

One-on-One with Wet Mountain Fire Protection District Chief Tonsing

by F. Hernandez

To sit face to face with Dave Tonsing, the “new” fire chief for Custer County fire district is to experience being in the presence of a truly dedicated professional. Less than two years in office the Chief already has a collection of achievements under his belt. Yet, he humbly states that he continues to learn his job and admits consulting with Chief McWilliams his good friend and colleague from nearby Florence. Born in Ravenna, Ohio, near Kent State University, Chief Tonsing moved to Westcliffe 43 years ago. Aside from his life time career in the building industry, the Chief has been a volunteer fire fighter for sixteen years. His main focus today is the fire department, one job he takes very seriously and his dedication comes through as he talks passionately about what has been accomplished in the last couple of years and what he expects to accomplish going forward. Here is a quick review of his men and machines:

- There are sixteen fire trucks all in perfect order, impressively

well maintained. Ten of these are based in the Westcliffe firehouse and six are deployed in twos at three locations: Hillside, Lake DeWeese and Rosita. As the Chief goes on to explain, the need for so much equipment, not only in vehicles but other high-tech material is due to the isolation of our geographic location and the longer times it takes for back up to arrive when called from the towns with whom there is a working agreement for cooperation in case of necessity namely; Florence, Cañon, Rye and Salida. In fact, one of his efforts has been that of having developed strong mutual connections with the above mentioned towns plus Deer Mountain Fire Department.

- For a whole year the Chief worked with the ISO representative. He also worked with the board to acquire three previously owned Class A pumpers, resulting in his securing a rating of nine (reduced from ten) which is actually a six under the



Wet Mountain Fire Protection District Chief Dave Tonsing.

Sentinel photo by Fred Hernandez

new ISO classification system. A welcome achievement to be sure.

- One big problem had been the Highway 165 corridor which, while in Custer County, was considered “no man’s land” due to its distance from the Westcliffe firehouse. In the past, fire and EMS personnel from Rye or Pueblo (and other areas) responded to emergencies many of which were downed motorcycle riders. Working closely with the OEM, response protocols were formulated and today we have a map which outlines clearly the areas of responsibility for all first responders.

- Certifications are a big thing with Chief Tonsing and even now training is scheduled on a regular basis twelve times a year for a total of 36 hours for all personnel at the very minimum.

As far as personnel goes the Chief proudly speaks of the men and women at Wet Mountain Fire citing in more specific terms the following notable ones:

Scott Virden has not

only ramped up training procedures but has expanded them to increase effectiveness and efficiency.

John Decker is in the final stages of tuning up two radio systems; one a digital and the other an 800 VHF which means if one goes down for any reason, they will still be able to maintain effective communications. John also serves as purchasing agent and heads the truck replacement committee.

John Tillotson makes sure each truck and all equipment is constantly on the ready. He also works on PPE certifications.

Jimmy Lewis, as maintenance supervisor, has hands on charge of the entire fleet of sixteen trucks.

Basil Lane oversees open permitted burns and is considered the “guru” of the wild lands.

Nancy Tallent..nothing works without the office tasks and paperwork. Nancy runs that department of administration.

With 625 square miles of territory for which Wet Mountain Fire is responsible, the Chief is focused on prevention when and where possible. One of the major causes of fires are those that originate in commercial kitchens hoods. For that reason a new system of tracking and inspections has been implemented and will be strictly followed. At first there seemed to be some reluctance on the part of commercial property owners, but not for long. With everyone realizing that the Town of Westcliffe, built at the turn

See CHIEF on page 14

Bobcats Wrestling: Photo Feature pages 12-13

Brian Cline: Commissioner Candidate page 4

Silver Cliff Election Meeting page 5

Daily Jot: Clinton Indictment page 17

PATRIOT ALERT!
“I Will Never Be A Slave Again” page 20



Do nothing out of selfish ambition or vain conceit, but in humility consider others better than yourselves.

Philippians 2:3, NIV

Sandra Attebery Announces Bid for County Commissioner, District 2

by Sandra Attebery, Press Release

For the past year, I have heard from many people in the county who have encouraged me to be their voice and representative for them. It is with them in mind that I have officially filed the appropriate paperwork with the Secretary of State to run for County Commissioner in District 2. I am not a professional politician, but a concerned citizen. This is what drives my commitment to serve the people of Custer County and I will not take the responsibility and commitment the job requires lightly or for granted.

Over the 28 years I have lived in the county I have grown to know and am still meeting many of the wonderful citizens of Custer County. I have also learned many of their concerns which are; property and water rights, energy independence, school safety, medical care, the infrastructure of our roads and bridges, and commerce in our county.

There is much to be done to ensure that Custer County continues to flourish and be the best place to live, work and raise a family. I am asking for your support and vote so I can provide leadership in



Sandra Attebery, Candidate for County Commissioner, District 2.

Courtesy photo

that endeavor. If you would like to help or have any questions, please contact me at 719-371-3279, email: Sandra.aengineers@bresnan.net.

(Editor/GG: A full interview with Mrs. Attebery will be coming soon.)

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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.

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

Editorial Board

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

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

Rob Canterbury - Secretary
Rob.Canterbury@sdcscntinel.com

Mary Seifert - Treasurer
Mary.Seifert@sdcscntinel.com

Key Personnel

Katherine Brenchley - Assistant Editor / Graphics Director
KatB1776@gmail.com

Barbara Napolitan - Advertising Coordinator
BNapolitan@gmail.com

Reporters

Carol Clemenson
cdclem65@gmail.com

Larry Luikart
pawprint2@centurylink.net

Paul Sage
mountainhigh21@centurylink.net

Fred Hernandez
sdc.sentinel@gmail.com

Business Hours:
Mon-Thurs: 9 a.m. - 4 p.m.
Fri: 9 a.m. - 12 p.m.
Closed Weekends

Subscription Rates:
\$34 yearly for 81252 zip code
\$44 yearly elsewhere

How to contact us:

719-783-3360
610 Main Street
Westcliffe, CO 81252
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Our Opinion...

From the Editorial Board

PROTECTING THE UNBORN: THE 2016 CAMPAIGN BEGINS



2015 was a good year for protecting those that cannot protect themselves. 2016 promises even more gains. Abortion has not been eliminated but many gains have been made that helped reduce the number. Today, there are 550,000 fewer abortions a year than in the peak year of 1990. There are still far too many. Laws are changing and pro-life candidates are being elected all over the nation. These accomplishments help the fight to stop the unnecessary killing of babies. You can help by supporting one of the many wonderful organizations that work hard all year long to reduce and eventually stop this horrible practice. A few weeks ago we highlighted the National Right To Life organization. Today we will highlight three more of them:

Alliance Defending Freedom (ADF)

This is a national level organization with nearly 2,500 Allied Attorneys which help litigate religious freedoms and pro-life cases all across America. Recently they won a decision that could be a turning point in the fight to expose America's largest abortion business, Planned Parenthood (PP). Sue Thayer spent almost 18 years with PP, but when she was ordered to implement "webcam abortions" she could no longer continue. She turned to ADF to expose the big lie. According to Sue, PP is not about helping women access "health" care. It is about making money and abortion is its money-maker. You can help ADF continue with the initial victory to stop PP from Medicaid fraud, "voluntary" contributions from low-income women and fraudulent billing for Medicaid services in connection with non-reimbursable abortions. Ms. Thayer, a long-time PP clinic director, has exposed these alleged PP illegal activities in Iowa.

ADF has also recently won a 9-0 Supreme Court decision to strike down a Massachusetts law that created a 35-foot buffer zone around abortion clinics. In Maryland and Texas they were successful in having ordinances struck down that required pregnancy care centers (like our own Lighthouse Pregnancy Center) to post mandatory messages suggesting to the women they needed to look "elsewhere" before deciding to choose life. You can support and contribute to ADF at 15100 N. 90th Street, Scottsdale, AZ, 85260 or at their web site: AllianceDefendingFreedom.org.

And Then There Were None (ATTWN)

This fairly new organization is taking a rather unique approach in its pro-life efforts. A young woman named Abby Johnson began working at a Planned Parenthood facility near Texas A&M University. As she progressed further up the management chain the horrors of what PP does became apparent to her and she became very concerned. These are her words "In the last year of my employment, many things began to disturb me...the increase in our abortion quota, our new desire to expand late-term abortion services and in the end, watching a 13 week-old child in the womb struggle for his life during an abortion procedure." Abby learned first-hand the deceptions of the abortion industry. She wants to make sure no workers have to continue because of a lack of support. Abby has made this her ministry to help educate and turn PP workers, et al, from what they are doing. What better way to stop abortion in many places than by convincing the

workers to turn to other pursuits. Clinic workers, like Abby, are often misled at first. Like the case of Sue Thayer described above, PP is not what so many are led to believe. You can help Abby reach out to staff workers inside abortion mills and help them find life-affirming jobs at P.O. Box 2571, Round Rock, TX, 78680 or at their website: attwn.org.

Lighthouse Pregnancy Center

Our local area is fortunate to have a facility which supports local women (and men) in their difficult times. The Center provides encouragement and hope as well as baby clothes, food, diapers, strollers, baby swings, books on parenting, and many other baby-related items. They now have an ultrasound machine and can provide Godly advice, choices, and comfort to women in their greatest time of need. Basically they are here to listen and help with any number of issues for teenagers and young mothers and fathers alike. They need volunteers and donations of all kinds: money, time, expertise, baby items

and items for their annual yard sale. You can support and donate to the Lighthouse at P.O. Box 144 Westcliffe, CO, 81252 or 417 Cliff Street in Silver Cliff. You can call them at 719-783-HELP or visit their web site at: LighthouseWestcliffe.org

Someone has to fight to protect these innocent young lives. They deserve the right to life. Can you even imagine that an abortion mill like Planned Parenthood would issue "quotas" to their directors? They now provide "webcam abortions" which is a doctor prescribing abortion pills to patients on a computer monitor that they never see or follow up with. During this last year PP was exposed for dissecting and selling baby parts. This is a horrible practice and we cannot continue to tolerate these sort of behaviors. PP has recently announced it will support Hillary Clinton's campaign. We can all help stop these terrible and uncivilized procedures by supporting pro-life organizations like the ones identified above. Please help in any way you can.



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Immigrants: Then and Now

submitted by Gary Kirsch

For some reason, people have difficulty structuring their arguments when arguing against supporting the currently proposed immigration revisions. This lady made the argument pretty simple. NOT printed in the Orange County Paper

Newspapers simply won't publish letters to the editor which they either deem politically incorrect (read below) or which do not agree with the philosophy they're pushing on the public. This woman wrote a great letter to the editor that should have been published; but, with your help, it will get published via cyberspace!

From: "David LaBonte":

My wife, Rosemary, wrote a wonderful letter to the editor of the OC Register which, of course, was not printed. So, I decided to "print" it myself by sending it out on the Internet. Pass it along if you feel so inclined. Written in response to a series of letters to the editor in the Orange County Register:

Dear Editor:

So many letter writers have based their arguments on how this land is made up of immigrants. Ernie Lujan for one, suggests we should tear down the Statue of Liberty because the people now in question aren't being treated the same as those who passed through Ellis Island and other ports of entry.

Maybe we should turn to our history books and point out to people like Mr. Lujan why today's American is not willing to accept this new kind of immigrant any lon-

ger. Back in 1900 when there was a rush from all areas of Europe to come to the United States, people had to get off a ship and stand in a long line in New York and be documented. Some would even get down on their hands and knees and kiss the ground.

They made a pledge to uphold the laws and support their new country in good and bad times. They made learning English a primary rule in their new American households and some even changed their names to blend in with their new home.

They had waved good-bye to their birth place to give their children a new life and did everything in their power to help their children assimilate into one culture.

Nothing was handed to them. No free lunches, no welfare, no labor laws to protect them. All they had were the skills and craftsmanship they had brought with them to trade for a future of prosperity.

Most of their children came of age when World War II broke out. My father fought alongside men whose parents had come straight over from Germany, Italy, France and Japan. None of these 1st generation Americans ever gave any thought about what country their parents had come from. They were Americans fighting Hitler, Mussolini and the Emperor of Japan. They were defending the United States of America as one people.

When we liberated France, no one in those villages were looking for the French-American or the German-American or the Irish-American.

The people of France saw only Americans. And we carried one flag that represented one country.

Not one of those immigrant sons would have thought about picking up another country's flag and waving it to represent who they were. It would have been a disgrace to their parents who had sacrificed so much to be here. These immigrants truly knew what it meant to be an American. They stirred the melting pot into one Red, White and Blue bowl.

And here we are with a new kind of immigrant who wants the same rights and privileges. Only they want to achieve it by playing with a different set of rules, one that includes the entitlement card and a guarantee of being faithful to their mother country.

I'm sorry, that's not what being an American is all about. I believe that the immigrants who landed on Ellis Island in the early 1900's deserve better than that for all the toil, hard work and sacrifice in raising future generations to create a land that has become a beacon for those legally searching for a better life.

I think they would be appalled that they are being used as an example by those waving foreign country flags.

And for that suggestion about taking down the Statue of Liberty, it happens to mean a lot to the citizens who are voting on the immigration bill. I wouldn't start talking about dismantling the United States just yet.

Rosemary LaBonte,
Orange County, FL

Shame on You

Dear friends & neighbors: Recently a very dear friend of mine went to the Tribune to put an obituary of her beloved husband of 41 years in that paper also. What did Jim Little himself tell her? Well, in so many words, in order for him to print the obit in his paper using what the widow had written and what she wanted, he would have to change the wording to his likings. Further more, if she wanted it printed the way she had written it, he would charge her \$40. How in heavens name do you rewrite an obitu-

ary for someone you don't even know? How do you charge a widow any money? Does he do this to all widows & widowers? These questions will never be answered, but it does make one wonder. The only saving grace is one day, this cold-hearted man will be judged for all he has done. I would not want to be in Little Jim's shoes at that time. God bless my friend for ripping the obit & photo out of Little's hand and refusing to be extorted.

Yvonne Phillips
Rural Custer County



**Be merciful, just as He has showed you,
O man, what is good. And what does the
LORD require of you? To act justly and to
love mercy and to walk humbly with your
God. your Father is merciful.**

Luke 6:36, NIV

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Local Mountain News & Notices

Brian Cline: Candidate for Custer County Commissioner

by Larry Luikart

Mr. Brian Cline took some time from his busy schedule to chat with this reporter. Busy is the operative word for Mr. Cline. He and his wife own Antler Liquors and Motel in Westcliffe. They just acquired a storage shed operation in Silver Cliff. Brian serves as a town trustee for Westcliffe and he is a member of the Board of Education for the Custer County C-1 School District.

I asked Mr. Cline a series of questions and he offered his thoughts in a pleasant conversation.

Brian, you have a rather full plate already, can you tell me how you will manage taking on the responsibilities of being a Custer County Commissioner?

Mr. Cline: Well, I like the idea of being busy and I believe I can handle all of these various positions. My spouse is very supportive and she has agreed to take over many of the responsibilities of running the business. I know the commissioner position is full time and I believe I can meet the responsibilities associated with that position.

Do you see any conflict in having a position as a Westcliffe Trustee, School Board Member and County Commissioner?

Mr. Cline: No, not really. Each position is unique and each one has its own set of special responsibilities. Actually, I see the possibility that my holding these three positions could complement one to the other.

Our purpose today is to dis-

cuss the position of County Commissioner. Recently the commissioner's voted a 30% pay raise for all the elected officials in the county. If you were a commissioner what would you have done?

Mr. Cline: There is no doubt that the elected County officials in Custer County deserve a change in their compensation. After all, a ten - year drought is a long time to go without some kind of change. I would have done it differently. I would have recommended a 10% raise for the elected officials and then I would have offered raises with the rest of the funds for the other Custer County employees. After all, if everyone benefits from a pay raise then Custer County and the businesses here benefit also. If there is

more dollars spread across more people then more of those dollars will be distributed in Custer County and remain here in the form of goods and services purchased and used here.

If you are elected Commissioner what are some of your priorities regarding Custer County?

Mr. Cline: First, I would want Custer County to create a long term Capital Improvement Plan. A Cap Improvement Plan offers the opportunity for the county to set goals, then actually put aside the Capital (money) to fund those goals and it promotes a forward looking agenda with realistic expectations. Second, I would concentrate on getting the main roads in the county paved. My current idea would be to start with the bus routes. The benefits of this idea include a much faster response time for the EMS, Sheriff and Fire Departments as well as helping the School District reduce the current high costs for maintenance of the bus-

es. Third, I think we need to look at the total compensation package for our county employees. We have workers here who gain practical experience and / or certificates then move on to other employment in Denver or other counties that provide compensation packages which are much more competitive than ours. I would as a Commissioner look to stopping this process so we can keep those employees here in Custer County.

Do you think there is any role for you as a Westcliffe Town Board member or possibly as a Commissioner regarding the marijuana issue ongoing in Silver Cliff?

Mr. Cline: The Town Board of Westcliffe of which I was a member when the question was asked regarding marijuana in Westcliffe made a unanimous decision to reject marijuana. We stand as board behind that decision. I stand behind that decision as a board member and as a citizen living in Custer

County. There is no place for marijuana here in any form.

My position will not change if I am elected a commissioner in the county. While the commissioners have no direct role in the Silver Cliff situation I think I would offer a more proactive approach through the use of the commissioner's office to educate and to promote better understanding so the voters of Silver Cliff can make a more educated and informed choice.

