m.
Sunday Brunch 9 a.m. - 2 p.m.

**Schlabach's Marketplace
& Deli**
120 N. 3rd St. • Westcliffe
719/783-9010
Monday - Friday
10 a.m. - 5 p.m.

Silver Cliff Mountain Inn
700 Ohio Street • Silver Cliff
719/783-2688
Wed. - Sat., 7 a.m. - 8 p.m.
Sun. - Tues., 7 a.m. - 2 p.m.

**Silver Cliff Pizza Company
upstairs in the
Silver Dome Saloon**
110 Main St. • Silver Cliff
719/783-9499
Call for hours

SomeWhere Saloon
215 Main St. • Westcliffe
719/783-4900
Monday-Saturday 11:00 a.m. - 2:00 p.m.
Sunday 11 a.m. - Midnight

**Subway
(inside JR's Fuel Stop)**
425 S. 6th St. • Westcliffe
719/783-2748
Mon.-Sat., 6:30 a.m. - 9:00 p.m.
Sundays 7 a.m. - 8 p.m.

Sugar & Spice Mtn. Bakery
411 Main St. B • Westcliffe
719/783-4045
Mon. - Sat., 7 a.m. - 4 p.m.

Tony's Mountain Pizza
630 Main St. • Silver Cliff
719/783-9300
Tues.: 4 - 9 p.m.
Wed. - Sat., 11 a.m. - 9 p.m.
Sunday, 11 a.m. - 7 p.m.

Westcliffe Wine Mine
109 N. 3rd St. • Westcliffe
719/783-2490
Fri. - Sat., 3 p.m. - 9 p.m.

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

Local Mountain News & Notices

Events Calendar

Friday, August 1, 2014
7:30 p.m.: Jones Theater: "Death Trap"
9 a.m. - 6 p.m.: WCCLF's Summer Arts and Crafts Fair, Lange Hall (Lutheran Church)

Saturday, August 2, 2014
9 a.m. - 6 p.m.: WCCLF's Summer Arts and Crafts Fair, Lange Hall (Lutheran Church)
4 p.m. - 6 p.m.: Sangres Art Guild Fall Show Reception at 3rd St. Gallery For info, 783-0886
6 p.m. - 8 p.m.: Wetmore Community Library: Square Dancing Under the Stars

Sunday, August 3, 2014
1 p.m.: Mutton Busting at Wild West Cowboy Church, 60260 N. Hwy. 69

Monday, August 4, 2014

9 a.m.: BOCC mtg in Courthouse boardroom

Tuesday, August 5, 2014
9 a.m.: BOCC Board of Equalization Hearings
1 - 3 p.m.: Joint BOCC and Planning Commission meeting

Wednesday, August 6, 2014
9 a.m.-12 p.m. & 1 p.m.-3 p.m.: CCSD C-1 ENROLLMENT Multi-Purpose Room: New students/incoming kindergartners bring: Immunization Records, Birth Certificate, Address old school, Current address, phone #

Thursday, August 7, 2014
10 a.m.: Airport Advisory Meeting

Saturday, August 9, 2014
11 a.m.: Bobcat FUN/k & Walk 2014, Westcliffe

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 a.m.

Monday and Thursday
11 a.m. - 5 p.m.: Lighthouse Pregnancy Resources in Silver Cliff open to assist young mothers and families in need. Free pregnancy tests and counseling to pregnant women and more. Call 783-4357

Tuesday
12:30 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. at Hope Lutheran Church, Post 170

Auxiliary monthly meeting (March-October).

Tuesday through Friday
10 a.m. - 5:30 p.m.: Library open in downtown Westcliffe

Wednesday
Line dancers meet at the Saddle Club Building from 9:30 to 11 a.m. thru the summer starting June 6. 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

Thursday
5:30 p.m.: Weight Watchers meeting in the Hope Lutheran Church basement. Call 783-4144
Second Thursday of the Month: 10 a.m. - 11 a.m., "Ask a Nurse" at the library

Friday
6 p.m.: Open discussion Alcoholics Anonymous meeting at St. Luke's Episcopal Church. Call Jim at 783-2053 or (360) 509-9172 or Lisa (719) 783-0809

Friday and Saturday
1 p.m. - 4 p.m.: Share Center adjacent to Hope Lutheran Church in Westcliffe

Saturday
10 a.m. - 2 p.m.: Library open in Westcliffe

4-H Shooting Sports Archery Competition



Sentinel photos by Carol Clemenson

Sheriff's Report...

As of Tuesday, July 29, there were six males and one female in jail.

July 29 Michael Bailey, age 62, was found dead at home of a self-inflicted wound. When he didn't show up for work, his employer went to his residence in the 600 block of Ohio Street in Silver Cliff. It appeared that he died on the evening of July 28.

July 28 Jodi Richardson, age 43, of Silver Cliff, was arrested in Westcliffe and charged with domestic violence, harassment, and trespassing. Richardson was booked into Custer County jail under no bond and hold until advisement.

July 22 Linda Raskin of New York State reported that while her 2002 Nissan was parked at Bishops Castle, someone broke a window and stole her purse and iPad. Due to at least five different incidences, Sheriff Jobe stated that his office is working with other agencies with similar crimes in other areas.

A M B U L A N C E CALLS

There were seven ambulance calls as of July 29.

July 28 At 1643 hours, an ambulance was dispatched to the clinic for a 71-year-old female with abdominal pains. She was transported to Parkview Hospital.

July 28 At 1824 hours, an ambulance was dispatched to Keepsake Loop for a 67-year-old male with chest pains. He was transported to Parkview Hospital.

July 26 At 0630 hours, an ambulance was dispatched to Little Horn Road for a 76-year-old female with possible heart problems. She was transported to Parkview Hospital.

July 25 At 2313 hours, an ambulance was dispatched to the 400 block of Main Street in Westcliffe responding to a 30-year-old female with abdominal pains. She was transported to Heart of the Rockies Regional Medical Center in Salida.

July 25 At 1940 hours, an ambulance was dispatched to Silver Cliff Park for a 17-year-old female with possible seizure. She was transported to St. Thomas More Hospital in Cañon City.

July 24 At 0155 hours, an ambulance was dispatched to the 700 block of South Street in Silver Cliff for a 45-year-old female with abdominal pains. She was transported to Parkview Hospital.

July 23 At 0938 hours, an ambulance was dispatched to the clinic responding to a 74-year-old female with possible cardiac problems. She was transported to Parkview Hospital in Pueblo.

FIRE CALLS

There were one fire call as of Tuesday, July 29.

July 27 At 1955, a fire truck was dispatched to Silver Cliff Ranch Subdivision for a tree on fire. It was quickly extinguished. It is believed to have been struck by lightning.

Beach Redi-Mix

"The Foundation of Custer County"

719-783-3558

www.beachredimix.com tom@sbcompanies.com

LOG HOMES
K & L LOG DISTRIBUTORS, Inc.

www.eMountainLogHomes.com 719 783-3260

MOUNTAIN WOODS
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Preserving Your Dreams in Colorado Since 1936

511 Main St., Westcliffe, CO 81252

Fremont County Bulletin

News, Opinion, Commentary

IMPORTANT DATES IN FREMONT

School Board Meetings:

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

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

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

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

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

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

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



City Council Hears Report on Humane Society of Fremont County

by: Barbara Penezic

Dr. Roy Million, semi-retired veterinarian, presented a lengthy report to the council regarding overall findings from an independent inspector hired by the city. It is unclear why Mr. Lester chose not to present his own findings. Bill Lester, a Cañon City resident began making random unannounced visits to the Humane Society of Fremont County in mid-March at the behest of City Council.

Mr. Lester began making these unplanned visits after a group of residents petitioned the City Council to pull its contract with the shelter because of state investigations into the facility. In the report Lester says, “I will say right up front I think the employees and volunteer program and volunteers themselves are fantastic.” He added, “I can’t think of any other people I would rather have there.” On a personal note, I would have to agree 100% with Mr. Lester. Having toured the facility on several occasions, I, too, have found the staff to be exceedingly kind, caring, and compassionate.

Mr. Lester does not, however, maintain this positive glowing attitude when speaking about the board of directors. In addition to documenting conditions at the shelter, Mr. Lester began to probe into the financials, tax returns, and the humane society’s historic charter documents. He also wanted to attend the annual board meeting. The already lukewarm relationship between Lester and the board began to form ice crystals when the board did not feel inclined to have Mr. Lester sit in on meetings and, in fact, found his request for Humane Society corporate records totally unacceptable.



Humane Society of Fremont County

Sentinel photo by John Penezic Jr

Deborah Muehleisen, representative for the Humane Society, reports that Mr. Lester, “felt the need to pontificate well beyond the scope of his expertise and personal knowledge.” She also said, “His commentary is filled with rumor, conjecture, misinformation, and personal attacks, in an effort to continue damaging the reputation of the Humane Society of Fremont County.” Ms. Muehleisen says it is Mr. Lester’s personal attacks on the board members that are particularly offensive.