Mr. Cline is a graduate of the Farley Boys Ranch in West Texas. He earned his iron worker certificate while there, which permitted him to work on such exciting projects as hanging iron on a building project at the South Pole. He also worked on Invesco Field in Denver where he lived in a house owned by the previous owners of Antlers. He attended Metro

See CLINCE on page 5



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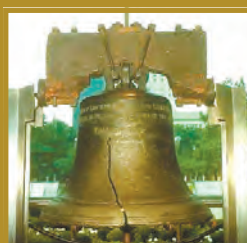
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Ayn Rand

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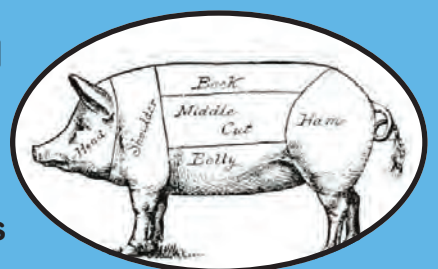
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Local Mountain News & Notices

Preparing For The April Elections in Silver Cliff

by Fred Hernandez

In getting ready for the coming elections on April 5, 2016, the Town of Silver Cliff hosted an orientation session at 2 p.m. on Tuesday, January 12th, at the town hall. The town has contracted with Ms. Judy Egbert whose company, GovPro Consulting is assisting town officials and staff in the intricacies of conducting the elections. The orientation meeting was basically to inform those who are interested in running for office about the procedures and regulations that affect the aspirants. The seats open for election are that of mayor and three town trustees. There were several attendees at the meeting but of those, only one, who recently officially announced his candidacy was definitely running for the office of mayor. The others were there to learn from the consultant and would be making up their minds later on since the deadline for submission is January 25, 2016, at 5 p.m.

The meeting was called to order by Ms. Ileen Squire, the town secretary and all around administration "go-to-person". Thereafter Ms. Judy Egbert took over and went into the details of the large packet distributed to the attendees earlier. She discussed the qualifications of candidates which included residence in the town proper, financial reporting procedures, deadlines for submission of petitions (each candidate has to have at least ten petitions signed by town residents in order to qualify to be placed on the ballot). Deadline for submission of all petitions and other legal forms required is January 25th. However, there is an extension to February 1st, in the event there are some items that need to be revisited or "cured" as the official term is called.

Ms. Egbert gave an overview of what the job of town official (mayor or trustee) is in order for everyone to understand what

is expected of them. In her words, the role of town officials is to set policy; to look at the "big picture" and determine, en banc, what the mission, vision and goal is for the town. Their job is to interact with other officials and talk to the citizens to get the views of the local residents as to what their expectations are for the town they live in. Their job is also to decide on land use and the issuing of liquor licenses. Another aspect of the job is to determine how best to spend the monies in the budget, wisely, in order to achieve the mission/ vision for the town. It is definitely not to micromanage any one issue or staff member. In short to make the best decisions for the optimum benefit of the town. In so doing one has to give up a bit of his/her individuality as a citizen in order to work as a team with the rest of the town board. To be sure, Ms. Egbert emphasized that it is a 24/7 job, but one that has its moments of satisfaction as this then becomes an effective way of giving back to the community. She also emphasized that almost everything is going to have to be transparent. Only a few items are considered important enough to merit any type of confidentiality also known as "executive session". For instance, if there is an issue or matter related to real estate that could affect market prices in the event the public is made aware; when there are matters or transactions related to security or litigation that cannot be divulged in public, and other sensitive issues that need discretion.

A lot of information was passed out during the hour long meeting by both Ms. Ileen Squire and Ms. Judy Egbert. Information passed out by Ms. Squire regarding the town and how it operates is very good information for all citizens. She explained the work that the staff does such as Mr. Roger Camper who is the building and zoning officer and, at the same time, he is the immediate

supervisor of both Ileen and Mr. Troy Hobby who is the person in charge of the park, animal control, and streets and alleys. Ileen on the other hand is all around and handles the day-to-day accounting, ordinances, communications, mail and other general office work. Then there is Mr. Richard Lowe, one of the trustees who is a CPA and for that reason works together with Ileen on the town's books. Ileen went on to explain about the different committees some of which are less structured and informal. Mr. Troy Hobby who is in charge of streets and alleys, for instance, will work with his committee, and as necessary, would bring matters up to the Planning Commission who in turn will make the appropriate recommendations to the board of trustees. There are committees for most things but these committees are formed as needed and assigned to people who want to help and make a contribution to the community. To name a few there is a committee for the cemetery (lots are only \$100, did you know?), highway, finance, planning, zoning, commemorative (which oversees the park dedicated to those who served the country), and most importantly there is a Board of Adjustments which is entrusted with handling any problems that may occur involving town officials or staff. This board acts as a judge. There is also an advisory board for Emergency 911 which has representatives from law enforcement, county, fire, search and rescue and one from the Town of Silver Cliff.

In closing both ladies encouraged the attendees not to wait until the last minute to get petitions signed and submitted because if there are any anomalies they can be addressed and remedied. The group thought the information session was very good and this writer certainly learned a lot about the town. Good luck to all those running.

Rachael (nee Polk) here. She is a Custer County native. They are the proud parents of two children, William eight years old and Sarah seven years old. Mr. Clince indicated he loves Custer County and he wants to serve as Commissioner so it may thrive and prosper.

Mr. Clince can be contacted at Antlers or if you prefer he has a Facebook page where if you type in Brian Clince you will bring him up.

Stabbing Assailant Busted in Cotopaxi



Sean Overstreet was caught last week by Fremont County Sheriff's in Cotopaxi, not far where he, and his girl friend, Courtney Plante, were alleged to have lured into an ambush and attempted to kill, Ms. Plante's former Cotopaxi teacher, Michael Brown.

Mr. Overstreet is being held on a cash-only bond of \$750,000 and Ms. Plante is being held on a cash-only bond of \$500,000. They were arrested on various felony charges including attempt of first-degree murder.

Pictured left: Sean Overstreet is being held on various felony charges including attempted first-degree murder.

Courtesy photo from Fremont County Sheriff's Office

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CLINCE from page 4

State in Denver where he worked toward a Bachelors degree in Land Use Planning. He needs only four more hours to graduate and he indicated he is looking to complete his degree in the near future. Eventually, Mr. Clince came to Custer County in 2007 where he decided to invest his life savings in the purchase of Antlers. He met his wife

Local Mountain News & Notices

Spotlight on Business

Hayden Outdoors

by Carol Clemenson

Twila Geroux is a Colorado native and has lived on a cattle and hay ranch here in the Westcliffe/Wet Mountain Valley for many years. She is married to a 5th generation Westcliffe rancher and has four children and seven grandchildren. She played college basketball in such places as Hawaii, Philippines, Guam, and Hong Kong. Twila also enjoyed working as predator control for the Hopi and Navajo Indian Nations and owned a guide & guide outfitting business for deer and

elk on the on the Western Slope of Colorado for several years. She has her B.S. degree in Physical Science, a minor in Chemistry and Secondary Education, and an M.A. in Technology. Twila has been a Realtor for 14 years and with Hayden Outdoors for four years. She enjoys people, marketing and the expertise that comes with working for one of the most successful real estate companies in the nation. Twila is very committed to her clients, to preserving Colorado's farms, ranches and recreational properties, and

to the preservation of the privileges afforded to us in our great country.

Twila's office is located at 214 Main Street in Westcliffe, CO. With the help of her amazing assistant Brenda Benoit, Twila covers the state of Colorado with an emphasis in the southern half of the state. She also has another agent that works with her, Lisa Frank. Although Lisa is not in the office with Twila, she too is a very hard working agent that likes to get things done in a fashionable manner. Twila and Lisa work well together along with the assistance of Brenda in the office.

Twila Geroux can be reached at twila@haydenoutdoors.com, or 719-371-4344.

Hayden Outdoors is a grass roots real estate company and brokerage with a background in the cattle and ranching business. In 1975 Leo Hayden founded the company as a Property Exchange, working with farms and ranches for sale near Hays, Kansas. The brokerage moved to Goodland, Kansas in 1981 and became Hayden Inc. In late 1990's Leo was joined

by his two sons, Dex and Seth, to help grow the business in multiple states. In 2003 Hayden Outdoors was formed to represent sellers and buyers on farm ranch and recreational properties in five states. The team at Hayden Outdoors has grown and prospered to include over 30 agents and an excellent full-time staff supporting the sale of land.

The team is composed of brokers and agents with experience and knowledge in their markets and an affinity to "Do what they say they will". Hayden Outdoors is about honesty and integrity with customers and a rich sense of land stewardship. Their agents know land because they are what the land has made them. They

understand land, water, minerals and what is necessary to maximize value for their clients. Hayden Outdoors represents the finest farms, ranches and recreational properties in Colorado, Kansas, New Mexico, South Dakota, Oklahoma, Nebraska, Utah, Iowa and Wyoming.



Photo left: Lisa Frank
Photo above: Twila Geroux

Courtesy photos





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Colorado Mountain Retreat in the Aspen trees!

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Local Mountain News & Notices

Because We Wanted To! Event Rescheduled

The West Custer County Library has rescheduled Clara Reida and award-winning Colorado author Carol Ann Wilson for a discussion on Wilson's new book ***Because We Wanted To!*** for Saturday, January 23rd at 10:30 a.m.

The book's title grew out of the question that Margaret Locarni and Clara Reida were asked more than once: "Why would two girls come out here to a rugged part of Colorado, buy an old dilapidated ranch, and raise horses?" Their response, including the fact that they were not girls at all, but women in their twenties, forms the heart of this story which is set largely in the Wet Mountain Valley.

Meeting at Girl Scout Camp while working as riding instructors, Margaret from Oakland, California and Clara from Rago, Kansas, they discovered they both held the dream of raising horses in the Colorado Rockies. By joining forces they believed they could make their dream

come true. Undaunted by the many barriers women faced as recently as 1965—simply acquiring loans without husbands signing for them as one shocking example—they moved forward, dotting the "i" and crossing the "t" on "irrelevant" as far as convention was concerned.

Wilson's other books include the award-winning *Still Point*

of the Turning World: The Life of Gia-fu Feng and *About Earline*, a tribute to her spirited and adventuresome mother.

The capacity for the library's community room is 50 people,



Clara Reida and Carol Wilson

Courtesy photo

so attendees should arrive early to ensure a seat at the event. Wilson and Reida will be available after the discussion to sign books. For more information, contact Library Director Amy Moulton at 719-783-9138.

Local Writer Launches Military Romance Series

Local author and creative writing teacher Jackie (Jax) Bubis of Westcliffe, Colorado, will debut her True Heroes military romance series with the publication of the first three of the five-book series. Her January launch will include *True Valor*, *True Courage*, and *True Honor*, available in both ebook and paperback versions written under the pen name Jax Hunter.

Bubis, a long-time writer, creative writing teacher, and former Vice-President of Pikes Peak Writers, has been working on this series for three years. The backdrop of the series is the beautiful and dangerous Yosemite National Park. These novels offer not just romance, though. They tell stories of the heroism and adventure, suspense and danger that search and rescue is all about.

The Air Force PJs are elite Special Forces trained in every facet of search and rescue and medical support. PJs function as experts in advanced weapons, combat diving, and parajumping. In addition, they are also highly skilled battlefield paramedics, able to perform surgery as needed. Their motto *These Things We Do That Others May Live*.

Bubis is a former EMT and Search and Rescue member who took "write what you know" in stride with this series.

In addition to her military romance, she is writing a series of novels, novellas and short stories for the Froze Creek series, based on a small ranching community in the high mountains of Colorado.

She is available for interviews and appearances. For booking presentations, media appearanc-



Local author Jax Bubis, writes under her pen name, Jax Hunter.

Courtesy photos

es, interviews, and/or book-signings, contact jaxmhunter@gmail.com.

Spring is on Its Way! Get in Shape Now for Horseback Riding Season!

Rosie Blaesius will be starting an exercise/stretching class to build core strength for anyone interested in getting in shape for the upcoming horseback riding season. Classes will be offered for free at the Wet Mountain Valley Saddle Club on Saturday's beginning at 12:00 noon. Classes start January 16, 2016 and will run

through the months of January and February to start at the club building located at the rodeo grounds. Donations will be accepted. Members and non-members are welcome. The Wet Mountain Saddle Club is a non-profit organization. Contact Rosie at 719-783-2423 for more details.

Town of Silver Cliff Appointments 2016

MAYOR PRO-TEM (signature authorization): Lela Cravens

BUILDING/ZONING OFFICIAL: Roger Camper

CLERK/TREASURER: Ileen Squire

PUBLIC WORKS SUPERINTENDENT: Troy Hobby

PUBLIC WORKS ASSISTANT: Tom Quintana

ATTORNEY:

MUNICIPAL JUDGE: Rebecca Casey

AUDITOR: Paul Holscher

STREET AND ALLEY COMMITTEE: Roger Squire - Chairperson, Larry Weber, Roger Camper, Bob Hall, Troy Hobby

PARK COMMITTEE: Marty Wolff - Chairperson, Mary Behrendt, Ileen Squire Troy Hobby, Tom Quintana

TRAILS COORD/TOURISM/PIKE: Dorothy Urban - Chairperson, Ileen Squire, Marty Wolff, Richard Lowe, Troy Hobby

GRANT COMMITTEE: Dorothy Urban - Chairperson, June Weber, Ileen Squire, Larry Weber

MUSEUM COMMITTEE: Dorothy Urban - Chairperson, Richard Lowe, Carol Franta, Jim & Claudia Cole, Bud Piquette

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT: Jacke Barnes - Chairperson and County Representative, Richard

Lowe, Lela Cravens

HIGHWAY CORRIDOR COMMITTEE: Larry Weber - Chairperson, Troy Hobby, Ileen Squire, Dorothy Urban, Bob Hall

CEMETERY COMMITTEE: Dorothy Urban - Chairperson, Ileen Squire, Troy Hobby, Danny Smith

FINANCE COMMITTEE: Town Board

SAFETY COORDINATOR: Richard Lowe

PLANNING COMMISSION: Roger Squire - Chairperson, Dave Schneider, Steve Lasswell, Mayor Larry Weber, Trustee Richard Lowe Alternates: Bob Hall

ARCHITECTURAL DESIGN: Larry Weber - Chairperson, Roger Camper

(Sub-Committee under SCPC)

BOARD OF ADJUSTMENT (APPEALS BOARD)

E911 AUTHORITY REPRESENTATIVE: Larry Weber, Richard Lowe

UAACOG REPRESENTATIVE: Mayor Larry Weber, Ileen Squire, proxy

RECYCLING: Marty Wolff

COMMEMORATIVE: Larry Weber, Roger Camper, Ileen Squire, Troy Hobby, Marty Wolff, June Weber



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Colorado State News

WASTE NOT WANT NOT: Colorado Features Prominently in 2015 Wastebook

by ColoradoPeakPolitics.com

Colorado is often cited in national publications for its quality of life, but this month, Colorado is featured in a publication that highlights a different side to the state – waste. Each year, Sen. Jeff Flake, a Republican from Arizona, publishes an overview of the 100 most egregious government boondoggles called Wastebook. This year’s Wastebook theme is “The Farce Awakens”, a take on Star Wars, and Colorado’s foibles are out of this world. Here are the six (about triple our share) that feature Colorado.

1. Great American Boondoggle Festival: Everyone loves Denver’s Great American Beer Festival, but do we need to give grants to Vietnamese to attend? That’s just what the U.S. Department of Agriculture did through its Cochran Fellowship Program, which is meant to help developing nations create agriculture systems to meet the dietary needs of its population, and strengthen U.S. trade. The entire booze program, including the trip to our beer festival, cost American taxpayers \$68,129. That’ll make you cry into your beer.
2. Department of Veterans Art: The challenges facing the Department of Veterans Affairs as it tries to deliver quality care (or any care, frankly) to our nation’s heroes has been well-documented. But, what has escaped attention (until now) is that while the VA claimed it didn’t have the money to finish

its hospital project in Aurora, the beleaguered organization continued to spend thousands on “unnecessary junkets and artwork”. For example, a VA center in California has paid \$6.3 million for artwork and consulting services, following the department’s \$1.8 million purchase of artwork in September 2014. The VA also has spent \$33.4 million on travel to swank conferences. That’s not chump change, folks.

3. An Orange River Runs Through It: The Animas River. Perhaps you’ve heard of this disaster? The EPA contaminated it, and then, denied responsibility. To date, the EPA has spent \$8 million cleaning up its own mess, and that figure is expected to grow.
4. Spending Rage: The Colorado Department of Transportation erected billboards all across the state with bizarre saying like “Life or Death” or “Brain Damage”. Then, later CDOT added a seatbelt with the tagline “Buckle Up”. The \$200,000 campaign tried to engage drivers asking why they thought the billboards were there, but received withering responses like, “how bout spending money on the potholes and not spending money on signs with secret meaning” or “I prefer to keep my eyes on the road when driving rather than reading signs”. Ouch.
5. Riding in the Government’s Whips: Colorado Ramblin’ Express received nearly \$50,000 to “provide comfortable, reli-

able, and affordable daily casino shuttle trips to Colorado’s casinos”. Sounds like a great ride, except that the money given to this organization originally was meant to provide transportation to intercity areas using charter buses, according to the original grant, the Intercity Bus Security Grant Program. We are going to guess that intercity does not include a trip to Blackhawk.

6. The Sheep Jumped Over the Moon: Colorado State University received a \$1.2 million grant to study the effects of space travel on sheep. For that hefty sum, the school isn’t actually launching sheep into space, but fitting them with anti-gravity braces and monitoring them for ill-effects, which have already been studied extensively in humans. Well, at least they aren’t using discarded fetuses (what? we didn’t say “baby parts”) again.

Just remember these obscene wastes of money (and the other 94) when politicians cry that they don’t have enough money to cover the country’s expenses. Sure, these are all drops in the bucket compared to our deficit, but let’s not even consider increasing taxes until this wastefulness is corrected.

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Colorado’s Obamacare Marketplace Didn’t Check Applicants’ Eligibility

by Kathryn Watson, The Daily Caller News Foundation

Colorado’s state-run Obamacare health insurance exchange failed to check many applicants’ eligibility, according to a new report from the U.S. Health and Human Services Office of Inspector General.

The report comes just months after the Obamacare program’s health care co-op closed its doors in October, leaving 83,000 people looking for new insurance coverage.

Connect for Health Colorado didn’t always verify applicants’ eligibility or have “effective policies and procedures to ensure that inconsistencies in eligibility data were always resolved,” according to the IG. Colorado didn’t verify the Social Security number, citizenship or incarceration status, residency or family size of applicants who applied for insurance but not financial assistance.

About 40 percent of Coloradans with health insurance through the state marketplace were in the failed co-op, Colorado Health-Op, according to the Colorado Independent. The aborted co-ops have cost taxpayers at least \$876 million so far, and more failures are likely on the way, a spokesman for HHS told The Daily Caller News Foundation in September.

The IG is auditing all state-run exchanges’ eligibility verification practices and program expenses. But the IG only examined eligibility procedures in Colorado, rather than listing examples of waste, fraud or abuse.

The Colorado exchange’s problems could be worse than the IG knows.

“Because our review was designed to provide only reasonable assurance that the internal controls we reviewed were effective, it would not necessarily have detected all internal control deficiencies,” the IG said.

The IG only reviewed 45 applicants, selected at random, to produce the report.

The IG told the Colorado marketplace to clean up its eligibility process and eliminate ineligible applicants better. Connect for Health Colorado General Counsel Alan Schmitz agreed with the IG’s findings in a September 15 letter, and said the co-op is working on all those recommendations. That was before Colorado Health-Op closed its doors.

Connect for Health Colorado could not be reached for comment Wednesday.

(Editor/GG: Yup. Situation normal. Another government agency throwing our tax money away. If this was a private business, every SINGLE ONE OF THESE CRIMINALS would be fired. Immediately. In the Land-of-Make-Believe, which the government is, these people are rewarded. Can you imagine how bad it really is?)

Reprinted with Permission. Read more: <http://dailycaller.com/2015/12/30/colorados-obamacare-marketplace-didnt-check-applicants-eligibility/#ixzz3vqCVOxIl>

GOP 1, Dems 0: Cadman Scores Legislative Win Before Session Even Starts

by ColoradoPeakPolitics.com

Republicans threw a giant wrench into one of the Democrats’ primary legislative objectives, yesterday, when Senate President Bill Cadman revealed a legal memo saying it would be unconstitutional.

For weeks, Democrat leaders from House Speaker Dickey Lee Hulinghorst to Gov. John Hickenlooper have been touting a proposal to exempt the current hospital provider fee program from the TABOR revenue cap. The news that such a move is actually unconstitutional is a huge blow to supporters of the plan and a big win for Cadman, especially considering the legislative session hasn’t even started yet.

Democrats and members of the corporate welfare-loving class (we’re looking at you, Denver Chamber) were really hoping to hang their hat on this proposal. They even invoked talking points that included the usual misrepresentations this money would be used to fund roads and schools.

As a side note, surely we can’t be the only ones who are sick of the same ol’ fear mongering year after year. You know, the never-ending declarations that if we don’t blow up TABOR and take more money from taxpayers that higher education will face deep cuts, our schools will suffer and our roads will crumble. Is there room to improve funding in all these areas? Perhaps, but that doesn’t justify giving our constitution the finger. Legislators are elected to make tough spending choices, not gouge the people.

Republicans were (rightly) skeptical of the plan to take the hospital provider fee out from under TABOR, with House Minority Leader Brian DelGrosso calling it a “shell game” earlier this week. At the very least, voters should be given a voice on these issues.

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by ColoradoPeakPolitics.com

In a *Denver Post* article highlighting Americans for Prosperity’s request that Colorado legislators sign pledges to protect TABOR, Governor John Hickenlooper expressed frustration that nobody had suggested additional sources of revenue to meet the state’s ravenous budget needs. Here is what he said when asked about the TABOR pledges:

“My intention is to reach out to them and say, ‘What are the alternative plans that are going to generate the revenue we need to move this state forward?’ ” he told reporters, who were removed from a publicly noticed speech in which he previewed his legislative priorities to a prominent business group. “So far I haven’t seen a place where there is sufficient revenue to build the kind of infrastructure this state needs to compete.”

Cash Strapped: Hickenlooper Looks for Additional Revenue, Ignores Spending Problem

As the Peak has noted before, the state does not have a revenue problem, it has a spending problem. Colorado spending increased \$1.8 billion between fiscal years 2013 and 2014, from \$28.5 billion in 2013 to \$30.3 billion in 2014. During the same time, the Consumer Price Indexes showed just a 1.58 percent inflation as compared to the Colorado budget increase of 6.3 percent.

Of that \$28.5 billion, 26% was devoted to K-12 education and 22% was supported Medicaid, and 32.6% went to “other”, which includes pensions. It’s well worth noting that Medicaid spending has jumped over 50% since 2009. In 2009, Medicaid spending was 14.1% of the budget, as compared to 2013 when it was 22% of the budget.

In 2015, when Hickenlooper announced his 2016 budget proposal, he asked for a seven percent increase in spending in total

funds and a 9.6 percent increase in the general fund from the year prior. Human services and healthcare gobbled up a whopping 40.9 percent of the state’s total funding, with 37.2 percent from the general fund going to K-12 education. In 2013, Colorado spent a higher percentage of its budget on K-12 education than its surrounding states and only Idaho spent a greater percentage of its budget on Medicaid.

When Colorado’s education bureaucracy is ballooning and a greater percentage of population is on Medicaid, we don’t need to ask, “how can cash-strapped Coloradans pay more?”, we need to ask “how can we rein in spending?”.

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Local Mountain News & Notices

Wrestlers Show Up Well for Hometown Fans

by Coach Mike Ham

The Custer County wrestlers hit the mats again on Friday and Saturday, January 8th and 9th, at home for the only time this season. First was the “Custer County Tri,” which was to become a “Bi” meet. Florence had to cancel due to Friday’s snowstorm which left the Rye Thunderbolts and the Bobcats to duel it out. First to hit the mat was Thomas Dryer at 285 lbs. This was Thomas’s first time to wrestle in competition, and he ended coming up short with a loss. Next was Dalton Wommack who has improved a lot in the last two weeks. He pinned his opponent in the first period. Things went downhill from then on, however, as the following grapplers lost their matches: Ray Perez, Ian Aldrich, Andrew Feldmann and John Feldmann. Cody Koble brought in a little light by winning his match, followed by Edgar

Pedigo who pinned his opponent in the first period. After all was said and done, the Thunderbolts won the meet by a score of 56 to 30.

The Custer County Tournament followed on Saturday with ten teams competing. The Pueblo West High School team won the tournament, followed by the Rye Thunderbolts. Both received a trophy for their team efforts. The Bobcats wrestled a lot better than they did Friday night, with the following individual results:

Dalton Wommack, 106 lbs., 2nd place

Ray Perez, 120 lbs., 6th

John Feldmann, 138 lbs., 6th

Andy Feldmann, 145 lbs., 1st place, along with the “Outstanding Wrestler” trophy

Cody Koble, 152 lbs., 2nd

Edgar Pedigo, 160 lbs., 5th
Thomas Dryer, 285 lbs., 6th

Ian Aldrich also competed in the tournament, a young wrestler in one of the toughest weight classes (152 lbs). He is improving every week, and I’m sure that we will see him placing in a tournament shortly.

Next up on the season schedule is the Salida Tournament on Saturday, January 16th, starting at 9:00 am.

Additional note by Coach Ham:

I would like to add that the “pee wee wrestling” practices are every Tuesday and Thursday night from 6:30 to 7:30 p.m. Tournaments are on Saturdays. I would really like to see the Custer County youth involved so they can learn good sportsmanship, teamwork, and learning to excel in life. See you there!

Sentinel note: WAY TO GO BOBCATS!



Cotopaxi PRIDE

The attached photo is for the Cotopaxi PRIDE (Integrity) winners for the end of the 2nd quarter. From left to right: K-Aiden TwoCrow, 2nd-Claire Austin, 5th-Mackenzie Teter & Ty Coleman, 4th-Marsha Jo Simpson, 3rd-Justin Howell, 1st-Serenity White
Good job, kids!

Courtesy photo by Amber Canterbury

CCCS Board Meeting: Evaluations, Security Cameras

by Fred Hernandez

The meeting was called to order precisely on time by Dr. Davis and after the Pledge of Allegiance and Roll Call, proceeded immediately to the Main Agenda which started off with a delightful presentation by first graders who delivered their rendition of lessons they learned, to take care of important things first, with a tag line of “I am the leader of me”. There was a well deserved round of applause for them.

The agenda had various monthly chores for the board which was quickly and most efficiently handled, including routine personnel matters, various approvals for check vouchers, a revised budget adoption, and other administration chores such as employee and family leave, personnel performance evaluation and school board policy process and finally but not least of which was Dr. Davis calling for the need to review board by-laws. These administrative matters was followed by reports from the Elementary School Principal-Ms. Holly Anderson who articulated about evaluations ongoing indicating improvement in general. She was followed by the Secondary School Principal Ms. Barb Jones who also indicated improvements in their evaluations of the students regarding their comprehensive skills. She did say however, there was little bit of a struggle with fluency but that the issue was being addressed with a book study classroom catalyst to improve reading and they have a tracking system to make sure that the students are making progress in this regard. Fluency is attained by children who like to read having had the benefit of parents reading to them from an early age and thus acquiring a liking for reading. Upcoming activities including family literacy night, to which all are invited, are some of the activities in the offing which, on the long run, will undoubtedly cause marked improvement in the students.

teachers as a result of the current mandated systems and procedures.

Next item on the agenda was a report from Superintendent Payler regarding his meeting with Sen. Crowder and his comment was politics, politics, politics.

The most interesting part of the meeting was the discussion regarding the security cameras now installed in the school. These cameras (16 units) cover almost eighty five percent of the school and are part of a strategic plan formulated two years ago and only being implemented at this time. As part of the plan the school is working to have local law enforcement access to the system so that they can, in case of emergency, see in real time what is happening on the premises. Already, school officials have noted that the camera system is working in that less bullying is going on in the hallways and students are aware of the possibility that they are being seen. Mr. Payler emphasized that the whole reason for the system is SECURITY and not to “spy” on anyone. The cameras were donated by School Board Member Brian Cline who is also the owner of Antler’s Liquor Store and who uses a number of these cameras for his own store premises security. The cameras were professionally installed by Hough Electric whose crew, to a man, volunteered to do the installation at no charge to the school. Congratulations and a heart felt thanks to Mr. Cline and all at Hough Electric.

Dr. Davis opened the floor for comments from the audience. While there were some comments made the most engaging came from Ms. Tracy Vale who identified as ex-law enforcement with eleven years of service and current fire fighter in Colorado Springs. Ms. Vale summed it up by saying that it may be a potential danger to allow the system out on the internet, something which would have to be if it is connected

Bobcat Menu • Jan. 18 - Jan. 21, 2016			
Monday Breakfast Choice of Cereal Fruit Milk lunch Beef Taco/Lettuce Rice Veg. & Fruit Milk	Tuesday Breakfast Choice of Cereal Fruit Milk lunch Meat Lasagna W. G. Roll Veg. & Fruit Milk	Wednesday Breakfast Choice of Cereal Fruit Milk lunch Nachos Veg. Fruit Milk	Thursday Breakfast Sausage Gravy W.G. Biscuit Fruit, Milk lunch Chicken Patty Sandwich Veg. Fruit Milk
Elementary: Main Dish, Grain Product, Veg., Fruit, and Milk Middle & High: Main Dish, (or Pre-made Chef Salad) Grain Product, Veg., Fruit, and Milk			

KIDS Friday, January 15, 2016

The Super Bowl

On this date January 15, 1967 the first Super Bowl was played by the Green Bay Packers and the Kansas City Chiefs at Memorial Coliseum in Los Angeles. The Green Bay Packers won with a score of 35 - 10. Each player on the winning Packers team received a \$15,000 bonus, while the players on the Chief’s team earned \$7,500 each. The cost of a one minute TV commercial sold for \$75,000 - \$85,000. Pocket change compared to the millions spent on air time now.

But, let’s go back a little to a time that some of us remember before there was a Super Bowl.

The NFL was founded in 1920, as the American Professional Football Association (APFA). The name was changed to the National Football League in 1922. The AFL wasn’t founded until 1960 as a rival to the NFL.

The NFL and the AFL decided to play a championship game at the end of the 1966 season to see who the true champions were. That year it was called the AFL- NFL World Championship Game. It was first called the Super Bowl in 1969, after Lamar Hunt, of the Kansas City Chiefs, named it that.

In 1970 the AFL and the NFL merged into one league, and since then the Super Bowl has been the annual meeting of the top teams in the AFC and NFC for the championship of the NFL.

Vince Lombardi and his Kansas City Chiefs won the first two Super Bowls. The Super Bowl Trophy was then named after Vince Lombardi.

This year Super Bowl 50 will be played on February 7, 2016 at Levi’s Stadium, the new home of the San Francisco 49ers.

A quirk this year is the logo. In the past, the number of the Super Bowl was always denoted with Roman numerals. This year the NFL decided to take a hiatus from the Roman numerals and just use 50 instead of the L which is the Roman equivalent of 50. The NFL states they will return to using Roman numerals next year for Super Bowl LI.

by Audrey Slater, Sources: football.about.com espn.go.com nfl.com

Sangre de Cristo Sentinel • Westcliffe, Colorado

Corner

It is noteworthy that there is a good connection between administration and the

See SCHOOL on page 14

Local Mountain News & Notices

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

From: Representative Jim Wilson – HD 60, January 10, 2016

Happy 2016 to all of you! The second session of the 70th General Assembly of Colorado convened under the Golden Dome on Wednesday the 13th of January. The 120 days of the legislative session will be a whirlwind of over 600 newly proposed bills, philosophical battles across the aisles and a non-stop posturing for reelection. Elections? Oh yes, did I mention that Colorado is a swing state for the presidential election, that we have another hotly contested U.S. Senate seat up for grabs, our U.S. Representatives are on their two-year election cycle and half of our Colorado Senate seats

as well as all 65 Colorado Representative seats will be on the ballot? When you add in the district attorney position, all the ballot questions plus the county and local races, it might take extra postage to mail in your ballot this year!

In thinking about this election year, it occurred to me that many of you may not know that much about our own state legislative district – House District 60. HD 60 geographically encompasses Park, Chaffee and Custer Counties, plus all of Fremont County with the exception of the Penrose Corner. The geography includes some of the most (in my opinion, the most) beautiful scenery in Colorado. However, scenery does not vote, people

do... So, let’s take a look at the voter profile of HD 60 as recently compiled by Principles That Matter (PTM).

HD 60 has 45,888 registered voters – 43.5% Republican; 21.7% Democrat and 33.4% Non-Partisan. (The statewide percentages: 31.5% R, 30.5% D and 36.6% N.) HD 60 is a +22% Republican district while the state is at +1% Republican. The bottom line: non-partisan voters can determine the majority easily in a state race and could, in a close race, determine the outcome in HD60. Three other parties are represented in HD 60: Libertarian - .7%; Green - .3% and Constitution - .2%. It appears there is not a third party factor in HD 60.

Breakouts by party are interesting, but the PTM report goes further by breaking out the voters by segment. *[See chart at the end of this article.]*

On another note – the historical renovation of the Capitol has been completed, so please take the time to come to Denver and see the results. Let us know you are coming and we will get you on the House floor (up close and personal)!

As always, please feel free to call (303-866-2747) or e-mail me at wilsonforhd60@gmail.com or james.wilson.house@state.co.us.

Yours for
HD 60 --
Representative
Jim Wilson



Voter Segmentation	Statewide	HD 60	HD 60 Numbers
Hard Republican	5.0%	11.3%	6,107
Solid Republican	11.2%	17.7%	9,538
Soft Republican	9.9%	8.8%	4,744
Weak Republican	3.6%	1.7%	920
Lean Republican Unaffiliated	5.2%	9.7%	5,225
True Middle	16.1%	16.8%	9,051
Lean Democrat Unaffiliated	13.2%	7.1%	3,828
Weak Democrat	4.5%	1.9%	1,016
Soft Democrat	8.0%	7.3%	3,930
Solid Democrat	11.5%	11.2%	6,053
Hard Democrat	5.5%	0.9%	507
All Others	6.3%	5.7%	3,057
Partisan Advantage	D +8	R +21	
Total Likely Voters	2,157,995		34,737

Jared M. Smith, DMD

GO
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275-0661 Jaredsmithdmd.com



Local Mountain News & Notices



CUSTER COUNTY LEGAL NOTICES

PUBLIC NOTICE SHERIFF’S COMBINED NOTICE OF SALE FOR PUBLICATION

To Whom It May Concern: This Notice is given with regard to the following Deed of Trust described herein below:

Sheriff’s Foreclosure Sale No. **15-CCSS-002** was commenced in the office of the undersigned Sheriff pursuant to that certain Order for Entry of Judgment and Decree of Foreclosure (“Judgment and Decree”) entered on August 16, 2015 by the District Court of the **County of Custer, Colorado** in Civil Action No. **2015 CV 030011, Blumenau Subdivision 3 v Phyllis Salazar et al** to foreclose the deed of trust described as follows (“Deed of Trust”):

Original Grantor: Phyllis Salazar and Antoniette Salazar
Current Beneficiary: Blumenau Subdivision #3 Home-owners Association
Date of Deed of Trust: August 16th, 2015
Recording Date of Deed of Trust: August 20th, 2015
Recorded in Custer County: Reception Number 226027
Original Principal Amount \$1,380.44
Outstanding Balance: \$4,480.72

Pursuant to C.R.S. § 38-38-101 (4)(i), you are hereby notified that under the Judgment and Decree, which is the subject Evidence of Debt, I am ordered to sell the property more specifically described as follows:

A parcel of land, Lot No. 30, Blumenau Subdivision, filing No. 3 in the Subdivision, also known as 290 Pipeweed Path, Westcliffe, CO 81252, County of Custer, State of Colorado.