Dr. Roy Million read from Lester’s report, “I have seen the letters ‘DA’ on some of the kennels, and when I asked what it meant, I was told they were to be killed. When I asked why, I usually got, I don’t know.” Mr. Lester also reported that some days, staff would be directed to “kill five cats or three dogs.” It should be noted that Mr. Lester offers no proof of these statements. I was unable to find a staff member who would confirm getting such a directive. Deborah Muehleisen told me during a phone conversation that the letters ‘DA’ meant only that the dog was not ready for adoption, (Don’t Adopt.) Many of the animals need to be socialized before they are good candidates to be placed in homes. “This does not mean that they will be euthanized. Some of the more aggressive canines are transferred to a facility in Denver that has more staff and a better chance of socializing a dog that has probably suffered abuse.”

Dr. Million has asked that City Attorney John Havens and City Councilman Kevin Ditmore, recuse themselves from future proceedings of the council regarding the humane society because of their personal ties to board members or staff. Mayor Greer said, “The city asked Mr. Lester to pop in and inspect animal living conditions, ensure proper euthanasia procedures were being followed, and notify the council if he saw any unethical treatment of animals. As far as the animals go, Mr. Lester has reported that he had seen nothing that caused him concern regarding current conditions at the shelter. We did not ask him, or authorize him, to do anything more than that.” The report will be discussed during the General Government Committee Meeting on August 6th at City Hall, time is 4 p.m.

The residents of Fremont County and Cañon City need and deserve some substantiation of the claims made by Bill Lester. Unfounded allegations of animals being put down ‘Just Because’ could cause damage to the Humane Society. Donors may think twice before writing out that check with accusations of abuse filling the air like pesky flies at the horse barn. Should such claims be proven accurate, it is time for Fremont County residents to come to the aid of their four legged friends. We need the truth!

Be Informed,
Get Involved

Elections: Part of our Heritage

by: Edward Whitcraft,
Royal Gorge Tea Party

The Royal Gorge Tea Party held its second meeting for July on the 24th. The meeting was well attended and as advertised Colorado Senator from District 2 Kevin Grantham was the guest speaker. Senator Grantham was unrelenting in telling the audience the importance of the Republican Party taking control of the House and Senate in the upcoming November election. He said he would also like to have a Republican Governor but most assuredly two of the three need to have Republican control. Kevin explained to us the damage that has occurred by having the house, senate, and governor all controlled by Democrats. Because of one-party control we have seen expanded control of environmental issues, school curriculum dictated from the state, shutting down of our coal-operated power plants, and, of course, infringement on our 2nd Amendment rights. Kevin is running for re-election. His platform is to be an advocate for legislation that will preserve, promote, and advance the cause of: limited government, lower taxes/fees, fiscal responsibility, 2nd Amendment rights, traditional family values, private property rights, free market capitalism, small business owners and personal responsibility. Many questions were asked of Kevin after his presentation but the one that stuck in my mind was asked by a gentleman, and I quote, “If you get control of the senate, will you and the other senators fight to repeal some of the damage that’s been done or will you give in to the democrats”? Kevin said he and his Republican brothers are ready for a fight. That was music to the ears of many of our tea party brothers and sisters.

We had a surprise visitor in our midst at the meeting and he was asked to enlighten us on what he and his organization is in the trenches doing. Derrick Wilburn, the CEO of American Conservatives of Color based in Colorado Springs, gave us a very motivational talk on what his organization is doing and the importance of the republicans getting control at the state and federal level of government. Derrick said his mission in life from now until death is to get the Republican Party to engage the black, Hispanic, and other ethnic communities to get them involved so they feel a part of the process. He stated that in the black community they vote 90% democrat and 10% other. Derrick emphasized that if the Republican Party wanted to get their



Senator Kevin Grantham

Sentinel photo
by John Penezic Jr

vote then they would have to go to them in their communities and tell them why they need to join the Republican Party. That is also the way to get the other groups involved. Mr. Wilburn and his organization is engaged daily trying to influence the conservative doctrine into the inner cities and different areas of the U.S. where minorities assemble. Derrick stated he is a true blue tea party person because they stand for the constitution and the conservative way of life with no reservation.

Both speakers spoke of the importance of voting this November. Both spoke of voting for candidates that have and live conservative values. Folks, voting is part of being an American. Our country was founded on ‘we the people’ controlling our elected officials through the voting process. Sometimes the candidate we have to vote for is not the best but we must not let the process fail by not



Derrick Wilburn, CEO,
American Conservatives

Sentinel photo
by John Penezic Jr

voting. We have allowed our elected representatives to become carrier politicians and the establishment seems to control who we run for office. Folks we can change that by learning which candidate is really a constitutionalist and which one just likes to blow smoke. We need to find and elect citizen politicians, those just wanting to serve for one or two terms and then let someone else serve. We have to be informed and get involved with the election process if we want to get our country back. Voting is part of our heritage and our responsibility. Don’t let the liberal progressives take it away

Summer Time Fun in Cañon City

by: Barbara Penezic

Wizard of Oz characters will take a tour of Historic Downtown Cañon City Saturday August 2nd at 11a.m.

This is a delight you will definitely want to share with your little ones. The Tin Man and all of his friends will be riding in a horse drawn carriage courtesy of Dawson Ranch Stables.

This is only the beginning of what will surely be a day you and the family will

treasure for years to come. Centennial Park will host, ‘No Place like Home,’ two fun events that same day. ‘Build your Own ‘Munchkin Land’ will begin at 8 a.m. with teams of four purchasing small lots for the low price of \$20. They will then be allowed to build their own little home using cardboard, duct tape, plastic, and a few other items. Judging will begin at 5 p.m. ‘Ruby Red Slipper Runway Show’, a Wizard of Oz, themed fashion show, will round out the fun in

See SUMMER on page 24

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.

Prophetic

Consequences of a Regional Disaster

The Merced Sun Star is carrying a lengthy story by McClatchy Washington Bureau's Jonathan Landay that attempts to analyze how the Islamic State (ISIS) seemed to appear out of no where and take over parts of Syria and Iraq. Deputy Assistant Secretary of State Brett McGurk testified before a House committee on February 5 (four months before ISIS was in the U.S. public eye) that ISIS's operations "are calculated, coordinated and part of a strategic campaign...to collapse the Iraqi state and carve out a zone of governing control in western regions of Iraq and Syria." The White House obviously knew about ISIS and its goals long before it became a regional warring force.

Details emerged in June that the leader of the al Qaeda offshoot--Abu Duaa (now called Abu Bakr al Baghda-di among other aliases) was released in 2009 when the US "president" shut down the Bucca prison camp in Iraq. Abu sees both Syria and Iraq as an Islamic state, the beginning of a single al Qaeda caliphate, having recruited over 7,000 fighters and controlling large swaths of territory in Northeastern Syria and Northwestern Iraq. It was revealed further by Aaron Klein of WorldNetDaily and confirmed by Reuters and others that the White House authorized the training of dozens of ISIS members as part of covert aid to the insurgents targeting the regime of Syrian President Bashar al-Assad.

Stating the obvious, California Republican Congressman Ed Royce is quoted as saying, "What started as a crisis in Syria has become a regional disaster with serious global implications." Congressman Royce and the others on Capitol Hill and in the Supreme Court might ought to suspend their disbelief that they are dealing with an incompetent "president" and wake up to reality. This U.S. "president" embarked on a strategy to destabilize the Middle East from the

onset of his administration, starting with his "New Beginnings" speech in June 2009. Arab Spring, Libya, Egypt, Syria, and a host of other countries in the Middle East are now directly influenced by al Qaeda and the Muslim Brotherhood. Its not a crisis, it is a strategy.

The region of the traditional enemies of Israel is emboldened and strengthened by the US "president" like never before in history. We may well be witnessing the very beginnings of the Ezekiel 38-39 prophecies and many others throughout the scriptures taking shape before our very eyes. An Arab unifying caliphate is attempting to take hold. Islamic eschatology and Judeo-Christian eschatology may now be placed on a collision course. Islamic states that come against Israel--Ezekiel 38:2-13: Meshech (Turkey); Tubal (Turkey); Persia (Iran); Ethiopia (Sudan); Libya (Libya), Gomer (Turkey), Togarmah (Turkey); Sheba (Saudi Arabia); Dedan (Saudi Arabia): "To take a spoil, and to take a prey."

The nation to watch is Turkey. Publicly, Turkey opposes ISIS. The Middle East Forum's Daniel Pipes, however, reports otherwise in a June 18 Washington Times article that said Turkey has paid \$800 million to ISIS for oil shipments and has allowed ISIS access to its border with Syria. Pipes writes: "Actually, the Turks offered far more than an easy border crossing: they provided the bulk of ISIS' funds, logistics, training and arms. Turkish residents near the Syrian border tell of Turkish ambulances going to Kurdish-ISIS battle zones and then evacuating ISIS casualties to Turkish hospitals." There are deceivers and deceptions ongoing in this saga. It's time to know your eschatology that you are not deceived.

Have a Blessed and Powerful Day!