WHICH IS ALL OF THE PROPERTY CURRENTLY ENCUMBERED BY THE LIEN OF THE DEED OF TRUST.

LEIN BEING FORECLOSED MAY NOT BE A FIRST LIEN.

As of January 28th, 2016 the outstanding balance due and owing pursuant to the Judgment and Decree will be \$4,480.72.

NOTICE OF SALE

THEREFORE, Notice is Hereby Given that I will, at **10:00 a.m.**, in the forenoon of **January 28th, 2016**, at the office of the Sheriff, **702 Rosita Ave., Westcliffe, CO 81252**, sell at public auction to the highest and best bidder for cash, the said real property and all interest of said Grantor(s), Grantor(s)’ heirs and assigns therein, for the purpose of paying the indebtedness evidenced by the judgment and Decree secured by the Deed of Trust, plus attorneys’ fees, the expenses of sale, and other items allowed by law, and will deliver to the purchaser a Certificate of Purchase, all as provided by law.

First Publication: December 25, 2015
Last Publication: January 22, 2016
Published in: Sangre De Cristo Sentinel

**** Bidders are required to have cash or certified funds to cover their highest bid at the time of the sale. Certified funds are payable to the Registry of the Custer District Court.**

A notice of intent to cure filed pursuant to section 38-38-104 shall be filed with the officer at least fifteen calendar days prior to the first scheduled sale date or any date to which the sale is continued. **If the sale date is continued to a later date, the deadline to file a notice of intent to cure by those parties entitled to cure may also be extended.**

A notice of intent to redeem filed in pursuant to section 38-38-302 shall be filed with the officer no later than eight business days after the sale.

The Lien of the deed of trust being foreclosed may not be a first lien.

DATE: **October 23, 2015**

Sheriff of the County of Custer, State of Colorado
Shannon K. Byerly
By: Shannon K. Byerly, Sheriff

The name, address and telephone number of the attorneys representing the legal holder of the evidence of debt are as follows: Jay Printz, P.C. # 38397 105 S. Second St., Westcliffe, Colorado 81252. Telephone number, 719-783-9494.

THE ATTORNEYS LISTED ABOVE ARE ACTING AS A DEBT COLLECTOR AND ARE ATTEMPTING

TO COLLECT A DEBT. ANY INFORMATION PROVIDED WILL BE USED FOR THAT PURPOSE.

PUBLIC NOTICE SHERIFF’S COMBINED NOTICE OF SALE FOR PUBLICATION

To Whom It May Concern: This Notice is given with regard to the following Deed of Trust described herein below:

Sheriff’s Foreclosure Sale No. **15-CCSS-003** was commenced in the office of the undersigned Sheriff pursuant to that certain Order for Entry of Judgment and Decree of Foreclosure (“Judgment and Decree”) entered on August 16, 2015 by the District Court of the **County of Custer, Colorado** in Civil Action No. **2015 CV 030012, Blumenau Subdivision 3 v Phyllis Salazar et al** to foreclose the deed of trust described as follows (“Deed of Trust”):

Original Grantor: Phyllis Salazar and Antoniette Salazar
Current Beneficiary: Blumenau Subdivision #3 Home-owners Association
Date of Deed of Trust: August 16th, 2015
Recording Date of Deed of Trust: August 20th, 2015
Recorded in Custer County: Reception Number 226028
Original Principal Amount: \$1,378.92
Outstanding Balance: \$4,478.98

Pursuant to C.R.S. § 38-38-101 (4)(i), you are hereby notified that under the Judgement and Decree, which is the subject Evidence of Debt, I am ordered to sell the property more specifically described as follows:

A parcel of land, Lot No. 31, Blumenau Subdivision, filing No. 3 in the Subdivision, also known as 290 Pipeweed Path, Westcliffe, CO 81252, County of Custer, State of Colorado.

WHICH IS ALL OF THE PROPERTY CURRENTLY ENCUMBERED BY THE LIEN OF THE DEED OF TRUST.

LEIN BEING FORECLOSED MAY NOT BE A FIRST LIEN.

As of January 28th, 2016 the outstanding balance due and owing pursuant to the Judgment and Decree will be \$ 4,478.98.

NOTICE OF SALE

THEREFORE, Notice is Hereby Given that I will, at **11:00 a.m.**, in the forenoon of **January 28th, 2016**, at the office of the Sheriff, **702 Rosita Ave., Westcliffe, CO 81252**, sell at public auction to the highest and best bidder for cash, the said real property and all interest of said Grantor(s), Grantor(s)’ heirs and assigns therein, for the purpose of paying the indebtedness evidenced by the judgment and Decree secured by the Deed of Trust, plus attorneys’ fees, the expenses of sale, and other items allowed by law, and will deliver to the purchaser a Certificate of Purchase, all as provided by law.

First Publication: December 25, 2015
Last Publication: January 22, 2016
Published in: Sangre De Cristo Sentinel

**** Bidders are required to have cash or certified funds to cover their highest bid at the time of the sale. Certified funds are payable to the Registry of the Custer District Court.**

A notice of intent to cure filed pursuant to section 38-38-104 shall be filed with the officer at least fifteen calendar days prior to the first scheduled sale date or any date to which the sale is continued. **If the sale date is continued to a later date, the deadline to file a notice of intent to cure by those parties entitled to cure may also be extended.**

A notice of intent to redeem filed in pursuant to section 38-38-302 shall be filed with the officer no later than eight business days after the sale.

The Lien of the deed of trust being foreclosed may not be a first lien.

DATE: **October 23, 2015**

Sheriff of the County of Custer, State of Colorado
Shannon K. Byerly
By: Shannon K. Byerly, Sheriff

The name, address and telephone number of the attorneys representing the legal holder of the evidence of debt are as follows: Jay Printz, P.C. # 38397 105 s. Second St., Main St, Westcliffe, Colorado 81252. Telephone number,

719-783-9494.

THE ATTORNEYS LISTED ABOVE ARE ACTING AS A DEBT COLLECTOR AND ARE ATTEMPTING TO COLLECT A DEBT. ANY INFORMATION PROVIDED WILL BE USED FOR THAT PURPOSE.

PUBLIC NOTICE

The Westcliffe Planning Commission need to fill a vacancy on the Commission. The member must live within the Town of Westcliffe limits or own a business in the Town of Westcliffe and reside within Custer County. If interested please submit a letter of interest to Mike Carter at P.O. Box 406 or Benson Hall - 305 Main Street, Westcliffe, Colorado 81252

Letter of interest must be submitted on or before Wednesday, January 27th, by 5:00 p.m.

Mike Carter
Building/Zoning Official
Town of Westcliffe
First Publication: January 15th, 2016
Final Publication: January 22nd, 2016
Sangre de Cristo Sentinel
Westcliffe, Colorado

Sheriff's Report...

On the dates below there were 276 calls for service to the Sheriff's Office, 11 to EMS, and 3 to the Fire Department. As of January 10th there were 3 males and no females in the county jail.

12/31/15:
Theft: A Deputy took a report of a theft on North 3rd Street in Westcliffe.

Canyon Fire: The Wet Mountain Fire Department and a Sheriff's deputy were dispatched to CR 264 in Silver Cliff Heights in response to a report of flames in the canyon on the northwest side of the road.

1/1/16:
Traffic Summons: Brandon Harjo of San Antonio, Texas, for speeding 10 - 19 over.

Assault: The Custer County Sheriff's Office received a 911 call reporting an assault on North 2nd Street in Westcliffe. A Sheriff's deputy and EMS were dispatched to the scene.

1/2/16:
Traffic Summons: Keith Kippenberger of Thomas, OK, for speeding, 25 - 39 over.

Family Disturbance: A deputy was dispatched to South 6th Street in Westcliffe for a family disturbance.

1/3/16:
Mental Status Issue: EMS and a Sheriff's deputy were dispatched to Good Hope Drive in Rosita Hills for a male suffering from an altered mental status. The patient was transported to a hospital in Pueblo.

1/4/16:
Hurt Deer: Dispatch contacted the local Department of Parks and Wildlife officer to advise him of a report of a deer

with several arrows in her neck near mile marker 6 on Highway 96.

1/5/16:
Burglary: A deputy was dispatched to Sampson Ridge Road to investigate a report of a burglary.

Attempted Homicide: A deputy participated in an agency assist in connection with an attempted homicide investigation being conducted by the Fremont County Sheriff's Office.

Arrests: Zebariah Boh of Cañon City was arrested on an outstanding warrant out of Fremont County.

1/6/15:
Burglary: A party came into the Sheriff's Office to meet a deputy to report his home on Main Street in Silver Cliff had been burglarized between January 4 and 5.

A deputy was dispatched to a residence on Butler Street in Silver Cliff to investigate a report of a burglary.

Family Disturbance: A deputy was dispatched to Butler Street in Silver Cliff in response to a family disturbance.

1/8/15:
Traffic Summons: Mario Amone of Westcliffe for speeding 10 - 19 over.

1/10/15:
Traffic Summons: Andrew Rogers of Westcliffe for failing to present evidence of insurance, driving with a license under restraint (suspended) and for operating a vehicle not equipped with a tail light.

Assault: A deputy received a call from St. Thomas More Hospital in Canon City reporting an assault of a female that occurred in Silver Cliff.

Custer County High School Wrestling Team

Custer Tournament

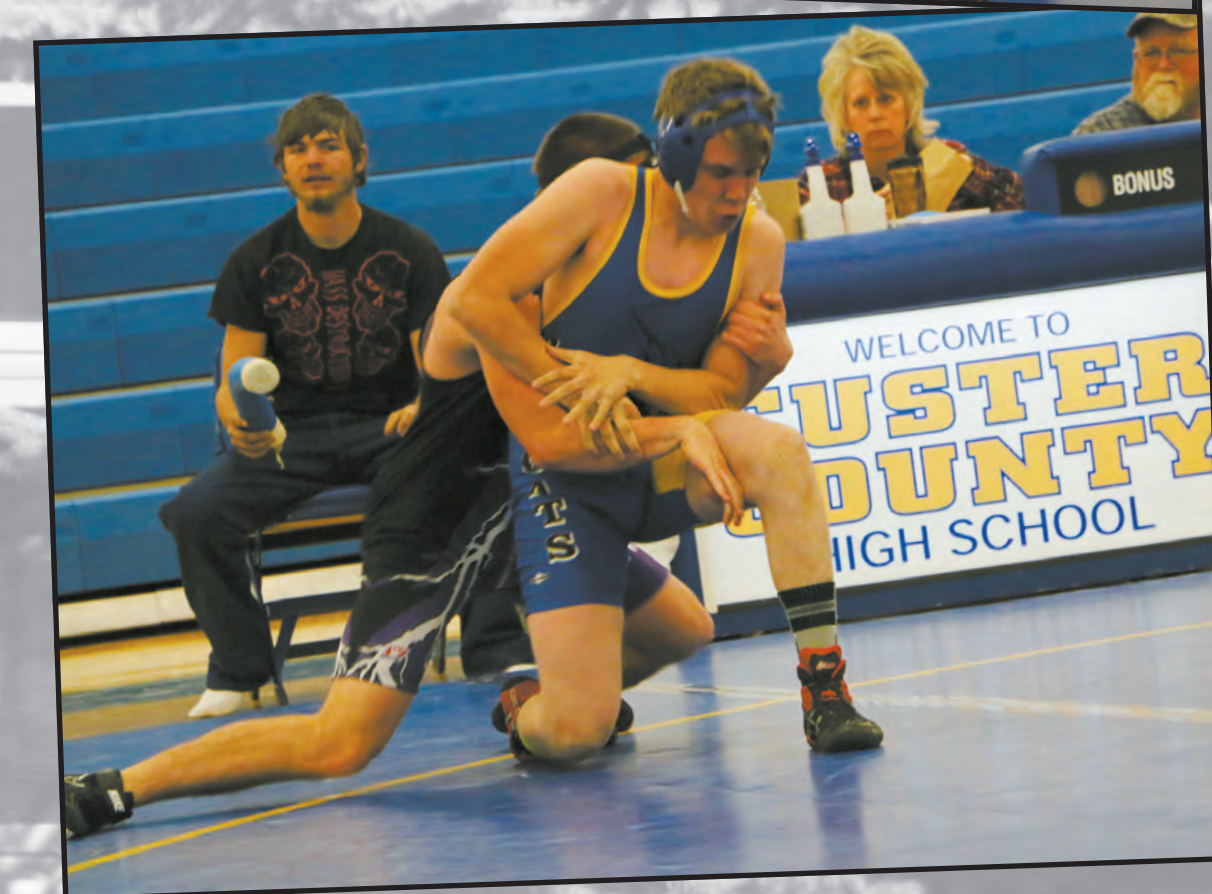
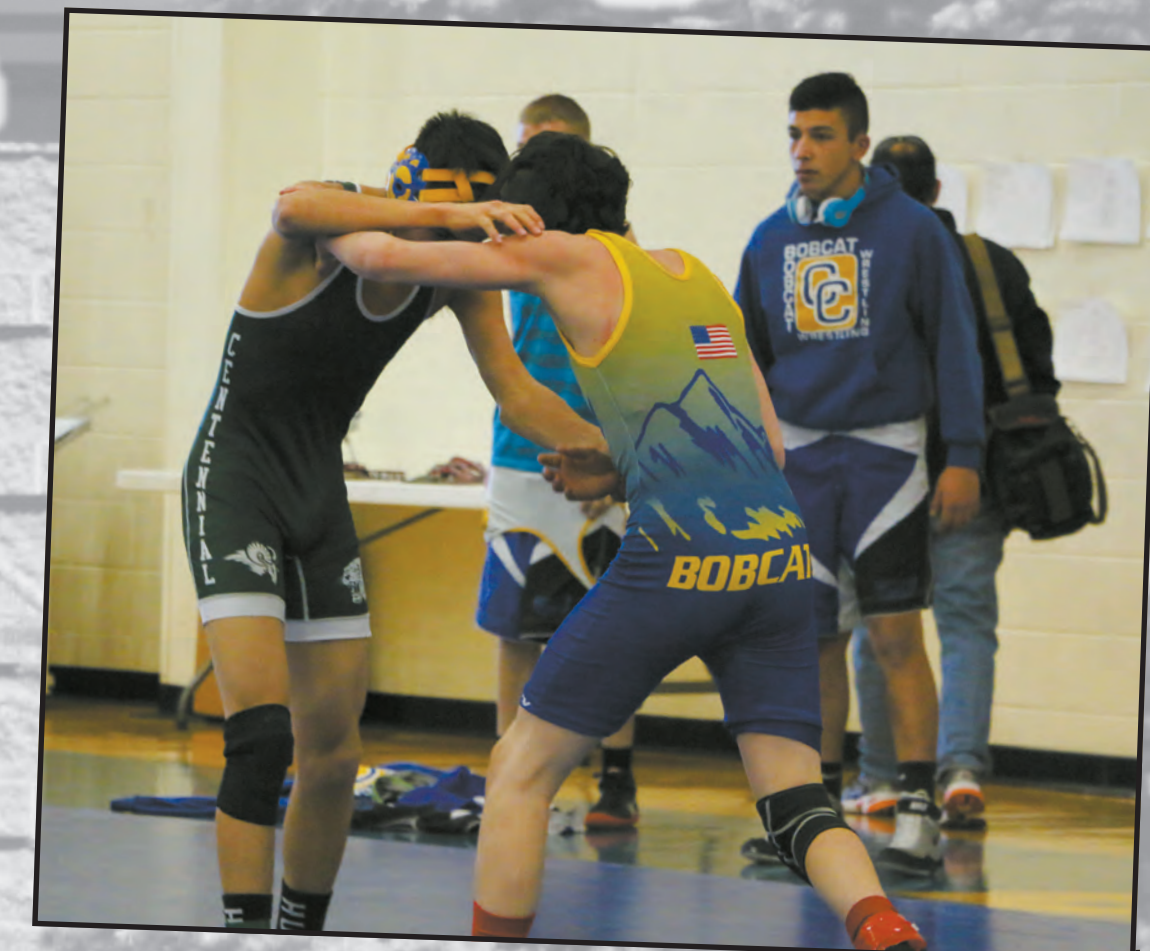


Dalton Wommack, 106 lb., Freshman
 Ray Perez, 120 lb., Freshman
 John Feldmann, 138 lb., Freshman
 Ian Aldrich, 152 lb., Sophomore
 Edgar Pedigo, 160 lb., Sophomore
 Thomas Dryer, 285 lb., Sophomore
 Andrew Feldmann, 145 lb., Junior
 Cody Koble, 152 lb., Senior

Head Coach: Mike Ham

Assistant Coaches: Sterling Hinson and Manny Pedigo

Managers: Sarah Gerringer and Serenity Ham



Local Mountain News & Notices

Classifieds

GOT SOMETHING TO SELL, TRADE OR WANT TO BUY OUR CLASSIFIED SECTION CAN HELP YOU DO THAT STOP BY AND SEE US AT 610 MAIN ST. WESTCLIFFE

For Sale

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

Real Estate

Lori Kastendieck
Independent Broker
Real Estate
Westcliffe Broker.com
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Serving buyers & sellers
since 1982

Services

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

Please call 719-783-3360 or email
sdcsentinel@gmail.com to place your ad.
The deadline for getting your information into the
Classifieds is Monday at 5 p.m.
for that week's edition.