Bill Wilson

www.dailyjot.com

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Illegal Immigration And Gangs: Someday Our Cities Will Burn Because We Didn't Protect Our Borders

by Michael Snyder,
FreedomOutPost.com

Did you know that the number of illegal immigrants that enter Texas each week is greater than the number of babies being born to citizens of that state? The mainstream media is shining the spotlight very brightly on all of the children that are coming over, and there is a reason for that. They are trying to tug on our heartstrings. But there is another part of the story that you aren't hearing much about. By refusing to protect our borders, Barack Obama has allowed hundreds of thousands of gang members to illegally enter the United States and settle in our major cities. In many communities, gang activity is already wildly out of control, and someday our cities will burn because of the foolishness of the federal government.

The Obama administration knows that one out of every five illegal immigrants has a criminal record. And we are not just talking about illegal immigrants taking "upskirt photos" of women like just happened in Texas. We are also talking about rapists, murderers, drug dealers, and hardcore gang members.

According to Texas state Senator Dan Patrick, illegal immigrants have been formally charged with nearly half a million crimes in his state over the past four years alone.

Hours before Texas Gov. Rick Perry announced he would send National Guard troops to the border, Texas state Senator Dan Patrick said there are at least 100,000 illegal immigrant gang members in the state.

On Monday's The Laura Ingraham Show, Patrick, who is also the Republican candidate for lieutenant governor, said from 2008 to 2012, 143,000 illegal immigrant criminals were arrested and jailed in Texas. He said these were "hardened criminals, gang members, and other criminals that we identified as being

in Texas illegally."

"We charged them with 447,000 crimes, a half-million crimes in four years, just in Texas, including over 5,000 rapes and 2,000 murders," Patrick said. "We estimate we have 100,000 gang members here illegally."

Why won't Obama do anything to stop this madness?

There are at least 70,000 gang members living in Obama's home city of Chicago. Other estimates put that number closer to 100,000. But everyone agrees that it is a number that is growing every day.

So it shouldn't surprise any of us that at least 40 people were shot in Chicago over one recent July weekend. I just fear for what Chicago will look like when things get really bad in this country. Many of our major cities are literally being transformed into tinderboxes that could erupt in flames at any time.

Overall, there are now approximately 1.4 million gang members living in the United States according to the FBI. But that number is actually a few years old now, so the true number is undoubtedly far higher at this point.

In addition, we know that illegal immigrants make up approximately 30 percent of the total population in our federal, state and local prisons.

And yet we refuse to stop more waves of illegal immigrants from coming in.

Are we willingly committing national suicide?

Just the other day, I noted that Honduras has the highest murder rate on the entire planet and that the Mexican drug war has claimed more than 120,000 lives since 2006.

That is what is coming here if we allow this insanity to continue.

Unfortunately, political

correctness reigns in America today. Under current policies, our border agents are not even turning away minors with known gang affiliations that have gang tattoos all over them. Just check out the following excerpt from a recent National Review article...

Border Patrol officials struggling to keep up with the increasing number of minors illegally crossing the Mexican border are not turning away persons with known gang affiliations. Chris Cabrera, vice president of the National Border Patrol Council Local 3307 in the Rio Grande Valley, explained that a Border Patrol agent he represents helped reunite a teenage gang member with his family in the United States. Cabrera notes the young member of Mara Salvatrucha (MS-13), a transnational criminal gang, had no criminal record in the U.S., but asks, "If he's a confirmed gang member in his own country, why are we letting him in here?"

"I've heard people come in and say, 'You're going to let me go, just like you let my mother go, just like you let my sister go. You're going to let me go as well, and the government's going to take care of us,'" Cabrera says. "Until we start mandatory detentions, mandatory removals, I don't think anything is going to change. As a matter of fact, I think it's going to get worse."

Art Del Cueto, president of the National Border Patrol Council Local 2544 in Tucson, says agents who recognize the gang-affiliated tattoos of minors crossing the border must treat them the same as anybody else. He says these people are afforded the same rights provided to anyone crossing the border.

And according to the Border Patrol, some of these "processing centers" that we have seen pictures of lately are actually being used by the gangs to recruit more gang members...

According to Border Pa-

trol sources, violent MS-13 gang members are using the Nogales processing center in Arizona as a recruitment hub and as a transfer point for gang members to get into the United States.

The Red Cross has set up phone banks inside the processing center so unaccompanied minors can make phone calls to family members inside the United States and back home in Central America. According to sources, those phones are also being used by MS-13 members to communicate with gang members already in the United States and operating in cities like Atlanta, New York, and Chicago. Further, many teen-aged males inside the facility have approached Border Patrol agents and have said gang members have tried to recruit them from shared cells. According to the FBI, MS-13 regularly targets middle and high school students for recruitment.

"The National Border Patrol Council believes there to be serious security issues at the Nogales Processing Center. Agents' hands are tied due to the policies governing the care and lodging of juveniles and this has allowed gang recruitment and activity to flourish among those being detained," vice president of the National Border Patrol Council Shawn Moran tells Townhall. "Customs and Border Protection needs to do more to ensure that gang members that are in custody at the NPC are identified, prosecuted, and prohibited from benefiting from this crisis."

Barack Obama can see all of this happening and yet he refuses to secure our borders.

What in the world is he thinking?

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It's Time to Bring Back the Black Robed Regiment

by Larry Pratt,
FreedomOutPost.com

(Editor/GG: Pastors, it is time.)

Pastor and state Representative Dan Fisher (R-OK) has rescued a crucial part of our history from near oblivion – namely, the role that many pastors played in our War for Independence. In his book, *Bringing Back the Black Robed Regiment* (2013), Fisher examines the “patriot preachers” of the 18th Century, who led their congregations to battle the abusive tyranny of the Redcoats.

I was familiar with the Shenandoah Valley (Virginia) Pastor Peter Muhlenberg because I have a reproduction of him on my office wall. It’s the famous scene where he removed his clerical gown, revealing his Colonel’s uniform of the Continental Army.

**A Bible in one hand,
a musket in the other**

On a Sunday in January of 1776, Muhlenberg preached a sermon on Ecclesiastes 3 in which Solomon wrote for peace and a time for war. Muhlenberg ended his sermon by saying that “now is a time for war.”

Having said that, he cast

his clerical gown aside, strode down the aisle of the church, and recruited the men of his congregation. Together, they went off to fight with Washington, right through to the final battle of Yorktown years later.

Indeed, Muhlenberg was Washington’s spiritual confidant throughout the war. During a particularly perilous time in Virginia, Washington dispatched Muhlenberg to buck up the flagging spirits of the thinning ranks of the war-weary troops. The mission was accomplished.

What came as news to me was the large number of pastors who went off with their men to war. A number of times the men would tell their pastor, we’ll go if you lead us.

The “shot heard round the world” came from the pulpit

The Founding Fathers explicitly believed that politics and religion had to be mixed. How fitting that the “shot heard round the world” was fired in front of Jonas Clark’s church on the Lexington green. During the battle, men went back and forth from the church to get ammo because that’s where their powder and ball were stored.

A nineteenth-century historian, John Adams, said that freedom was not born a bastard. Freedom was birthed when church and state were still married.

A British writer, Horace Walpole, said at the time, “America has run off with a Presbyterian pastor.”

Pastor Jonas Clark and Deacon John Parker (who was captain of the Lexington militia) trained the men after the Sunday service every week.

Preachers, pulpits and politics

Rep. Fisher argues that, to the extent that politics today are dirty, it is because Christians have too often removed themselves from participation. He adds that preachers should teach about the biblical principles of liberty and government – indeed about all of life – so their congregants will have a template to use with politicians.

Failure to do so today, he says, has resulted in many Christians voting wrong.

As an interesting note, he mentions President James Garfield, who began his working life pastoring in church. When the War between the States commenced, he entered the ranks of the Northern Army

as a General and stayed until the end.

But serving in the military was not his final calling, as he also served in Congress for almost 20 years. As a representative in 1877, Garfield wrote an article for *Atlantic Monthly* where he emphasized the need for Christians to participate in politics:

“Now, more than ever the people are responsible for the character of their Congress. If that body be ignorant, reckless, and corrupt, it is because the people tolerate ignorance, recklessness, and corruption. [And] if the next centennial does not find us a great nation... it will be because those who represent the enterprise, the culture, and the morality of the nation do not aid in controlling the political forces.”

A good warning from the congressman who would later become our 20th President – an encouragement to which Dan Fisher responds: “Bring back the Black Robed Regiment!”

Read more at <http://freedomoutpost.com/2014/07/time-bring-back-black-robed-regiment/#1jzAaeOLVKRfy-kYo.99>

The Future Is Smaller - That's the Only Way It Works

by Simon Black of Sovereign Man blog, via Zero-Hedge.com

Leopold Kohr was a rather obscure Austrian economist from the early 20th century who spent the better part of his career railing against the ‘cult of bigness’.

Kohr’s fundamental premise was simple: Big doesn’t work. Big corporations. Big governments. Big countries. There are just too many problems from size.