Endorsed by the Colorado Medical Society, the Colorado Nurses Association, and the Colorado Hospital Association.

Site Information

Saturday, April 2nd, 2016

7:00 am to 12:00 noon

Custer County School

709 Main Street, Westcliffe

Call 783-3369 with questions

- Do not eat 12 hours before having blood drawn
- Diabetics should not fast
- Drink plenty of water before having blood drawn
- Continue taking prescribed medications
- Must be 18 years of age or older to participate

For more information:
303-698-3799 or 1-800-332-3078
www.9HealthFair.org

Please bring your used eyeglasses to share the gift of sight.



Events Calendar

Friday January 15

10:30 a.m. - 12 noon Camp Happiness, West Custer County Community Room, Camp Happiness is a highly interactive library program that gives children the opportunity to learn through play, singing, movement and art. The program is designed for ages 0-6 years, but all ages are welcome.

Saturday January 16

7:00 a.m. - 3:00 p.m. Awards @ 4 p.m.
Second Annual Westcliffe Ice Fishing Tournament @ Lake DeWeese. Registration forms available at Westcliffe Town Hall, Valley Ace Hardware, Antler Liquors and Motel, Westcliffe Inn. Deadline to be received at the Town Hall—January 15 at 5 p.m.

Friday, Saturday, & Sunday January 15, 16, & 17
7 p.m. Friday, Saturday, & 2: p.m. Sunday at the Jones Theater, "Star Wars: Episode VII – The Force Awakens" PG-13

Thursday January 21

6 p.m. at Search and Rescue building, Sangre Snow Runners meeting. Contact Art Nordyke 783-2761

Friday, Saturday, & Sunday January 22, 23, & 24
7 p.m. Friday, Saturday, & 2: p.m. Sunday at the Jones Theater, "Star Wars: Episode VII – The Force Awakens" PG-13

Saturday February 6

5:30 p.m. at the Saddle Club Building – WMVSC
Royalty Valentine Dinner/Dance Fundraiser

Recurring Events

Monday

6 p.m. Closed step study Alcoholics Anonymous at St. Luke's Episcopal Church in Westcliffe. Call Jim:783-2053 or (360)509-9172 or Emilie: (719) 371-5974.

8 a.m. – 5 p.m. Custer County Public Transit service available to everyone - Wet Mountain Valley Rotary Club. Call 783-2343.

7:55 a.m. High Altitude Training, 9:00 a.m. Water Aerobics, 10:15 a.m. Stretch, 11:30 a.m. Muscles, 1:00 p.m. Low Impact, 5:15 p.m. Step Aerobics, at Club America

Noon: Lunch at Custer County Senior Center, on the first floor of Silver Cliff Town Hall. Call 783-9508 to RSVP by 9:30 a.m.

11 a.m. – 5 p.m. Lighthouse Pregnancy Resources in Silver Cliff assisting new mothers and families. Free pregnancy tests, ultrasound, counseling, and more. Call 783-4357.

1st and 3rd Mondays

4:30 p.m. – 6:30 p.m. Writers group at the Library. If you write or would like to start writing, please join us in the Community Room for peer editing, feedback, ideas, comradery, and more.

Tuesday

9:15 a.m. Stretch, 10:30 a.m. Zumba, 10:30 a.m. Chair Strength 4:00 p.m, Kids zone after school 5:00 p.m. Core Conditioning at Club America

12 – 4:30 p.m. Bridge Club meets in the library community room in downtown Westcliffe,

6 p.m. – 8 p.m. Music at The Mining Company Restaurant in Silver Cliff. Contact Barb St. Amour at (719) 371-1051.

10 a.m. -5:30 p.m. West Custer County Library in Westcliffe is open. 783-9138.

8 a.m. – 5 p.m. Custer County Public Transit service available to everyone - Wet Mountain Valley Rotary Club. Call 783-2343.

Noon: Lunch at Custer County Senior Center on the first floor of Silver Cliff Town Hall. Call 783-9508 to RSVP by 9:30 a.m.

First Tuesday of the Month

6:30 p.m. at Cliff Lanes-American Legion Post 170 monthly meeting.

6:45 p.m. Post 170 Auxiliary monthly meeting (March-October) at the Saddle Club.

Wednesday

7:55 a.m. High Altitude Training, 10:00 a.m. Low Impact, 5:15 p.m. Step Aerobics at Club America

10 a.m. -5:30 p.m. West Custer County Library in Westcliffe is open. 783-9138.

9:30 a.m.-11 a.m. Line dancers meet at Methodist Church. Call Clem: (303) 909-7370.

6 p.m. Closed Big Book Study Alcoholics Anonymous meeting - St. Luke's Episcopal Church, Westcliffe. Call Jim: 783-2053 or (360)509-9172, or Emilie: (719) 371-5974.

6:30 p.m.-8 p.m. Custer County Community Band practice in high school band room.

8 a.m. – 5 p.m. Custer County Public Transit service available to everyone - Wet Mountain Valley Rotary Club. Call 783-2343.

Last Wednesday of the month

11 a.m. Book Club meeting at the West Custer County Library. Open to the Public.

Thursday

9:00 a.m. Water Aerobics, 9:15 a.m. Yoga, 10:30 a.m. Zumba, 10:30 a.m. Chair Strength, 4 p.m. Kids Zone after school program 5 p.m. Core Conditioning at Club America

8 a.m. – 5 p.m. Custer County Public Transit service available to everyone - Wet Mountain Valley Rotary Club. Call 783-2343.

10 a.m. -5:30 p.m. West Custer County Library in Westcliffe is open. 783-9138.

Noon: Lunch at Custer County Senior Center, on the first floor of Silver Cliff Town Hall. Call 783-9508 to RSVP by 9:30 a.m.

11 a.m. – 5 p.m. Lighthouse Pregnancy Resources in Silver Cliff assisting new mothers and families. Free pregnancy tests, ultrasound, counseling, and more. Call 783-4357.

First Thursday of the Month

4:15 - 6 p.m. at the West Custer County Library, Computer help for adults. Need help using your computer or other computer-related things? Come to the library on the first Thursday of the month and receive one-on-one instruction from local teens, FREE!

Second Thursday of the Month

10 a.m.-11 a.m. "Ask a Nurse" at the library.

Friday

7:55 a.m. High Altitude Training, 9:00 a.m. Water Aerobics, 9:15 a.m. Stretch, 10:30 a.m. Muscles, 10:30 a.m. Kids Zone after school program at Club America

8 a.m. – 5 p.m. Custer County Public Transit service available to everyone - Wet Mountain Valley Rotary Club. Call 783-2343.

10 a.m. -5:30 p.m. West Custer County Library in Westcliffe is open. 783-9138.

1 p.m.-4p.m. Custer County Community Sharing Center, Inc. 120 N. 3rd St. (formerly Schlabach's market)

6 p.m. Open discussion Alcoholics Anonymous meeting - St. Luke's Episcopal Church. Call Jim at 783-2053 or (360) 509-9172 or Emilie at (719) 371-5974.

7 p.m.-8 p.m. Bible Talks with Domenic Enrietta and John Hartig at the Library Community Room. All Welcome No charge.

Saturday

10 a.m. Wet Mountain Al-Anon Family Group meets at St. Luke's Episcopal Church. Call Dee (719) 404-1851 or Jean (719) 371-1229.

10 a.m.-2 p.m. West Custer County Library in Westcliffe is open. 783-9138.

2 p.m. Laughter Yoga at the West Custer County Library open to the public.

3 p.m. Open Drum Circle at the West Custer County Library. All ages welcome! If you have a drum, please bring it. We will have a few spares

1 p.m.-4p.m. Custer County Community Sharing Center, Inc. 120 N. 3rd St. (formerly Schlabach's market)

Bobcats Sport Schedule

VARSITY BASKETBALL

January 16: Del Norte HOME
3:00/3:00/4:00/5:30

January 22: South Park HOME
3:00/3:00/4:00/5:30

January 23: Sargent AWAY
12:00/12:00/1:00/2:30

WRESTLING

January 16: Salida Tournament AWAY
9 a.m.

January 23: Paonia Tournament AWAY
8 a.m.

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, 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 Thursday
6:30 p.m.
Core Knowledge
School Gymnasium,
890 Fields Ave.
Cañon City
www.royalgorgetea-party.com

**Fremont
Republican
Central
Committee**
4th Tuesday, 6:30 p.m.
603 Main Street

**Southern
Colorado
Survivors**
1st Sat at 10 a.m.
El Alazan
Mexican Restaurant
1925 Fremont Dr.
Cañon City

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

sdc.sentinel@gmail.com



Repair work on South Reservoir begins this week

by Charlotte Burrous

During the regular scheduled meeting, the Florence City Council approved Task Order 56 for the amount not to exceed \$15,680.80 to conduct geo-technical engineering at the South Reservoir by Earth Engineering Consultants LLC.

This decision was made after Water Superintendent Brandon Harris requested the council reconsider moving forward with Earth Engineering to complete the geo-technical work on the South Reservoir in the previous council meeting. Recently, city crews discovered a leak in one of the reservoirs used to supply water to Florence and the surrounding communities. Because it was a semi

emergency, the council approved moving forward, but had to officially approve it in this meeting.

“Tomorrow morning at 7:30, they will start the drilling,” Harris said. “All the drilling costs break down to \$5,033. After the (three) holes are drilled, it will take a day. On Wednesday, they will take water from the drill holes (then) take the samples at 30, 35 and 40 feet in each of the holes and every ten feet after that.”

The testing of the samples will cost around \$7,870. 80 and need to be evaluated by engineers for the price of \$2,777. Altogether, the combined cost for the work will be around \$15,680.80.

“I foresee possibly being lower than that and coming

under budget,” Harris said. “I’m doing my best (to hold them to their estimate).”

In other business, Hans Prah discussed bringing in the Florence Brewing Company to Florence.

“Craft beer in Colorado is a big deal,” he said. “It’s all over the Front Range; it’s all over the state. It’s made a world presence. Colorado is ranked third in the country for the number of craft brews, craft breweries, obviously at places like New Belgium, Fat Tire, and places like these have put Colorado on the map. Not only is Colorado producing great craft beer, but it’s also become a destination. People come from all over the world to have its craft beer.”

Currently, Fremont Coun-

ty is underserved with the craft beer and the craft beer industry. The only brewery in Fremont County is Royal Gorge Brewing in Cañon City. The idea is not only to bring the quality craft beer, but also bring tourism, to bring people in to find it in Florence.

“We want to bring the craft brew itself along with everything else,” Prah said. “We want to partner with some of the local restaurants because with our current license, we won’t be able to serve food. We’re a brewery that’s going to have a small tap room on the premises, but we’re only going to sell small amount of beer. (We’re also) going to do limited distribution. We’re not a bar; we don’t sell liquor. We can only sell the beer

we make on the premises and per our liquor license, we can only stay open until 10 p.m. Most of it for (customers) to have one or two beers and go on their way.”

Customers will be able to take some home, have it in participating restaurants and buy it from local liquor stores, he said. In the meantime, crews are still in the process of renovating the former Florence Citizen building and Prah estimated the brewery would be open this spring. The council said they looked forward to Florence Brewing Company opening in Florence.

The next meeting will be at 7 p.m. January 19th in Florence Municipal Center at 600 W. Third St. in Florence.

Sine Die Council Adjournment

by Barbara Penezic

Cañon City is now under the leadership of a new Mayor and several new councilmembers. At the regular Council meeting on January 4th the adoption of Sine Die agenda was carried out.

The oath of office was administered to our new Mayor Preston Troutman, and new councilmembers:

a.) Ashley Smith, District Two Council Member

b.) Mark Gill, District Four Council member

c.) Jim Meisner, At-Large Council Member

d.) Kathleen Schumacher, At-Large Member

Followed by adjournment of existing Council and Former Mayor Tony Greer.

The approval of sev-



Top right photo: new council members front row from left: council members Mark Gill, Kathleen Schumacher, Mayor Preston Troutman, council members Ashley Smith and Jim Meisner. Middle Row from left: former Council member Fredia, former Mayor Tony Greer, former council member Katchmar Back row from left: council member Weid, former council member Bates, and council member Eckstrom

Photo to right: City Clerk Kathy Rabe administers the oath of office to incoming Mayor, Preston Troutman.

Photo above: Judge Larry Allen, left, administers the oath of office to Florence City Attorney Bryan Fredrickson during recent FCC meeting. Then Fredrickson administers the oath to Allen who will serve as judge, for another term.



eral items on the Consent Agenda were quickly dispatched. All matters listed under the Consent Agenda are considered to be routine and are approved with one motion. There will be no separate discussion of these items unless a council member or citizen make a request. In that event, the item may be removed from the agenda and considered separately at the discretion of the council.

The new council heard the Administrator’s report and there were no Citizen’s Request to address the council. The next item was the appointment of Mayor Pro-tem; council member Wied was unani-

mously approved.

With the exception of a few procedural stumbles, the mayor and new council members reached adjournment with a job well done and equally well assisted by the seasoned council members and a very efficient City Clerk, Kathy Rabe.

Our new Mayor, Preston Troutman, is to be congratulated for a first meeting carried out with grace, humor, and yes just a slight case of “red face.”

Be Informed ...

Get Involved

Courtesy photos by John Penezic

The Liberty Tree

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

"All That Is Necessary for the Triumph of Evil Is That Good Men Do Nothing"

Edmund Burke

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.

Clinton Indictment May Derail Campaign

Mark Tapscott of The Daily Caller has reported that Democratic presidential candidate Hillary Clinton may be indicted for several legal violations and speculates whether partisan Democrat Attorney General Loretta Lynch would act on an indictment recommendation. The entire fiasco brings much smoke to where there must be fire, yet it remains to be seen whether anyone has the backbone to do the right thing. Sources with experience in handling classified emails have told The Daily Jot that government employees handling information the way Clinton has would be in jail for a long time. Just the sheer number of Clinton's possible legal violations should derail her campaign, but we live in strange times.

Tapscott writes: "Negligence is critical because Clinton signed a Non-Disclosure Agreement in 2009 regarding classified information that stated, among much else, that 'Sensitive Compartmented Information involves or derives from intelligence sources or methods that is classified or is involved in a classification determination ...' Clinton and several of her closest aides must have read information 'derived from intelligence sources or methods' on a daily or near-daily basis. There is an ominous sentence buried in that agreement Clinton signed: 'Nothing in this agreement constitutes a waiver by the United States of the right to prosecute me for any statutory violations.'"

This is possibly the smoking gun, according to Tapscott. He con-

cludes: "A Republican with direct knowledge of the investigation predicted political chaos if Lynch doesn't decide to prosecute Clinton, a chaos that 'would be the gift that keeps on giving right through the election.' With or without resignations of FBI officials to protest such a decision, there would be a blizzard of news releases from congressional GOPers condemning Lynch, followed by hearings in which both the attorney general and FBI Director James Comey would be put under oath and asked about their actions." The trouble here is that Democrats will be unlikely to uphold the law and Republicans, to date, have not held accountability for years.

People need to understand the criminality of what Clinton has done. If we live in a nation where no one is above the law, folks like Clinton should be in jail. But, like notorious gangster Al Capone, they keep using legal loopholes for their "stay out of jail" card. It was simple tax evasion that brought Capone down, even though there were many other terrible crimes he had committed. It may be emails that indict Clinton. Notwithstanding, a person of her character should not hold office. Exodus 18:21 tells us what kind of leaders to select: "Moreover you shall provide out of all the people able men, such as fear God, men of truth, hating covetousness."

Have a Blessed and Powerful Day!
Bill Wilson

www.dailyjot.com
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Is 2016 the Year of the Dollar Collapse?

by Simon Black, SovereignMan.com,
via Zerohedge.com

On September 4, 1993, President Bill Clinton spoke about the American Dream in a weekly radio address.

He told his audience that "in America, the idea is that if you work hard and play by the rules, you'll be rewarded with a good life for yourself and a better chance for your children."

That's what America used to stand for, and indeed much of the Western world. Freedom. Truth. Hard work and fair play. Building a better life.

But those ideals have all but faded now, displaced by a new normal of war, debt, government surveillance, freedom-killing bureaucracy, and a monetary policy that decimates responsible, hard-working people for the benefit of a tiny elite.

In his end-of-year commentary in the *Washington Post*, writer George Will summed up 2015 citing example after example of government overreach and excess—

- The value of property seized by the U.S. federal government through Civil Asset Forfeiture exceeded the value of property stolen by burglars and thieves
- Florida police raided a Mahjong game played by four women aged 87 through 95 because they were *gasp* betting with their own money
- New Jersey police arrested a 72-year old retired schoolteacher for illegally carrying a firearm—a 300-year old flintlock pistol he had purchased from an antique dealer
- A 9-year old in Florida was threatened with sexual harassment charges for writing love

notes to a girl saying that her eyes sparkled like diamonds

George Will's list, of course, barely scratched the surface of the tip of the iceberg.

2015 was the year that the middle class was officially vanquished in the Land of the Free, with its share of the population falling to just 50%.

U.S. federal debt reached nearly \$19 trillion in 2015, an increase of almost \$750 billion during the calendar year.

The U.S. government published over 80,000 pages of new regulations, making it nearly impossible to understand 'the rules', let alone play by them.

2015 also saw the passing of incomprehensibly terrible laws, including the USA Freedom Act, which restored many of the worst parts of the PATRIOT Act that were set to expire.

Then there was the Cybersecurity Information Sharing Act, passed at the end of the year, which officially turns the Land of the Free into a gigantic information-sharing surveillance state.