Think about ancient Rome. As the empire expanded, Rome’s imperial government had to create layers and layers of bureaucracies. Municipal levels, provincial levels, regional levels, etc.

They had to maintain a massive standing army to secure their constantly-growing borders. Tax collection was a nightmare. Infrastructure constantly needed expansion and maintenance.

It was all so costly, and absolutely required that Rome run an unwieldy, behemoth government.

History tells us that large governments almost invariably lead to waste, corruption, and overextension of power. It’s the large governments that rattle the sabers and constantly

threaten warfare.

It’s large governments that maintain police states, that spy on their citizens, and commandeer nearly every personal choice imaginable with regulatory agencies that tell us how to educate our children and what we can/cannot put in our own bodies.

As Kohr theorized, bigness often leads to tyranny.

Moreover, it all ends up costing far more than a nation can afford... which is why big governments historically rack up even bigger debts.

Most of today’s big, established ‘rich’ countries are in exactly the same boat that Kohn predicted: heavily in debt. Militant. Aggressive. Tyrannical.

If you look at the more financially successful nations today, i.e. those with solvent governments who do not indebt future generations to drop bombs by remote control drones, they’re nearly all small.

Hong Kong has some of the lowest tax rates in the world. And yet the local government is awash with so much cash that they frequently send tax refunds back to local residents.

Singapore is in a similar position; the city-state has

zero net debt, a strong defense force, incredibly low tax rates... yet they still manage to funnel excess tax revenues back into the economy, often as tax breaks or business incentives.

Here in Andorra is another example.

The personal income tax hasn’t even been implemented yet, but it technically only goes as high as 10%. Local property taxes are a joke– a friend was telling me she pays 70 euros a year to the local municipality.

Corporate income tax tops out at 10%. There are no estate or inheritance taxes. No wealth tax. No capital gains tax.

Yet this place remains one of the most civilized countries on the planet, and is tremendously affordable to boot.

(It doesn’t hurt that Andorra is gorgeous– postcard perfect. And it gets about 300 days of sunshine per year with some of the best skiing a human being could possibly ask for.)

Smallness is one of the key reasons why these places thrive.

The Andorran government would never be able to afford some massive po-

lice state or wage wars in foreign lands. They can’t afford bureaucratic regulatory agencies or obscene surveillance programs.

And the place is way too small for politicians to be able to hide. If the Prime Minister does something stupid, he’ll have 20 neighbors standing in his front yard the next morning taking him to task for his incompetence.

Large countries lack this sense of community and accountability. Everything gets lost in the bureaucracy and size.

It’s this very size now that is causing many of the largest economies in the world to collapse under their own weight.

In fact, all over Europe we’re seeing independence movements, from Scotland to Catalonia. There’s even been serious discussion raised about breaking California apart into six separate states.

This seems radical to most people. But when you look at the evidence objectively, smaller is about the only way an organized state can really work.

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Outrage du Jour: EPA Now Has the Power to Garnish Your Wages Without a Court Order

by Allen West,
AllenBWest.com

(Editor/GG: Due Process? Tyranny? What Constitution? Folks, how long are you going to put up with this destruction of our Constitution? Start with voting out Hickenlooper and Udall.)

Recently, we reported on the government seeking to expand the endangered species act to cover more species, which will have an adverse effect on Americans, especially out in western territories.

As a matter of fact, the recent declaration of the jumping mouse threatens a ranching family in New Mexico. And I'm sure you're aware that when the Cap and Trade legislation failed to move forward, the Obama administration pivoted to use the pen of regulatory fiat to impose their progressive vision of controlling the American energy sector.

President Richard Nixon created the Environmental Protection Agency and I have to believe he didn't have any idea of the monster it would become. The EPA now wields so much power that it may declare dry lands and wetlands, and force inhabitants of those lands to pay hefty fines.

But here is the latest from this regulatory agency gone wild. As reported by Foxnews.com, "The Environmental Protection Agency has quietly claimed that it has the authority to unilaterally garnish the wages of

individuals who have been accused of violating its rules."

"According to The Washington Times, the agency announced the plan to enhance its purview last week in a notice in the Federal Register. The notice claimed that federal law allows the EPA to 'garnish non-Federal wages to collect delinquent non-tax debts owed the United States without first obtaining a court order.'"

So let me see if I can wrap my mind around this. This government agency, the EPA, just unilaterally came out and wrote itself a rule in the federal registry saying it can take money from an American who breaks its rules — which most Americans are not aware of? Furthermore, the EPA is saying it can do so without court order and approval?

So it seems to me, we have a government agency that believes it is well within its rights to enact punitive actions against the citizens of America.

In essence, the EPA believes it can levy a fine — a tax — against an American as part of its own "behavior modification."

It occurs to me that Americans have had to contend with such actions before. As a matter of fact, it was addressed in a list of grievances by a fellow named Thomas Jefferson in a document called the Declaration of Independence.

About half-way through his list of grievances, Jefferson

wrote about the King of Great Britain that, "He has erected a multitude of new offices, and sent out hither Swarms of Officers to harass our People, and eat out their Substance." As well as "imposing Taxes on us without our Consent."

The U.S. Constitution gives Americans the right to "petition their government for redress of grievances." So how have we come to a point where the EPA can just write a punitive rule against our citizens?

Fox reports "the EPA had fast-tracked the new rule, enabling it to take effect September 2 unless the agency receives enough adverse public comments by August 1. The EPA said the rule was not subject to review because it was not a "significant regulatory action." The EPA has claimed this new authority by citing the Debt Collection Improvement Act of 1996, which gives all federal agencies the power to conduct administrative wage garnishment, provided that the agency allows for hearings at which debtors can challenge the amount or the terms of a repayment schedule."

Hmm, in 1996, the Clinton administration had a fellow named John Podesta as part of his inner circle. This is the same John Podesta who was brought into the Obama administration for his keen insight and ability to use executive actions.

This is why Americans need to pay attention to what is being passed in

Washington, D.C.

Fox says "an EPA spokeswoman also pointed to a Department of Treasury rule from 2011 outlining debt collection for various agencies, including the EPA. Administrative Wage Garnishment (AWG) would apply only after EPA attempts to collect delinquent debts and after Treasury attempts to collect delinquent debts through other means. She added that the agency would provide notice "prior to any action," giving the debtor the opportunity to "review, contest or enter into a repayment agreement."

The burden of proof is always skewed against the American citizen — not the government. But what this boils down to for the Obama administration is just another means of taxation and more of what Frederic Bastiat coined in his essay The Law as "legal plunder." The amount of money the EPA has collected in fines has increased steadily since President Obama took office. In 2012, the agency took in \$252 million in fines, up from just \$96 million in 2009.

And the hits just keep on coming — or maybe it's more accurate to call it bludgeoning of American taxpayers.

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HYPOCRITE: After Half Billion in Earmarks, Udall Strangely Now Against Them

by ColoradoPeakPolitics

Saying one thing and doing another: that's quickly becoming Sen. Mark Udall's modus operandi.

First it was equal pay hypocrisy where Udall female staffers only make 84 cents to every dollar Udall's male staffers make; and now, its earmarks. Udall has hastily attached his wagon to Sen. Tom Coburn's anti-earmark crusade. Yet, in Udall's first two years alone as a Colorado Senator he racked up more \$430 million dollars in earmarks! Accord-

ing to Legistorm, the exact figure for earmarks for Udall in just two years was \$433,884,774. Why he would want to bring this issue to the forefront shows just how desperate he is to change the topic from the extremely liberal voting record he has racked over the past six years; especially so when you consider his opponent, Rep. Cory Gardner, zero earmarks since coming to Congress.

Not only has Udall felt the need to fatten himself up on earmarks, he has also repeatedly voted against restricting them. On at least

four occasions as a Senator, Udall voted no to restricting or ending earmarks as seen here, here, here, and here.

This is just another example of how out of touch Udall is with Colorado values as the very issue he chooses to pivot to, he already has a horrible record on. How many other gimmicks and distractions did Udall and his campaign try to hatch before realizing those were worse for him than trying to paint himself as an anti-earmark advocate after already taking close to half a billion dollars in earmarks!?

Udall has been spouting off how he likes to judge people based on their actions and not their words. Once again, we here at The Peak couldn't agree more. Colorado needs to judge Udall based on his actions of the past six years and not his BS rhetoric he is turning to now that his campaign is sinking faster than the Titanic.

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2014



Doctor Seemingly Defies Hospital's Policy Barring Him From Carrying a Gun; Police Say That Decision 'Saved Lives'

by Jason Howerton,
TheBlaze.com

(Editor/GG: Silver Cliff Senior Center officials: Wake up to the real world. Your policy on weapons is endangering your clients/customers.)

DARBY, Pa. (TheBlaze/AP) —

A psychiatrist who was grazed by gunfire from a patient at a suburban Philadelphia hospital Thursday helped stop the gunman by apparently using his own weapon to shoot and wound him, but not before a caseworker was killed, authorities said.

A patient opened fire after entering the doctor's office at Mercy Fitzgerald Hospital with the caseworker, District Attorney Jack Whelan said. Witnesses reported hearing yelling before the gunshots.

A spokeswoman for Mercy Fitzgerald Hospital said the facility has a policy prohibiting anyone except on-duty law enforcement officers from carrying a weapon anywhere on its campus. It appears, at the moment, that the unnamed doctor decided to defy that policy in order to defend himself.

But Yeadon Police Chief Donald Molineux said that "without a doubt, I believe the doctor saved lives."

"Without that firearm, this guy (the patient) could have went out in the hallway and just walked down the offices until he ran out of ammunition," the chief said.

It wasn't clear if the incident has the hospital reconsidering its policy against trained staff carrying concealed firearms.

Several hours after the shooting, investigators had only limited information about what happened inside the closed office but believe the psychiatrist, "from all accounts, would have acted in self-defense," Whelan said.

The doctor, who suffered a wound to his head, "faced a situation where his life was in jeopardy," Whelan said. He was expected to be interviewed by detectives late Thursday.

The dead caseworker was identified only as a 53-year-old Philadelphia woman. Police were working to notify relatives late Thursday.

Two guns were recovered, Whelan said. Authorities said the motive for the shooting was unknown.

The patient, who was critically injured, was identified as Richard Plotts, an Upper Darby resident in his mid-30s.

The prosecutor said Plotts had been involved in previous incidents with staff, but he did not know their nature. He also said he did not know if that is why the doctor had a gun or if the doctor would have been required to have a permit.

After the door of the office was closed, staff members heard loud arguing inside, opened the door and noticed the patient had a gun pointed at the doctor, Whelan said. They closed the door and dialed 911. Gunshots were heard a short time later, just before 2:30 p.m.

Plotts emerged from the office, and another doctor and a caseworker helped wrestle him to the floor of the hallway and grabbed his weapon, Whelan said. By that point he

had already been severely wounded from several shots, Whelan said.

The District Attorney has identified the caseworker who was killed inside a building on the campus of Mercy Fitzgerald Hospital.

The exchange of gunfire occurred on the third floor of the Wellness Center at Mercy Fitzgerald Hospital, a 204-bed community teaching hospital just southwest of Philadelphia.

Authorities said there are no surveillance cameras in the doctor's office or the waiting area outside. They also said the center had no metal detectors.

"Do you evaluate that now ... in light of this incident to make sure people are safe, especially in what can be a dangerous environment?" Whelan asked.

Patients waiting in the first-floor lobby reported a tense scene when police arrived and ordered everyone out. Most of the patients were elderly.

"I dozed off, and I heard the cop shouting, 'Come on, come on, get out!'" said Millicent Russell, 73, of Lansdowne, who was waiting for a 3 p.m. appointment. "There were people with walkers and canes and stuff. All these cops were outside running here and there with these guns."

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More Concealed Carriers Equals Less Violent Crime

by Lily Dane,
FreedomOutpost.com

According to a new study, a significant increase in concealed carry weapons permit holders has led to an equally sharp decrease in violent crime.

The study, conducted by the Crime Prevention Research Center, found that 11.1 million Americans now have permits to carry concealed weapons. In 2007, that number was only 4.5 million. That's an increase of 146%. Both murder and violent crime rates have dropped by 22 percent.

The center's president, John R. Lott, explained the findings to Fox News:

"When you allow people to carry concealed handguns, you see changes in the behavior of criminals. Some criminals stop committing crimes, others move on to crimes in which they don't come into contact with victims and others actually

move to areas where they have less fear of being confronted by armed victims."

Lott also pointed out that the six states that do not require a permit for concealed carry have some of the lowest violent crime rates in the US.

"We found that the size of the drop [in crime] is directly related to the percentage of the population with permits,"

Lott explained:

The real measure of the deterrent effect of concealed carry permits is not laws on the books, but the percentage of a given state's population that holds the permits. In 10 states, more than 8 percent of adults hold concealed carry permits, and all are among the states with the lowest crime rates. Lott claims his group's analysis shows that each one percentage point increase in the adult population holding permits brings a 1.4 percent drop in the murder rate.

A total of 11,113,013 Americans currently hold concealed carry permits, which represents 4.8 percent of the total adult population. However, numbers are not currently available for all states that issue permits (such as New York), so the number of permit holders is likely much higher.

And, four states and the majority of Montana do not require that residents have a concealed handgun permit to carry within the state, so the number of residents who carry a concealed weapon is not recorded.

Florida tops the list with nearly 1.3 million concealed carry permits. Texas is second, at just more than 708,000. Hawaii, at 183, has the fewest of states whose data was available.

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The Incredible Story of How a Concealed Carry Permit Holder Gift-Wrapped Five Potentially Armed Suspects Who Eluded Cops

by Jason Howerton,
TheBlaze.com

A concealed carry permit holder helped police nab five men who led officers in Iowa on a wild police chase that ended with the suspects crashing into someone's yard in a residential neighborhood.

The Linn County Sheriff's office says the incident began when officers responded to reports of shots fired in Cedar Rapids, Iowa. When police later tried to pull over a vehicle that matched the description of the car involved in the shooting incident, the suspects led police on a chase all the way to Solon, Iowa.

The suspects ended up crashing into a resident's

front yard, running over a child's play house in the process. Police say five men then exited the vehicle and took off on foot.

Responding to the commotion were neighbors Tim Moore and Scott Eastwood. Moore says they witnessed the men tossing drugs and a firearm in his yard at one point.

It wasn't until after they saw a deputy fall as he pursued the five suspects that Moore and Eastwood — concealed carry permit holders — decided to assist the authorities. The deputy who fell injured his shoulder and was taken to St. Luke's hospital.

According to KFXA-TV, Eastwood and Moore got into a truck and went after the five suspects. When they caught up to them, the men claimed the "real suspects" went past them. Moore told the news station they played along and told them to get in the truck and help them — but as soon as they were inside the vehicle, the suspects knew they were in trouble.

Eastwood drew his concealed firearm and held the five men at gunpoint until police arrived to arrest them.

"As soon as they got in the truck, Scott pulled his gun out — he has a permit to carry," Moore explained. "And we backed out in front of the next officer and held them there."

With the help of Moore and Eastwood, police had the suspects in custody a mere 10 minutes after they crashed.

All of the men are charged with interference with official acts with injury on a peace officer. The man who was driving the vehicle, Parks, is also charged with traffic violations.

It wasn't immediately clear if they would also face charges in the shots fired incident that started the chase.

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MISFIRE: CBI Finds Gun Background Checks at Just 7% of Projections

by ColoradoPeakPolitics,
ColoradoPeakPolitics.com

The Associated Press today reported that the number of background checks stemming from the 2013 law that required background checks on all transactions was far lower than expected. According to Ivan Moreno's report:

Lawmakers drafting the background check requirement, aimed at keeping firearms away from those with a criminal history, relied on information from a non-partisan research arm of the Legislature that predicted about 420,000 new reviews over the first two years. Accordingly, they budgeted about \$3 million to the agency that conducts the checks to handle the anticipated surge of work.

But after a year of operating under the new system, Colorado Bureau of Investigations officials have performed only about 13,600 reviews considered a result of the new law – about 7 percent of the estimated first year total.

In order to pass this ill-conceived and largely unenforceable law, Democrats

leaned heavily on a statistic that said that 40% of all gun transactions were not subject to a background check, a fact proved false over and over and over again. Here's the Washington Post take on it:

"In the meantime, we have documented that (a) the survey numbers are about two decades old, so they include purchases that predate any background checks; (b) the survey sample is rather small; and (c) the results are significantly different when adjusted for "purchases" or "sales" — the phrasing used by the president."

President Obama, perhaps, has been one of the most prolific carriers of this message, saying on March 28, 2103:

"Why wouldn't we want to close the loophole that allows as many as 40 percent of all gun purchases to take place without a background check?"

The results show that this is clearly not the case, and calls into question all the other information Democrats used to try to scare Coloradans into thinking

bills like these were necessary (it didn't work). Nonetheless, we have a few questions:

1. Are all the criminals that were meant to be stopped because of background checks just buying guns under the table?
2. Were most of the transactions happening at stores like they are now? So, this law was completely pointless?
3. What happened to all the funds directed to paying for the over 400,000 background checks that never happened?
4. Did Democrats lie to constituents AGAIN to appease their special interests?

The answer to all of these questions is – Democrats once against foisted government control on Coloradans, only to accomplish absolutely nothing.

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Anyone Surprised? Illegals are No-Shows at Deportation Hearings

by Allen West,
AllenBWest.com

The bottom line in the current issue of illegal immigration is the rule of law.

People seem to forget America is a sovereign constitutional Republic with a defined border and a set of laws mandating the protection of that border. We continue to be bombarded by progressive socialists and others with this faux compassion argument.

If we are to consciously make the choice that our bleeding hearts override the rule of law, then we should admit we no longer care to have a sovereign nation, and the rule of law is useless and should be discarded.