And of course the 2015 spending bill, which as of three days ago, allows the U.S. government to strip you of your passport if they believe in their sole discretion that you owe them money.

These are hardly the actions of a solvent, trustworthy government, or a nation that's on the right track.

It doesn't take a rocket scientist to figure out that this story doesn't have a happy ending.

We can pretend that this time is different, that this country is different, that there is some special sauce that allows this government to run massive imbalances forever.

But deep down we all know the truth... and where this is headed.

I've read no shortage of apocalyptic predictions suggesting that 2016 is the year of the dollar collapse. Or the global economic collapse.

Or something else that invariably ends in the word 'collapse.'

I don't believe that. **First, no one can credibly answer the question "when?"**

Governments have surprised us all with their uncanny ability to kick the can down the road and delay the repercussions of their folly.

But I don't really think the question of 'when' is relevant.

Nearly every major western government is insolvent. Entire monetary and financial systems are insolvent.

Governments have destroyed their own middle classes, giving rise to the greatest wealth gap that has existed since the Great Depression.

The risks are obvious. And you either stick your head in the sand and ignore them, or you take steps to reduce their impact on your life.

It's like anything else - if you live in a wildfire zone, you get fire insurance. And you'll never be worse off for having good coverage on your home to protect your family.

Having a Plan B just makes sense, regardless of whether a major disaster occurs in 2016, next year, or never.

We can't see the future, we can only see the risks today. Develop a Plan B that addresses those risks, and you'll never have to worry about the future again.

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Bennet Refuses to Take a Stand on Refugee Screening

by ColoradoPeakPolitics.com

U.S. Sen. Bennet must simply be paralyzed by his horrific poll numbers — poll numbers that make Mark Udall's abysmal poll numbers look like the promised land. That's the only explanation we can think of for his refusal to say if he supports the bipartisan legislation that would require advanced screening of refugees from Syria and Iraq to ensure they are not a security threat before re-

settlement in the United States.

KRDO Channel 13 asked Bennet whether he would support a popular piece of legislation and he refused to answer because it had not been scheduled for a vote in the Senate. From KRDO:

"A spokesperson for U.S. Senator Michael Bennet (D-Colo.) told KRDO NewsChannel 13 that the senator is currently reviewing the bill and declined to

give his stance given the fact that the vote has not yet been scheduled."

First and foremost, this is a popular — and bipartisan — piece of legislation that the journalist asked him about. It just passed in the U.S. House of Representatives with 47 Democrats voting yes. The concept also is popular with the American public as a Bloomberg poll showed that nearly two thirds of those surveyed agreed with the idea to be

more cautious in allowing Syrian refugees entrance to the United States.

This is not a radical position, Senator. The people of Colorado want to know that your actions match your pledges of security for Coloradans. What say you?

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Longest Armed Standoff in U.S. History Quietly Comes to a Close in Texas After 15 Years

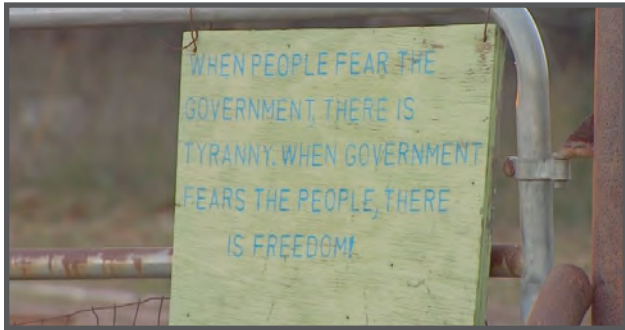
by Kathryn Blackhurst,
TheBlaze.com

A nearly 15-year armed standoff along the Trinity River in Texas quietly came to a close Wednesday after a reporter informed John Joe Gray that a district attorney actually had dropped the charges against him way back in December 2014.

This longest armed standoff in U.S. history began in 1999 when Gray, a carpenter linked to various antigovernment militia groups, was charged with assaulting a police officer during a traffic stop, according to WFAA-TV. The officer initially took issue with the fact that Gray, now 66, was carrying a pistol without a concealed carry permit while Gray insisted that he had a God-given right to carry his weapon. During the ensuing scuffle, Gray admitted to biting the officer.

Gray was jailed and charged with assaulting a state trooper before he was released on bond in 2000. But when he was ordered to appear in court, he opted instead to remain on his 47-acre private property with his wife, his children and his grandchildren — all of whom were armed and ready to patrol the barbed-wire fences surrounding the property, according to the *New York Times*. Gray did not step off his property for nearly 15 years.

“If they come out after us, bring extra body



“When People Fear The Government There Is Tyranny. When Government Fears the People, There is Freedom”

On the Gate of the Gray’s Ranch.

Courtesy Photo Via TheBlaze.com

bags. Those who live by the sword will die by the sword,” Gray once said in an interview, WFAA reported. “We’ve never shot no one yet. But they know, if they come on us, they’ll be surprised what’s going to happen to them.”

And for those 15 years, local government officials heeded his warning and left the Grays alone, although Ray Nutt, the sheriff of Henderson County, monitored Gray’s property from a safe distance.

“My nature is to want to go out there and get him every day I’ve been in office, but then you got to start weighing the lives that might be lost over this,” Nutt told the *Times*.

Eventually, the standoff came to close in December 2014 when Douglas E. Lowe, then the district attorney of nearby Anderson County, dismissed the charges against Gray — even though no one informed Nutt or the Grays themselves of the dismissal

in 2014 until reporters approached them this week.

“I didn’t do that to concede victory to that guy,” Lowe told the *Times*. “It had been going on for 15 years, and somebody just had to make a decision that it was time to say it’s over.”

Nutt emphasized that Gray’s armed standoff should not be compared with the standoff currently occurring in Oregon.

“Those folks have occupied a public building. Joe Gray is on 47-acres that he owns out there,” Nutt told WFAA, adding that going in to get Gray “wasn’t worth it” because “Joe Gray has been in prison out there himself, in my opinion, for 14 years.”

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School District Defies Federal Transgender Mandate: Keeps Boys Out of Girl’s Bathrooms

by Steve Gunn,
EAGNews.com

(Editor/GG: About time.)

MARIONVILLE, Mo.

Across the nation, hundreds of school districts have been bowing to pressure from the Obama administration to allow transgender students to use the restroom or shower facility of their choice, regardless of their biological gender.

The administration has threatened to take away millions of dollars in federal funding from districts that refuse to comply, and that’s usually enough to gain the cooperation of local education officials.

But that’s not the case in a growing number of school districts in Missouri, where school boards are drawing the line at allowing biological boys to use girls restrooms and showers, and vice versa.

The latest Missouri district to take a stand was Marionville, according to the *Springfield News-Leader*.

As the newspaper summed it up, “Students can either use a gender-neutral bathroom or a bathroom designated for their biological sex. Students who participate in physical education classes that require using a locker room or shower are expected to use facilities designated for their biological gender, or they can take an alternative PE class that doesn’t require changing clothes or showering.”

The Marionville school board acted on the advice of its attorney, Tom Mickes. He is contracted through Missouri Consultants for Education, a legal group that helps to create policies for many Missouri school districts, according to the *News-Leader*.

“Female students have a well-developed legal right to be secure in their body integrity. They have the right not to be naked in front of a male,” Mickes said, according to the *News-Leader*. “We are going to provide alternatives, but showering with them is not one of the options.”

Several other Missouri school districts have taken similar stands, including Fair Grove, Stockton, El Dorado Springs and Bernie, the newspaper reported.



Courtesy photo

Progressive organizations are reportedly up in arms over schools that refuse to be bullied into compliance by the Obama administration.

They insist the schools are violating Title IX anti-discrimination laws, but other legal scholars say there is no language in Title IX addressing transgender use of opposite sex restrooms or showers.

Sarah Rossie, an official with the American Civil Liberties Union of Missouri, said her organization offered to help Marionville school officials develop a policy more to their liking, but the offer was declined.

Rossie called the Marionville policy “blatant discrimination.”

Despite Rossie’s protests, there is clearly a lot of opposition to the idea of open restroom or shower use in Missouri, among parents and students.

In September, more than 100 students staged a walkout from Hillsboro High School (south of St. Louis) to protest the district’s decision to allow a boy who identifies as a girl to use girls restrooms and shower facilities, according to a story published by the *New York Times*.

A school board meeting in the district had to be moved to a larger venue because so many parents and other residents wanted to address the issue, the news report said.

The transgender student, Lila Perry, was quoted as saying, “I hope this dies down. I don’t want my entire senior year to be like this.”

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**And now these three remain:
faith, hope and love.
But the greatest of these is love.**

1 Corinthians 13:13, NIV

Cruz: Obama ‘More Interested in Promoting Homosexuality Than He Is in Defeating Our Enemy’

by Michael W. Chapman,
CNSNews.com

Morale in the U.S. military has “plummeted” in recent years because President Barack Obama “doesn’t support our soldiers,” won’t even name the enemy, “radical Islamic terrorism,” and is “more interested in promoting homosexuality in the military” than in “defeating our enemy,” said Sen. Ted Cruz (R-Texas).

During a conference call with Bishop E.W. Jackson of the National Emergency Coalition (NEC), Senator Cruz said, “You look at the military and one of the things we’ve seen is morale in the military under the Obama administration has plummeted, and it has plummeted because you have a commander-in-chief that doesn’t support our soldiers and sailors and airmen and Marines.

“You have a command-

er-in-chief that doesn’t stand up against our enemies, that won’t even acknowledge or say the words ‘radical Islamic terrorism,’” said Cruz. “And you have a commander-in-chief that treats the military as a cauldron for social experimentation.”

“He’s more interested in promoting homosexuality in the military than he is in defeating our enemy,” said the senator.

“So, for example,” he added,

“the military is now focused on trying to promote transgender soldiers. The role of the military is not to be some left-wing social experiment.”

“The reason we have the brave men and women who sign up as servicemen and women to defend this nation is to stand for our values, to protect our safety and security, to protect innocent men and women, and to stand up and defeat our enemies,” said Cruz.

In conclusion, he said, “I would stop the shameless politicizing of our military to push a left-wing agenda that is contrary to the values and contrary to who we are as an American people and a nation founded on Judeo-Christian values.”

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Here's Why You SHOULD Be Worried About Terrorists Entering As Refugees

by Ethan Barton,
Daily Caller News Foundation

Screening people fleeing from foreign countries for resettlement in the U.S. is a "stringent process," but Americans are deeply worried that ISIS will make good on its promise to sneak terrorists in among the 10,000 Syrian refugees President Obama is determined to admit into America next year.

"The problem is, the databases they're checking against likely won't have anything about people in Syria," Center for Immigration Studies Executive Director Mark Krikorian told The Daily Caller News Foundation. "It's not like they're able to call up the Damascus police department. Records have either gone up in smoke or are not available to us."

"If you don't have the tools, it doesn't matter how hard you try," he said. "You're not going to be able to identify the bad guys."

Obama administration officials insist the U.S. has a stringent vetting process for incoming refugees that can take as much as two years. It's a process that is "the most stringent security process for anyone entering the United States," according to Department of State spokesman Mark Toner.

His claim appears to flatly contradict FBI Director James Comey, who told Congress October 21 that federal officials can't do thorough background checks on all incoming Syrian refugees.

"If someone has never made a ripple in the pond in Syria in a way that would get their identity or their interest reflected in our database, we can query our database until the cows come home, but there will be nothing showing up because we have no record of them," Comey told the House Committee on Homeland Security.

One thing is beyond doubt — Syrian refugees have caused massive security issues, especially across Europe.

One of the Paris attackers that killed at least 129 people November 13 used a fake Syrian passport to enter France through Greece, *The Wall Street Journal* reported. Eight other migrants used phony documents almost identical to the Paris attacker's to sneak past authorities, according to the *Daily Mail*.

Forged Syrian passports, IDs or birth certificates can be purchased in the Middle East for as little as \$250, according to the *Daily Mail*. Fake documents could be a problem for United States officials, too.

"Syrian government offices have been looted," Krikorian said. Consequently, blank passports and other documents were likely stolen that could be used to create legitimate identification. Krikorian said federal officials aren't capable of distinguishing such forgeries from the genuine articles.

Also, the sheer volume of 10,000 Syrian refugees entering the country in the next year is likely to degrade the effectiveness of the vetting process.

Less than 2,200 Syrian refugees have entered the country since March, 2011, when civil war broke out, which means nearly five times more Syrian refugees will enter the United States next year than the previous four years combined.

"I don't see how they can admit 10,000 Syrian refugees without cutting corners," Krikorian said. "Honestly, I don't think they're going to meet their target."

Not only will that require federal officials to work faster in the vetting process — potentially increasing the chance of mistakes — but it will also be more challenging to monitor the refugees once they are released into

the United States.

Already, a refugee settled in Louisiana went missing Tuesday and was ultimately found in Washington, D.C. hours later, TheDCNF reported.

Additionally, there are multiple examples of foreign-born terrorists caught after entering the United States seeking asylum. "Two Iraqi refugees who settled in Bowling Green, Kentucky, turned out to be al Qaeda-linked terrorists with the blood of American soldiers on their hands," reported ABC News in 2013.

But federal officials need to be especially careful with Syrians, as they are being driven out primarily by ISIS — currently the best-known radical Islamic group dedicated to destroying the U.S. and Western society, Center for Immigration Studies Research Director Steven Camarota told The Atlantic.

Most state governors are worried, but not all of them.

Thirty-one other governors have said they will refuse Syrian refugees.

The refugee vetting process can take up to two years and involves multiple federal agencies, including the State Department, the FBI and the Department of Homeland Security. Refugees must first apply to the United Nations Commission for Refugees, which then refers the applicant to a new country, such as the United States, reported CNN. Refugees are then subjected to background checks, which include using biometric information to verify an applicant's identity, followed by an interview with a DHS officer.

Reprinted with Permission. Read more: <http://dailycaller.com/2015/11/18/heres-why-you-should-worry-about-terrorists-entering-as-refugees/#ixzz3rwqPqyK8>

German Officials Accused of Covering Up Mass Sexual Assaults by Muslim Mob

/by Russ Read,
Daily Caller
News Foundation

A group of up to 1,000 men of "Arab background" sexually assaulted dozens of women New Year's Eve in Cologne, Germany, according to police. The assaults, however, were not confirmed for days, leading to public accusations of a cover-up.

Cologne Police Chief Wolfgang Albers confirmed Monday as many as 60 reports were filed by women sexually assaulted by a large mob of "Arab or North African men" during celebrations in Cologne New Year's Eve. Albers stated the claims were in fact true.

"There was a very large

number of sexual assaults there — and in a massive way. Women were grabbed and attacked," said Albers during a press conference Monday. "The crimes were committed by a group of people who, from appearance, were largely from the North African or Arab world."

As many as 80 women were assaulted and robbed by the mob, according to police reports. Some women reported being encircled by large groups of men who had "fingers on every orifice." One report claimed a woman was raped.

The several day delay of confirmation of the attacks from officials roused suspicions of a cover-up. Anabel Schunke wrote on

Huffington Post's German language site Monday accusing police officials and public media outlets of covering up the issue entirely.

The attacks appeared to be coordinated, according to a report by German news outlet *The Local*. One group of men allegedly threw firecrackers into a large gathering of people celebrating near a famous cathedral located in the heart of Cologne, while another group of men allegedly began sexually assaulting and robbing women while the crowds were distracted by the firecrackers. It is not confirmed, however, the two groups were working together.

Five arrests were made in response to the allegations,

however it is unclear if anyone was charged.

(Editor/GG: The religion of peace and respect. Arriving here by the tens of thousands right now. The invasion of America encouraged and endorsed by both democrats and republicans. Trump and Cruz are the only ones standing up. This mass sexual and physical assault on non-muslims in Cologne will happen here shortly. The only question is, when is "shortly".)

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The Second Amendment Corner Liberty's Line in the Sand

2015



Chinese Immigrant Defies Obama Gun Grab: "I Will Never Be a Slave Again"

by Mac Slavo,
SHTFPlan.com,
via ZeroHedge.com

President Obama knows that the American people have not embraced his radical, leftist gun control agenda.

That's why he took to the stage at a town hall spectacle hosted by CNN's Anderson Cooper in attempt to defend his unconstitutional executive actions for stealth gun control, and try to convince Americans once and for all that he is not enacting some kind of gun grabbing conspiracy.

But his "common sense" policies – made law under the force of executive order – and his crocodile tears for exploited victims of gun violence are not going to shift public opinion.

There is clearly a line in the sand, and a bold Chinese immigrant, who became an American citizen by choice, is the latest to remind the government what it shall not infringe.

Lily Tang Williams happens to be the state chair of the Colorado Libertarian Party and has made a splash with her January 5th Facebook post, which has now received thousands of comments and shares. Williams vows to defy all government attempts at disarmament, citing the authoritarian abuses of China, her native country.

She declares, "I will always stand with my AR, no matter what my President signs with his pen."

Lily Tang Williams posted this on her Facebook account with the above picture of her holding

a rifle against the backdrop of an American flag:

If you believe more gun control by your government is going to save lives, you are being naïve. The champion of all the mass killings in this world is always a tyrannical government.

Where I came from, China had killed thousands of the students by its own government during the massacre of Tienanmen square in 1989. I surely wish my fellow Chinese citizens back then had guns like this one I am holding in the picture.

I am a Chinese immigrant and an American citizen by choice. I once was a slave before and I will never be one again.

I will always stand with my AR, no matter what my President

signs with his pen.

Live free, or die standing on your feet.

Lily Tang Williams has actually lived as a slave under an oppressive government, and like other immigrants who came to the U.S. fleeing such conditions, she is appalled at seeing the same pattern come home to America.