We have children here in America stuck in a foster home system looking for homes — the American dream. We have children here in America living under the specter of violence — such as the black girl who was shot by a stray bullet in Chicago while at a slumber party.

I find it laughable how some selectively choose biblical verses and references to support a political agenda, such as Nancy Pelosi claiming that "baby Jesus was a refugee." Or even Stephen King tweeting that Jesus said, "suffer the little children that they should come unto me." I wonder how many of these illegal immigrant children these two will accept unto their homes?

But if we show no respect for our own rule of law — then why should anyone else? Let's just erase Article IV section 4 in the Constitution all together — because clearly those entering illegally have no respect for our laws either.

As Breitbart.com reports, "Nine out of ten illegal immigrant children who were scheduled to appear before a federal immigration judge in Texas did not show up on Tuesday. According to a report in the Dallas Morning News,

there were 20 youths "from Honduras, El Salvador and Guatemala who were set to appear in federal immigration court Tuesday for initial deportation hearings," but only two showed up. Instead of issuing immediate deportation orders, the judge reportedly reset the hearings for the absentees for August 11, a decision which was cheered by immigration activists."

So I suppose this is why the Obama administration needs that \$3.7 billion, to have more of these mock hearings where illegals don't appear, only to have more hearings scheduled. Why was an immediate deportation not ordered? Why were there illegal immigration activists present who cheered?

We have a self-inflicted crisis here because we have a lawless administration that spits on the Constitution and law it took an oath to uphold. This manufactured crisis comes from our lack of discipline to uphold our own precepts. We are mandating our ICE and CBP agents to stand down and not conduct their assigned duties and responsibilities — in other words forcing them to not uphold their oath of office and service.

As Breitbart News reported, Juan Osuna, the Director of the Executive Office for Immigration Review at the Justice Department, testified at a Congressional Hearing that 46 percent of illegal immigrant juveniles do not show up to their hearings and "the total pending case load for the federal government is 375,000 illegal immigrant juveniles."

So where are these almost half a million illegal immigrant juveniles — not children? How many of them are associated with the notorious El Salvadoran gang MS-13? Where will all these juveniles show up? There can be no doubt they're being pushed off as a concern and threat for local law enforcement agencies — already hard-pressed by current inner city violence and gangs.

So why are we seeing this purposeful destabilization of America and undermining of its rule of law? Who is to gain from the complete decimation of our rule of law? Certainly not average hardworking American middle-income families who will be pushed further into the depths of economic tribulation as the welfare nanny-state expands. They will find their labor market wages undermined. They will find their children lacking strong education as more illegal immigrant children flood public schools. They will come to find America is no longer for Americans — and those who sought entry via legal means, respecting our rule of law.

Breitbart says, "There have been nearly 60,000 illegal immigrant children who have been apprehended since October of last year. Those from countries other than Mexico and Canada are given "notices to appear" and released, and many of these illegal immigrants have said they made the dangerous journey to America believing they would receive such "permisos" that allow them to remain indefinitely in the country." In fact, rather than evade capture, they all voluntarily turn themselves in — and based on the actions in the Dallas court, they're right.

A recent Pew Research report found that nearly 90 percent of the illegal immigrant "children" are actually teenagers. So this isn't about little children — but once again, We The People are not being provided the truth by the Obama administration.

The illegal immigration crisis in America should be about compassion for Americans and respect for our rule of law. But clearly that's of no concern to the Fundraiser-in-Chief.

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CONFIRMED: A Vote For Udall Is A Vote For Obama

by ColoradoPeakPolitics,
ColoradoPeakPolitics.com

A vote for Sen. Mark Udall is essentially a vote for President Obama. That's the association Udall was hiding from all week long. But, that association is hard to hide from when facts everywhere continue to back it up. It's long been known and cited that Udall votes with Obama 99% of the time. Not only is this the worst percentage among vulnerable Senate Democrats, it actually puts him square in the company of the bluest of blue Senators; Senators like California deep blue liberal Barbara Boxer, progressives' favorite Elizabeth Warren (actually to the left of her 97%), New York liberal Kirsten Gillibrand, and everyone's favorite curmudgeon Harry Reid.

Now, earlier this week the wonks over at FiveThirtyEight crunched some numbers to rate the Senate candidates of the most competitive races this year. What should come as no

shock to any Coloradan who has been paying attention, Mark Udall was ranked the most liberal. By looking at a candidate's votes, their statements, and their donors, FiveThirtyEight could find no more liberal Senator than Udall. As they write:

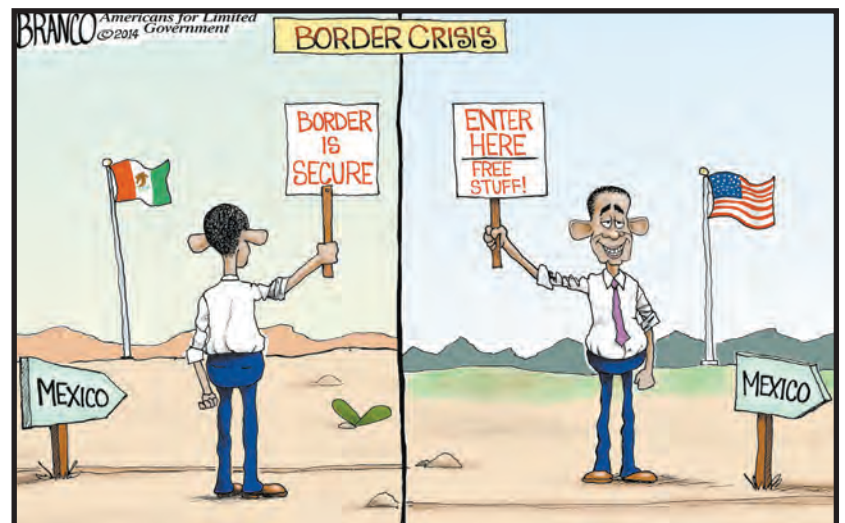
Democrat Mark Udall is rated as the most liberal of the candidates running in a competitive Senate race this year. [the Peak's emphasis]

At the same time, out of ten races, Gardner falls right in the middle of them as the sixth most moderate. This shouldn't come as a surprise either, just look at the respective campaigns they have run. While Udall is off at the beck and call of an eco-extremist, Gardner has been pushing for a commonsense policy on the Keystone XL pipeline which over 60% of Coloradans agree with. While Udall wants to give more power to Obama to interfere in the daily lives of Coloradans, Gardner has

been standing up for Coloradans against Obama. While Udall is busy writing letters and climbing mountains, Gardner is actually getting legislation passed.

Here's the bottom line in this race: Udall has refused to stand up to Obama and the disastrous path Obama has taken America on, not just domestically, but internationally as well. This failure by Udall isn't because he lacks the will (have you heard, he hikes mountains), rather he lacks the desire. This is because Udall is just as liberal as Obama if not more so. If Colorado sends Udall back to Washington, D.C. for another six years, it is a clear endorsement from Coloradans that we approve of what Obama is doing. Knowing the fierce independent spirit of Coloradans, we know this is clearly not the case.

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Op-Ed: The 'Stealthy' Plan to Infuse HS American History with 'Sharply Left-Leaning Curriculum' — and Its Common Core Connection

by Dave Urbanski,
TheBlaze.com

The way American history is taught in high schools across the United States may soon undergo a radical shift toward a “centrally-controlled and sharply left-leaning curriculum,” one conservative commentator said — and there’s a curious connection to Common Core underneath it all.

In his op-ed for National Review Online, “New War Over High School U.S. History,” Stanley Kurtz noted that the College Board — which issues the SAT college entrance and Advanced Placement exams — is implementing a new framework for the AP U.S. History Exam.

In the end this framework will jettison high school American history’s “traditional emphasis on America’s founders and the principles of constitutional government” in favor of “a left-leaning emphasis on race, gender, class, ethnicity...” he wrote.

Kurtz also insisted that public debate about the issue has been “largely suppressed by the stealthy way in which the College Board has rolled out the new test.”

More from NRO:

The new AP U.S. History Exam has been issued under the authority of David Coleman, president of the College Board and, not coincidentally, architect of the Common Core. We are witnessing a coordinated, two-pronged effort to effectively federalize all of American K-12 education, while shifting its content sharply to the left.

While the College Board

has publicly released a lengthy “framework” for the new AP U.S. History Exam, that framework contains only a few sample questions. Sources tell me, however, that a complete sample exam has been released, although only to certified AP U.S. History teachers. Those teachers have been warned, under penalty of law and the stripping of their AP teaching privileges, not to disclose the content of the new sample AP U.S. History Exam to anyone.

This is clearly an effort to silence public debate over these heavily politicized and illegitimately nationalized standards. If the complete sample test was available, the political nature of the new test would become evident. Public scrutiny of the sample test would also expose potential conflicts between the new exam and existing state standards. This is why the College Board has kept the test secret and threatened officially certified AP U.S. History teachers with severe penalties for revealing the test.

Coleman made headlines in March when he unveiled sweeping revisions to the SAT, including an end to the written essay and penalties for wrong answers.

Kurtz also characterized as “misleading” the College Board’s claims that its new framework for AP U.S. History is “adaptable to the preferences of particular states, school districts, and teachers” since the framework also “insists that the examples must be used to illustrate the themes and concepts behind the official College Board vision.”

The upshot is that James Madison, Thomas Jeffer-

son, and the other founders are largely left out of the new test, unless they are presented as examples of conflict and identity by class, gender, race, ethnicity, etc. The Constitution can be studied as an example of the Colonists’ belief in the superiority of their own culture, for instance. But any teacher who presents a full unit on the principles of the American Constitution taught in the traditional way would be severely disadvantaging his students. So while allowing some minor flexibility on details, the new AP U.S. History framework effectively forces teachers to train their students in a leftist, blame-America-first reading of history, while omitting traditional treatments of our founding principles.

Kurtz also noted that while Texas is leading the resistance to the new AP U.S. History Exam, Ken Mercer — a Texas School Board member who’s trying to introduce a resolution rebuking and rejecting the exam — is being told that he has to wait until September for such action...when it will be too late.

As Texas comprises about 10 percent of the College Board’s market, if it were able to reject the new AP U.S. History Exam, Kurtz wrote that “the entire project could be put into doubt,” adding that it’s “imperative that Ken Mercer be allowed to introduce his resolution.”

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A Sheepdog Barks!

The level of brokenness in the federal government is at an all-time high. WOOF! We used to at least have some grown-ups running the country. It sure doesn’t seem that way now. Americans have always looked to one man to provide the leadership needed. That would be the President. For the first time in my lifetime I believe we are a rudderless ship with a useless captain asleep at the wheel and we are perilously close to being broken up on the rocks. Not only is Obama, the captain of the ship, asleep, his entire crew of liberal progressives is working hard at their jobs to help make that very scenario happen. Biden, Holder, Clinton, Kerry, Pelosi, Hagel, and Reid are the key officers and it seems they have been hired on as a crew that’s never been on a boat before. In fact, Captain Obama, clearly was never on a boat before he was elected to be the captain of it! And the majority of the time he’s not at the helm anyway but off-ship playing golf, campaigning or vacationing. America is adrift and the world is on fire. Obama doesn’t know what to do so he does nothing. When he is finally forced to do something it is usually the opposite of what’s needed. He and his inept crew are going to sink us if we don’t get rid of them soon. Their policies are madness. There are so many crazy things being perpetrated on the citizens of this country it’s hard to keep track of them. This insanity was best captured by Jeff Foxworthy not long ago and has been widely circulated on the internet. I repeat it here for those of you that might not have ever seen it. It’s great.

“If you can get arrested for hunting or fishing without a license, but not for entering and remaining in the country illegally — you might live in a nation that was founded by geniuses but is run by idiots. If you have to get your parents’ permission to go on a field trip or to take an aspirin in

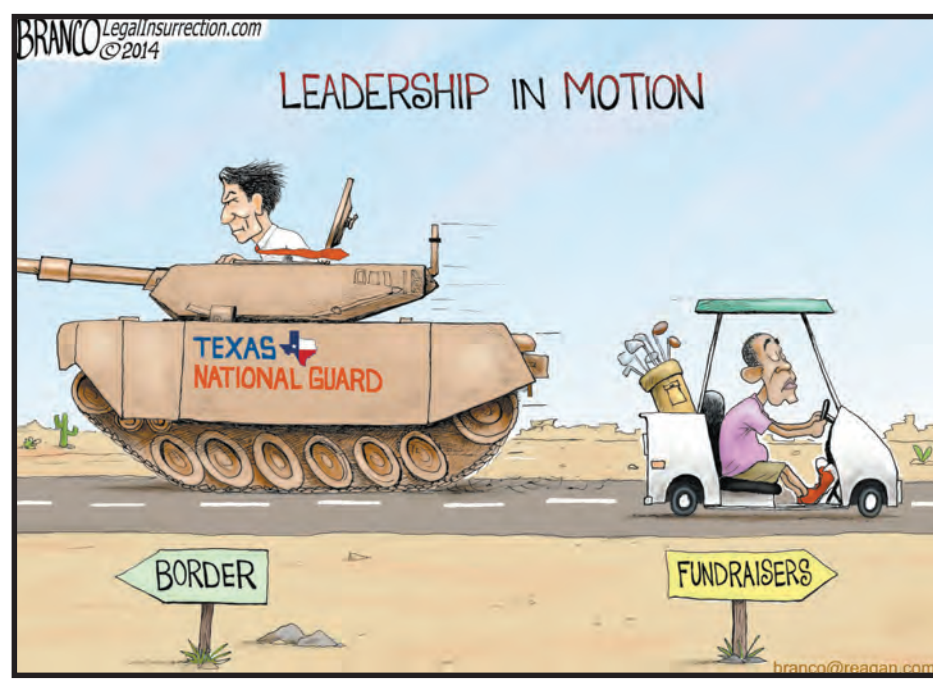
school, but not to get an abortion — you might live in a nation that was founded by geniuses but is run by idiots. If you MUST show your identification to board an airplane, cash a check, buy liquor, or check out a library book and rent a video, but not to vote for who runs the government — you might live in a nation that was founded by geniuses but is run by idiots. If the government wants to prevent stable, law-abiding citizens from owning gun magazines that hold more than ten rounds, but gives twenty F-16 fighter jets to the crazy new leaders in Egypt — you might live in a nation that was founded by geniuses but is run by idiots. If, in the nation’s largest city, you can buy two 16-ounce sodas, but not one 24-ounce soda, because 24-ounces of a sugary drink might make you fat — you might live in a nation that was founded by geniuses but is run by idiots. If an 80-year-old woman or a three-year-old girl who is confined to a wheelchair can be strip-searched by the TSA at the airport, but a woman in a burka or a hijab is only subject to having her neck and head searched — you might live in a nation that was founded by geniuses but is run by idiots. If your government believes that the best way to eradicate trillions of dollars of debt is to spend trillions more — you might live in a nation that was founded by geniuses but is run by idiots. If a seven-year-old boy can be thrown out of school for saying his teacher is “cute,” but hosting a sexual exploration or diversity class in grade school is perfectly acceptable — you might live in a nation that was founded by geniuses but is run by idiots. If hard work and success are met with higher taxes and more government regulation and intrusion, while not working is rewarded with Food Stamps, WIC checks, Medicaid benefits, subsidized housing, and free cell phones — you might live in a nation that was found-



ed by geniuses but is run by idiots. If the government’s plan for getting people back to work is to provide incentives for not working, by granting 99 weeks of unemployment checks, without any requirement to prove that gainful employment was diligently sought, but couldn’t be found — you might live in a nation that was founded by geniuses but is run by idiots. If you pay your mortgage faithfully, denying yourself the newest big-screen TV, while your neighbor buys iPhones, time shares, a wall-sized do-it-all plasma screen TV and new cars, and the government forgives his debt when he defaults on his mortgage — you might live in a nation that was founded by geniuses but is run by idiots. If being stripped of your Constitutional right to defend yourself makes you more “safe” according to the government — you might live in a nation that was founded by geniuses but is run by idiots. What a country!”

We have an unqualified, weak, inexperienced Captain and a crew that is even worse. A mutiny is needed by the passengers (aka the citizens or we the people) instead of by the crew and that mutiny comes through the ballot box! We need to put the captain and his entire crew off the boat by electing new officers. This November we can take control of the U.S. Senate which will stop most of what the crew can do. In November 2016 we can make sure we elect a qualified experienced Captain, a real leader. WOOF!

May God Have Mercy on America! JMH





The Woodpile Report

by Ol' Remus

Default of a Different Kind

It's said the human intellect is the highest achievement of evolution, but as George Carlin said: look what's telling us that. Mankind supposedly triumphed because of his toolmaking genius and organizational skills and language and ability to plan and provide for the future. None of these are the real reason. Man prevails because he has a hole card: he's the most creatively violent species the planet has ever produced. Deny it and you deny your own true self. If you've ever weeded a garden you have an understanding of the principle

Oh, we feel guilty about it, we rationalize, we excuse, yet murder and mayhem is our default. Now consider which part of our population is growing faster. The ever-so-sensitive peddlers of tolerance and understanding aren't even replacing themselves while the coldly vicious and minimally sentient multiply unchecked. They can scarcely use tools much less make them, nor can they organize themselves much less anything else. But they are violent as a first option; irrationally, unpredictably, homicidally and proudly so. It is they who are prevailing, not their over-aware and over-educated keepers. You'd think smart people would notice these things.

The feral aren't the feral because, say, the educational system is defective—although it is defective and fundamentally so, we're now 24th in the world. Education fails to engage and redirect the feral because

it's built around the fantasy that everybody will be smart and nice if nurtured just so. No they won't. No amount of education can improve the incurious. They will become what they admire—the stunningly stupid, criminally improvident and violently impulsive. They know it and we know it. The difference is, they admit it and we don't.