Courtesy Photo via Facebook

But it isn't over yet.

Despite decades of indoctrination and mass media propaganda, millions and millions of Americans are still aware of what this coun-

try was founded upon, and what principles it stands for.

And. They. Will. Never. Give. Up. Their. Guns. Period.

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Niccolo Machiavelli: Advice on Disarming

by Bob Owens,
BearingArms.com

- Niccoló Machiavelli,
The Prince. 1537.

Niccolo Machiavelli is what some have called the first modern analyst of political power. Some have called him the founder of modern political science. Others have compared him to the Devil, as he showed the moral underbelly of political power. He is widely honored on the left as showing how to use power to stay in power. Most of the people who know of Machiavelli know him from his most famous work "The Prince". "The Prince" is essentially a short course on how to get and keep political power.

At the time it was written, it was a rather long job application, to show that he understood and would be useful in the world of political power. In "The Prince", Machiavelli makes some observations about armed men. One of them is a quote that I have used repeatedly. From "The Prince":

There is no comparison whatever between an armed and unarmed man; it is not reasonable to suppose that one who is armed will obey willingly one who is unarmed; or that any unarmed man will remain safe....

But Machiavelli wrote another, much longer book that is not read or quoted nearly as often. I refer to "The Discourses". "The Discourses" should be viewed as the longer, more thorough work from which "The Prince" is a shorted, abbreviated, version. In "The Discourses", Machiavelli talks about using deception to achieve wanted ends. He talks about the necessity of being deceptive when attempting to achieve an evil desire. The example that he uses is that of disarming. Here is the quote from The Discourses":

For it is enough to ask a man to give up his arms, without telling him that you intend killing him with them; after you have the arms in hand, then you can do your will with them.

The Discourses
end of chapter XLIV

The quote is worth noting today, as a means of explaining why current disarmists must resort to lies and deceit. They cannot put forward their real reasons. If they

did, they could never pass the desired legislation.



Machiavelli is worth quoting, because he is recognized as one of the founding fathers of modern state politics. His pronouncements carry considerable weight in statist circles. He is, essentially, an authority that statists have been taught to trust.

While not quite as definitive an authority for a statist as the Bible would be for a Christian, or the Koran for an Islamicist, Machiavelli holds considerable weight for those who worship at the altar of state power. His words can be used to educate them to advantage.

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Legality of Obama's Executive Actions on Guns Could Hinge on These Words

by Fred Lucas,
TheBlaze.com

Whether President Barack Obama's executive actions on guns are legally permissible depends on how close it adheres to statute.

For example, the same laws already apply to a gun seller, whether it's in a gun shop, at a gun show or over the Internet, said David Kopel, an adjunct professor of advanced constitutional law at Denver University, and research director at the Independence Institute.

The legal question involves the statutory definition of a gun dealer, as someone whose "principle objective of livelihood and profit" relies on the sale of guns. So, no executive action can extend beyond that. These words and their legal interpretation could be the deciding factor.

"There are a few statements about proposed regulations. Whether the regulations are lawful depends on whether they are consistent with the text of the statutes enacted by Congress," Kopel told TheBlaze.

"Regulations can add detail to the gray areas in a statute, but they can't contradict the statute. So until the regulations are actually published, it is impossible to say whether they are lawful or not."

The White House press release Monday night was not specific about how the regulations would differ from current law, other than to say, "The Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and Explosives (ATF) is making clear that it doesn't matter where you conduct your business—from a store, at gun shows, or over the Internet: If you're in the business of selling firearms, you must get a license and conduct background checks."

The law is already consistent across all venues of gun sales, Kopel said. "Of course that's true, and it's been federal law since 1968."

The law U.S. Code 18, Section 921 defines who can be regulated as a gun dealer, "a person

See WORDS
on page 21

Sangre Shooting Sports Club Annual Meeting

The Annual Meeting of the Membership of the Sangre Shooting Sports Club will be held on
Saturday, January 16, 2016
at 1 p.m.
Community Room, Cliff Lanes

2016 membership applications for renewal and new members may be found at sangreshooting.com, the Wet Mountain Tribune, and the Sangre de Cristo Sentinel.

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Meet the Members of Congress Who Pack Heat

by Kathryn Watson,
Daily Caller News Foundation

They may never talk about it or they may shout it from the rooftops, but dozens of members of Congress pack heat back home in their districts and may be on Capitol Hill, too.

Alabama Republican Mo Brooks, for example, minces no words when asked if he owns a firearm that he carries.

“I do have a concealed carry permit, as does my wife,” Rep. Mo Brooks told The Daily Caller News Foundation.

“There’s terrorism and there’s crime,” Brooks said. “You never know when either one is going to happen. You can rely on terrorists and criminals not to hurt you, or you can prepare yourself so they don’t hurt you. I trust myself more than the terrorist.”

Rep. Gary Palmer, another Alabama Republican, said asking if he owns a gun is the wrong question.

“The question should be, how many?” But Palmer declined to tell TheDCNF how many he has.

But members of Congress can’t keep a loaded gun with them to protect themselves and others as

they walk around Capitol Hill. Members may keep firearms in their offices, but have to unload the bullets in order to transport their weapons anywhere else on Capitol grounds, according to U.S. Capitol Police regulations.

TheDCNF asked the 38 members of the House Freedom Caucus — presumably the most pro-Second Amendment caucus in Congress — whether they own firearms or have concealed-carry weapons permits. Twenty-three caucus members didn’t respond. Seven declined to comment, some citing security concerns. Eight said they owned guns, six of whom have a concealed weapons permit.

The National Rifle Association gave House Freedom Caucus members on average an “A” grade during their most recent election cycle, whether they owned a gun or not.

By contrast, 37 Democrats who told *USA Today* in 2013 that they own firearms earned an average “C” grade from the NRA during their most recent election cycle.

Eight of the 37 have since retired or lost re-election campaigns, including former Arkansas Sen. Mark Pryor, former California Rep. George Miller, former Iowa Sen. Tom Harkin, former Rep.

William Enyart of Illinois, former Louisiana Sen. Mary Landrieu, former Montana Sen. Max Baucus, former North Carolina Sen. Kay Hagan, and former South Dakota Sen. Tim Johnson.

Six Democrats who owned guns as of 2013 earned an “A” from the NRA in their most recent election cycle — West Virginia Sen. Joe Manchin, Wisconsin Rep. Ron King, Texas Rep. Gene Green, Ohio Rep. Tim Ryan, Minnesota Rep. Ryan Peterson, and Georgia Rep. Sanford Bishop.

Only one Democrat who packed heat as of 2013 received an “A+” in his most recent race — Georgia Rep. John Barrow. The NRA has downgraded a handful of Democrats since the ratings *USA Today* reported in 2013, too.

The lowest NRA grade among House Freedom Caucus members went to Rep. Justin Amash of Michigan, who earned a “B.” Amash never responded to *USA Today* or the DCNF on whether he own or packs heat. Every other House Freedom Caucus member, whether they disclosed their gun ownership status or not, earned an “A-” or above. No House Freedom Caucus member said that they don’t own a gun.

Five Republicans in the House

Freedom Caucus had “A+” grades in their most recent election cycles — West Virginia’s Rep. Alex Mooney, Virginia’s Rep. Morgan Griffith, Texas Rep. Ted Poe, Pennsylvania Rep. Scott Perry, and Ohio Rep. Jim Jordan.

Here are the members of the House Freedom Caucus who say they currently carry, or did as of 2013 (all are Republicans):

- Alabama Rep. Gary Palmer
- Alabama Rep. Mo Brooks
- Arizona Rep. Paul Gosar
- Arizona Rep. Matt Salmon
- Arizona Rep. David Schweikert
- Arizona Rep. Trent Franks
- Colorado Rep. Ken Buck
- Florida Rep. Ted Yoho
- Florida Rep. Bill Posey
- Indiana Rep. Marlin Stutzman
- Louisiana Rep. John Fleming
- Ohio Rep. Jim Jordan
- South Carolina Rep. Jeff Duncan
- South Carolina Rep. Mick Mulvaney
- Tennessee Rep. Scott Desjarlais
- Texas Rep. Randy Weber

- Virginia Rep. Dave Brat

Brooks said the Second Amendment is the “bedrock” of all other amendments, and the pro gun-control argument that the Second Amendment only applies to a militia-owning firearms is preposterous.

“The purpose of the Second Amendment was to ensure that the citizenry could protect itself from a dictatorial and out-of-control government,” Brooks told TheDCNF.

“It has long been a primary goal of kings, dictators, communists, fascists and the like to disarm the citizenry so that there is minimal risk of opposition to centralized government, dictating to the citizenry that is unarmed and defenseless, and unable to assert their rights,” he said.

(Editor/GG: Way to go Colorado Rep. Ken Buck. Hear our U.S. House Representative, Scott Tipton, does have a Daisy Red Rider bb gun. But is locked in a safe with the bb’s hidden under his pillow.)

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WORDS from page 20

who devotes time, attention, and labor to manufacturing firearms as a regular course of trade or business with the principal objective of livelihood and profit through the sale or distribution of the firearms manufactured.”

The law continues, “such term shall not include a person who makes occasional sales, exchanges, or purchases of firearms for the enhancement of a personal collection or for a hobby, or who sells all or part of his personal collection of firearms.”

Obama will be speaking about the actions in an East Room event Tuesday.

“Can he direct the ATF to look at details of the statute? The answer is yes, as long as it is consistent with what the statute says,” Kopel said. “If they try to say it extends to anyone selling more than one gun, no.”

White House press secretary Josh Earnest said the administration anticipates that the gun lobby will have a “creative legal theory” to oppose the actions.

“That’s why the president wants to be sure that the recommendations he has received and the executive actions that he carries

out are going to stand up in a court of law,” Earnest said Monday. “A lot of work that has gone on has been to ensure that we would have confidence in the legal basis of these actions.”

Obama could ask the ATF to clarify the statute, said John G. Malcolm, a former deputy assistant U.S. attorney general.

“If he wants to expand the definition of businesses of the firearms dealer, it depends on how he would do that,” Malcolm, now with the Heritage Foundation, told TheBlaze. “It would have to be licensing subject to the regulatory framework under statute. If the action effectively changes what it means to be a firearms dealer, he can’t rewrite the federal statute.”

“If the regulations are challenged in court, as expected, the process will play a big role in how defensible the law is,” said Kopel.

Further, for presidential candidates to pledge to instantly undo the executive action is not the most reliable promise.

“If they go through the normal process of doing this, put it in the Federal Registry, allow public comment, and respond to the comment, that will take a few months, it will be very tough to challenge,” Kopel said. “For the next president to undo, it would take

months to undo because it would go through the same process.”

But, the Obama administration could make matters more difficult for itself.

“If the administration comes up with a new interpretation, it will be a lot harder to hold up,” Kopel said.

(Editor/GG: Don’t forget that the senate republicans recently confirmed Loretta Lynch as our U.S. Attorney General KNOWING THAT SHE WAS AN EXTREME LEFT-WING, ANTI-2ND AMENDMENT, PRO-ABORTION SOCIALIST who thinks the U.S. Constitution is toilet paper. The republicans put an anti-American statist in the U.S. Attorney General’s job. And now they are complaining. Folks, wake up. They gave Nobama all the money he wants to destroy the country and then stage some failure theatre legislative moves to pretend they are fighting. WE SEE THRU THIS B.S. NOW! The republican party has betrayed its supporters (including me) for 50 years and it is time for a change.)

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2015 Guns by the Numbers

by Dean Weingarten,
GunWatch.Blogspot.com

Total private guns in the United States, 390 million

Murder rate in the U.S. 2015 4.5 per 100,000 (FBI)

Murder rate in the U.S. 1993 9.5 per 100,000 (FBI)

Murder rate in Brazil (latest) 25.2 per 100,000 (Wikipedia)

Murder rate in Mexico 2012 21.5 per 100,00 (Wikipedia)

Number of people with Concealed Carry permits in the United States: 12.8 million (CrimeResearch.org study)

Number of States where no permit is required to carry concealed or openly: 10 (CrimeResearch.org study)

Number of states who issue carry permits - 49

Number of states where open carry of firearms is legal: 44 in 2015, 45 with the addition of Texas on 1 January, 2016. (Opencarry.org map)

Number of NICS background checks in 2015 22.6 million (pdf) (FBI)

Number of police killed with their own guns in 2014 - 1 (FBI)

Number of times guns used to stop crime or for defense: 1.5 million (CDC)

Suicide rate in the United States 12.1 per 100,000

Suicide rate in France 12.3 per 100,000

Suicide rate in Japan 18.5 per 100,000

Suicide rate in South Korea 28.9 per 100,000 (suicide.org)

U.S. Fatal Firearm Accident rate in 2015 .2 per 100,000

U.S. Fatal Firearm Accident rate in 1932 2.5 per 100,000 (Gun Watch)

Michael Bloomberg Dollars devoted to restricting the Second Amendment, 50 million: (Forbes)

Percent who believe concealed carry of guns makes people safer: 53% (Gallup)

Percent who think concealed carry makes people less safe: 41% (Gallup)

Number of guns stolen or lost per year: 200,000 (governing.com)

Murders committed with handguns: 6,115

Murders committed with shotguns: 366

Murders committed with rifles: 367

Murders committed with (hands,fists,feet,etc.) 769

Murders committed with blunt objects: 549 (FBI UCR)

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Politics & The Bible

From Pastor Jim

Jim Modlish has been in the ministry 49 years, pastoring churches large and small from upstate New York to western Washington. He holds a doctorate in theology, but frequently states: "I have education, but I got over it."

Southern Colorado natives, Jim and his wife, Linda, were happy to return to their home state in 2006. They started the Huerfano Community Bible Church in Walsenburg seven years ago, and that work has experienced excellent growth

and the blessings of God. Pastor Modlish believes the Bible is the greatest political science textbook on earth, and that all current events should be examined under the searchlight of Scripture. All scripture taken from King James Version.



THEY FEARED THE PEOPLE

According to a recent CNN poll 31% of Americans consider themselves to be very angry, followed by 38% who are in the somewhat angry category. These numbers are mirrored in a CBS poll which concluded that 70% are angry with Washington in general, and 80% say Congress is more interested in pacifying special interest groups while only 13% believe the legislative elite truly represent the people.

With no claim of being a prophet or a son of a prophet, I will nonetheless venture a prognostication concerning the near future. For the benefit of Hillary's election the liberal media will deem it necessary to isolate this "perceived" anger to a specific "fringe" group that bear no relevance to the larger social fabric. Evangelical Christians who are considered to be homophobic, prolife, rabid second amendment types are the ideal target.

Participants of Black Lives Matter, disenfranchised Muslims, transgendered whatevers and the usual collection of those feeding at the government trough have every right to express their dissatisfaction. Bible Believers are expected to keep their mouths shut, wear lace on their underwear, and contribute nothing more than limp handshakes while wearing a "God bless you" grin.

All of the criticism that will soon be leveled at the "cling to their religion and guns" crowd is nothing more than smoke and mirrors to alleviate pressure from the establishment which could be defined as "those in control" and the lap dogs that serve them. This assemblage may vary in perception from person to person, but no one denies their existence. For the sake of simplicity we shall characterize the White House, Congress, several layers of non-elected bureaucrats, large money contributors and frequently, the Supreme Court and other appointed federal judges as the establishment. The hounds that bay on the trail of any opposition is the main stream media, always willing to return for another bone.

The Bible lends insight into the true nature of the behavior and motives of the power players that is superior to all other sources of information. In Luke 20:2 the chief priests, scribes and elders (the establishment) challenged the teaching of Jesus with this question: "By what authority doest thou these things? Or who gave thee this authority?" The real issue is always authority

which is at best begrudgingly surrendered. Jesus, always light years ahead of the enlightened, responded with a question his own... "The baptism of John, was it from heaven, or of men?" The response is instructive.... "And they reasoned with themselves, saying, If we shall say, From heaven; he will say, Why then believed ye him not? But and if we say, Of men; all the people will stone us: for they be persuaded that John was a prophet." The Lord had them cornered on the horns of a doctrinal dilemma, knowing that they feared the people more than they feared God. The group that presented the greatest threat was the congregation that actually believed an important Biblical doctrine. They were persuaded that John was the fulfillment of Isaiah 40:3: "The voice of him that crieth in the wilderness, Prepare ye the way of the Lord, make straight in the desert a highway for our God." This circles the wagons back to our original thesis; individuals, possessing Scriptural convictions represent an enormous danger. In spite of all of the liberals' efforts to vilify the old two-edged sword (Hebrews 4:12), it remains sharp, capable of discerning thoughts and intents of the heart.

Immediately on the heels on this encounter Jesus launched into a parable about a rightful heir of a vineyard who was murdered by the husbandmen (the paid keepers of the vineyard). It was their belief that the elimination of the son would put them in position to inherit the property. The reaction of the establishment was predictable. "And the chief priests and scribes the same hour sought to lay hands on him; and they feared the people: for they perceived that he had spoken this parable against them."

God, willing to put an exclamation mark on this nefarious activity follows up in Luke 22:1-2 with: "Now the feast of unleavened bread drew nigh, which is called the Passover. And the chief priests and scribes sought how they might kill him; for they feared the people."

The conclusion is always the same... "they feared the people." If the people of the Book would rise up in unison to pray, vote and influence others to do the same, the results could be staggering. There is a reason the candidates are desperately attempting to court the evangelical vote in Iowa. In contrast, the hounds of hell seek to destroy any strong, conviction-laden Christian. Make no mistake, the establishment fears us!

A Sheepdog Barks!