Willful ignorance has a lot going for it, the natural adaptability of the uncomplicated for one. When clever meets overthinker, bet on clever. Clever adapts. The overthinker mistakes complexity for adaptability. It's a bad mistake. Complexity is something engineers avoid because modes of failure increase exponentially while the benefits increase linearly, if at all. Complexity is costly in and of itself, but what overwhelms systems is the maintenance. Maintenance of complex systems is a sort of artificial adaptability, ad hoc changes for specific instances, inserted by hand so to speak, all very clumsy and after the fact. Eventually maintenance doesn't just overwhelm the system, it becomes the system.

For example, the cost to society of laws and regulations eventually reaches a point where no conceivable benefit could justify it. We're asked to believe lawlessness would exact an even greater price. Not proven, and not even a choice. Complex societies get so stupefying unintelligible, so convoluted and self-contradicting as to be

the direct equivalent of lawlessness. "Government by enabling act" is getting to be so obvious even the media is noticing:

Using "prosecutorial discretion" as a pretext, he has exempted the vast majority of illegal aliens from the consequences of their actions. He has formally amnestied—without legislative authorization—more than a half-million illegal immigrants who claim to have come here before age 16. He is signaling that sometime this year he will unilaterally, and illegally, amnesty half or more of the roughly 12 million illegal aliens now living in the United States. Mark Krikorian at washingtontimes.com.

and,

On no legal basis, all 4.5 million residents of the five U.S. territories were quietly released from ObamaCare. It seems the costs of health-care soared in these five territories due to uneconomic mandates... WSJ reports all of a sudden last week HHS discovered new powers after "a careful review of this situation and the relevant statutory language," that enabled them to 'selectively exempt' American Samoa, Guam, Puerto Rico, Northern Mariana Islands, and Virgin Islands from Obamacare. Wall Street Journal and Tyler Durden at zerohedge.com

Nor does D.C. shrink from creating enemies of the state on the basis of "a reasonable suspicion to believe that a person is a known or a suspected terrorist", which they admit

doing, with Soviet-style secrecy, on no evidence at all:

The U.S. government is rapidly expanding the number of names it accepts for inclusion on its terrorist watch list, with more than 1.5 million added in the last five years. Matthew Barakat at ap.org

For another, federal government is now so complex their agencies fail at inception, the Department of Energy for example. It was sold to the people during the oil crisis of the 1970s as a command system mandated to achieve energy independence. Clear enough. Instead we have buildings full of professionals working diligently to dismantle what energy independence we had and to frustrate future attempts. DOE's mandate was effectively annulled when the EPA "discovered" coal and oil have—gasp!—downsides, and took them off the table. This twisted the DOE into a self-paralyzing loop, like a thermostat where "off" and "on" are set at the same temperature. They can't abandon their mandate and they can't pursue their mandate—every energy source has a downside. So they've "gone lawless" and do neither, or occasionally, both.

Because modes of failure multiply with each patch, more maintenance means more failure. Once committed to this tar pit there's no U-turn out. So they dither in ever-slower motion, with all the purpose of the purposeless, slowly toppling in place, as-is. A recent headline from parched California illustrates the

concept, "California couple faces fine for brown lawn after complying with water-saving rules". Which gets us back to violence.

As always, complexity cedes ground to adaptability. We're well into it. We're no longer a nation of laws, we're a nation of men, specifically those men who were the first to figure out legitimacy is no longer a serious constraint, and there are no other constraints. Said another way, they adapted. The populace is just now noticing all enterprises are, or are becoming, criminal enterprises, "non-profit" and "faith based" organizations not excepted. It's no mystery how to adapt to lawlessness.

Absent legitimacy it's a sprint to whatever irreducible power center presents itself. As in any other no-rules fight, the violent prevail over the peaceful and the homicidal prevail over the violent. This isn't mere looting, major assets, even national assets, are in play. Mexico for example, one of the most violent countries on earth, is conquering—not merging with, conquering—the southwestern US. National borders are always under control, the only question is by whom, and events are answering that question. We forfeited this essential element of sovereignty by getting wrapped around our own prissy little axle while Mexico and its domestic enablers adapted.

The middle class is the designated prey in all this. This is unwise. Middle class America is no less vi-

olent than any other people. They seem passive because they're results oriented. They rise not out of blood frenzy but to solve the otherwise insoluble. Their methods of choice are good will, cooperation, forbearance, negotiation and finally, appeasement, roughly in that order. Only when these fail to end the abuse do they revert to blowback. And they do so irretrievably. Once the course is set and the outcome defined, doubt is put aside. The middle class is known, condemned actually, for carrying out violence with the efficiency of an industrial project where bloody destruction at any scale is not only in play, it's a metric. Remorse is left for the next generation, they'll have the leisure for it. We'd like to believe this is merely dark speculation. History says it isn't.

Come such a time, we shall find our personal default mode to be as bad as we imagine. It had better be. When good people arrive at the bottom they'll find it already populated with masters of lawlessness and violence by both inclination and long experience. Chances are they aren't you, but don't despair, the learning curve is no more steep than the descent. Should societal norms give way altogether, should there be a catastrophe, it won't matter much who or what you are, only what you'll do or not do. And we'll all find out together.

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Local & State News & Notices

SUMMER

From page 16

the park. The contestants, adults and children, will use recycled materials to construct their outfits. The show will begin at 6 p.m. sharp.

Cañon City area Recreational Park District will partner with CCHS Athletic Department to offer three youth sports camps. Tiger Football will be on Tuesday and Thursday from 9 a.m. to 10:30 a.m. Head Coach Tom O'Rourke and staff will teach the basics of tackle football to 4th through 8th grade students for a nominal charge of \$30. Tiger Soccer will be taught Monday through Thursday at Rouse Park. Ages 10 to 14 from 9 a.m. to 11 a.m. at a cost of \$30 and ages 7 to 9 from 11 am to noon for a charge of \$20. Tiger Volleyball will be instructed at Tiger Dome by Coach Ken Kline. Grades 4 through 6 will meet from 5:30 to 7 p.m. Grades 7 through 8 will meet from 7 p.m. to 8:30 p.m. Cost will be \$30.

Director, Kyle Horne, reminds us that all campers

will benefit from the time they spend at sports camp and everyone will receive a shirt. You can register online at ccrec.org or come by the Recreation District Office at 575 Ash Street. Remember, you can always check with Cañon City Chamber of Commerce to get the latest on area events.

We are certainly a community that stays involved with our young people. School will be back in session soon and I hope that everyone has taken time this summer to catch up on Common Core and exactly what it means for our students. One of the many things Common Core lacks is Common Sense! I would rather drag a Missouri Mule through the mud than try to find one good thing to report about Common Core.



See you at our local School Board Meeting, until then,

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Get Involved**

by *Colorado Peak Politics,
ColoradoPeakPolitics.com*

What's worse than a politician? A politician who thinks he's not a politician. PeakNation™, right now we have a whiner-in-chief commander in chief who believes people only disagree with him because they personally don't like him. All criticism of him has to do with who he is, not what he does. Disagreement with him has nothing to do with a trillion dollar, red-tape filled, bureaucratic-creating, inefficient bill that affects every American and directly interferes with 1/6th of our economy—which, in the end, only got the uninsured level to the same point a thriving economy was able to accomplish on its own. Much to our dismay here in Colorado, it appears our own Governor John D. Hickenlooper has caught the same disease.

Hickenlooper has long thought his xxx doesn't stink he's above the political fray; that when he passes a bill all experts around him tell him is unenforceable, it's only because they are trying to score political points. With him being above such shallow

THE OBAMA DISEASE: Hickenlooper Incredulous At Those Who Question His Infallibility

deficiencies of character, he truly is more prophet than politician: bringing the truth from on high and delivering it to us low mortals who care about such trivial things like paying our bills.

Such arrogance from Hickenlooper was again on full display last night when he responded that any criticism of him comes from those who are merely playing politics, and could in no way be related to worrying about our electricity bills skyrocketing. As Lynn Bartels at The Denver Post writes:

On Tuesday afternoon, Republican Bob Beauprez, who wants to unseat Hickenlooper in November, appeared at a Denver rally protesting EPA power plant proposals and once again repeating his mantra about the lack of leadership in Colorado.

When asked about the charge, Hickenlooper shrugged.

"It's a political season," he said. "If I say 'up,' they're going to say 'down.' If I say 'left' they're going to say 'right.'" [the Peak's emphasis]

Yep, Hick, it's all about you. It has nothing to do with a unilateral power grab by the EPA that some estimate will increase our electricity bills by nearly 50%, while doing away with 24,000 good-paying, Colorado jobs related to the coal-industry. Yep, Hick, it's all about you, you smug, arrogant liberal.

It is now quite clear Hickenlooper has a full-blown case of Obama Disease: where all disagreement with him comes not from a place of legitimate concern, but rather, just a case of us plebeians trying to bring him down to our slimy level. Heaven forbid the thought that Hickenlooper might not be as omnipotent as he thinks himself to be.

It's time for Colorado to have a Governor whose arrogance doesn't poison all political debate.

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