We constantly get questions from new readers about the strange "sounds" and "abbreviations" in my column. This column was inspired by an article I read many years ago called "On Sheep, Wolves and Sheepdogs." We print it every six-months or so but new readers can always find it on our web site at sdc-sentinel.com. Today you can read a condensed version on page 24. Please read it; it will help you understand.

Today I'm reprinting excerpts from several of my previous columns. I'm calling this one "The New Readers Guide to Reading and Loving the Sheepdog Barks Column." WOOF!

WOOF! HOWL! BAA! From time to time I am asked by new readers "what's up with the 'Sheepdog Barks' column and all those animal sounds?" Please read the article by Lieutenant Colonel Dave Grossman, U.S. Army (Retired). It is long but full of important thoughts. The old retired Army Vietnam veteran he quotes had it exactly right. Sheep are in denial and need protecting. If you've read it before, read it again. I read it over and over. All sheepdogs should refresh and renew their spirits every so often. The message from LTC Grossman is mostly about recognizing and fighting evil. I believe that those Liberals (aka Wolves) who are trying to destroy America are evil. When they speak they **HOWL!** I believe most Americans are sheep. They do little or nothing. When they speak they go **BAA!** I have decided to be a sheepdog and protect the sheep's liberties and freedoms from the wolves. I go **WOOF!** It is an "alarm bark" which warns the sheep of the presence of or the actions of wolves (aka LPSDs) and our need to be vigilant and fight back. Join me. We need millions more sheepdogs. Write me back at the paper. I would love to hear your barks. **WOOF!**

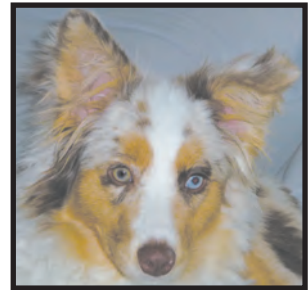
At first I tried to separate the liberals from the progressives, the socialists and the Democrats. I finally tired of that and decided to lump them all together as **Liberal Progressive Socialist Democrats** or **LPSDs**. Saves me a lot of time and space.

By the way, I have received some complaints about my calling all the LPSDs the same thing. One told me he was no socialist. Another told me he was not a progressive. You get the picture. I told them as far as I was concerned they are all Liberal Progressive Socialist Democrats. However, I didn't have the time to be more specific in each case. So I suggested to them that they pick the "letters" they like and go with that. For instance, they could be a **LPD** or a **SD** or an **LP** or even just a **D**. Whatever makes them happy. In fact my favorite would be an **LSD**. Reminds me of what most of them took for fun in the 60s and 70s. Problem is they are still hallucinating and that is what's causing most of America's big problems. **WOOF!**

Not long ago I added a new animal and a new sound – **MEEOW!** Here is why:

Last week in the paper I called the Republican leaders in Congress, and some of their followers, "**Straw Lions**." That is because they don't "roar", they "mew." They remind me of a combination of the lion in search of courage and the scarecrow in search of a brain that accompanied Dorothy to see the Wizard, thus the term "straw lion." Boehner (and now Ryan) and McConnell are in the lion pride leadership roles but are the weakest. When they were campaigning this last time they "roared." Made us feel good about seizing control of the zoo we all know as Washington D.C. (aka Congress). But right out of the chute they failed to pass a veto-proof XL Keystone pipeline bill. This was a "no-brainer." Boehner "roared" for about a month and then rolled over and passed a clean DHS bill in support of Obama's unconstitutional amnesty plan. MEEOW! McConnell couldn't convince 12 Democrat Senators that it was in America's interest to support the XL Keystone pipeline bill. MEEOW!

From time to time as I heard about, or read about, some insane anecdote in America I would think this can only happen in an "LPSD" America. I wanted to share them occasionally so I've identified them with the abbreviation **OIALPA** which means "**Only In A Liberal Progressive**



America."

The America (and the world) that the LPSDs have created is beyond mind-boggling, bizarre and almost completely incomprehensible. I'm convinced our Founding Fathers would not recognize the America they created if they were alive today. I saw a sign the other day that said we now have the government our Founding Fathers tried to prevent. Sadly true! Why and how has this happened? I'm not sure anyone can absolutely pinpoint one or two specific reasons but after careful sheepdog consideration of the last 50-70 years I have easily attributed **ALL** our problems to the Communist-Socialist-Liberal-Progressive sequential-thought-process that has occurred during that period. Oh, I dropped the word Communist ever since I read a book by W. Cleon Skousen called "The Naked Communist." In 1956 Mr. Skousen, a retired FBI agent, wrote about the American Communist Party Manifesto; 45 communist goals to take over America. Most of these goals are now part of the Democrat Party Platform so I don't need to be redundant. **WOOF!**

These **OIALPA** anecdotes will serve to remind and alarm us to the dangers of Liberal Progressive rule and ideology that is destroying the America that many of us grew up in and that our Founding Fathers intended to pass on to all future generations. Considered individually these kinds of things may not seem like much. Considered together, and in the context of the LPSD's overall plan to implode America, these might keep you awake at night. **WOOF!**

Hope this helps you enjoy and understand my column. Bark a little yourself. You'll feel better.

May God Have Mercy on America! JMH



Parents Speak Out Against Islam School Lessons

by Victor Skinner,
EAGNews.Org

(Editor/GG: Note below: These poor kids spent FOUR WEEKS studying islam in their school including memorizing islamic prayers!!! Guess how much time they spent studying Christianity? The spiritual basis for our country. Disgusting. Parents, it is up to you to put a stop to this.)

Tennessee parents continue to voice concerns about lessons on Islam in public schools, most recently during a Johnson City Parent-Teacher Association meeting with state lawmakers.

The meeting Tuesday featured Tennessee state Reps. Matthew Hill and Micah Van Huss, who attended the Educational Forum to receive feedback from parents on education issues and discuss potential legislation for the upcoming legislative session, WYCB reports.

Parents raised issues with state-mandated lessons on Islam many feel go far beyond informing students about world history.

Hill acknowledged serious concerns about the curriculum highlighted by parents across the state, and pointed out that the Tennessee Department of Education is set to review the standards earlier than planned as a result, according to the news site.

“Normally social studies standards are reviewed every six years, but because of the concerns voiced by parents and teachers across the state, they’re in the second year, and they’re already reviewing the standards four years early,” he said.

Hill said lawmakers are expected to soon vote on legislation introduced by Rep. Sheila Butt that would outlaw lessons with “religious doctrine” until at least 10th grade.

“Hill said right now, he will not support this specific bill because in it, the definition of ‘religious doctrine’ is not well defined,” according to WCYB.

That likely did not sit well with parents and members of the local religious community who have rallied for over a year against the middle school lessons on Is-

lam, the *Johnson City Press* reports.

“The Common Core curriculum is destroying America from within,” youth pastor Scott Parker told attendees at a massive gathering at Fountain of Life Bible Church last year. “They’re attempting to stunt the spiritual growth of our youth (and) they’re destroying the principles and values that the country was built on.”

According to the Press, “most of the concerns voiced were toward a section of the 7th-grade social studies curriculum that was adopted by the state board of education in June of 2013 which dealt with the Islamic World.”

Parent Craig Honeycutt said his daughter spent a month studying Islam, and it wasn’t just about the “geographic, political, economic, social and religious structures” of Muslim civilizations as called for by Tennessee education standards.

“Why do we need to give Islam four weeks?” he questioned. “If you want to teach a few days of Islam in a historic aspect, I’m fine with that. What you’re going to find ... is anything but historic. It’s indoctrination, it’s religion, it’s theology, it’s philosophy, (and) it’s how to convert.”

Honeycutt’s daughter learned about the five pillars of Islam, studied the Koran, and delved into the details of the Muslim religion, he said.

“This makes me mad,” he said, according to the Press. “The first pillar of Islam is call Shahada; it is a brief prayer proclaiming the oneness of God and faith in Islam. Children ... memorize the Shahada as an action which introduces them to the Islamic community. ... Would you want your children doing that?”

“The Bible says this, Romans 10:9, ‘If thou shalt confess with thy mouth, ‘the lord Jesus’ and believe in thy heart that God raised him from the dead, you will be saved.’ Try teaching that verse and a Christian perspective in a public school and see how far you get.”

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The American Alawites

by The Zman.com <http://thezman.com/wordpress/?p=6172>

(Editor/GG: Rednecks: The “Alawites” are the muslim minority tribe that has been ruling Syria for a long time. Assad, the “President” of Syria is one of them. Not good people. To say the least.)

Minority populations in any society tend to nurse a grudge against the majority. It’s perfectly reasonable, as a sane society of any design will abide by and cater to the desires of the majority population. Therefore, the minority group will find themselves on the fringes or under constant pressure to assimilate. This natural friction also results in a bidirectional animosity between the majority and the minority.

It’s why a sane society avoids letting the minority population gain control of the levers of power. While there is some chance it works out just fine, there is a greater chance that the minority will try to exact revenge on the majority. Alternatively, it will appear they are favoring their group over the majority. To paraphrase Lee Kuan Yew, in a multi-ethnic state, people are loyal to their tribe first. Or, so it is assumed.

In modern America, this gets squirely because the ruling cult we call Progressives, have turned minorities, particularly blacks, into objects of worship. It’s why we have been saddled with the jug-eared clodhopper, Barak Obama, for the last seven years. Progressives truly believed he was the fulfillment of prophecy and would cleanse the soul of the nation.

As a result, the tendency is to focus on Obama’s racial animosity toward whites, because like most black people in America, Obama nurses a grudge against white people.

That was fairly clear when he was running for president. His comment about rural white guys being bitter clingers was largely viewed as one of the good white/bad white signals. Bad whites go to church, own guns and are racists because they are losers.

It’s why it is tempting to think Obama’s bizarre executive actions on firearms is just a way to spite the honkies. His policies will do nothing to abate violent crime. Black guys will keep shooting black guys for sneakers, respect and other dumb**s reasons. Birds gotta fly, fish gotta swim. The only people who will notice these changes are law abiding crackers, who like hunting and shooting paper targets.

But that’s the thing. Obama is about as black as Ned Flanders. His tribe is the cult into which he was born and raised, the Cult of Modern Liberalism. Like the Alawites fighting the Sunni majority in Syria, he looks at the majority with contempt, believing they choose to live outside of grace. This is not a black thing. It is a Progressive thing. He thinks he is on the winning side of history, so that means his opponents are losers.

Alawites are Twelvers, an eschatological brand of Islam. They believe in twelve divinely ordained leaders, known as the Twelve Imams, and they believe that the last Imam, Muhammad al-Mahdi, lives in occultation and will reappear as the promised Mahdi. That will mark the end of ordinary reality and begin a reunion with the Divine. The faithful organize their lives around bringing about this final event.

Progressives are a similar cult. All their talk about being on the right side of history is just another way of

saying they are the elect, the people who will enter the promised land in the end times. The proof of that is they organize their lives around bringing about those end times. Once they build their city on the hill, they can move in, lock the doors and leave the losers in flyover country to their own hell.

In the mean time, like their Calvinist ancestors, Progressives invest a lot of their energy in public acts of piety. Obama just got almost everything he ever dreamed of from his rent boy Paul Ryan so he should be happy with his legislative success. Instead, he is going out of his way to let everyone know he is on the side of the angels with regards to guns. To the fanatic, there’s always room for one more mass, one more hymn, one more sacrifice.

The trouble is, like we see in Syria, Obama’s ruling sect is wildly out of touch with the majority. Since he took office, 100 million guns have been sold to Americans. This is in a country that probably had three times that number in circulation when he was elected. As we see with the Alawites in Syria, mathematics does not yield to wishful thinking. Eventually, the majority decides to impose its will on the minority.

The vast majority of Americans are waking up to the reality of their position and beginning the process of sloughing off the current ruling class. America is a peaceful and prosperous country so there’s no need for a violent revolution. But if the fanatics do not yield, well, the people are heavily armed so the revolution, if it comes, will be brief. Just in case, you may want to stock up.

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Our office hours are Monday-Thursday 9:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m.
Friday 9:00 a.m. - 1:00 p.m. Closed Saturday and Sunday.
Deadline for classified ad copy is Monday by 5:00 p.m.
Deadline for display ad copy is noon on Friday the week before the ad is to appear in the paper.
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Excerpts from:

On Sheep, Wolves, and Sheepdogs

by LTC (RET) Dave Grossman,
author of "On Killing."

One Vietnam veteran, an old retired colonel, once said this to me:

"Most of the people in our society are **sheep**. They are kind, gentle, productive creatures who can only hurt one another by accident..."

"Then there are the **wolves**," the old war veteran said, "and the **wolves** feed on the **sheep** without mercy." Do you believe there are **wolves** out there who will feed on the flock without mercy? You better believe it. There are evil men in this world and they are capable of evil deeds. The moment you forget that or pretend it is not so, you become a **sheep**. There is no safety in denial...

"Then there are **sheepdogs**," he went on, "and I'm a **sheepdog**. I live to protect the flock and confront the **wolf**..."

The **sheep** generally do not like the **sheepdog**. He looks a lot like the **wolf**. He has fangs and the capacity for violence. The difference, though, is that the **sheepdog** must not, cannot and will not ever harm the **sheep**. Any **sheepdog** who intentionally harms the lowliest little lamb will be punished and removed. The world cannot work any other way, at least not in a representative democracy or

a republic such as ours...

Still, the **sheepdog** disturbs the sheep. He is a constant reminder that there are **wolves** in the land. They would prefer that he didn't tell them where to go, or give them traffic tickets, or stand at the ready in our airports in camouflage fatigues holding an M-16. The **sheep** would much rather have the **sheepdog** cash in his fangs, spray paint himself white, and go, "**Baa**..."

Until the **wolf** shows up. Then the entire flock tries desperately to hide behind one lonely **sheepdog**...

Understand that there is nothing morally superior about being a **sheepdog**; it is just what you choose to be. Also understand that a **sheepdog** is a funny critter: He is always sniffing around out on the perimeter, checking the breeze, barking at things that go bump in the night, and yearning for a righteous battle. That is, the young **sheepdogs** yearn for a righteous battle. The old **sheepdogs** are a little older and wiser, but they move to the sound of the guns when needed right along with the young ones...

Here is how the **sheep** and the **sheepdog** think differently. The **sheep** pretend the **wolf** will never come, but the **sheepdog** lives for that day. After the attacks on September 11, 2001, most of

the **sheep**, that is, most citizens in America said, "Thank God I wasn't on one of those planes." The **sheepdogs**, the warriors, said, "Dear God, I wish I could have been on one of those planes. Maybe I could have made a difference." When you are truly transformed into a warrior and have truly invested yourself into warriorhood, you want to be there. You want to be able to make a difference...

Some people may be destined to be **sheep** and others might be genetically primed to be **wolves** or **sheepdogs**. But I believe that most people can choose which one they want to be, and I'm proud to say that more and more Americans are choosing to become **sheepdogs**...

If you want to be a **sheep**, then you can be a **sheep** and that is okay, but you must understand the price you pay. When the **wolf** comes, you and your loved ones are going to die if there is not a **sheepdog** there to protect you. If you want to be a **wolf**, you can be one, but the **sheepdogs** are going to hunt you down and you will never have rest, safety, trust or love. But if you want to be a **sheepdog** and walk the warrior's path, then you must make a conscious and moral decision every day to dedicate, equip and prepare yourself to thrive in that toxic, corrosive moment

when the **wolf** comes knocking at the door...

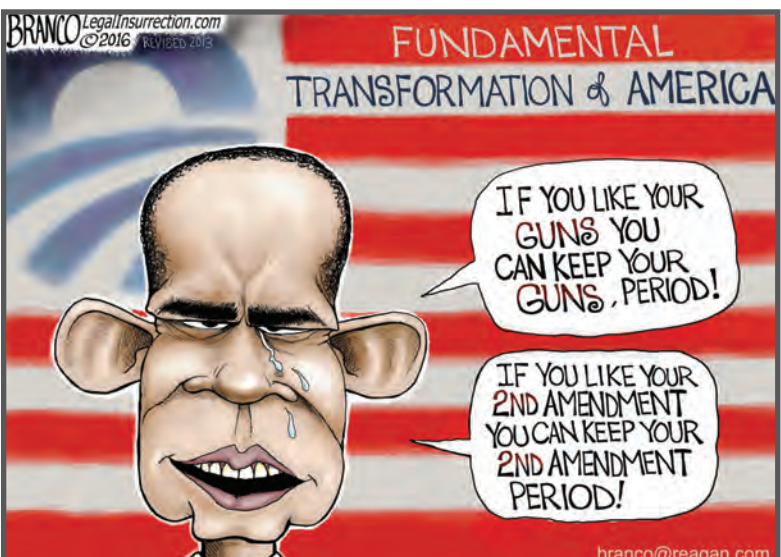
Their only response to the **wolf**, though, is denial, and all too often their response to the **sheepdog** is scorn and disdain. But the **sheepdog** quietly asks himself, "Do you have any idea how hard it would be to live with yourself if your loved ones were attacked and killed, and you had to stand there helplessly because you were unprepared for that day?"...

It is denial that turns people into **sheep**. **Sheep** are psychologically destroyed by combat because their only defense is denial, which is counterproductive and destructive, resulting in fear, helplessness and horror when the **wolf** shows up...

And so, the warrior must strive to confront denial in all aspects of his life, and prepare himself for the day when evil comes. If you are a warrior who is legally authorized to carry a weapon and you step outside without that weapon, then you become a **sheep**, pretending that the bad man will not come today. No one can be "on" 24/7, for a lifetime. Everyone needs down time. But if you are authorized to carry a weapon, and you walk outside without it, just take a deep breath, and say this to yourself...

"Baa..."

This excerpt captures the main thoughts. If you would like to read the entire article please go to our website: sdcsentinel.com



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